



# the Blastoff



Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Space Center  
P. O. Box 58862, Houston, Texas 77058 Meetings Monday  
Noon at Bay Oaks Country Club  
14545 Bay Oaks Blvd., Clear Lake City Phone:  
281.488.7888 \* Chartered 1964  
Volume 47 : Number 54 \* August 4, 2008



Editor: Billy R. Smith  
Photographer: Bob Mitchell

## Rotary International President 2008-2009



Rotary District 5890  
Governor 2008-2009

**Rhonda Kennedy & husband.**



**Chris Schneider**  
Alvin, Seabrook, Space Center  
District Assistant Governor.



## A message from Mike Hernandez President 2008-2009



August is NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP month; --- "Without membership Nothing Else Matters"! This is a powerful and true statement! It reflects the sentiments and sense of urgency that we see throughout the Rotary leadership ranks. Our District Governor, Rhonda Kennedy has made the continuation of the upward trend in membership growth and retention in our district as our number one priority! The district is implementing some extraordinary measures to stimulate all Rotarians to help increase membership and retention. As part of these measures we have been asked to set our goals of members' growth to 10% by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009 based on the number of members we had on July 1st, 2008. **This means an increase in our club of 11 members.** We as a club have taken this challenge very seriously and under the leadership of Bill Geissler and Jon McKinney have put together a formidable "Recruiting and Retention" Committee, developed a membership plan and are on our way in its implementation. But the most important element of our year long effort **is your personal commitment and support.** The upcoming **District Membership Seminar**, scheduled for Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, is the perfect way to receive first hand creative and innovative ideas from a number of top invited speakers. Please join us at this, so critical seminar! Contact me, Mike Hernandez at [mahernandezjr@att.net](mailto:mahernandezjr@att.net), or Jon McKinney at [jckinnie@safarivet.com](mailto:jckinnie@safarivet.com). We are setting up car pools for the ones that prefer not to drive.

### DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR

At the Houston Community College South East, Angela Morales Bldg, 6815 Rustic Ave., Houston, TX. 77087  
Registration starts at 8am. Seminar from 8:55 to 12:45 pm  
**See you at the Seminar!** Yours in Rotary, Mike Hernandez

**Shrimporee Committee Operational Meeting** is set for next **Monday, Aug 4, 5:30pm at JSC Credit Union board room. This is a call to an "all hands on deck meeting"**. Major committee chairs, you need to have your teams lined up for this year's event, and be prepared to report the same today. All Red Badgers (yep, Jack & Lisa, that includes you). Please make every effort to attend this meeting. This is a great opportunity to connect with the entire club.

*Service Above Self  
They who serve the best profit the most.*



## Officers 2008-2009

President..... Mike Hernandez  
President Elect/V.P..... Gary Johnson  
Secretary..... Jon McKinnie  
Treasurer. .... Marilyn Musial  
Sargent at Arms. .... John Wilson  
Immediate Past President..... Dick Gregg, III

### Directors:

Club Administration. .... Mark Humphrey  
Public Relations..... John Nugent  
Membership..... Bill Geissler  
Fundraising. .... David Coney  
Community Service A. .... Belinda Skloss  
Community Service B. .... Dick Hergert  
International Service A. .... Mike Cornett  
International Service B..... Dick Kidder  
Vocational Service..... Rae DeCastro

## Committees & Chairs



**Charles A. "Chuck" Jacobson** was born in Cresco, Iowa on June 2, 1925 to Julius and Beulah Jacobson. In 1952 he graduated from Iowa State University with a BS in Aeronautical Engineering, then in 1956 and 1957 he completed graduate studies at St. Louis University. Chuck was married to Marjorie "Marge" Minear on June 18, 1947 and they were married until her death in 2007. There are five Chuck and Marge children (I don't know how many grandchildren): Janelle, Charles, Jr., Robert "Bob", Kent and Joan (a member of SCRC). Chuck's military career took him from U. S. Navy flight training (1943-45); Navy Pilot (1945-46), Naval Reserve Pilot (1946-1958) to U. S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. (Ret.) in 1967. Professionally, Chuck worked for McDonnell Corporation from 1952-1990, beginning in flight test data analysis on the XF3H-1, Sr. Engr-Aerodynamics F101A, Group Engr-Aerodynamics F101A & F4H-1, Group Engr-Dynamics on the Mercury Mission, Applications and Gemini Re-entry Guidance System, Sr. Group Engr-Dynamics-Gemini & Project Dynamics Engr.-

Dynamics. In 1966, the company became McDonnell Astronautics Company and Chuck was Project Dynamics Engr-Field, Apollo and the Manager, Houston Operations. In 1968, the company became McDonnell Douglas Astronautics Company and Chuck was Director, Houston Operations. Then in 1974, another company name, McDonnell Douglas Technical Services Company with Chuck as Director, Houston Astronautics Division, and then in 1984 Vice President, General Manager. In 1985, Chuck's employer became known as McDonnell Douglas Astronautics Company, Engineering Services Division and Chuck was Vice President, General Manager. The name became McDonnell Douglas Space Systems Company, Engineering Services Division and Chuck continued in the same position of management until retirement in 1990. But, Chuck's career was not over. In 1990, he became the President of GB Tech, Inc., then Executive Vice President 2000-2003. Chuck has been or is a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), associate fellow, National Contract Management Association, Electronic Industries Association, Director of Mbank - Clear Lake, Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Assn., Navy League, JSC Team Excellence Forum Member, American Astronautical Society, South Western Aerospace

Professional Representatives Assn. and the JSC Chapter of the National Management Assn. Chuck has received several honors and awards including the NASA Group Achievement Award, Rendevous Operations Planning Team, AIAA St. Louis Section, Gemini Achievement Award, NASA Group Achievement Award, Apollo 11 Mission Operations Team, AIAA Houston Section Community Service Award, NASA Public Service Medal, YMCA Chuck Jacobson named Scholarship. He was named one of the Ten Most Powerful People in the Clear Lake Area, Boy Scouts of America Bayshore District Award of Merit, Clear Lake Council of Technical Societies' Technical Administrator of the Year, Iowa State University, College of Engineering Professional Achievement Citation Award, Luna Rendevous Festival King, Honoree - Friends of Bay Area Turning Point, Bay Area Transportation Partnership - Charles A. Jacobson Transportation Enhancement Award, North Galveston County YMCA Community Caring Award and is listed in Who's Who in Aerospace, Who's Who in Space, Who's Who in the Southwest, Who's Who in U. S. Executives and Who's Who in America. Chuck has been a member of the Rotary Club of Space Center, Houston, Texas for many years, is a Past President and was awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship. He served on the founding committee and board of directors of the Rotary National Award for Space Achievement Foundation which developed the premier Space Award Dinner and presentation beginning in 1987. He has served this community and Rotary in many ways, far too numerous to list. In summary, Chuck exemplifies service to humanity in every way possible. Now that you know Chuck better, sit next to him and share your story.

**Rotary Past District  
Governors from  
SCRC:**



**Floyd Boze**

*Picture  
n o t  
available*

**Billy Weseman**



**Suzi Howe**

**What is Interact?**



Interact is a service club for youth ages 14-18. Clubs benefit from sponsorship by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance. Interact has a membership of over 250,000 youth in more than 11,000 clubs worldwide. It's one of Rotary's fastest growing programs. Interact clubs are self-governing and self-supporting and can be either school or community based. Interact's name is a combination of the words international and action. With clubs in over 120 countries and geographical areas, Interact is truly an international phenomenon. Interact's global youth network is dedicated to community and international service. Every Interact club project, great or small, has a lasting impact on society worldwide. Brazil, India, the Philippines, and the United States boast the highest number of Interact clubs.

**What is Rotaract?**



Rotaract is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young men and women ages 18 to 30. Rotaract clubs are either community or university based, and they're sponsored by a local Rotary club. This makes them true "partners in service" and key members of the family of Rotary. As one of Rotary's most significant and fastest-growing service programs, with more than 7,000 clubs in about 163 countries and geographical areas, Rotaract has become a worldwide phenomenon.

**How does it work?** All Rotaract efforts begin at the local, grassroots level, with members addressing their communities' physical and social needs while promoting international understanding and peace through a framework of friendship and service.

**History** — Rotaract has evolved quickly in its short but dynamic history. In the early 1960s, Rotary clubs around the world began to sponsor university youth groups as community service projects. The 1967-68 RI president, Luther H. Hodges, and the RI Board of Directors considered this club activity to have international relevance, and



Rotaract was approved in 1968 as an official program for Rotary clubs. The first club chartered was the Rotaract Club of North Charlotte, North Carolina, USA, on 13 March 1968. Several decades later, the Rotaract program has grown into a strong, international network of 7,300 clubs in more than 150 countries and geographical areas. Rotaract's 145,000 members are young men and women (ages 18 to 30) who serve the needs of their communities, widen their personal and professional contacts, and increase their understanding of the world.

**Goals** — Rotaract has the following goals:

- To develop professional and leadership skills
- To emphasize respect for the rights of others, based on recognition of the worth of each individual
- To recognize the dignity and value of all useful occupations as opportunities to serve
- To recognize, practice, and promote ethical standards as leadership qualities and vocational responsibilities
- To develop knowledge and understanding of the needs, problems, and opportunities in the community and worldwide
- To provide opportunities for personal and group activities to serve the community and promote international understanding and goodwill toward all people.

**To read the District 5890 News, visit the following site —**

[www.rotary5890.org](http://www.rotary5890.org)

**Do you know how to access the SCRC's website?**

**If not, contact Jon McKinnie, Webmaster at**

[jmckinnie@safarivet.com](mailto:jmckinnie@safarivet.com)

**Events Calendar**

- \* Club Board of Directors . . . . . 3rd Tues @ 7 a.m.
- \* Endowment Foundation Board of Trustees . . . . .  
 . . . . . 2nd Tues @ 7 a.m.
- \* Rotary Foundation Comm . . . . .last Wed @ 7 a.m.
- \* Membership Comm . . . . . 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon @ 1:15 p.m.
- \* Shrimporee Comm. . . . . August 4 @ 5:30 p.m.
- \* Shrimporee . . . . . October 25, 2008
- \* Springoree . . . . . 2009
- \* District 5890 Conference, Lake Charles. . . . .  
 . . . . . Apr 30-May 2, 2009
- \* 100<sup>th</sup> RI Convention, Birmingham, England . . . . .  
 . . . . . June 21-24, 2009



**Secretary's Summary of the July Board Meeting:**

*This will be published in the issue following the Board meeting at which the minutes are approved. That means you will see a summary of the minutes of the July meeting in the issue published following the August meeting, etc.*



### Treasurer's Financial Report for July:

*This will be published when received.*

*Akkerman continued —*

Children prepare to read long before they enter school – early literacy is everything children know about reading and writing before they actually can read and write. The development of language and literacy skills begins at birth. Children develop much of their capacity for learning in the first 3 years of their life when their brain grows to 90% of their eventual adult weight. Babies are born learning. We can stimulate a young child's brain through singing songs, taking about colors and reading to them. Your gift to the library will provide the tools, CDs and DVDs, toys, books, furnishing and programs to implement the Early Literacy Center. The library will recognize your gift with news releases and a wall plaque with the Rotary emblem that will be installed in the Toddler Reading area. We also want to invite you to participate in the opening day ceremonies. Our library is the busiest public library branch in Houston, with 1500 to 2500 visitors per day. We conduct 10 baby, toddler and preschool story times each week plus a Family Night on Thursdays. We circulate between 100,000 to 130,000 items monthly. As you can see, your gift will be enjoyed and of benefit to so many! Thanks again!

Excerpt from Freeman Memorial Library Branch Librarian Karen Akkerman's speech after receiving a check for \$7,000.00 from the Space Center Rotary Club for the implementation of the new Early Literacy Center at the Clear Lake Freeman Branch Library: Your gift to implement The Early Literacy Center will give the library a new dimension. You Rotarians recognized our needs and offered help. What is Early Literacy? The Multnomah County Library System in Oregon has created a webpage on the importance of early literacy in public libraries. I would like to share the high points with you.

### The Shrimporee Planning Committee at work:



### Club Assembly Speakers:





**Meeting Notes —**

- ◆ The meeting was a Club Assembly at which each officer and director presented plans & goals for the 2008 — 2009 Rotary Year. You had to be there for this one. We have a very exciting and energetic year ahead, but what's new. SCRC has always led the way in Rotary projects. Many years ago, the following phrase was coined by a District Governor: *"If they can think of it, they can do it. That is the Space Center Rotary Club's reputation.* Take for instance, The Rotary National Award For Space Achievement.
- ◆ Earl & Terrilee Maudlin have agreed to a \$10,000 sponsorship for club service projects. Thank you!!! \$5,000 will be used for the Engineers Without Borders project in Rwanda and \$5,000 will benefit the Bolivia water project.
- ◆ The membership recruitment goal this year is plus 15.
- ◆ From the 2007-2008 budget, \$2,000 has been given to the Space Center Rotary Club Foundation.



**The Membership Minute**

Vol. 5, Ed. 1 July 2008

**Achieving membership goals in 2008-2009**

Another Rotary year begins, and with it, your club starts afresh with new membership goals and an innovative plan to achieve them. If your club hasn't done so already, complete the [Planning Guide for Effective Rotary Clubs](#) (862) to assess your current membership state and establish goals for the coming year. Once your club has set its 2008-09 membership goals, you will need to determine how to go about developing an action plan so your goals will be attained. Here are some things to consider:

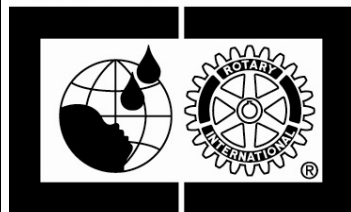
- Do you have a club membership committee to lead your membership development efforts? If not, consider forming one. How will your club membership committee work with the district membership committee? Are your goals proactive, yet realistic and attainable?
- How will your club focus on recruiting individuals who will become involved, committed members of your club on a long-term basis?
- Will your club integrate the goals from RI President Dong Kurn Lee's Membership Goals Recognition program or the 2008-09 Presidential Citation into its membership development plan?

**RI President Dong Kurn Lee's 2008-09 Membership Goals Recognition program —**

For Rotary clubs to achieve attain the 2008-09 Presidential Citation, they must achieve a net increase of one member by 31 March, in addition to initiating a local or international service project that reduces child mortality. RI President Dong Kurn Lee's *suggested* goal, however, is to achieve a net membership increase of 10 percent. As part of the 2008-09 Membership Goals Recognition program, clubs that achieve the suggested goals will be recognized in one of the following ways:

Clubs that achieve a minimum of a 10-percent net increase in membership will receive a certificate signed by the 2008-09 RI president. Clubs that are among the top ten 10 clubs worldwide with the highest percentage net membership increase will receive a Mont Blanc pen, along with acknowledgment on stage at the 2009 RI Convention.

## PolioPlus



Rotary International

# Polio Eradication Update

For The Week Ending 7/26/08

| Total Cases                | YTD 2008 | YTD 2007 | Total in 2007 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|---------------|
| Globally:                  | 866      | 316      | 1315          |
| — in endemic countries     | 819      | 257      | 1208          |
| — in non-endemic countries | 47       | 59       | 107           |

New Polio cases were reported this week: 52 in Nigeria (49 Type 1 & 3 Type 3), 18 in India (16 Type 3 & 2 Type 1), 2 in Chad (both Type 3), 1 in Pakistan (Type 1) & 1 in Afghanistan (Type 1).

### 2008 Case Breakdown by Country

**Endemic Countries** – 476 Nigeria, 316 India, 16 Pakistan, 11 Afghanistan

**+ Importation Countries**

19 Angola, 11 Niger, 2 DRC, 6 Chad, 4 Nepal, 1 Sudan, 2 Ethiopia, 1 Benin , & 1 CAR

Not for the Fainthearted – The costs of reaching the last un-immunized children in the world and to immunize all of the newborns, while continuing to protect the Polio eradicated areas of the world from importation are staggering. The costs for 2008 are estimated at \$697 Mil - including \$248M for vaccine, \$233M for NIDs, \$93M for Technical assistance, \$60M for Surveillance & \$8M for Laboratories among other costs.

*Even at this great cost, it has been determined that ENDING POLIO NOW will save money in the long run rather than allowing Polio to continue in any limited way.*

**From:** Council Services [<mailto:CouncilServices@rotary.org>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 23, 2008 11:47 AM

**To:** [rhonda@specialcattle.com](mailto:rhonda@specialcattle.com)

**Subject:** Rotary International: 2010 Council on Legislation; 31 December 2008 Deadline to Submit Legislation

As we are now in the first quarter of Rotary's 2008-09 year, there is less than 6 months to submit proposed legislation for the 2010 Council on Legislation. RI must *receive* proposed legislation, along with its certification form signed by the district governor, no later than **31 December 2008**. For districts holding a conference between now and December, legislation can still be proposed or endorsed at a district conference. Districts that do not have a district conference before the deadline should know that where time does not allow for legislation to be submitted to a district conference, a ballot-by-mail may be conducted. Additional information about and useful tools for the 2010 Council have been posted on the Council on Legislation section of the RI website ([www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)). If you have any questions about the Council on Legislation, please let me know. Sincerely, Monica Wanat Rotary International Council Services  
[Monica.Wanat@rotary.org](mailto:Monica.Wanat@rotary.org) 1-847-866-3466 1-847-556-2123 fax [councilservices@rotary.org](mailto:councilservices@rotary.org)