

Rotary International President, M.A.T. Caparas District 589 Governor, Walter Lackey Club President, Jim Hargrove

BLASTOFF

News Bulletin for the Space Center Rotary Club

Meets every Monday at 11:45 a.m. Nassau Bay Hilton

DISTRICT 589

"Rotary brings hope"



MAY 4: 1987

PROGRAMS

Don Kirk, Chairman

Responsibility for May: Jerry Jones

MAY 4

Editor, Tom Wier

Lee Brown, Chief of Police, City of Houston

MAY 11

Michelle Ventura, Jr. Achievement. "Activities of Jr.

Achievement in our Area"

MAY 18

Constable Bill Bailey, no less. We understand his topic

will be something like: "What a Great Job I am Doing!"

MAY 25

HOLIDAY. No Meeting.

PROGRAM NOTES

by Steve Bolton

MEETING OF APRIL 20: Our pre-meeting music continued in a new fun direction with Dr. Mike McKinney on harmonica and Dave Cantu leading us in "This Land is Your Land" .--- Congrets to Terry Hesson and thanks to Patty Massey of Holiday Inn for finding, repairing, and shining our Rotary Bell.--- The District Governor will visit our club on July 20. You can help by filling out your Committee Preference Survey right eway so our structure will be in good shape early in the new year, starting July 1. The amount of preparation work is incredible.

Charles Post introduced local attorney Harvill Weller, of Krist, Gunn, Weller and Morrison, who spoke on tort reform. Some of his major points were:

(A continuation of this report on page 2 with photos on pages 2 & 3)

GREETERS

Jim McDonald, Chairman

Primary

Backup

5/4 Johnny White/Jim McDonald 5/11 Randy Cornish/Bill Geissler 5/18 Jerry Hammack/Roy Iles

Jerry Smith/Bill Walker Johnny White/Jim McDonald Randy Cornish/Bill Geissler

5/25 -----Holiday-----

IT'S TIME FOR GRTHERING THE TROOPS:

President Jim Hargrove extends message this ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN:

"Please assess where your committee is in relation to the goals you set at the start of the Have you accomplished your goal? Have you changed your goal? Will you reach your goal by the end of the Rotary vear on June 30? "

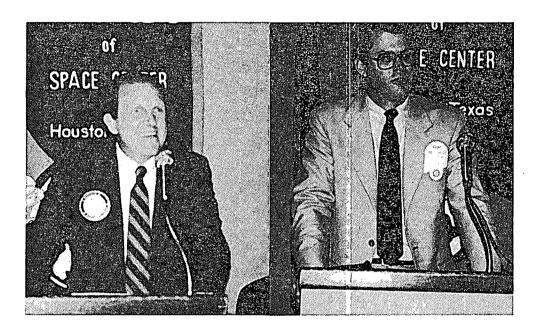
"If funds are involved, the Board will have to approve them before commitment. So don't rush in et the last minute. In fact, if you don't NEED to spend the money, don't do it because income has been harder to come by than นรมลา."

"I am encouraged by the actions of the committees so far this year. I hope to bring you a good report in late June."

Jim Harfrove

PROPRIES (Continued from p. 1.) -- by Steve Bolton

- □ Tort Reform laws in Florida and Ontario, Canada have not resulted in lower insurance premiums.
- ☐ Insurance company profits have increased from \$1 billion to \$11 billion during the time drastic premium increases have taken place.
- □ Lloyds of London has lost money through insuring both sides in the Iraq-Iran War.
- □ 70-90% of tort cases are lost by the plaintiff and the average award is \$25,000. If plaintiff negligence exceeds 50%, no award is made.
- ☐ Average court costs are \$3500.
- ☐ Lawyers must select only the cases they think have the greatest merit because of the investment of time and money they must make.
- ☐ A Rand Corporation study found jury awards to be reasonable and stable over the past 20 years.



MEETING OF APRIL 27: Carlos Villagomez led us in a rousing, a capella rendition of "The More We Get Together"----But when do we get our piano and our lovely, virtuoso pianist back?

Vic Maria introduced Swen Almli and Dag Aadne Sandbakken, who presented an interesting program on Norway. Swen is a Rotarian from District 228 in Central Norway, where they have 52 clubs and 2100 members in an area with only 600,000 inhabitants. Swen introduced the 5 young professionals (26-33), who are members of the exchange group.

Dag, who is dean of the Norwegian School of Management, aparently the only private school, filled us in on many interesting facts about Norway, including:

- Norway is 1/2 the size of Texas but long and thin, with a population of 4.2 million, much like the population figure for the Greater Houston area.
- □ Norway's economy is suffering from the drop in oil prices, just like we are.
- ☐ The Chernobyl accident necessitated large scale slaughtering and "digging down" (burying) of sheep and reindeer.
- ☐ The average Norwegian pays 30-40% income tax and a 20% sales tax but has free education through college and government health insurance.

INTERNATIONAL

VOUTH

Day id Alan Wylie and Taylor are really moving and shakino the field in International Youth Exchanges, a program that is being expanded because of its success and acceptance. They have announced that a group of Rotary Exchange young people will be in the Clear Lake area between July 23rd and August 3rd. Let Alan or David know if you can host a young person from Germany, Italy, France or Spain during that period this summer -- or -- if you could give a tour of your company to a group of these visitors.

UPDATING POLICEPLES

Bob Wren reports that 82 of our 170 members have turned in their Polio Plus tickets. April 29 was the absolute deadline before the drawing held at the District Conference. Your Editor wishes that he had the results to report to you but we had to turn this issue in to the printer Wednesday afternoon before heading out Thursday for the New Orleans meeting. This effort is part of the \$10 million worldwide plan to eliminate from our planet polio and 6 diseases that other suffering, maiming, or death, especially among children. For example, in 1985, 2 million children died of measles.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

There are just two months left in this Rotary Year!



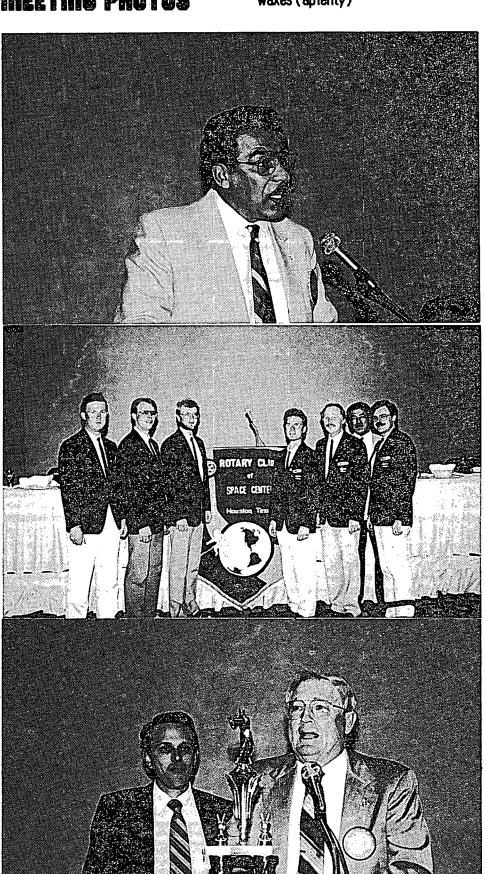
MORE **MEETING PHOTOS**

Top: Vic Maria introduces the Norwegians

Center: Vic with the Norwegians

Bottom: Randy awaits his trophy as Floyd

waxes (aplenty)



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To my dear wife Margery: HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! Tom Wier

HERE'S ANOTHER CHANCE

DO YOU WANT TO ZOT YOUR RLUE ROT?

Billy Smith's Classification Committee has produced a list of classifications that are available for an "active" or an "additional active" membership. Here is part of the list. Use it to stimulate your thinking of someone you know that would make a good member-- who would enjoy membership and would properly shoulder the responsibilities for participation in both the work and attendance.

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PHYSICIAN - ALLERGY &

IMMUNOLOGY

ATTORNEY - CRIMINAL LAW

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COMMERCIAL AIR TRANSPORTATION - PASSENGER BEER DISTRIBUTING - WHOLESALE PHYSICIAN - DERMOTOLOGY PHYSICIAN - ENDOCINOLOGY PHYSICIAN - EYE, EAR, NOSE & PHYSICIAN - FAMILY PRACTICE PHYSICIAN - GYNECOLOGY PHYSICIAN - HEMATOLOGY PHYSICIAN - INTERNAL MEDICINE PHYSICIAN - NEPHROLOGY PHYSICIAN - NEUROLOGY PHYSICIAN - OBSTETRICS PHYSICIAN - ONCOLOGY PHYSICIAN - ORTHOPEDIST PHYSICIAN - PEDIATRICS PHYSICIAN - PSYCHIATRY PHYSICIAN - UROLOGY PHYSICIAN - RADIOLOGY PET TRAINING COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY PLUMBING CONTRACTING RELIGION - ASSEMBLY OF GOD RELIGION - CATHOLIC RELIGION - CHRISTIAN RELIGION - CHURCH OF CHRIST RELIGION - CHURCH OF GOD RELIGION - EPISCOPAL RELIGION - LUTHRAN RELIGION - PRESBYTERIAN TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT & SYSTEMS SALES TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT REPAIR MOBILE TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT SALES TELEVISION SALES TELEVISION SERVICE TRUCK RENTAL & LEASING TRUCKING - HEAVY HAULING WRECKER SERVICE JEWELRY DESIGNERS JEWELRY MANUFACTURING

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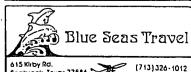


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TELLING TALES

member profiles

Researched by Dr. Mike McKinney

Lonnie Clement. As publisher for ten years of Lake Publishing Co., (Citizen Newspaper, Exchange News). Lonnie has been in his natural element on the Publicity committee and, of course, the Shrimporee committee. He has been a club board member during his 5 years of membership in the Space Center Rotery Club, resigning from the board about a year Lonnie has a strong interest in fishing, especially fresh water fishing on Livingston and Conroe Lakes. He has three children. He has served on the board of directors of Lunar Rendezvous. Sounds like a good life, Lonnie.



Jean Pierre Bleger. Born in France and coming to the U.S. in 1969, Jean Pierre has been a baker for 17 years, 16 years in the general Bay Area. He owns the Paris Bakery and its string of bakeries. He and his wife Rebecca have two boys. Travelling is his hobby: "Any place I have never been before". Being a private pilot helps. During the years he has been in Rotary (since 1983), he has been on the International and Greeters committees. Shrimporee, he has been a buyer of the shrimp. A "jolly good fellow" and friend, this Parisian.



Steve Bolton. Now behold a living miracle! Steve is a career YMCA executive who was diagnosed a few months before he came to Houston as having cancer and only 2 months to live. Six weeks of chemotherapy was followed by a CAT scan that showed the cancer still there. An operation three weeks later startled everyone! The cancer was gone! Steve considers it an absolute miracle. And look at him now. -- A native of the Kansas City area, he started "Y" work in Bogota, Columbia in 1966, married his wife Cecilia, a Columbian, worked in other "Y" essignments, has two teenage children, and is a member of the Evangelical Church in Friendswood. where he lives. He has been a Rotarian for two years, has chaired the Caps and T-shirts Committee for the Shrimporee, is active in the International Committee work (such as translator for the Mexico City Club relationship), and now writes the Program Notes section of the Blastoff. What more can you ask!



Rough Square くくくくくくくくくく 静戸の脚

Lamar Bowles announced 10 captains who will head up teams for our club to assure a good turnout and pay off in our Reverse Draw event to be held in early June. Klate Holt, now in Langley VA, not only sent in a contribution of \$220 for Polio Plus raffle tickets, but he and Martin Gracey seem to be chomping at the bit to attend our Reverse Draw affair. Come on !

Golf *** O

Bob Frost announced a 4-man scramble on May 7 at Clear Lake Country Club, 12:30 PM. That is Thursday of this week so hop to. Al Ligrani is host. There will also be a colf retreat June 26-28 at Columbia Lakes. This will be for Space Center Rotarians and their quests (golfers, wives, girl friends. etc.)

Floyd Boze presented Randy Cornish a trophy at the 4/27 meeting for winning 2nd place in the District Rotary Golf Tournament! Good going, Randy.



5/2 5/5 RALPH SCHIMMEL 5/6 5/10 **ALAN WYLIE BOB WREN** 5/12 JIM HARBROYE 5/12 TERRY STOCK 5/15



WHAT IN THE WORLD, LAMAR ?

PLEASE GIVE YOUR ANSWER AS TO WHAT LAMAR BOWLES WAS DOING AT THE MOMENT THE CAMERA CAUGHT THIS PICTURE:

- TAKING THE OATH OF SOME HIGH OFFICE.
- ☐ SWEARING NEVER TO DO WHATEYER IT WAS AGAIN.
- □ "PAUSING FOR EFFECT"
- ☐ SILENCING THE CROWD WHILE HE GAVE THE FACTS ON THE REVERSE DRAW.
- ALL OF THE ABOVE.
- **D** NONE OF THE ABOVE.

SPACE CENTER ROTARY



P.O. Box 58862 Houston, TX 77258

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