



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 46 : Number 13 * October 22, 2007

Programs:

Today: Addie Wiseman, Houston City Council
Accomplishments, challenges and issues facing the City of Houston

- Oct 29. **Dr. Greg Smith**, superintendent of schools
(January 2008) Clear Creek Independent School District.
Current president of Alvin Rotary Club
- Nov 12. Visit by **District Governor**
- Nov 19. **Laura Collier**, Diabetes Management Center
diagnosis, treatment and prevention of diabetes
- Nov 20 **Alice Jones**, Bay Area Genealogical Society: Who were your
ancestors? Pilgrims, Patriots or Prisoners?
- Dec 24. **Christmas Eve, No Meeting**
- Dec 31. **New Year's Eve, No Meeting**
- Jan 21. **Martin Luther King's Birthday, No Meeting**
- Feb 18. **President's Day, No Meeting**
- May 26. **Memorial Day, No Meeting**

Meeting Agenda



| | |
|--|-------|
| Luncheon Begins. | 11:45 |
| Call to Order. | 12:00 |
| Song. | |
| Invocation. | |
| Pledge. | |
| 4-Way Test. | |
| Introduction of Visiting Rotarians & Guests. | |
| Announcements. | |
| Program. | 12:30 |
| Adjourn. | 1:00 |

The Citizen

The Rotary 4-Way Test of the things we think, say & do:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build good will & better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

We live by it.

Say Happy Birthday to —

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Marilyn Musial. | October 23rd |
| Mike Moliere. | October 30th |
| Charles Milby. | November 1st |
| James Saxe. | November 2nd |
| Marchy Alys Cherry. | November 20th |
| Vince Lipovsky. | November 28th |
| Dave Sincox. | November 29th |

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.
- Shrimporee. Oct. 27th
- District Leadership Institute. Jan. 11th
- District Conference — Galvesto April 24-27 '08
- Springoree. TBD
- RI Convention, Los Angeles. . . June 15-18 '08

MAKEUP OPPORTUNITIES:

Tuesday

Pearland @ noon
Gofcrest Country Club
2501 Country Club Drive
La Porte @ 12:10 p.m.
St. John Episcopal Church
Broadway @ Ave. G

Wednesday

Pasadena South @ noon
Baywood Country Club
5500 Genoa Red Bluff
Friendswood @ noon
Village on the Park Retirement Center
400 E. Parkwood

Thursday

Seabrook @ 7:00 a.m.
Lakewood Yacht Club
2425 NASA Parkway
League City @ noon
Estaban's Fiesta Shack
1313 Main Street

Friday

Pasadena @ noon
First United Methodist Church
1062 Fairmont Pkwy

Make up @ an E-club

http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/eclub_list.pdf

***SCRC Weekly Fellowships
6:30 p.m.***

*Oct 30th..... Colosseum Restaurant
11608 El Camino Real
Nov 6th..... Mely's Mexican Restaurant
2951 Marina Bay Dr.
Nov 27th..... BJ's Restaurant
513 West Bay Area Blvd.
Dec 18th..... Bailey's Restaurant
2320 Nasa Pkwy
Jan 1st..... Tony's Bar B Que
17052 Saturn Ln (across from JSCFCU)*

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Guten Tag!

Hello everyone! It has been one month since I arrived in Germany ! It feels like it has been longer. Right now life here is really good. My parents work a lot, so some nights I am all alone for a few hours, which at first were really lonely but now I am filling my time better. I go to school only twice a week and I go to a special tutoring class three times a week. Most every weekend my family either does some activity or I go out with friends.

This past Saturday I had a really different and fun activity. My YEO's wife Frau Tornjes invited me to help her make apfel saft (apple juice). Random but so fun! We met up at this farm where a family has an apple press that they allow people to use on the weekends. It was so fun! At first you pour all the apples in a large old bathtub that is filled with water. Not just normal water freezing cold water, I thought I saw ice floating in it! (Just kidding) In the bathtub we looked for really spoiled apples and then we put all the apples on a conveyor belt and another person rechecks to see if any bad apples got through. From there they go into this chopper machine and the apples are shredded into a mush! The whole apple seeds stems and all! Then the mush is put in a cylinder with a tub in the middle. A lid is put on it and then they hook the cylinder up to a water pump. The water pressure squeezes the apple juice out! It is the most delicious apple juice ever! And they don't add anything to it, like no sugar or anything, but it really isn't very tart. I got to wear yellow rubber boots and I got apple mush all over myself! It was such a great experience for me! I am so happy that Frau Tornjes invited me to go! Then I spent the whole rest of the day with her boiling the apfel saft, because if you don't boil it, it will spoil very quickly. I feel I have already started changing here. One change is I think I have already lost weight here. In Germany they definitely eat less and healthier than Americans but just to let everyone know I am not starving! Lol I think one of the hardest things for me to get over is that pizza is not like pizza back home. Like last week the pizza we had had corn (like a can of corn), red and green peppers, mushrooms, cheese, salami, and some mystery meat. Not what I am used to eating but I still ate it and it was good. Other than that I really enjoy the food. It has definitely broadened my eating preferences. The one thing I continually crave for is Starbucks! I know, I am crazy but seriously I am having a very hard time living without my frappuchinos!! I am starting to get involved with different activities in town. I joined a gym this week. They do this whole assessment of your body and then they set you up with your own work out plan that they monitor. I think it is going to be good for me because it will give me another thing to do twice during the week. But I am also dreading the thought of having to really work out and exercise! Not fun ! lol and I am also joining a volleyball team that practices on Monday night every week. And I try to go swimming at least once a week. I have become quite the fitness person! I have a lot of plans coming up in a few weeks! This weekend I am having a 'Spaghetti night' with some new friends of mine from school. And then on Saturday I am going to an 'apfel fest' at the farm I made apfel saft at! My weekend should be lots of fun! Then in 1 weeks I am going on a Germany Tour with Rotary. All the exchange students get together and we are going to Berlin , Koln , Hamburg , and some other cities I can't remember. I am very excited! Shopping! Then in Germany we have a fall break that starts when I get home from my tour. I really have been enjoying my Rotary club here. We meet every Monday. This month we are starting our service project for the year. We are going to help support a group of teens from a school that is going next summer to build a school in Africa . The kids spend 3 months in Africa , and with the help of Rotary all their expenses should be paid for. I am very excited that the service project involves teenagers; it helps to make it more personal for me. In November I have to give a presentation to my Rotary club in German! I am very nervous but I have already started working on what I am going to say. The men in my club have been so nice to me and helpful. This program has been so wonderful for me so far. It has given me a strong support system, that I can go to and that helps me with anything and everything I need. I have not found a church yet here but some of my Rotarians are helping me out. But right now on Sundays I go on a bike ride to the Wiese River and I read my Bible. It has been really good for me to do this. There is a Baptist church here that has a youth program so I think I might join that so I can have another circle of friends, and get that good fellowship and teaching. The weather here is so beautiful! All the leaves are changing colors! The air has a chill to it, and sometimes there is rain but we have been having wonderful sunny days. My life here has not been easy though. It daily is a struggle to understand the language and sometimes it is very discouraging but I just have to keep going on. Like every day is both good and bad, happy and sad. Does that make sense? I just can't wait for the day when it will all be alright. I miss everyone so much! Please keep me in your prayers! I am sorry if the e-mail is kind of scattered brained! I had a lot to tell that didn't really make sense together!

Much love from Germany !

Laura Knutson

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Delia Stephens with our speaker for the October 15th meeting, Karen Marshall with METRO. In Houston, the 4th largest city in the U. S., with 4.5 million residents, the energy capital of the U. S., the largest city in the U. S. without a zoning ordinance and where “the car is king”, METRO is working to relieve the pain of commuting.

*Are your dues past due?
If so, Marilyn Musial would like to hear from you soon. If you have a special need, she will work with you to get you in good standing.*

**Shrimporee is Saturday, October 27th — all day. Please be there to show your support for Space Center Rotary Club, your fellow Rotarians and the Clear Lake area community. Let’s show the citizens that we believe in
SERVICE ABOVE SELF.
Shrimporee is not merely a “fund” raiser. It is a “fun” raiser for all who participate.**



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Thanks, Tony & Sharon**