



SPACE SCOOPS All the business marques down NASA Road 1 welcomed Lt. Gov. **BEN BARNES** to Spaceland Monday, but many were wondering what was so hush-hush about his visit to the area . . . The Rotary Club was notified he would be in town that day so invited him to be a guest, along with Senator **CHARLES WILSON** of Lufkin and Senator **CHET BROOKS** . . . The dignitaries were in the area at the invitation of **CLARE SCHWEICKART** who scheduled a closed meeting for the group Monday afternoon to discuss the local telephone situation and also a reception honoring them Monday night . . . But none of the Chamber officials who have been working so diligently on improving the communications in the area were included . . . So it remained a mystery why it was being kept so secretive . . . Because the telephone situation certainly has received wide publicity and is of interest to everyone . . . Monday night Lt. Gov. **BARNES** briefly addressed the new Nassau Bay City council . . . The Blue Coats who are official greeters for visiting dignitaries; heard about his visit from the Rotary Club, so went to the Airport to welcome him to the area . . . When this reporter asked Senator **Wilson** at the Rotary meeting what was the purpose of his visit . . . He at first replied he was here to attend a hearing . . . Then later changed his answer to ask **MRS. SCHWEICKART**. . . And I did, but she replied it was a closed meeting. . . But a visit by two state senators and the Lt. Gov. created interest in the mystery surrounding the purpose of their visit **BARNES** cited the increase in crime as the number one problem in the state, and an alarming increase of young people using drugs . . . He said he thinks the first offense for using marijuana should be made a misdemeanor instead of a felony because juries do not want to make felons out of young people . . . They feel the felony punishment which is two years to life is too severe, so he said about 60 per cent of the marijuana users go unpunished . . . He also advocated immediate punishment instead of having to wait 10 months . . . He also said Texas is one of the few states where there is no place to treat drug users unless you are wealthy or influential . . . **GENE LINDQUIST**, new president of Space Center Rotary, took the Gavel from outgoing president **ROGER HOBART**, at the meeting with **DICK ALLEN** making pin presentations

YEAR OF THE DOG . . . New Rotary president **GENE LINDQUIST** said, "To The Chinese, 1970 means the "year of the dog." . . . To golfers it means "looking at another dog leg" . . . To automobile dealers it means "the dogs in the back line of their used car lots" . . . To many people it means the younger generation is "going to the dogs" . . . To people visiting Coney Island it means "hot dog" . . . For the life of some husbands it means "dog house" . . . To new army recruits it means "dog tags" . . . To the East Texas native it means "dog wood" . . . To the early it means "dog tired." . . . Then he said to me "taking the office of president of this Rotary Club means a "lot of dog gone hard work." Then he asked for a show of paws that will help him dig out a dog gone good record year for Rotary . . . Astronaut **RUSTY SCHWEICKART**, who introduced **BARNES**, quipped, "I'm glad it's not the year of the bull." . . .



New Rotary officers

Pictured in the top photo with Rotary guest Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes (center) are new Rotary officers, Bob Scott, vice president; Gene Lindquist, new president, Roger Hobart outgoing president; and Harry Hennings, treasurer. In the next photo, Roger receives the president's plaque from Dick Allen and Gene Lindquist holds the gavel. In the bottom photo Senator Charles Wilson of Lufkin and Senator Chet Brooks, shakes hands with some of the Rotarians.--
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