

# THE BLASTOFF

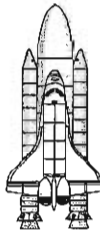
The 2000 - 2001  
Rotary Theme

CREATE AWARENESS

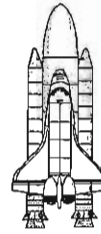


In our Club ...  
In our Community ...  
In our World ...

November 20, 2000



Rotary Club of Space Center  
Rotary District 5890  
Monday's 11:45  
Nassau Bay Hilton Hotel & Marina



ROTARY 2000 - 2001

### SPACE CENTER

President **Dave Baldwin**  
dbaldwin@leaguacitybank.com

President - Elect **Suzi Howe**  
suzihowe@academicplanet.com

Secretary **Clay Fulcher**  
Clay.Fulcher@SW.Boeing.com

Treasurer **Laura Hale**  
lhale14@juno.com

Sgt. at Arms **Olive Murphy-Riker**  
olivecpa@ix.netcom.com

Past President **Bill Geissler**  
whgeissler@ghg.net

Parliamentarian **Billy Smith**  
billysmith59@aol.com

### ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

President  
**Frank Devlyn**

DISTRICT 5890  
Governor  
**Charlie Clemmons**  
CClemmons@Proteminc.com

District Governor Nominee  
**Dennis Adams**  
Olhoss@prodigy.net

Asst. District Governor  
**George Yeiter**  
gyeiter@yeiter.com

## Today's Agenda

- 11:45 am** Buffet luncheon begins
- 12:15 pm** Call to order  
Song for today **Jerry Bourgeois**  
Pianist **Ann Fulcher - John Wilson**  
Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance  
Introductions of Guest and Visiting Rotarians  
Four Way Test  
Announcements
- 12:30 pm** Program Chair **Dick Gregg, III**  
Program **Planned Parenthood**

## Upcoming Rotary Programs / Socials

- Rotary Club of Space Center**
- Nov 27 Bay Area Arts  
Dec 4 Bill Parmeter / Gamblers Anonymous  
Dec 11 MADD  
Dec 18 Houston Holocaust Museum  
Dec 15 Holiday Party / LYC  
Dec 25 Christmas Day
- Rotary District 5890**
- Nov 17 All Club Meeting / JW Marriott
- Rotary District 5890 for 2001**
- Feb 9 - 11 Rotary Expansion in Russian/Nassau Bay Hilton  
Feb TBD Rodeo Night  
May 3 - 6 District Conference / Cancun  
June 24 - 26 RI Convention - San Antonio



Printing courtesy of

**Barrios  
Technology**

"Where Innovation and Motivation Meet"

Blastoff Editor: **Sheila Self**



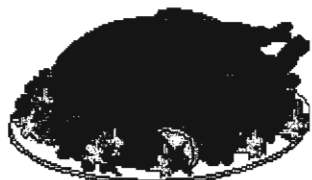
*The Rotary Club of Space Center  
Welcomes Our  
Visiting Rotarians & Guests!*



Proposed Member:

Cindy Kennedy  
Judge Louie Ditta  
Stephanie Greer  
Betsy Guisto

Proposed By:

**Mary Alys Cherry**  
**Mary Alys Cherry**  
**Marc Schneider**  
**Pauline Small**



 Today's Song 

*Come ye thankful people come,*

Come ye thankful people come,  
Raise the song of harvest home!

All is safely gathered in,  
Ere the winter storms begin;  
God our Maker, doth provide  
For our wants to be supplied:

Come to God's

own temple, come,  
Raise the song  
of harvest home.



Living a Grateful Life

**Carleton Kendrick Ed.M., LCSW**

Why not use this Thanksgiving Day as the first step toward becoming a more grateful family? Giving thanks for one's blessings on this holiday is traditional. Feeling grateful every day is an attitude and a way of experiencing life. If you want to cultivate gratitude as a family value, the following questions can help you make giving thanks an integral, daily part of your lives.

How can we give thanks every day? Focus on creating both individual and family rituals. Keep "gratitude journals"; set aside time for family prayer; try to be more physically affectionate with one another; make an effort to express your appreciation and encouragement. Giving your thanks daily establishes gratitude as a priority in your family.

What do we take for granted that we might express thanks for every day? We all need to open our eyes and appreciate our daily gifts: food, shelter, clothing, good health, friendship, the beauty of nature, and the kindness of others. Talking about ways to increase our awareness of these daily blessings is productive.

Is doing for others a way of expressing gratitude? Discuss how helping others is gratitude in action. You might not only prepare and/or help serve a holiday meal at a homeless shelter, but also talk about how your family can make a commitment of time and service to this shelter on a regular basis. Expressing thanks by actively helping others in an ongoing way can be one of your family's "gratitude goals."

What attributes do you possess that you are thankful for? This self-examination encourages self-gratitude, helping us pause to appreciate our skills, talents, and personality traits. If we've lost sight of our special gifts, this gives family members an opportunity to point them out to us: "You are the best listener." "You always manage to cheer us up when we're down." "You can fix anything that's broken."

Who has treated you with kindness and generosity, and how would you like to thank that person? Gratitude can take many forms – a homemade gift, a thank-you card, a phone call, a spontaneous favor. Remembering those who have made us feel special and valued encourages us to become more aware and appreciative of human kindness. You might discuss ways to show your gratitude by passing on a person's kindness through your own acts of generosity.

Teaching your children by example how to make their gratitude known is at the core of teaching them how to appreciate and celebrate the abundance in their lives. These are lessons learned throughout a lifetime, not merely discussions we have at Thanksgiving dinner.

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TEL: (281) 488-4438  
FAX: (281) 488-4597  
MARCS@WS-LAW.COM      HOUSTON ★ CORPUS CHRISTI

## **Advertising Information**

The Blastoff continues to place ads for those interested in advertising their business. The business card size ads will run each week and cost \$200.00 for six months. All funds raised from ads will go directly to our clubs service account and thus be available for our various community and international charitable projects. Please contact Sheila if you are interested in placing an ad for the next six months.

**No Printing Fee**

**No Set-Up Fee**

**All funds collected for ads go directly to  
our club services/committees!**

## Space Center Women of Rotary (SCWR)

SCWR News Provided By *Martha Owen!*

### Dates to Remember

- 11/29 Wednesday: "Tree Decorating for ICM"  
11/29 Dinner – Civic Center with live music "Air Mail Special" to view the trees. This is a fundraiser for ICM; tickets are \$50 each. Call 281/332-3881 for reservations.  
12/07 Thursday: Christmas Board Meeting and Luncheon at South Shore Harbor Country Club, 11:30 a.m. Call *Marge Jacobson* for reservations 281/334-1447  
12/14 Thursday: Regular Luncheon Meeting. Note date change.  
12/15 Friday: Space Center Rotary Christmas Dance, LYC.

### Vocational Service

Director: **Vissett Sun**

Committees: Vocational Service, Career Development, Excellence in Education and Excellence in Law Enforcement

Vocational Service Chair person: **Adena Losten**

This committee is required to receive nominations evaluating and selecting the Outstanding Business Person in our area with the possibility of gaining new members. As Rotarians, we strongly believe that excellence in a chosen profession of vocation along with the Four Way Test is evident in daily life deserves a "Rotary Recognition." The VEA is for someone in our community that is an "Outstanding Business Person" and a community leader with notable achievements who has not yet become a Rotary member. The VEA will include a \$500 scholarship that will be giving to San Jacinto Community College in the name of the VEA recipient. The VEA nomination will be sent to the district level for further consideration for the District Award.

Career Development at Clear View High School Chairperson: **Claire Taylor**

This committee will reward outstanding Clear View students who have met requirements for VIP (Vocational Internship Program) and to open career doors for those same students. Also, this committee will provide positive experiences and exposure to Rotarians and the businesses in our area. The goal of this committee is to demonstrate to the Clear View student body through the positive experiences and opportunities of the VIP students that hard work and determination to complete goals provides further opportunities and rewards.

Excellence in Education Chairperson: **Joan Skellenger**

The goal of this committee is to promote Rotary as an organization that recognizes and rewards excellence in education in the vocation of teaching the children of our community. This committee will honor teachers in the Clear Creek ISD who have achieved excellence in education by granting four Excellence in Education Awards of \$300 each and two \$1000 Teacher of the Year Awards to an Elementary and Secondary education teacher. Other awards will include certificates, personal plaques, and individual recognition at a Rotary luncheon presentation. There will be a perpetual plaque on display at the CCISD Administration Building to recognize the Teachers of the Year.

Excellence in Law Enforcement

Chairperson: **Bill Farries**

The goal of this committee is to recognize the Law enforcement officers that work in the Bay Area community. Yearly, this committee will award five officers with the Law Enforcement Distinguished Service Award. There will be one "Officer of the Year." A Rotary Luncheon presentation will recognize the officers with certificates and cash awards. A perpetual Plaque in the Harris County Courthouse, Clear Lake Annex will be maintained to recognize the "Officer of the Year."



Photo courtesy of **Bob Mitchell** from last weeks club meeting. **David Taylor** introduces **Owen Morris** and **Vince Lipovsky** as our speakers for the presentation on the Black Sheep Squadron as we saluted our Veteran's.

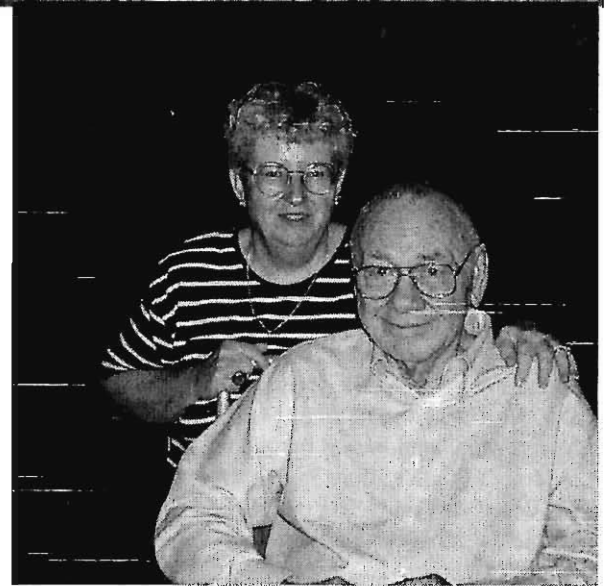
Pictured left to right: **David Taylor**, **Charlie Hartman** (behind David) **Dave Baldwin**, **Vince Lipovsky**, and **Joe Lee**.

## *Two Weeks - An Update From Claire Taylor*

*It is a cold and rainy day in Houston. I may stay in my robe and gown all day!*

*I am doing ok. I am so fortunate to have the "3D" friends and my online friends to help me thru this time of adjustment. All of you are so very special to me. How do we live without friends? And my family are also my friends.*

*I will try to respond to the emails you sent to me during the past month. I cannot tell you how much they meant to me, plus the cards and the love I feel from you.*



*I went back to work on Monday. It was good for me to be back with the kids. They are so appreciative of what we do for them. Had a field trip on Thursday but the big one to the Houston Zoo had to be canceled because of the weather. The Clear View students prepared a huge card for me and it looks like each of them wrote a special note to me. :-)  
Eddie Richards is helping me sell the CATERA. Diana is getting some house stuff done. Jack Mangelsen has a fix-it man working on fence and gutters, etc. I went out to eat last night with Ed Malone, Sylvia, and the Mangelsen's last night then played a few hands of bridge at Sandy's. Was hard for me as Dugan enjoyed that game so on Friday night. There will be many times that I will be playing bridge with our dear friends and I will miss him. But I must do this. And I shall.*

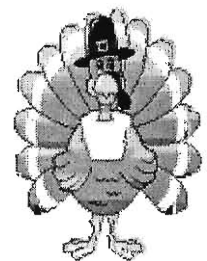
*Take care my wonderful friends, God bless you for being here for me.  
Love to all,  
Claire*

*PS Above is my favorite picture of me and Dugan. It was taken a year ago in May at a Bridgeport party at our house. He had such a great time, telling his jokes and listening to Peter Wuenschel sing. What memories!*



**Happy Thanksgiving**

**To each of you, your family and  
your friends!**



## Behind the Scenes at Our Favorite Parade

By Colin Perry

From *Reader's Digest* magazine, November 1996

In the failing light of a frigid Thanksgiving Eve, 180 members of a Florida high-school band huddle in the wind outside their Newark, N.J., hotel. Numb fingers in thin black gloves push reluctant instruments keys. Lips stick to trombones like kids' tongues on cold metal fences.



"I know this isn't what we're used to," bellow Jose Lopez, director of the Port Charlotte High School Band. "But when are we gonna get another chance to play in an event this big? Let's give it all we've got!" Across the Hudson River, on Manhattan's Upper West Side, other performers are being nudged awake after a year-long sleep. One rumpled 78-foot form spreads out onto a tarp. Helium hoses are inserted in its inflation sleeves and a form takes shape. "It's Spider-Man!" squeals a youngster. Nearby, The Cat in the Hat's 18-foot top hat sways in the breeze. Kids and parents cheer. In midtown Manhattan, a tall, gray-haired woman addresses the crowd in what looks like a military briefing room. "Everyone's got to be on their toes," jean McFaddin orders. "We can't afford foul-ups." If it all resembles a kind of D-Day-well, the comparison is apt. A vast army of Macy's volunteers has descended on New York to produce one of America's most beloved traditions: Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The televised spectacle is watch by more than 60 million people. But it's what goes on behind the scenes--the energy, dedication and clockwork precision--that makes it truly one of the country's enduring wonders.

**Ups and Downs.** It all started in 1924, the year that Macy's managers and employees--many of them European immigrants who missed their homeland harvest festivals--decided to organize a Thanksgiving Day Parade. The procession included a huge turkey float, bands, clowns, cowboys, giants, even lions and bears snarling at the crowds. It was a rousing success, and the event was repeated. But to spare kids' nerves, organizers replaced the live animals in 1927 with air-filled balloons: Felix the Cat, a dragon, an elephant and a toy soldier.

The next year, the balloons were filled with helium and released for a grand finale. They rocketed above the towering skyscrapers--and exploded. No one took into account that helium expands in thinning atmosphere. In 1929, the balloons got safety valves and were equipped with tickets offering Macy's merchandise to the finder. The glitter of prizes proved too much. In one instance, two tugboats on New York's East River steamed toward a downed dachshund balloon and, between them, tore the poor dog to pieces.

The event has had its share of ups and downs. During World War II, rubber from the balloons was donated to the war effort, and the parade was canceled from 1942 to 1944--the only interruption in 72 years. (Balloons today are made of urethane-coated nylon, which is lighter than rubber and just as strong.) In 1957, Popeye collected so much rain in the cap atop his 14-foot head that he periodically careened off-balance, dumping gallons of water on spectators. In 1958, there was a helium shortage, so the behemoths were filled with air and carted down the parade route dangling from construction cranes.



The wildly inventive balloons and floats come to life on the drawing board of Manfred Bass, 61, who for the past 36 years has been the parade's lead designer. He works with a team of Macy's artists, machinists, carpenters, animators, electricians and mold makers.

In Manny's office are racks of drawings and dozens of clay models of balloons past and present. "Air stability is important," he explains. "We have to consider whether a balloon is a horizontal flier or a vertical flier." The angle of flight will determine which balloon chamber gets filled with helium, for lift, and which gets plain, old air, for stability.

Big Bird, from "Sesame Street," has a helium-filled head that keeps him upright over his heavier, air-filled feet. Spider-Man--at 78 feet the parade's longest balloon--flies horizontally at six stories above the crowds. His 8300 cubic feet of helium is distributed in ten separate airtight compartments along his back, which his underside is filled with air.

<http://www.readersdigest.com/features/thanksgiving/thanksstories/macys.html>



## Thanksgiving A Season of Giving



**Rotary Club of Space Center  
Holiday Party**

Time: 7:30 pm - 11:30 pm  
 When: Friday, December 15  
 Where: Lakewood Yacht Club  
 Price: \$40.00 per person

This is a great time for all of our members including Rotarian fellowship with family and friends, Seabrook & Harrisburg Rotary. Dinner and dancing – featuring the Kurland Street Band.

Please RSVP by Dec. 8 with **Bill Taylor** at 281-488-2733.

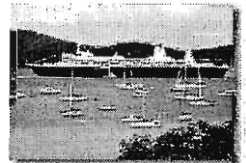
**Upcoming Caribbean Cruise  
Raffle Drawing—\$10.00 each  
By: Earl Baum**

7 days in the Caribbean for two aboard Holland America's luxurious cruise ship. A \$10 gift to the Rotary Foundation will enter the drawing for two aboard America's Holland ships during the period June 2001 through May 2002. Economy airfare from Houston is included (some restrictions apply.) The winner is responsible for all taxes due. Drawing to be held May 5, 2001.

Tickets for the drawing are for our Rotary District 5890. If the winning ticket is drawn from our club, the Rotarian who bought the ticket, the Rotarian who sold the ticket, and the Presiding Club President each win the cruise.

Contributions are tax deductible and contributions go toward achieving a Paul Harris Fellow.

Please contact **Earl Baum** for tickets and more info.



**Three Wishes**



Again this year the Rotary Club of Space Center – Endowment Fund is sponsoring children who are in the Harris County Child Protective Services (CPS) with their three Christmas wishes. Space Center Rotary purchases bicycles, helmets and pads for many of these children.

If you would like to participate in this program please contact **Vic Maria** at 281-474-7914.

The bicycles are for children up to 17 years who are in special homes and institutions. Remember, these children are not in CPS for things they have done, but for neglect and abuse done to them. Without help from people like us, many of these children would receive little, or nothing, for Christmas.

Contributions of \$50.00 or more are greatly appreciated!!

**Committee Members Needed**

**Shrimporee**

Chairs: **Earl Maudlin & Sheila Self**  
 Shrimporee Meetings are:  
 5:00  
 JSC Federal Credit Union  
 Mon Nov. 13  
 Mon Dec. 11

**Vocational Excellence Award  
Outstanding Business Person**

Chair: **Adena Loston**

**Rotary National Award for  
Space Achievement (RNASA)**

Chair: **Clay Fulcher**  
 Banquet is March 2, 2001  
 Meetings are:  
 5:30  
 Hilton  
 Every 4th Thursday (Nov. 30)

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For more information please contact **Olive Murphy-Riker** at 281-488-5650

**Clear Lake Chamber of Commerce Luncheon  
Wednesday, November 15**

Ramada Inn  
 11:30 – 1:30

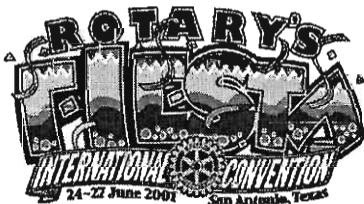
**McCoy McLemore, Media Director  
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\$12.00  
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## The Rotarians Four Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all Concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and better FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



## Make – Up Locations

### Monday - noon

Angleton A-D Gen. Hosp. Prof. Bldg.  
Galleria Area University Club

### Tuesday - noon

Galveston Island San Luis Hotel  
Harrisburg Brady's Landing  
LaPorte St. John's Episcopal Church  
Pearland Golfcrest Country Club  
River Oaks Briar Club  
Texas City Nessler Center

### Wednesday - noon

Baytown Goose Creek Country Club  
Deer Park Court & Theater Center  
Dickinson Methodist Church  
Friendswood Village on the Park  
So. Pasadena Baywood Country Club

### Thursday - noon

Alvin Homestead Inn  
Gulfway/Hobby Hobby Hilton  
Houston Jr. League of Houston  
1811 Briar Oaks Lane  
LaMarque Ramada Inn  
League City Esteban's Fiesta Shack  
Seabrook (7:00am) Lakewood Yacht Club

### Friday - noon

Pasadena First United Methodist Church  
W. Galveston Cty. LaMarque Holiday Inn

## NOTE:

Makeup forms, checks, and other  
communiqués to club  
secretary, treasurer, or president  
should be mailed to:

P.O. Box 58862  
Houston, Texas 77258

Rotary District 5890 web site:  
<http://www.rotary5890.org>

District Governor's newsletters:  
<http://www.rotary5890.org/news>



Thank you for  
your inputs &/or  
comments! *THE  
BLASTOFF* in-  
puts are due each  
Wednesday.



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Houston, TX 77058

Articles, items, jokes, typos, etc. in  
*The Blastoff* are not intended to offend  
readers.

## Rotary Club of Space Center – Directors

*Club Service A* **JB Fox**  
(Fellowship, Magazine, Golf, PR)  
[w5hir@ghg.net](mailto:w5hir@ghg.net)

*Club Service B* **Sheila Self**  
(Bulletin, Programs,  
Roster/Directory, Telephone)  
[sheila.self@barrios.com](mailto:sheila.self@barrios.com)

*Club Service C* **Marilyn Musial**  
(Membership Development,  
Attendance, Classification,  
Red Badge, Membership)  
[wmmusial@IWL.net](mailto:wmmusial@IWL.net)

*Club Service D* **Mike Duckworth**  
(Club History, Constitution &  
Bylaws, Memorial, Rotary Info)  
[Mduckworth@leaguecitybank.com](mailto:Mduckworth@leaguecitybank.com)

### Other

'01 Shrimporee Chairs

**Earl Maudlin  
& Sheila Self  
Bob Wren  
Clay Fulcher  
Billy Smith**

*SCR Endowment  
RNASA Chair  
Parliamentarian*

*Vocational Service – Dr. Vissett Sun*  
(Excellence in Education & Law,  
Career Dev., Vocational Excellence)  
[vissettsun@aol.com](mailto:vissettsun@aol.com)

*Community Service A*  
**Marc Schneider**  
(Interact, Rotaract, Youth Activities)  
[marcs@ws-law.com](mailto:marcs@ws-law.com)

*Community Service B*  
**Jim McDonald**  
(Community Service, Health &  
Fitness, NASA Info Tech,  
Scholarships, Senior Citizens)  
[rlrose@earthlink.com](mailto:rlrose@earthlink.com)

*International Service A*  
**Greg Turley**  
(Rotary & SCR Foundations,  
World Friendship,  
Ambassadorial Scholarships)  
[geturley@swbell.net](mailto:geturley@swbell.net)

*International Service B - Dick Kidder*  
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Youth Exchange, World Health)  
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