



Last Week's Meeting

Rotaview News

Lottie Guttry

"Alligator Creek"

It's fiction, but the new book "Alligator Creek" is based on a Civil War-era family legend passed down through generations in her family, author Lottie Guttry told Rotarians and guests last week.

The story follows Sarah and Alex Browning, who were living in Lake City, Florida, when Alex joined the Army of Northern Virginia and served under Robert E. Lee. Eventually Alex was captured and imprisoned.

"The way our story goes was that he did not return when the war ended, and a few years later she heard or had learned he had died," said Guttry, a Kilgore native.

After hearing about her husband's death, Sarah and her five children took a wagon train to Texas and had to cross a stream swollen by spring rains. Sarah had to carry each of her five children across.

"The story was told by those children to their children and grandchildren through the years," Guttry said.

She said she was first introduced to the story when one of her professors at Stephen F. Austin State University, where she was completing her master's degree, gave her an assignment to explore and write about a family legend. In writing the book, Guttry said, she used online sources and any documents she could find to help give the story historical context and add some suspense to make sure readers stayed engaged with the book.

"I have stuck very closely to the family story," she said. "I had to add some things to make it into a novel, but I stuck to the facts that I knew and kept the integrity of the original story."

In developing a title, she said, the word "creek" was important because water is the crux of the story, with "alligator: coming from the family's origins in Florida. Guttry learned through research that Lake City, Florida, once was named Alligator.

Her research included family members in East Texas and people in Lake City, eventually leading her to a few family members she did not know she had. In total, 152 descendants of Sarah and Alex Browning settled in Gregg and Rusk counties.

She was also able to use in her research letters written by Alex Browning to the Florida pension board. The letters included information about the battles in which he fought and the prisons where he was held.

"I was able to use his actual words in the chapters," she said. "It was fun researching it."

Without Sarah's trek to Texas, Guttry said, she would probably not be the person she is.

"Who would I be? Where would I be?" she pondered. "Maybe I would be in Florida. Maybe I would be someone else."



September Student of the Month

Ben Monsour, a senior at Longview High School, was introduced last week as our Student of the Month for September. The son of Doug and Sarah Monsour, Ben is a scholar, athlete and leader.

He's in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program, in the top 2 percent of his class and is a member of the National Honor Society. As an athlete, he has been a member of both the Lobo varsity tennis and football teams.

Ben is president of the LHS Interact Club and is the parliamentarian of the Student Council. He serves on the Texas Bank and Trust Student Board of Directors and participates in many church and community organizations.

He is applying to the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Southern California. He intends to study film production and business.

Congratulations Ben, and good luck!



Next week's program

Scott Caron – The director of the city of Longview Parks and Recreation Department will discuss plans to increase parks acreage in the city and a proposal to remove the park designation from Hinsley Park to make way for retail development.

Caron, 41, was hired in May. He had been parks and recreation director for the city of Rolla, Missouri, and has a bachelor's degree in parks and recreation from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Caron and his wife, Jennifer, have twin 14-year-old boys, Alex and Tyler, and a daughter, Addy, 10.

For a look at more upcoming programs, visit rotarylongview.org and find the "Speakers" section.

Calendar of events

Thursday: The Poverty Conference, Belcher Center at LeTourneau University, 8:30 a.m to 3 p.m. (doors open 7:30 a.m.)

Oct. 21: Board meeting, Gerald's. 11:30 a.m.

Nov. 3: Industry Tour – Longview Transportation Center and historic depot. Lunch at 11:45 a.m., tour begins 12:15 p.m. More information: Dietrich Johnson.

Nov. 7: Rotary Foundation and Membership Seminar, First Christian Church, Tyler.

Nov. 10: Veterans Day flag duty, flags out.

Nov. 12: Veterans Day flag duty, flags in.

Nov. 14: Longview Green & Clean, 9 a.m. Rotarians meet at Jackson Park.

Nov. 18: Board meeting, Gerald's. 11:30 a.m.

Nov. 23: Thanksgiving Food Drive preparation, Maude Cobb Convention and Activity Center, 3 p.m. More information: Betty Horaney.

Nov. 24: Thanksgiving Food Drive distribution, Maude Cobb Convention and Activity Center, noon. More information: Betty Horaney.

Dec. 17: Musical "Behold the Lamb of God," fundraiser to benefit Newgate Methodist Mission and HiWay 80 Rescue Mission, Belcher Center.

Lunch menu: Today – Hamburger buffet, potato salad, baked beans. Oct. 20 – Baked chicken, roasted potatoes, peas. Oct. 27 – Meat loaf, green beans, sweet potatoes. (All served with soup. salad. dessert. coffee and tea.)

Last week's visitors and guests

Visitors: Joe Wallace, Longview Greggton. **Guests:** Pedro Martinez-Berrios, guest of James Roberts. Student of the Month Ben Monsour and parents Doug and Sarah Monsour. Lottie Guttry, speaker.

The Rotary Club of Longview, Texas

P.O. Box 2244 - Longview Texas, 75606

Club website: www.rotarylongview.org

District 5830 website: www.rotary5830.org

Meets at noon Tuesday at
First Baptist Church, Longview - (903) 758-0681
Enrollment as of Aug. 11: 97



Be a gift to the world

Ash, Kandi 0 YPA Attorney - Registered Nurse
Barkman, Donald FS, PH+1, 29 YPA Pecan Grower
Bartleman, William FS, PH+1, 2 YPA Self Storage
Bell, Deborah PH+2, 0 YPA Medicine - Humanitarian
Bennett, Gai PH, 1 YPA Business Manager - Construction
Bentley, Bob PH, 0 YPA Scout Executive - Retired
Best, Shane FS, PH+2, PP, 24 YPA Banking - Commercial Loans
Bigony, Jayne FS, PH+7, 19 YPA Insurance - Fire
Boon, Mark FS, PH+3, PP, 32 YPA Law Estate - Planning
Brack, Richard 1 YPA Newspaper Editor
Butler, Stephen 0 YPA Chemical Plant R&D
Cammack, Casey PH+1, PP, 33 YPA Insurance - Estate Planning
Chaikin, Craig 2 YPA Banking - Personal Trusts
Chaney, Frank FS, PH+2, 7 YPA Real Estate - Commercial
Chaney, Jill FS, PH, 3 YPA Banking - Loans
Cox, Doug FS, PH+2, 25 YPA Pub. Education - Dir. of Athletics
Cromer, Jon 0 YPA Banking - Commercial Loans
Deike, Terri PH, 2 YPA University Athletics
Dial, Richard PH, PP, 35 YPA Income Tax Service
Dolive, Wayne PH+1, 30 YPA Civil Engineering
Drayer, Kellyn FS, PH+1, 10 YPA Investments - Vice President
Florence, Patricia FS, PP, PH+5, 22 YPA Law - Title
Florio, Charles PH+1, PP, 38 YPA College Administration
Forester, Sam FS, PH+2, 1 YPA Investments - Financial Services
Greenwaldt, C. PDG, FS, PH+7, PHS, PP, 25 YPA Chem. Plant - Admin.
Greenwaldt, Mary FS, PH, PHS, 0 YPA Higher Education
Griffin, Keith PH, 0 YPA Accounting Services - Taxes
Griffin, Shirley FS, MD, PHS, PP, PDG, 19 YPA Travel Agency
Hall, Kevin 0 YPA Insurance - Specialty
Hargett, Gordon FS, PH+2, 51 YPA Cleaning/Chemical Distribution
Harrison, John W., Jr. FS, PH+2, PP, 49 YPA Electr. App. Retail
Harrison, Patti PH, 1 YPA Concrete Manufacturing
Hays, Tom FS, PH, 0 YPA Real Estate - Appraiser
Herrington, Angie 0 YPA Investment Advisor
Henry, David 0 YPA Attorney - Oil and Gas
Hollis, LaJuan PH, 0 YPA Non-profit Administration
Horaney, Betty FS, PH+3, 13 YPA Feed Supply
Hubbard, Griff FS, PH+1, 5 YPA Railway Management
Hugman, James FS, PH+5, PP, 3 YPA Architect
Jameson, B.H. 35 YPA Justice of the Peace
Johnson, Dietrich PH, 2 YPA Municipal Gov't - Administration
Johnson, Joel FS, PH+2, 16 YPA Consultant - Business
Jordan, Gene 0 YPA Business Development
Key, Carl 0 YPA School Administration
Khoury, Dorothy FS, PH+1, 9 YPA Consultant - Political
Knollenberg, Steve 0 YPA Boy Scouting
Lanier, Jack, Jr. PH, 0 YPA Police Chaplaincy
Lewis, Cindi-Marie FS, PH, 4 YPA Primary Education

Liu, Jeannie 0 YPA Neurosurgery
Loy, Lindsay 0 YPA Non-Profit Administration
Maly, Robert FS, PH+2, PP, 0 YPA Civil Engineering
Manley, Richard FS, PH, 3 YPA Real Estate - Development
Mann, Jack FS, PH+4, 1 YPA Distribution - Soft Drinks
Mann, Nat 0 YPA Distribution - Soft Drinks
Mason-Durrant, Dawne 0 YPA Hospitality Management
Matlock, Paul 0 YPA Building Construction and Electrical
McClellan, Joe 0 YPA Music Education
McFaul, Justin PP, 2 YPA Banking - Trust Services
McKinney, Ronnie PH+1, 2 YPA Construction Consulting
McLemore, Reagan FS, PH+3, 20 YPA Business Broker
McReynolds, Allen 0 YPA Real Estate Investments
McWhorter, Gene FS, PH+1, 32 YPA Advertising - Industrial
Mwakikoti, Alex 0 YPA Higher Education
Neal, Billy PH, 0 YPA Vehicle Collision Repair
Neill, Jeremy 0 YPA Banking
Northcutt, Gordon FS, PH, 0 YPA Financial Advisor
Northcutt, LeGrande FS, PH+2, 50 YPA Insurance - Fire
Novy, Scott 25 YPA Law - Taxes
Overman, Rodney FS, PH+2, 14 YPA Income Tax Service
Parrott, Deborah FS, PH, 16 YPA Banking - Mortgage
Pigeon, Lee PH+2, 31 YPA Chemical Plant - Engineering
Pistone, Joseph PH, 0 YPA Emergency Medicine
Poland, Rick PP, PH+1, 19 YPA Beer Distributor - Market
Primo, Darryl PH, 0 YPA Oil and Gas Leases
Rice, Bill PH, PP, 19 YPA Financial Advisor
Risinger, Charles FS, PH+3, 26 YPA Chemical Plant Utilities
Roberts, James FS, B, PH+8, PHS, PP, 13 YPA Accounting Services
Ruff, Eric 5 YPA Real Estate - Commercial
Scoggins, Don FS, PH, SE, 12 YPA Chemical Plant - Admin.
Smith, R.H. Jr. "Hank" PH, 2 YPA Insurance - Casualty
Smith, Philip FS, PH+1, 25 YPA Insurance - Casualty
Smith, Shawn 0 YPA Auto Dealer - Comm. Prop. Mgmt.
Smith, Trey FS, MD, B, PHS, PP, 18 YPA Oil and Gas Properties
Stoult, Bill FS, PH+2, 0 YPA Investments
Taylor, Gary PH+1, 0 YPA Bank Executive
Thomas, Linda FS, PH+6, PP, 20 YPA Plumbing and Heating Supply
Thomas, Wiley FS, PH, 5 YPA Information Systems Manager
Thompson, Chris FS, PH, 1 YPA Banking - Real Estate
Walker, John FS, PH+7, 29 YPA Gasoline Distributor
Welge, Ava FS, PH+3, 19 YPA Education - Testing
Welge, Jack Jr. PH+3, PP, 36 YPA Law Practice - Criminal
Wells, Wes 0 YPA Administrator- Long-term Care
Wilcox, James 0 YPA School Administration
Wilkinson, Dickens 1 YPA Sulfur Sales
Willett, Jim FS, PH+1, PP, 9 YPA Financial Advisor
Williams, Kasha PH, 3 YPA Home Health Care
Winn, Terry FS, PH, PP, 0 YPA Civil Engineering



Rotaview

The Rotary Club of Longview, Texas

The original service club of Gregg County, Texas

Chartered May 1, 1920

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The Four-Way Test

Is it the *truth*?

Is it *fair* to all concerned?

Will it build *goodwill* and better friendships?

Will it be *beneficial* to all concerned?

Today's Program

Tim Wiseman – House of Disciples

Officers and Directors

Tom DeWitt..... District Governor
Scott Novy..... President
Gordon Northcutt..... President-elect
James Roberts Vice President
Trey Smith..... Secretary
Griff Hubbard Treasurer
Justin McFaul..... Past President
Craig Chaikin Club Administration Director
Dietrich Johnson..... Service Projects Director
Richard Brack..... Membership Director
Joel Johnson Foundation Director
David Henry Fund Raising Director
Gai Bennett..... Public Relations Director
Steve Butler..... Endowment Fund Chairman

B: Benefactor. **DG:** District Governor. **FS:** Foundation Sustaining Member. **H:** Honorary Member. **MD:** Major Donor.
PDG: Past District Governor. **PH:** Paul Harris Fellow. **PHS:** Paul Harris Society. **PP:** Past President.
SE: Senior Exempt. **YPA:** Years of Perfect Attendance.

Area Club Meetings

Monday: Marshall Metro, Trinity Episcopal Church. **Also:** Big Sandy, Greater Paris, South Tyler.

Wednesday: Kilgore, Meadowbrook Country Club. **Also:** Jacksonville, Jefferson, Lake Fork, Pittsburg.

Thursday: Gladewater, Chamber of Commerce. **Also:** Atlanta, Marshall, Overton, Quitman, Texarkana, Tyler.

Friday: Longview Greggton, First Baptist Church. **Also:** Carthage, Henderson, Paris.

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