

Published by the
 Rotary Club of Beaumont USPS 471-700
 Subscription price \$5.00 per year
 Periodicals postage paid at Beaumont, Texas
 Published weekly except when Wednesday
 falls on a holiday.
 POSTMASTER: send address changes to
 Beaumont Hilton, Suite 213
 2355 IH-10 South
 Beaumont, TX 77705



Periodical
 POSTAGE
 Paid at
 Beaumont, TX



The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery



Photo by Steve Buser

A Publication of the Rotary Club of Beaumont, Texas - Club #72

Vol. 92 No. 37 April 2, 2003

Joe Domino - Entergy



Joe Domino is president and chief executive officer of Entergy Texas, a position he has held since 1998. He is responsible for Entergy Texas' electric distribution system, customer service, economic development, regulatory affairs, and governmental affairs, as well as the company's financial performance.

His address will be an informative status report covering deregulation; Entergy Texas' service improvements; local economic development efforts and Entergy's financial stability relative the current market environment. A former Gulf

States Utilities employee and Louisiana native, he has lived in Beaumont for 32 years. In 1970, he joined Gulf States Utilities as a planning engineer. Over the course of 32 years, he received a steady stream of promotions, including plant manager at Sabine Plant, a 2000-megawatt power generation facility in Bridge City, Texas and general manager-production, responsible for oversight of all of Gulf States Utilities' fossil-fueled power plants.

Following the merger between Entergy and Gulf States Utilities in 1994, he was appointed director, Southern region fossil plants. A year later, the company assigned him to a similar

post over the Eastern region plants. Just prior to being named president, Domino served as director of Entergy's distribution operations in Texas and Southwest Louisiana.

He serves on numerous boards, including the Foundation for Southeast Texas, Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, Partnership of Southeast Texas, United Way of Beaumont and North Jefferson County, Lamar University College of Engineering Advisory Council, Lamar University Foundation, Texas Energy Museum, Julie Rogers

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From the chef: Pork Chops

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for Marketplace Ethics
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 Tuesday Night, May 6
 Speaker **David Oreck**
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 Annual Red Cross Hurricane Party
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Future Programs

April
 9th Alberto Garbari, Youth Exchange Student from Italy
 16th The Roping Cowboy
 23rd Fort Anahuac - Steve Rowland
 30th Wheelchair Project

Makeups

Monday:
 No. Port ArthurHoliday Inn Hwy 69
 Vidor.....Hibernia National Bank

Tuesday:
 Spindletop.....Holiday Inn 11th St.
 Orange.....Sunset Grove
 Port Neches.....Pompano Club

Wednesday:
 Groves.....Pompano Club

Thursday:
 Port Arthur.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69

Friday:
 Nederland.....Garden Tea Room

Program Review

The Symphony of Southeast Texas is a business which contributes to the success of all of us. That was the message delivered to our Rotary Club Wednesday by **Galen Wixson**, Executive Director of the symphony.

While the economic downturn, the war and the threat of terrorism have combined to create tough times for all arts organizations, he said, our orchestra has done well.

"I am a firm believer in living within our means," Galen said, adding that the relatively small size of our orchestra makes it easier to adjust expenditures.

Still, he told us, next year will be particularly hard. The orchestra will still perform five major concerts and carry out its educational programs but cuts will be made in some areas.

The symphony's budget next year is \$550,000 so the organization is more flexible than an orchestra like Houston's, with a \$22 million budget, Galen said.

Each concert costs about \$50,000 to produce and income from tickets only covers about 25% of that, he said.

(Continued from page 1)
 Gift of Life, Boy Scouts of America Southern Region, Christus St. Elizabeth Hospital, and the Symphony of Southeast Texas.

He previously served on the board of the Texas A&M University Race and Ethnic Studies Institute, the Greater Houston Partnership, the Lamar University Electrical Engineering Advisory Council and as board president of the Boy Scouts of America, Three Rivers Council.

He graduated from Louisiana State University with a bachelor's of science degree in electrical engineering and earned a master's degree in engineering science from Lamar University. He is a registered professional engineer in Texas and Louisiana.

Galen gave us three ways that the symphony orchestra affects other businesses:

- it shows that there is a cultural element in our community;
- it employs part-time musicians who are valuable full-time employees as their "day jobs"; and
- it puts money back into the economy.

According to the Perryman Group, \$298 is produced in a city for every dollar spent on the arts, Galen said.

But, he added, if you haven't attended a concert lately, come soon and you will be surprised at the quality of the music being produced.

Not only is Galen a member of our club, several past presidents of the Symphony of Southeast Texas are also members, including **Michael Wolf, Allison Nathan Golias, John Quigley, Wilton White** and **Floyd McSpadden**.



Additionally, we were pleasantly surprised to have our President **Harland Merriam** at the podium for the first time since January. After receiving a standing ovation, he thanked **Jim Rich** for so ably assuming the duties of Interim President.

He had the sad duty of "ringing the bell" in memory of **James Mann**, a member since 1984, who passed away on March 20th.

President Harland's active duty responsibilities with the Army have kept him on the road throughout nine states and, thanks to Interstate 10, that road led him through Beaumont on the right day.

His chaplaincy duties have included a funeral, several weddings and stress counseling for servicemen/women as well as their families. He urged all of us to remember them in our prayers.

We all wish him Godspeed and look forward to having him back home.

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From the District Governor's Newsletter

District Assembly

When: Saturday, April 12, 2003

Where: McCullough Campus of the Woodlands High School
3800 S. Panther Creek Dr.

Time: 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Cost: \$15.00 per person

Who: All 2003-04 Rotary Club Board Members and Committee Chairs are urged to attend and all Rotarians and Spouses/Significant Others are encouraged to attend this year's Assembly.

There will be breakout sessions on or for: Presidents 03-04, Presidents 04-05, Secretaries/Treasurers, Family of Rotary, Grants Publicity/Public Relations, Programs, Membership, Youth Exchange, RYLA/Camp Enterprise, Interact/Rotaract, Group Study Exchange, Bulletins, Fundraising, Annual Fund, Club Directors, Permanent Fund, Community Service & Vocational Service and Hunger Plus.

District Conference

This year's Rotary District 5910 Annual Conference promises to be one of the most exciting and unique meetings you'll attend. Plan on riding the "Waves of Love" to Moody Gardens on Galveston Island May 2-4, and bring your family for a busy and fun-filled weekend.

Hosted by the two Galveston Island Clubs, District Governor Charda Bro-nough's conference will be the greatest Rotary experience you'll have. In addition to the usual Rotary meetings, there will be much to do for the entire Rotary family.

In addition to eight Plenary sessions, there will be addresses by the Rotary International's President's representative and by District Governor Charda; roundtable breakfast discussion; awards presentations; Youth Exchange, Interact and RLA meetings; and much more.

Social events will include a Tropical Theme party at Palm Beach on Friday night and the Governor's Banquet and Dance on Saturday night. There will be

sitter service available during events, as well as structured activities for children. Spouses might consider touring Moody Gardens, the Strand, or Historical homes. We have organized the "Rotary Island Adventure Kid's Camp" for Friday night to Sunday morning. Please check registration material for more information.

We have also planned the Don Strickland Golf Tournament beginning at noon on Friday, and one more event where we can make a "Rotary Difference" – Rotary Planet Earth Project, that same afternoon. Plan to volunteer your time to assist Friends of Galveston Island State Park to improve the Park. There will also be some "fun" things to do at the park (birding and bay kayaking). Again, please see your registration materials or visit the District 5910 web page for more information.

Please register soon and plan on having a wonderful Rotary time at our District meeting May 2-4, 2003 at Moody Gardens on Galveston Island as we continue to "Sow the Seeds of Love".

Information and Registration for Conference, Schedule of Events, Golf Tournament and Hotel Registration are on the District Website:

www.Rotary5910.org

Welcome New Members

Two new members were introduced at the March 26th meeting:



Elias Sarkis
President, Tri-Con, Inc.
"Wholesale Oil Sales"
Proposed by Ted Moor III



Imad Sarkis
Vice President & Sales
Manager, Tri-Con, Inc.
"Wholesale Oil Sales"
Proposed by Ted Moor III

Birthdays

2nd John Saladin (88)

President, Saladin Pump & Equipment



Born in Charleston, West Virginia, he is a graduate of Louisiana State University. He and his wife Frances are the parents of Meredith and John Jr., and are members of Trinity United Methodist Church.

2nd Cheryl Williams (99)

Executive Director,
Rape & Suicide Crisis Center



Born in Lafayette, Louisiana, she is a graduate of Southern University in Baton Rouge. She and her husband Claude are the parents of Kearston, Koren, Kyle and Kendrick, and are members of St. Pius Catholic Church. Cheryl enjoys wholesaling.

4th Stewart Chisum (89)

President, R.O. Williams & Company



Born in Winnsboro, Louisiana, he is a graduate of Louisiana State University. He and his wife Bessie are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. Stewart enjoys sailing and skiing. Stewart is a Paul Harris Fellow.

7th Jack Crawford (01)

Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America



Born in Gainesville, Georgia, he is a graduate of the University of Georgia. He and his wife Carleen enjoy historic preservation.

8th Donna Blanchette (99)

Executive Director, March of Dimes



Born in Texas City, she and her husband Lin are the parents of Sean, Heather, Stephanie, Mallory and Logan, and are members of First United Methodist Church. Donna enjoys outdoor activities and design (fashion and interior).

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