

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. 30 February 12, 2003

Better Business Bureau 40th Birthday Bash



It is time to celebrate!

Forty years ago this month the Beaumont Rotary Club "birthed" what is known today as the Better Business Bureau of Southeast Texas serving businesses and consumers in Chambers, Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson, Liberty, Newton, Orange and Tyler counties, and the Bolivar Peninsula. The BBB will host a "40th Birthday Bash" during this week's regular club meeting, and it will include decorations, party favors, balloons, music, birthday cake, and lots more.

The "40th Birthday Bash" celebration will recognize Rotarians who were part of the investigation and chartering committee in late 1962 and early 1963, and BBB Board Chairmen and Directors, past and present. A special recognition will be made of twenty Charter BBB members who continue to qualify for membership after four decades. It will also include a special video presentation.

Many Rotarians involved in the mission of the Better Business Bureau over the years will participate in the program.

Dick McClain and Joan Pierson will give special guest testimonials. McClain is the retired President/CEO of the Better Business Bureau of Metropolitan Houston. Forty years ago, when McClain was the Executive Vice-President of the Houston Bureau, he met with and assisted the Rotarian investigation committee that created the regional BBB. Pierson, a long-time member of the Beaumont Rotary Club, served on the staff of the BBB for nearly 20 years, and as the

(Continued on page 2)

From the chef: London Broil

ANAYAT HOUSE

Overnight accommodations for family members of patients at local hospitals, especially those in Intensive Care Units.

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**Prematurity...
 It's a bigger
 problem
 than
 you think.**

**March
 of Dimes**

WalkAmerica

Saturday, April 12, 2003
 Donna Blanchette 835-7606

Habitat for Humanity

*Making a difference in communities
 by building homes for families.*

Gretta Bowman 832-5853

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Future Programs

February

19th John Durkay
26th Rotary Goes to School

March

7th Camp Enterprise
Holy Family Retreat Center

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



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Program Review

If you thought the National Football League was tough, wait until you see Beaumont's version of Arena Football, or so says Beau Shahan, Head Coach of the Beaumont Drillers.

Arena football is the brand played indoors, where you know you are out of bounds if you run into a wall. The Beaumont team is part of the Indoor Football League, which includes 28 teams.

The players will not be rich, Coach Shahan told us. They will each make \$200 per game and all of them will have "day jobs". But all of them probably hope to make it to the NFL someday.

Games will be played on Saturday nights beginning March 15 in the Civic Center. That first game will be against the Tupelo (Mississippi) Fire Ants. The schedule includes 14 games, 7 at home.

Coach Shahan said there are eight players on offense and eight on defense, with players allowed to play "both ways".

The scoring is a little different than the NFL, with four points given for drop-kick field goals. Fans will see a lot of quick

kicks and 90% of the offensive plays will be passes.

The wife of the coach will be in charge of the "Black & Gold Dancers," cheerleaders for the team. The group will consist of young women with talent and experience, Coach said.

He also introduced three of his assistants: Defensive Coordinator Koby Richard; defensive backs coach James Bell; and running backs coach Ricky Trubel.

Coach Shahan said tickets can be bought for as little as \$10 and he encouraged us to come stomp on some fire ants on March 15.

A young man with a lot of enthusiasm and courage enough to face our Rotary Club, Coach gave evidence that he has what it takes to make the Drillers winners.

Head Table

INVOCATION



NELSON ALTER
Chairman of the Board, Alter's Gem Jewelry
Charter member of the Better Business Bureau
Vice-Chairman of the first BBB Board in 1963

PLEDGE



BILL CLARK
President of Bill Clark Pest Control
Charter Member of the Better Business Bureau
Chairman of the BBB Board in 1966

4-WAY TEST



CAROL FLATTEN
Currently Executive Director of the Foundation for SE Texas
Chairman of the Board of the BBB in 1991 and 1992 when she was employed with the City of Beaumont

GUEST INTRODUCTION

JIM BROUSSARD, JR.
Co-CEO of Broussard's Mortuary
Charter member of the Better Business Bureau
First recipient in 1998 of the Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics
Current Chairman of the Board of the BBB



Program (continued)

(Continued from page 1)
President from 1984 until her retirement in 1996.

Michael Clayton, President/CEO of the Better Business Bureau since 1996, and Beaumont Club Rotarian will facilitate the program.

Special thanks goes to Broussard's Mortuary, Burris Transfer & Storage, Cellular Max, Entergy, J.S. Edwards & Sherlock Insurance Agency, and Star Graphics for underwriting the celebration, party experience, and fun!

Large Club Conference

Last week, I had the very great honor of representing our club at the Western Division Large Club Conference in Seattle, Washington, along with Executive Directors and Presidents-Elect of 31 other clubs.

Our hosts, Seattle Executive Director Val Elliott and the members of the fourth Rotary Club chartered and currently the second largest in the world, led us through three and a half days of meetings that can only be described as dynamic, focused, balanced, intensive, fascinating and thoroughly enjoyable.

Venues included the top of the Space Needle, Tillicum Village (the site of the 1993 Far East Economic Conference), the Seattle PBS station and the Westin Hotel. We rode in a "duck" (an amphibious troop carrier fitted as a tour bus) and a boat. It rained constantly except Tuesday afternoon which afforded us a spectacular view of Mount Rainier rising unobscured across Puget Sound.

My conference binder weighed more than nine pounds...I had to ship it home!!

One highlight (among so many!) was a performance by Cabaret Productions of Seattle. Their "Rotary Song" brought the house down. I hope you enjoy the selected stanzas below:

ROTARY Song

Sung to the tune of "Comedy Tonight" from hit play *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*

IF YOU'RE A DOCTOR ...
OR YOU'RE A LAWYER ...
OR AN EMPLOYER,
THEN ROTARY WANTS YOU!

IF YOU'RE A BROKER ...
OR YOU'RE A BANKER ...
OR A NEWS ANCHOR,
THEN ROTARY WANTS YOU!

IF YOU'RE A CHEF / IF YOU'RE A SHRINK .
WE THINK YOU'LL LIKE
THE WAY THAT WE THINK!

FROM EVERY NATION ...
AND EACH VOCATION ...
NO OCCUPATION IS TABOO ...
GOT DEDICATION?
ROTARY WANTS YOU!



13th Harland Merriam (88)
Pastor, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church Born in Coral Gables, Florida, he is a graduate of Stetson University, Princeton Seminary and Union Seminary. He and his wife Barbara are the parents of Joshua and Aaron, and are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. He enjoys running, biking and playing tennis and golf. Harland is a Paul Harris Fellow.



13th Scott Rand (95)
President/General Manager, B.T. Rand Oil Company Born in Waco, he is a graduate of Texas A & M. He and his wife Shannon



14th Charlie Foxworth, Jr. (96) President, Foxworth Real Estate Corporation A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of the University of Texas. He is a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and enjoys playing golf, tennis and any recreational sport.



IF YOU'RE INVITED,
YOU'LL BE DELIGHTED ...
WE'RE SO EXCITED
THAT ROTARY WANTS YOU!

COME TO A MEETING ...
IT'S OPEN SEATING ...
SUCH A WARM GREETING
WHEN ROTARY WANTS YOU!

PROGRAMS TO PLAN, PLANS TO DISCUSS
"DISCOVERY GRANTS" AND "POLIOPUS"

COME MEET THE MEMBERS ...
SO MANY MEMBERS ...
WE ALL WERE ONCE NEW MEMBERS TOO
ROTARY ROTARY ROTARY WANTS YOU!

Thank you, everyone, for sending me!
Alexine

Birthdays



15th Dennis Moncla (96)
Sales Manager, Balboa Company A Beaumont native, he is a Lamar graduate. He and his wife Jean are the parents of Amy Michelle and Kelly, and are members of St. Marks Episcopal Church. He enjoys computers, pinball and playing golf.



15th David Teuscher (03)
Shareholder, Beaumont Bone & Joint Institute Born in Enid, Oklahoma, he is a graduate of the University of Illinois and the University of Texas Medical School in San Antonio. He and his wife Connie are the parents of Brandon and Derek, and are members of Westgate Memorial Baptist Church. He enjoys working with the Boy Scouts and all outdoor sports.



16th Bruce Walker (98)
General Sales Manager, Time Warner Cable Born in Houston, he is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University. He and his wife

Kathryn are the parents of Jennifer and Tyler, and are members of Trinity United Methodist Church. He enjoys hiking, biking, travel, tennis and golf.



17th Tom Nelson (91)
Owner, Beaumont Veterinary Associates Born in Houston, he is a graduate of Texas A & M. He and his wife Brooke are the parents

of Cole and Graham, and are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. He enjoys hunting, scuba diving and camping. Tom is a Paul Harris Fellow.



17th Ben Orgain, Jr. (93)
Vice President, Bridge City Bank. Born in Dallas, he is a graduate of Southwestern University. He and his wife Katharine are the parents of

Darby, Will and Meggie, and are members of St. Marks Episcopal Church. He enjoys fishing and playing golf. Ben is a Paul Harris Fellow.

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