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The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery



Photo by Steve Buser

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Industry of the Golden Triangle: Programs, Problems and Prospects



In the late 1970's, industry needed to come together to speak with one voice. Initially assisting in the formation of the Golden Triangle Business Roundtable in 1980, **John Durkay** subsequently organized the Southeast Texas Industry Public Relations Association and incorporated the Southeast Texas Plant Managers' Forum. He now also acts as counsel for the Industrial Safety Training Council, the Association of Reciprocal Safety Councils and the Southeast Texas Environmental Managers.

A graduate of Fordham University and Harvard Law School, **John** has practiced law with the firm of Mehaffy & Weber in Beaumont for the past 23 years, celebrating the 30th anniversary of his law career earlier this month. Prior to coming to Beaumont he worked for Ashland Oil and Livingston Shipbuilding Company.

With Mehaffy & Weber he has continued his long-standing representation of heavy industry including Gulf, Texaco, DuPont, Fina, Mobil, Ameripol Synpol, Bethlehem Steel, North Star Steel,

(Continued on page 2)

Head Table



INVOCATION
PAULA O'NEAL,
 DIRECTOR,
 SOME OTHER PLACE

PLEDGE
SHAREN KIRKSEY,
 DESIGNER,
 ETHAN ALLEN



4-WAY TEST
KAL KINCAID,
 V.P. ESTIMATING & MARKETING,
 APAC-TEXAS, INC.

GUEST INTRODUCTION
CAMILLE MOUTON,
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
 ADVANCEMENT,
 LAMAR UNIVERSITY



From the chef: Fried chicken

ANAYAT HOUSE

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

Carolyn Oliver 2675 McFaddin
833-0649

**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

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

Program Review



Lordy, Lordy, look who's 40! Our program this past week was a giant birthday bash for the Better Business Bureau. Each table was decorated with balloons, confetti, party hats, noise makers, and a cake.

BBB President **Michael Clayton** felt that Rotary was the perfect place to celebrate since our club was where the Beaumont Better Business Bureau was started 40 years ago.

Our program started out with several of the past Chairpersons of the BBB leading us in the invocation (**Nelson Alter**), the pledge (**Bill Clark**), the 4 Way Test (**Carol Flatten**) and the guest introduction (**Jim Broussard, Jr.**).

At one point in the program, **Michael** asked for the current and former board members of the BBB to stand. It looked as if a huge percentage of our club has served, (or is currently serving) on the board of the BBB.

The history of the Beaumont Better Business Bureau goes back to a steering committee headed by **Ken Ruddy**. This committee was set up to determine the feasibility of establishing a new Beaumont Bureau of the BBB. After it was determined that there would be the necessary backing for such an endeavor, **Dick McClain** came over from the Houston BBB to explain the benefits and help with the initial start-up.

Today it is known as the Better Business Bureau of Southeast Texas and serves eight counties. To be a member of the BBB a company must comply with standards that ensure that the public is treated fairly, with honesty and dignity.

The BBB of Southeast Texas has helped over 125,000 individuals and businesses in our area. They feel the key is to work out any problems consumers have with businesses by using dispute resolution processes such as mediation and arbitration. This is a service of the BBB and has been found to be the best way to come to an amicable solution for both parties.



Thank you, **Michael** and your BBB staff.

Program - continued

(Continued from page 1)

Chemical Waste Management and Onyx Environmental Services, among others.

John has been a member of our club since 1983. He lives in LaBelle with his wife Glenda. They have two sons, **Bo** who lives in Austin and **Tane** who lives in Houston, and one grandson **Noah** who, according to **John**, is undoubtedly the most spoiled grandchild on the planet!



Jim Rich presented **Smythe Shepherd**, currently our member with the longest term of membership, with his 60+ years badge. **Smythe** has been a member of our club since April 5, 1939. Congratulations and thank you, **Smythe!**



Kitchen Concepts

Are we having fun yet?
Marvin and Connie Dunnam
 4338 Dowlen Rd. Beaumont, TX
 899.8668

Wathen, DeShong & Juncker, L.L.P.

Certified Public Accountants

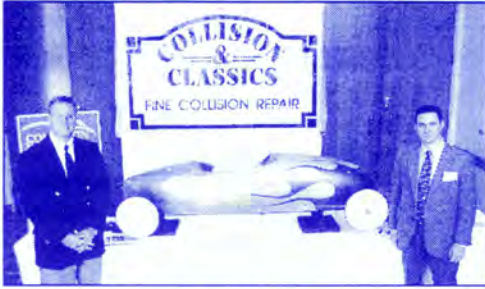
4140 Gladys, Suite 101 Beaumont, Texas 77706
 838.1805 Fax 838.3316

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Pre-Meeting Mixer



Gerald Condon and his firm Collision & Classics hosted the Pre-Meeting Mixer last Wednesday. He is pictured above with his associate Norman Davis and the Soap Box Derby racer he sponsored in last spring's competition.

Thank you, **Gerald**, for the fellowship opportunity and the mouse pads, pens and drink holders you provided.

Rotary Goes to School



Travis Brewer urges all Rotarians who have not yet signed up to visit a school on Rotary Goes to School Day, Wednesday, February 26th, to please do so soon.

Once again our club is partnering with SBC to bring personalized story books to every kindergarten student in public and private schools throughout Beaumont. This has been a very successful program to get books into the hands and homes of all the children in our city and to encourage an early love of reading.

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Our People Make the Difference

Birthdays



20th Rufus Mills (51)
President, Mills Company. Born in Woodville, he is a graduate of the University of Houston. Rufus is the father of Rufus Jr., James Thomas

and Stacie, and is a member of Trinity United Methodist Church. He enjoys golf, tennis and bowling. Rufus is a Paul Harris Fellow.



22nd Gary Underwood, Jr. (01) Public Affairs Manager, Time Warner Communications. Born in Canton, Ohio, he is a graduate of South-west Texas State Univer-

sity. Gary and his wife Julie are the parents of Sydney. He enjoys golf, cars and music.



23rd Carolyn Oliver (00)
Director, Anayat House. Born in Pasadena, she attended Lamar University. Carolyn and her husband Dale are the parents of

Christy, Cheryl, and Katie, and are members of Faith United Methodist Church. She enjoys gardening, family and friends, volunteer work, walking, and the beach.



24th Camille Mouton (97)
Executive Director of Advancement, Lamar University. Born in Harlingen, she is a graduate of the University of Louisiana at Lafay-

ette. Camille is the mother of Ann, Ashley, Kristi and Beth, has 4 grandchildren and is a member of St. Anthony Cathedral. Camille enjoys travel, reading, sewing and exercising.



25th Carole Reeves (99)
Officer, Talon Insurance Agency. Born in Port Arthur, she attended Lamar University. Carol and her husband Marvin are the parents of

Aimée, Amber and Spencer, and are members of First Baptist Church of Groves. She enjoys reading, snow skiing and spending time with family, friends and her grandson.



New member **Kristie Young** and her assistant brought us information about the Camp Fire programs for girls and boys in our area.

REMEMBER!

February 26th - Rotary Goes to School
March 7th (Friday) - Camp Enterprise

Wheelchairs to Mexico City

Emily Compton, Alex Broussard and Orange Rotarian Ron Borel will travel to Mexico on February 20th to present the all-terrain wheelchairs purchased with donations from our club and Ron's club to 240 residents of Mexico City and nearby towns. Rotary International Past President Frank Devlyn is planning to join our Rotarians for the presentation.

Have a safe and pleasant trip!

If you haven't participated in this program before, please make every effort to do so. The children are so delighted to welcome us into their classrooms and their faces really light up when they see their names in print.

Travis will be manning the table outside the ballroom before and after this week's meeting so please stop by and sign up.

You can also call **Alexine** at the Rotary office (842-1913) to sign up.

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