

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. 49 June 25, 2003

Mark G. Yudof - Chancellor, University of Texas System



Mark G. Yudof was appointed chancellor of The University of Texas System by the Board of Regents on June 21, 2002. His tenure as the ninth chancellor of the U. T. System began on

August 1.

Yudof came to the chancellor's office from the University of Minnesota, where he had served as president since July 1997. Previously, he was a faculty member and administrator at U. T. Austin for 26 years, serving as dean of the School of Law from 1984 to 1994 and as the university's executive vice president and provost from 1994 to 1997.

His career at U. T. Austin began in 1971, when he was appointed an assistant professor of law. He continued to teach throughout his administrative career at U. T. Austin, as well as while he was at the University of Minnesota.

While on the law faculty at U. T. Austin, he also served periods as a visiting professor at the law schools at the University of Michigan and the University of California at Berkeley, and he conducted research as a visiting fellow at the University of Warwick in England.

Yudof is an authority on constitutional law, freedom of expression, and edu-

(Continued on page 3)

Head Table



INVOCATION
TERRY BOURDIER,
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
 UNITED WAY OF BEAUMONT



PLEDGE
GENE HUGHES,
 EDITOR,
 BEAUMONT JOURNAL



4-WAY TEST
CHUCK EGE III,
 PRESIDENT,
 BANK ONE, TEXAS, N.A.



GUEST INTRODUCTION
MICHAEL CLAYTON,
 PRESIDENT/CEO,
 BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU



**American
 Red Cross**

Sign up Now for **FREE**
Super CPR Saturday,
July 12, 2003
 Call 832-1644

This is
YOUR TRUCK
 FOR ITS SERVICE
 PHONE 409 896-2361



THE SALVATION ARMY OF BEAUMONT



2350 IH-10 EAST
 BEAUMONT, TX 77703
 Help us today to build a brighter future
 by giving used clothing, furniture bric-a-brac, etc.
 "With Heart to God and Hand to Man"

**CREATIVITY
 UNLIMITED, INC**

phone.fax: 899.1889
 baknight@gt.rr.com

Barbara Knight

• advertising • graphic arts
 • courtroom exhibits
 • grants • consulting

ROTARY CLUB OF BEAUMONT OFFICERS

Harland Merriam President
 Azim Keramati President-Elect
 Maurine Gray President-Elect Designate
 Jim Rich Vice President, Programs
 Terry Bourdier Secretary, Membership
 Gary Rothenberger Treasurer
 Lee Freeland Sergeant at Arms

DIRECTORS

Eddie Arnold Community Service
 Angela Baker Youth Service
 Jeff Beaver Community Service
 Paula Bothe Vocational Service
 Gerald Condon Fellowship
 Carol Flatten Int'l & District Service
 Roy Huckaby Administration
 Roger McCabe Foundation
 Camille Mouton Club Service
 Lois Ann Stanton Int'l & District Service

BEAUMONT ROTARY FOUNDATION, INC.

Eric Meadows, President
 Michael Wolf, Secretary-Treasurer
 Azim Keramati
 Roger McCabe
 Harland Merriam
 Peg Towers

Alexine Boutin, Executive Director
 Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
 409-842-1913 • Fax: 409-842-5613
 rotarybmt1@yahoo.com
 Meets Wednesdays at Noon
 Beaumont Hilton • International Ballroom
 2355 IH-10 South • Beaumont, Texas

Future Programs

July
 2nd Installation of Officers & Board
 9th Beaumont Main Street
 16th Chuck Hunt - The Big Thicket
 23rd Bob West - Independence Trail
 30th Jim Ellis - duPont

Makeups

Monday:

No. Port Arthur.....Holiday 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

State Representative Allan Ritter (D. Nederland) reviewed the last session of the Texas Legislature for our club Wednesday but his views on the two upcoming special sessions were even more interesting.

Ritter, who represents District 21, the western portion of Jefferson County, gave good grades to the last session, especially for balancing the budget without new taxes.

Minutes before his speech, he had been informed that a special session on redistricting has been called for June 30. It was the redistricting issue which led Ritter and other House Democrats to go to Ardmore, Oklahoma, depriving the House of a quorum.

He defended that action to Rotarians, giving three reasons: 1) the redistricting will hurt Southeast Texas; 2) redistricting was done two years ago and has always been done every 10 years; and 3) Ritter had been promised that redistricting would not be on the agenda during the session.

Ritter predicted that redistricting will happen during the session starting June 30, though he promised to fight for the interests of District 21, which probably means a vote against the changes.

He admitted that the session just ended was difficult, with 140 days and nights of interaction at close quarters leading to short tempers. Many of the participants were newly elected, including the Lieutenant Governor, which did not make things any easier, Ritter said.

But he pointed with pride to the fact that insurance reforms were passed, making most rates subject to state review, and that tort reform was passed, capping the amount of non-economic damages that can be

awarded against doctors and hospitals.

Most interesting was his preview of what might happen when public school financing is studied in a special session expected later this year, after the special session on redistricting is over.

In looking at the budget problems of Texas, Ritter said our revenue sources are drying up and Texas is the second-fastest growing state in the union. The combination is lethal.

Ritter called the state's franchise tax "antiquated", and said it might be replaced with an income tax on businesses.

Currently, he said, many businesses escape the franchise tax by finding loopholes, such as replacing corporations with limited partnerships, which don't pay the franchise tax.

He said an individual income tax is not likely, primarily because that would require approval by the voters.

Ritter criticized a plan put forth by Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, which was promoted as a sales tax cut.

It would have lowered the sales tax rate, Ritter said, but broadened the tax to include various services, as well as agriculture.

He said the legislature must be careful to consider the effect on economic development of any tax bill.

Eddie Arnold, Regional Manager of SBC, introduced Ritter as a man who has done his best to preserve water rights for Southeast Texas.

BANK ONE

www.bankone.com

6025 Eastex Freeway,
 Beaumont, TX 77706

Contact us or visit your neighborhood Bank One banking center for all your Business Banking needs.

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

Certified Public Accountants

4140 Gladys, Suite 101 Beaumont, Texas 77706
 838.1605 Fax 838.3316

**Star
 graphics**

Copiers ★ Printing Solutions
 Fax Machines ★ Computer Equipment

Konica HP IBM SHARP

Board Action

Your Board of Directors met Tuesday, June 17th, and approved the following:

New Member:

Dean Conwell,
Director, Convention and Visitors
Bureau,
City of Beaumont,
Proposed by **Maurine Gray**
"Municipal Government – Convention
& Visitors Bureau"

Unless written objections to the Board of Directors are received by Friday, June 27th, the candidate listed above will be considered elected to membership.

Leaves of Absence:

Sid Cohen - 6/1 – 9/30/03
Don Coleman - 5/2 – 7/16/03
Kristie Young - 6/1 – 8/31/03

Resignations accepted with regret:

Kent Batman – business pressures
Mike Cain – business transfer
Lynn Jelinek – business pressures
Bill McNinch – business pressures

Program (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

He has written and edited books on free speech and gender discrimination, and most recently completed the fourth edition of his co-authored book, *Educational Policy and the Law*.

He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the American Law Institute. He also serves as a member of the advisory board of the National Institute for Literacy.

Chancellor Yudof's wife, Judy, is international president of the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. She is the first woman to serve in that capacity in the organization's 89-year history. In 1993, Mark and Judy Yudof were co-recipients of the Jewish National Fund Tree of Life Award.

Birthdays

25th C. W. Conn, Jr. (85)

Retired



A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of the University of Texas and Lamar University. He and his wife Dorothy Anne are the parents of Carolyn and

Susan, and are members of Trinity United Methodist Church. He enjoys playing the guitar. C. W. is a Paul Harris Fellow.

26th Mark Viator (96)

Manager, Human Resources & Community Affairs,
BASF



Born in Port Arthur, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Lori are the parents of Amanda, Erin, Bethany and Whitney, and are

members of Friendship Baptist Church. He enjoys playing golf, reading and hunting.

28th Joe Broussard IV (98)

Shareholder,



Mehaffy & Weber

A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame and Baylor University School of Law.

He and his wife Johnnie are the parents of Kate, Beth and Joe, and are members of St. Anne's Catholic Church. He enjoys hunting, fishing and investments.

28th Andy Burns (94)

Vice President,
Burns Properties



A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Mitzi are the parents of Drew, and are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian

Church. He enjoys playing golf, hunting and fishing.

28th Ken Dollinger (97)

Justice of the Peace



Born in Austin, he is a graduate of Lamar University and the South Texas College of Law. He and his wife Cathy are the parents of Jaclyn, and are members of St. Jude

Thaddeus Catholic Church. He enjoys competitive shooting.

28th Marvin Dunnam (97)

Co-Owner, Kitchen Concepts



Born in Angleton, he and his wife Connie are the parents of Kelvin and Lori, and are raising their two wonderful grandchildren Priscilla and Andrew. He enjoys hunting, fishing and cooking.

30th Steve Lucas (01)

Business Banker, Wells Fargo Bank



Born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Robin are the parents of William and Andrew, and are members of Wesley United

Methodist Church. He enjoys fishing.

1st Charlie Gibbs (98)

Owner/President,
Cameo/Sabine Neches Travel



Born in Houston, he attended Lamar University. He and his wife Cindy are the parents of Andrea and Morgan, and are members of Calvary Baptist Church. He enjoys golf.

1st Mark McKinnon (00)

Station Manager/V.P., KBMT-Channel 12



Born in Corpus Christi, he is a graduate of the University of Redlands. He and his wife Elizabeth are the parents of Mitchell and Callie, and are members of Trinity United

Methodist Church. He enjoys playing golf, sports, his family and vacations.

jkchevrolet.com 409-722-0443

JK CHEVROLET
ISUZU
at the airport

Our People Make the Difference

COLLIER PARK

AN ARV RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

4650 Collier Street
Beaumont, TX
899.4800

24-HOUR
SERVICE

ON ALL BRANDS,
MAKES AND MODELS

838-1676



EFFICIENT
SYSTEMS

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING
REFRIGERATION / BUILDING CONTROLS