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The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery



Photo by Steve Buser

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## Lonnie Arrington - Water Issues



Lonnie Arrington is president and owner of Fabricon International, Inc., which designs and manufactures ASME coded pressure vessels. Mr. Arrington will address water issues affecting Southeast Texas including regional water treatment plants, control of salt water intrusion, present and future reservoirs and future water supply to meet needs for agricultural, municipal, and industrial users.

Prior to founding Fabricon International in 1976, Mr. Arrington worked

for Dresser Industries as a chief engineer, as well as Kerr McGee and U.S. Borax as a development engineer. He holds eleven patents.

Having been appointed by former Governor Bush and reappointed by Governor Perry, he currently serves as President of the Lower Neches River Authority (LNVA). He also chairs the Industrial Development Committee which recommends funding of state-issued bonds for industrial and economic development; serves as Chairman of the Restoration Committee of St. Anthony's Cathedral completing restoration of the

cathedral and serves on Finance Council; serves on State Board of Governors of Texans for Lawsuit Reform (TLR); is Co-Chair and Founder of CUAEC (Citizens United for Academic Excellence), an alliance to end bussing with a new student-assignment plan for area schools in 1994; and has served as an officer of the Lamar University Foundation and the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Arrington was named 1988 Small Businessman of the Year for manufacturing.

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**Future Programs**

**March**

19<sup>th</sup> Perot "Bud" Nevin Jr.  
 26<sup>th</sup> Symphony of Southeast Texas

**April**

2nd Alberto Garbari, Youth Exchange Student from Italy

**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

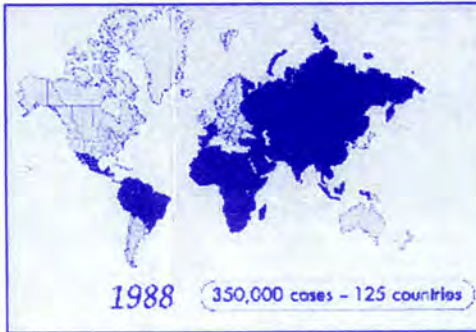
**Thursday:**

Port Arthur.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69

**Friday:**

Nederland.....Garden Tea Room

**Polio Eradication Campaign**



Since 1988, polio cases have dropped by 99.8%, thanks in substantial measure to Rotary's significant financial contribution and mobilization of volunteers.

**THE POLIPLUS PROGRAM**

In 1985, the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, Rotary pledged \$120 million to buy polio vaccine in support of a global effort to immunize the children of the world. Through the immensely successful PolioPlus campaign, Rotarians raised \$247 million.

By 1988, progress in controlling polio was so great that the World Health Organization resolved to eradicate the disease, which has killed and paralyzed children for 5,000 years. With Rotary's encouragement, the largest public health initiative in history began.

Eradication of polio by 2005, Rotary's 100th anniversary, became Rotary's top priority. Over the years, through its PolioPlus program, Rotary has provided vaccine, millions of volunteer hours, and leadership in more than 100 nations.

Rotary's contributions, which have grown through investment income, will exceed \$500 million by 2005. In addition, its advocacy program, aimed at donor governments and the private sector, has resulted in more than \$1 billion in polio grants to poor nations.

Rotary is the major private-sector partner in the global team leading this history-making cause. Rotary's partners include the World Health Organization, UNICEF and the U.S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The preceding was excerpted from the Rotary Foundation's "Fulfilling Our Promise: Eradicate Polio" brochure.

**PROGRESS**

Today, thanks to Rotary and its global partners, the world is on the threshold of eradicating the poliovirus that has destroyed so many lives and hope. Polio cases have dropped by 99.8 percent since 1988. More than two billion children have been immunized, and four million spared death or paralysis.

**THE CHALLENGE**

The biggest obstacle to victory in the battle against polio is financial. Despite the enormous resources already committed, more money is urgently needed to buy vaccine and to deliver it to children in the few remaining countries where the poliovirus still circulates. To help close the funding gap, Rotary has announced a new, one-year polio eradication fundraising campaign. Our goal is US\$80 million in donations and pledges, by 30 June 2003.

Help fulfill our promise of polio eradication by 2005. Join your fellow Rotarians in the race to reach the last child. Remember that just two precious drops of oral polio vaccine can save that child from lifelong paralysis.

Let's finish the job we promised to complete. Let's eradicate the dreaded disease of polio, the world's greatest cause of disability. Together, we can deliver to all children everywhere a lasting and special gift: a world free of polio.



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## Our Commitment to Polio Eradication

At our February 19th meeting, Past President **Floyd McSpadden** spoke about the Rotary Club of Beaumont's Polio Eradication Commitment and provided commitment cards for every member present. Those members who missed the meeting received a card in the mail.

Your Board of Directors requests a commitment of \$90 from each member, but any donation is appreciated and can help eradicate this dreaded disease.

Remember:

\$100 buys 1,200 doses of polio vaccine for children

\$500 helps to deliver vaccine house to house, in an entire village

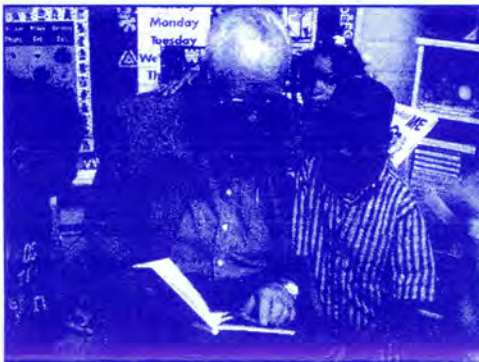
\$1,000 provides laboratory equipment essential to surveillance systems

We urge you to return your completed commitment card to the Rotary office, either with your payment or your request that we bill you.

Global polio eradication is within our reach and each of us can be a part of and take pride in its success.

## Rotary Goes to School

We received more photos of February 26th's Rotary Goes to School which we wanted to share with you:



**Bill Lucas** enjoyed reading to kindergarteners at Martin Elementary.



**Carol Flatten**, also at Martin Elementary, shared a laugh with three enthusiastic students.

## Birthdays



**12th Rod Carroll (02)**  
President, Stat Care EMS. Born in Yonkers, New York, he is a graduate of Texas A&M University. Rod and his wife Kate are the parents of Matthew and Brooke.



**13th Rich Bennett, Jr. (63)**  
Retired Professor, Lamar University. Born in Orange Grove, he is a graduate of Texas A&M and the University of Texas. He and his wife Loraine are the parents of Richmond and Vicki Lynn, and are members of Trinity United Methodist Church. Rich enjoys hunting, fishing and boating.



**13th Rix Garey (83)**  
General Sales Manager, KFDM-TV Channel 6. Born in Milford, Delaware, he is a graduate of the University of Tennessee. He and his wife Brenda are the parents of Angela and Susan. Rix enjoys gardening and playing the guitar.



**17th Bobbie Applegate (94)** Partner, Borel, Brooks & Applegate. Born in Morrison, Illinois, she is a graduate of Bradley University. She and her husband Joe share their home with Xena, a beautiful golden retriever. She enjoys reading and traveling. Bobbie is a Paul Harris Fellow.



**17th Jimmy Simmons (86)**  
President, Lamar University. A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of Memphis State University, the University of Houston and McNeese. He and his wife Susan are the parents of Jennifer, Mike and Matt. He enjoys jogging, racquetball and playing the clarinet and saxophone. Jimmy is a Paul Harris Fellow.

## PolioPlus Quotes

"Rotary's PolioPlus Program is a shining example of the achievements made possible by cooperation between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations."

Kofi Annan,  
Secretary General of the United Nations

"This tremendous initiative would never be where it is today without Rotary; and, most importantly, the ultimate success of this initiative will never be realized without

the leadership, advocacy, and energy of Rotarians everywhere."

Dr. Bruce Aylward,  
World Health Organization's  
Polio Eradication Initiative

"Rotary's presence has been vital for the PolioPlus effort. Without Rotary, everything would have been different."

Carol Bellamy,  
Executive Director of UNICEF

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