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The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery



Photo by Steve Buser

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Vocational Excellence Awards

Each year Rotary Clubs around the world acknowledge vocational excellence, applaud the practice of incorporating high ethical standards in the workplace and recognize individuals who have distinguished themselves through service to their communities.

This week our Club will honor recipients of these awards for their efforts in performing their jobs beyond what is required and for the exemplary service they provide to others. Please join us in recognizing those who make our lives a bit easier and more pleasant.



INVOCATION
 LARRY WALKER
 AUTOMATIC PUMP & EQUIPMENT



PLEDGE
 KATHLEEN HARDEY
 CHISUM RESOURCE MGMT.



4-WAY TEST
 CAROLYN OLIVER
 ANAYAT HOUSE



GUEST INTRODUCTION
 TERRY BOURDIER
 UNITED WAY OF BEAUMONT

From the Chef: Turkey & dressing

REMINDER

If you participated in Rotary Goes to Work last month and have not yet paid for your lunch, please do so before the end of November. Alexine's assistant Sharon will be collecting money and marking names off her list before every meeting. Mailing statements costs both time and money.



Arthur Berry (C) and Texas Food and Beverage Supply hosted the Pre-Meeting Mixer on November 13th. **Gerald Condon** (L), **Gene Hughes** (R) and other Rotarians enjoyed coffee and cider. Please join us at the next mixer on December 11th.



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Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
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Meets Wednesdays at Noon
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Future Programs

December

4th Pending
11th Dave Marrow
17th Holiday Party
25th No meeting

January

1st No meeting

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

Bessie Chisum introduced State Senator-Elect Tommy Williams as our speaker last week. His district has a population of just under 700,000 and is spread over parts of Harris and Montgomery county as well as all of Liberty, Jefferson, Chambers and Orange counties.

He plans to maintain three offices to ensure he (or his staff) is available to his constituents. The main office will be in Austin with branch offices in The Woodlands and Beaumont. He introduced Beaumont-native Dade Phelan who will play an integral part in his organization in Beaumont. This should help keep the communications open for this part of the Senator's district.

Williams told the audience that we are fortunate to have Representatives Allan Ritter and Joe Deshotel safeguarding our interests in Southeast Texas as well. He promised to work closely with both of them to help our area in any way possible, particularly in bringing new employment opportunities to our area.

Finally, **Jerry White** asked Senator-Elect Williams if he would vote to extend the franchise tax to partnerships to help reduce the deficit. He replied that although the State was projected to have a deficit in excess of \$5 billion, he felt that much of that could be made up by "belt tightening" instead of tax increases.

Board Nominees

The following Rotarians have been nominated to fill four seats on next year's Board of Directors. The election will be held during the December 4th meeting. Please plan to attend and cast your vote.



Danny Babineaux,
President,
Air Comfort, Inc.



Allison Golias,
Financial Advisor,
UBS PaineWebber



Neal Baker,
President,
Thermacon Service Co.



Becky Mason,
Safety/Human
Resources Director,
Mason Construction



Travis Brewer,
Branch Manager,
Blue Bell Creameries



Jolene Ortego,
P.R. Director /
Communications,
Beaumont I.S.D.



Jim Broussard, Jr.,
Funeral Director
Broussard's Mortuary



Gary Rothenberger, Jr.,
Partner,
Wathen DeShong &
Juncker



**Kitchen
Koncepts**

Are we having fun yet?
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**Wathen,
DeShong
& Juncker,
L.L.P.**

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Board Action

Your Board of Directors met Tuesday, November 19th and approved the following:

New Members:

Max Duplant
Finance Officer, City of Beaumont
"Government – City Finance"
Proposed by Brad Brown

Rodney Martin
President/CEO, Beaumont YMCA
"Associations – YMCA"
Proposed by Terry Bourdier

Calvin Ray
General Manager, CINTAS
"Uniform Service – Rental"
Proposed by Terry Bourdier

Kristie Young
Executive Director, Camp Fire USA
Southeast Texas Council
"Associations – Camp Fire"
Proposed by Alexine Boutin

Unless written objections to the Board of Directors are received by Friday, December 6th, the candidates listed above will be considered elected to membership.

Leaves of Absence:

Cathy Long – 11/14/02 – 2/14/03
Extended business travel

Robert Peavey – 10/23/02 – 12/11/02
Extended business travel

Resignations/terminations accepted with regret:

Elmer Embs - Unable to attend

Greg Moore - Moved out of area

Jack Turner - Passed away



The Rotary Club of Beaumont
invites you to a
Reception before the Game
Lamar University Cardinals
vs.
Southeastern Louisiana Lions

Saturday, January 4, 2003 6:00 - 7:00
Cardinal Club Room - Montagne Center
\$15 per ticket includes admission, parking & Mexican buffet
\$12 per ticket for Lamar season ticket holders for Mexican buffet

Travel Plans

Past President **Roger McCabe** and his wife Sharon will be departing for Havana, Cuba on November 30, 2002. The trip is licensed by the Treasury Department as an official cultural exchange for lawyers. Richard Pena is the delegation leader and Charles Aycock the co-leader, both recent Past Presidents of the Texas Bar Association.

The delegation of approximately 60 attorneys will meet in Havana with representatives of the Constitutional and Administrative Law Association and the North American Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. They will also participate in meetings with professors from the University of Havana Law School and discuss international, commercial, and family law issues of mutual concern. The delegates will meet in small groups for discussion sessions with Cuban lawyers specializing in many different fields.

The delegation will also travel to Varadero, Cuba, approximately 90 miles east of Havana, where they will engage in a professional exchange with students, professors and affiliates of the Union of Jurists. Topics which will be discussed include global trade, comparative law, future legal profession exchange programs and the Cuban needs (and desires) for developing legal fields such as Real Estate and Probate Law.

Guests and spouses of the delegates will participate in separate programs dealing with Cuba's literacy movement, visits to hospitals, meetings with doctors concerning the status of medical treatment in Cuba, as well as study various outreach programs the government has in place to assist the people of Cuba.

This Law Delegation to Cuba is sponsored by the People To People Ambassador Programs which promotes cultural exchanges between peoples of the world.

Birthdays



29th Ken Ruddy (56)
President, SE Texas Classic Automotive. Born in St. Louis, Missouri, he is a graduate of St. Louis University and Iowa State University. Ken and his wife Therese are the parents of Sharon, Deborah, Roane, Therese, Christine, Ken Jr., Erin, Patrick, Elizabeth and Peter, and are members of St. Anne's Catholic Church. He enjoys fishing and hunting. Ken is a Paul Harris Fellow.



1st Marty Vershel (99)
Senior Pastor, Wesley United Methodist Church. Born in Brooklyn, New York, he is a graduate of Southern Methodist University. Marty and his wife Margaret are the parents of Connor and Zack. He enjoys baseball, reading, movies, playing golf and teaching.



3rd Louis Beard (63)
Partner, Wells, Peyton, Greenberg & Hunt. A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of the University of Texas. Louis and his wife Carrie are the parents of Rebecca, Robert and Bonnie and are members of Calder Baptist Church. He enjoys playing golf. Louis is a Paul Harris Fellow.



4th Lauren Brooks (01)
Partner, Borel, Brooks & Applegate. Born in Fort Worth, she is a graduate of Lamar University. Lauren is married to Kevin and enjoys gardening, cooking, canning and crocheting.



4th Jim Fuller (94)
Senior Pastor, Calder Baptist Church. Born in Muncie, Indiana, he is a graduate of Illinois State University, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Jim and his wife Jo are the parents of Jennifer and Jessica.

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