

ROTARYgrams

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Program 9/25



Enrique (Henry) R. Venta was named Dean of the College of Business at Lamar University in 2002. Prior to that time he had been at Loyola University Chicago since 1979. His teaching and research activities are in the areas of strategic issues in operations, work systems design, operations planning, total quality management, managing the service sector, and clinical decision making.

His academic accomplishments include Ph.D. and M.S. degrees in Operations Research and Economics from Northwestern University and a B.S. degree in

Industrial Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico.

Dr. Venta has published or presented more than 40 articles, chapters and monographs, and has been voted the Outstanding Faculty Member of the School of Business Administration at Loyola University. He has chaired the department of Information Systems and Operations Management and served as Dean of the School of Business Administration at Loyola.

He has been an internal consultant for Rock Island Railroad, a research associate at Argonne National Laboratory and an associate of a firm of management consultants. His line management experience includes Tenna Mfg. Company.

Dr. Venta has also served as independent consultant for various government agencies, national and international corporations, and Chicago area firms in the areas of work design, including methods improvement and work measurement; organization design; health care management; industrial energy conservation; and distribution and warehousing.

Dr. Venta is a member of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences and is active in AACSB-International. Until his move to Texas, he served on Chicago Mayor Daley's Council of Technology Advisors. He is married and the father of two daughters.



Program Review



Dr. Jimmy Simmons, one of our active members since 1986 and designated an honorary member earlier this year, was our guest this past Wednesday. He is a Beaumont native and was introduced by **Hubert Oxford III**. Hubert shared several stories of Jimmy's youth, including the fact that Johnnie and Edgar Winter (of rock and roll fame) played back up to Jimmy's band.

Jimmy reported that it is a "great time" for Lamar University. Enrollment is up over 900 students compared to last year and up over 1,700 students from three years ago. Currently, the Beaumont campus at Lamar has just under 10,000 students with another 3,000 at Lamar Institute. More good news is that the average SAT scores have increased, as have the GPA's of the Lamar students.

Lamar plans to spend \$40 million for "academic renovation" to enable the college to compete and grow. His first priority is to attract and retain world class faculty members. Lamar has instituted a salary merit pay plan that brings it more into line with other Colleges.

Additionally, there has been a significant amount of new construction. The Cardinal Village dorms are completely full and have helped attract new students. Lamar is quickly changing from a college that only gets its students from the Golden Triangle, to a one that has students from all over the world.

He discussed the strong possibility of returning football to the university.

He introduced two members of the Lamar Student Government Associa-

tion, President Josh Daspit and Vice President Brian Bean who spoke about their involvement, not only at Lamar, but in the community as well. They will be attending a diversity conference and trying to find other way to improve student life.


Jimmy's lovely wife Susan also attended the meeting. He attributes the beautiful and well-maintained state of the campus to the fact that he and Susan take a morning walk every day and she takes notes about the problems that need to be addressed. He then relates these to the head of the maintenance department.

Jimmy hopes to attract more businesses to locate near Lamar and believes that with the increase student population, it should work out well for businesses and the students.



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Board Action

Your Board of Directors met on Tuesday, September 17th and took the following action:

New Members approved:

Pat Anderson, Sales
Becker Printing
"Past service"
Proposed by Don Thompson

Henry Venta, Dean, College of Business
Lamar University
"University – Business School"
Proposed by Robert Swerdlow

Galen Wixson, Executive Director
Symphony of Southeast Texas
"Assns: Symphony Orchestra"
Proposed by Becky Mason

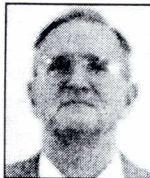
Leave of Absence approved:

Victor Zaloom – 9/1 – 12/31/02
Illness in family

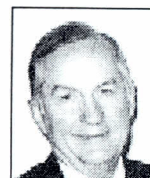
Resignations accepted with regret:

Richard Evans - Business pressures
Nancy Fertitta - Business pressures
Jamie Long - Moving from area
Robert Marshall - Business pressures
Joe Roman, M.D. - Business pressures

Birthdays



27 - Jay Johnson III (68)
Retired Professor of History and Administrator of Lamar University. A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of the University of Texas, Indiana University and the University of Chicago. Jay and his wife Betty are the parents of two daughters and have three grandchildren. They are members of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. Jay enjoys traveling to Rome, Turkey and Tennessee.



2 - Gene Arnold (93)
Director of the Small Business Development Center at Lamar University. Born in Wells, he is a graduate of Lamar. Gene and his wife Elizabeth are the parents of Lloyd and Lyn. He enjoys golf and flying.



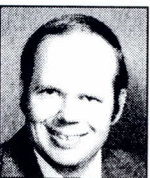
2 - Charlie Bullock (81)
Retired Architect. A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of the University of Texas. Charlie and his wife Mary have a son Edward, and are members of First Baptist Church.



29 - Chris McDonald (01)
President of Mobil Oil Federal Credit Union Born in Geissen, Germany, he is a graduate of Texas Tech and the University of Houston. Chris and his wife Cindy are the parents of Megan, Chase, Tyler, and Molly.



2 - Eric Meadows (99)
Manager and Developer at Phelan Investments Born in Houston, he is a graduate of Fordham University and the University of Texas. He and his wife Kathryn Grace are the parents of Morgan, Caroline, Jackson and Isabel. Eric enjoys golfing, sailing and tennis.



30 - Chuck Wall (78)
Manager of the Jeff Munro Agency. Born in Baton Rouge Louisiana, he is a graduate of Louisiana State University and Lamar. Chuck and his wife Lois are the parents of Jennifer, and are members of St. Anne's Catholic Church. Chuck enjoys playing tennis

Please notify the Rotary Office of changes in your life. The data in the birthday bios comes from your information sheet.

Rotary Goes to Work



Rotary Goes to Work Chair **John Quigley** manned the sign up table for the October 16th event. The sheets will be available at the next three meetings so please sign up early.

The volunteer hosts this year are:

- Jim Rich**, Beaumont Chamber of Commerce
- Jeff Noble**, Beaumont Enterprise
- Travis Brewer**, Blue Bell Creameries
- Mayor Evelyn Lord**, Beaumont City Hall
- Jim Broussard**, Broussard's Mortuary
- Gerald Condon**, Collision and Classics
- Linda Moore**, Cowboy Harley Davidson
- Sharen Kirksey**, Ethan Allen

- Carol Flatten**, Foundation for Southeast Texas
- Rix Garey & Larry Beaulieu**, KFDM TV Channel 6
- Marvin Dunnam**, Kitchen Concepts
- Emelie Irving**, Southeast Texas Food Bank
- Ryan Smith**, Texas Energy Museum
- Gary Rothenberger**, Wathon, DeShong & Juncker
- Phil Dunlap**, Wells, Peyton, Greenberg & Hunt

Sign up at the meetings, or call (842-1913), fax (842-5613) or e-mail (rotarybmt1@yahoo.com). You will be asked to choose ham or turkey sandwiches and the cost of lunch will be \$7. Let's ROTATE!

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