

ROTARYgrams

A Publication of the Rotary Club of Beaumont, Texas

Vol. 92 No. 10 September 4, 2002

Program 9/4



Rotary welcomes Dr. Carrol A. Thomas, BISD Superintendent of Schools, as our speaker. Dr. Thomas came to Beaumont in 1996 with a solid history of achievement in Texas public education.

He began his career as a teacher shortly after graduation from Texas A&I University in 1969. He worked his way through the administrative ranks to become principal of Estacado High School in Lubbock, Texas in 1979 and subsequently earned a Master's in Education and Superintendent's Certificate from Texas Tech University.

He served as Superintendent of North Forest School District from 1989-1996, and during this time completed a Doctorate in Education at Texas

Southern University. He brought North Forest from the TEA state rank of "Accredited Warned with a Master" to "Full Accreditation" in just one year, a feat unequalled in Texas educational circles.

While in Houston, he received the Superintendent of the Year Award for Region 4. His Beaumont tenure includes several notable achievements. BISD earned a TEA rating of "Recognized" for the first time in its history and the 2000-2001 Board of Trustees was chosen by the Texas Association of School Administrators as the Best Board of Trustees.

In addition, Dr. Thomas is a recipient of the Texas Superintendent of the Year Award (1999-2000) and sits on the Governor's Commission for Education and many other boards that foster the cause of education for Texas children.

T. Kelsey Lamb Business Ethics Award

Our Club will award the sixth annual T. Kelsey Lamb Business Ethics Award at the September 25th meeting. This award is presented each year to our Rotarian who consistently exhibits the highest in ethical standards represented by the Rotary 4-Way Test in his or her chosen vocation.

Nomination forms will be available at the Rotary office and on the lunch tables at our weekly meetings. They should be returned to the Rotary office (842-1913, fax 842-5613) no later than Wednesday, September 18th.

Please contact **Nancy Beaulieu** (833-9083) or **Paula Bothe** (839-4475) with any questions you may have.

Rotary Goes to Work

Rotarians originally met at the workplaces of its members, ROTATING each week - thus our name - the Rotary Club. We revive that tradition once a year by leaving the Hilton to meet in smaller groups in our own offices, stores and factories.

Rotary Goes To Work this year on October 16. You have a choice of 15 locations, first come, first served. We will start signing you up at the September 11 meeting and will continue that for four weeks. **John Quigley** will have the sign-up sheets so look for him.

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 SE 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

You will be asked to choose ham or turkey sandwiches and the cost of lunch will be \$7. Let's ROTATE!

LIVE FROM THE BALLROOM
OF THE BEAUMONT HILTON!
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH

DR. JIMMY SIMMONS
PRESIDENT OF LAMAR UNIVERSITY
"STATE OF THE UNION" ADDRESS

Broadcast Live on Radio Station
KVLU, FM 91.3

Tune in 11:45 am to 1:15 pm
For pre- and post-meeting
interviews and information

Please submit questions for
Dr. Simmons in writing to the
Rotary Club office



Kitchen Concepts

Everything for the perfect kitchen
**Marvin and Connie
Dunnam**

4338 Dowlen Rd. Beaumont, Texas
409/899-8668

Wathon, DeShong & Juncker

Certified Public Accountants

3120 Fannin • Beaumont, Texas 77701-3994
409/838-1605 Fax 409/838-3316



Eric Lawrence, President

11 N. Eleventh
Beaumont
838-2245

1419 S. Hwy 69
Nederland
722-2200

Program Review

More than 3% of all adult males in the U.S. are in some sort of confinement. That was just one of the shocking facts of modern prison life brought to us Wednesday by Ronald G. Thompson, Regional Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons.

With more than 1,000 people employed as staff, the Federal Prison in Beaumont houses about 5,400 inmates.

Contrary to what we may have thought (hoped), a bedrock principal of prison management is that the staff circulates freely among the inmates, Thompson said, thus getting to know more of the inmates personally and allowing the early detection of problems.

Even though the prison sentences are clearly punishment, those who are incarcerated have opportunities for learning, both in formal classes and in programs which prepare people for living "outside".

By working as orderlies, warehousemen, groundskeepers or whatever, the inmates earn wages and learn such basic skills as being on time and being responsive to co-workers.

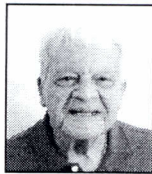
There are also mandatory literacy classes for those who do not speak English and those who have not completed a 12th grade education are required to earn their GED, Thompson told us.

By emphasizing the acquisition of skills, not merely the completion of programs, the federal prison system has been successful in reducing recidivism, he said.

In a brief question and answer session, he said better parenting is the primary answer to reducing crime.

Jim Rich, a former corrections officer and warden himself, arranged the program and introduced Mr. Thompson. Thanks, Jim.

Birthdays



Sep 5 - Chester Weber, a member since 1946, is retired from his family construction firm, Herman Weber, Inc. A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of Rice University. He has one son, Chester, Jr. He played violin with the Beaumont Symphony and enjoys collecting antiques. Chester is a Paul Harris Fellow and a Rotary Statesman, having 25 years or more of perfect attendance.



Sep 7 - Becky Ames, a member since 1998, is Texas Regional Director of Operations for ARV Assisted Living, Inc. Born in Newport News, Virginia, she is a graduate of Texas A & M. She has been City Council Member at Large since 1994. Becky and her husband Rodney enjoy cooking, gardening and travel.



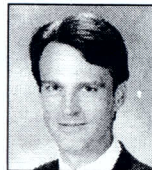
Sep 9 - Mark Theobald, a member since 1993, is Vice President/Trust Officer at Hibernia National Bank. A Beaumont native and Lamar graduate, he and his wife Julie are members of Westgate Memorial Baptist Church. Mark enjoys hunting and fishing.



Sep 10 - Mike Bradford, a member since 1986 and a Past President, is an attorney with Benckenstein & Oxford, L.L.P. Born in Houston, he is a graduate of the University of North Texas and the University of Texas Law School. Mike and his wife Liz are the parents of Emma, and he also has a son, David Patrick. Mike enjoys playing golf and fishing. He is a Paul Harris Fellow.



Sep 10 - Gerald Condon, a member since 1998, is President and CEO of Collision & Classics, Inc. A Beaumont native and Lamar graduate, Gerald and his wife Jennifer are the parents of Molly, and he has another daughter, Michelle. His hobbies include golf, motorcycles, gardening and woodworking.



Sep 11 - Ben Thacker, a member since 1999, is CFO at AmTex Bancshares, Inc. A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of the University of Houston, Lamar University and the University of Texas. Ben and his wife Lisa are members of Christ Community Church.

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

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

Board Action

Your Board of Directors met on Tuesday, August 20th, and approved the following:

Leave of Absence request:
Vesta Brandt, 8/1 – 8/31 -
Mother's death

Classification changes:
Mike Carter - "Floor Covering"
Sharon Kirksey - "Business Service -
Interior Design"
Rufus Mills - "Electrical Ind. &
Electronics – Small Appliances"
Ronnie Platt - "Past Service"
Ken Ruddy - "Automotive Dealership"

Attendance Requirement change:
Joy Reagan to Exempt

www.jkchevrolet.com

JK
at the airport

We make
dreams
come true

409-722-0443

Star
graphics

Copiers * Printing Solutions
Fax Machines * Postage Equipment

409-892-0671

Konica * * * SHARP

BRichmond O.
Bennett III, PC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & CONSULTANTS

2965 IH-10 East
409/896-2600

Beaumont, TX 77702-1002
FAX 409/892-0635