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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. 93 No. 39 April 14, 2004

## Robbie Waters - Ambassadorial Scholar



Lamar senior Robbie Waters who represented Rotary District 5910 as a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar to Spain in 2002 - 03 will address our club this week.

She was sponsored by the Nederland Rotary Club.

Robbie will receive a BBA in Marketing next month and studied business at the Universidad de Granada while in Spain. While at Lamar she served as Student Director and Senior Peer Advisor, taught English as a Second Language classes at the Lamar Institute of Technology and participated in market-

ing and publicity for the Cardinal Village Residence Hall.

Her community service activities have included mentoring high school students with Young Life, helping children with cancer for the Asociación Española Contra el Cáncer, tutoring at the Beaumont Literacy Depot, teaching an elementary class with Junior Achievement, Habitat for Humanity and assisting with the Partnership for Southeast Texas Golf Tournament.

Robbie is also working closely with **Camille Mouton** and **Donna Birdwell** to organize Lamar University's first Rotaract chapter which will be sponsored by our club.

Join us for Rotary Night for  
**Disney on Ice!**

Featuring characters from  
 Disney's  
 "The Jungle Book",  
 "Tarzan" and  
 "Lion King"

Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> - 7:30 p.m.

Ford Arena

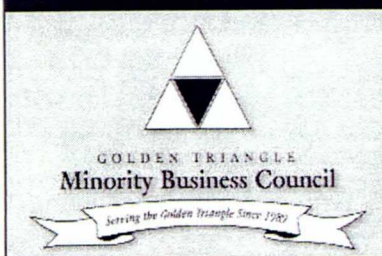
Tickets are \$15 (discounted \$3)

Call Paula Bothe,

839-4475 to order

Deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup>

*From the chef: Italian Baked Chicken*



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409-842-1913 • Fax: 409-842-5613  
rotarybmt1@yahoo.com  
Meets Wednesdays at Noon  
Beaumont Hilton • International Ballroom

**Future Programs**

**April**  
21<sup>st</sup> Tom Jackson—Navigation District  
28<sup>th</sup> Youth Day

**Make-ups**

**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

On-line: [www.rotary5450.org/eclub](http://www.rotary5450.org/eclub)  
(limit 3 times in each quarter)

**Program Reviews**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>**

Despite the obstacles presented by a "now-it-works; now-it-doesn't" public address system, the club was treated to a informative presentation by Dr. Jack Hopper, Dean of the College of Engineering at Lamar University. Dr. Hopper's presentation focused on the role Lamar hoped to play in the economic development of the region through a commitment to the pursuit of jobs in the advanced materials industry.

In a study performed by the TIP consulting group from Austin for the Beaumont Economic Development Foundation, Lamar was identified as a crucial partner in attracting industries working in the advanced materials arena. In consultation with the Lamar Economic Development Committee plans for the creation of a Advanced Materials Cluster are progressing with Lamar providing much of the intellectual capital needed.

An essential part of Lamar's commitment to this project has been the creation of the Andy Green Composites Center which channels resources into the study of composite materials. A specific project cited by Dr. Hopper is part of a National Science Foundation grant which will result in the creation of a composite materials racing wheelchair for the physically disabled. Other areas being examined by the study of advanced materials are scientific modeling of air quality and fuel cell and energy systems research, the latter a significant cog in the goal of a hydrogen based energy economy by the year 2050.

During his presentation, Dr. Hopper introduced Dr. Robert Yuan who is heading up the new Green Center and cited him as an example of Lamar's continuing investment in intellectual capital.

Our thanks go to **Jim Rich** and **Rick Barrilleaux** for arranging the program.

**March 31<sup>st</sup>**

It would be definitely be an eye-catching "wow-magnet"! Odds are a percentage of the estimated 100,000 vehicles that speed through Beaumont on IH 10 to and from the west coast to the east coast would at least be curious! Can you visualize something like the Great Platte River Road Archway Monument in Kearney, Nebraska right here on IH 10? Check out the monument website at [www.archway.org](http://www.archway.org). Now, don't start any rumors...this is just an example of what is possible.

Jeff Smith, the vice president of J. Greg Smith, Inc. of Omaha, Nebraska, is a conceptual developer and planner working for the newly formed Southeast Texas Heritage Foundation, a group of local business and civic leaders who are exploring the possibility of developing a "stop the bus/van/SUV/car/private jet /train" and spend the night(s) in Beaumont and the surrounding area" tourism attraction.

Smith's remarks to Rotary described how a feasibility study will provide a plan for the design and construction of a self-sustaining "magnet heritage tourism attraction that will lure more visitors, lead them to explore existing attractions and encourage them to stay longer in our area. He explained that the feasibility study will be funded through gifts and grants donated to the Southeast Texas Heritage Foundation. Construction would be financed through non-rated tax exempt revenue bonds.

Rotary members and guests did hear our speaker assure us that "no city tax dollars" would be expended toward this attraction, right? Rotarian Directors of this new foundation include **Mark Theobald, Pat Anderson and Jim Rich**, and Advisory Directors include **Ryan Smith, Matt White, and Dean Conwell**. We will stay tuned for the next report from the Foundation.

Our thanks go to **Jim Rich** for arranging the program.

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

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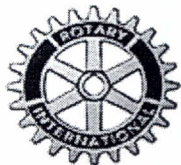
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The Rotary Club  
of Beaumont's  
Annual  
Golf & Tennis & Washer  
Toss Tournament

April 26, 2004  
Check in: 12:00 p.m.  
Shotgun Start: 1:00 p.m.  
Brent Wood Country Club  
4201 South Major Drive

Golf - \$60.00 per person

Format 4 person scramble

1st, 2nd and 6th

place prizes

Tennis - \$25 per person

Washer Toss - \$25 per person

Hot links and drinks provided

@ 12:00 p.m.

Call for More Information  
Tel: 409-842-1913



**TEXAS PLEDGE**

Honor the Texas flag  
I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas  
One and indivisible.

# Birthdays

14<sup>th</sup> **Chuck Heare** (96)  
Vice President, Financial Advising,  
Morgan Stanley



Born in Stephenville, he is a graduate of Lamar University. Chuck and his wife Janie are the parents of Emily and Ross, and are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. Chuck enjoys spending time with his family playing tennis and hunting.

15<sup>th</sup> **S. L. Greenberg**  
Partner,  
Wells, Peyton, Greenberg & Hunt



A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of the University of Texas. He and his wife Natalie are the parents of Gary, Lisa and Phyllis, and are members of Temple Emanuel. He enjoys fishing. S.L. is a Paul Harris Fellow.

16<sup>th</sup> **Bo Weinbaum III** (78)  
Partner,  
Burris Transfer & Storage Company



A Beaumont native and third generation Rotarian, he is a graduate of Texas A&M. He and his wife Melanie are the parents of Parker and Payton. He enjoys playing golf, cooking and hunting.

18<sup>th</sup> **Walter Crawford** (41)  
Retired



A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of Rice University. He and his wife Mary Edna are the parents of Walter Jr., Mary and Alice and are members of St. Marks Episcopal Church. He enjoys tennis and music. Walter is a Paul Harris Fellow.

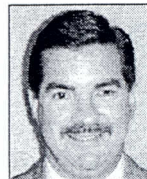
*If you have moved recently,  
please notify the Rotary Office  
of your change of address*

19<sup>th</sup> **Nancy Beaulieu** (90)  
Beaumont City Council



Born in Lubbock, she is a graduate of Texas Tech., she and her husband Larry are the parents of Brad and Lara, and are members of Wesley United Methodist Church. She enjoys reading, Texas history and scuba diving. Nancy is a Paul Harris Fellow.

20<sup>th</sup> **Doug Chase** (98)  
Vice President,  
Bank One



Born in Norwalk, Connecticut, he is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University. He and his wife Tamie are the parents of Andrew and Edward. He enjoys skeet shooting and playing golf and racquetball.

20<sup>th</sup> **Imad Sarkis** (03)  
Vice President- Sales Manager,  
Tri-Con, Inc.



Born in Benin City, Nigeria, he is a graduate of Lamar University and a member of St. Michael's Greek Orthodox Church. He enjoys cooking, hunting and travel.

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Robert Hickman** and his lovely wife Shawn on the birth of their daughter Abigail Elizabeth on April 5<sup>th</sup>! First-time grandmother **Tillie Hickman** reported that the baby weighed six pounds and seven ounces, and is surely the most beautiful baby girl ever.

More congratulations to **Ann Scoggin** named "Realtor of the Year" by the Beaumont Board of Realtors! She was the board's president in 2003 and has earned many awards and designations for her hard work and dedication.

Well done, Ann!

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Program Spotlight: Stroke Rehabilitation  
Medical Director - Linda Smith, M.D.