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Lend a Hand

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The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery

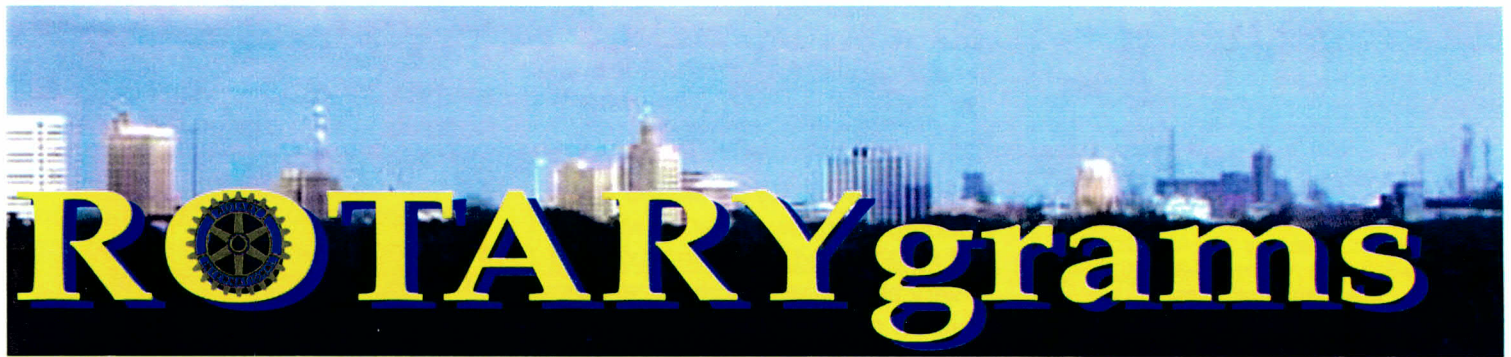


Photo by Steve Buser

A Publication of the Rotary Club of Beaumont, Texas - Club #72

Vol. 93 No. 40 April 21, 2004

## Tom Jackson-Navigation District



Tom is a native of Jefferson County having been born and raised in Beaumont. Tom graduated from Beaumont

schools and went on to graduate from Lamar University.

Tom and his family own a rice farm just west of the Beaumont city limits where he farmed for twenty years. Tom is currently the general manager of the Jefferson

County Waterway and Navigation District, which is the lead local sponsor of the Sabine-Neches Waterway.

Tom is married to **Kathleen Jackson** and they have three children, Tommy, Kit and Thea.



### TEXAS PLEDGE

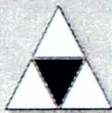
Honor the Texas flag  
 I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas  
 One and indivisible.

## Welcome Back!



President **Azim** welcomes Past President **Harland Merriam** back after 440 days on active duty with the U.S. Army. We're delighted to have him with us again!

*From the chef: Lasagna*



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rotarybmt1@yahoo.com  
Meets Wednesdays at Noon  
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**Future Programs**

**April**  
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 Review**

What a delight to have a respite from serious, heady corporate, governmental related programs and to hear from a young lady who is an outstanding university student and a charming communicator. Robbie Waters, a Lamar University senior, is a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar who spent 2002 - 2003 in Spain representing Rotary District 5910.

She began by saying that if the projection equipment (which is quickly replacing Hilton Hotel food as fodder for **Larry Beaulieu's** newscast) did not work, "not to worry, I have plenty to say." And did she indeed, and said it very well and with good humor.

Robbie was quickly immersed in a world entirely new to her. It was her first time abroad. She was exposed to very anti-American views, especially for our president. "Why did you vote for Bush" they wanted to know. However, they knew our national anthem and were familiar with the American flag. They were concerned because they felt our president was also their president.

Cultural changes were many, but not unpleasant. The food, especially paella, fish and ham, were served differently but was delicious. Some of the other differences she mentioned - students often do not graduate from universities until they are 24 or 25 (why hurry when you'll have to work the rest of your life); most home kitchens are fueled by bottled gas which was delivered every Tuesday unless there was a soccer game; trucks noisily picked up garbage after midnight every night but the streets were washed every night, too; customer service is non-existent; there was no air conditioning, no matter

how hot the weather; and drinks were served without ice.

Robbie took advantage of traveling throughout Europe, visiting thirteen countries during her year and visiting many Rotary Clubs. She was especially impressed by the club in Granada, Spain, where the meeting lasted 2 ½ hours and tapas (appetizers) and wine were plentiful!

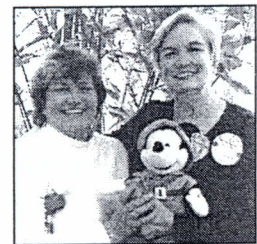
Robbie was inspired by a Rotary saying, "You can change the world one person at a time." She was, and is, an inspiring ambassador for Rotary. We're certain she changed many, especially those anti-Americans. She thanked our club for giving her the opportunity to help change lives and share experiences.

Our thanks go to **Camille Mouton** for arranging the program and to **Donna Birdwell** for her introduction of Robbie.

**Disney on Ice**

Don't forget!  
Rotary night at  
Disney on Ice

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



All Rotarians who had purchased tickets were entered in a drawing for the official Disney on Ice Mickey Mouse and **Alexine** won! She is pictured above with Vice President **Paula Bothe** who served as chair of the ticket committee and Mickey himself.

**Wathen,  
DeShong  
& Juncker,**  
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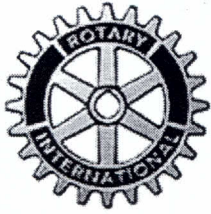
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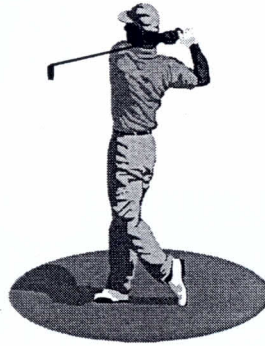
**Konica TOSHIBA SHARP**

# Fellowship Event



## 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



Call for More Information  
Tel: 409-842-1913

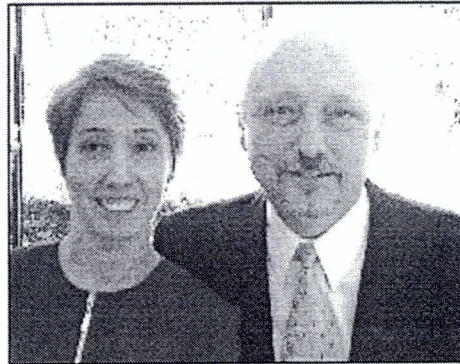
Golf - \$60.00 per person  
Format 4 person scramble

1st, 2nd and 6th  
place prizes

Tennis - \$25 per person  
Washer Toss - \$25 per person  
Hot links and drinks provided  
@ 12:00 p.m.

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

## Family Ties



In keeping with Rotary International's focus on "The Family of Rotary", we spotlight sister and brother Rotarians **Mary Ellen Robertson** (93) and **Ralph McBride** (95). Mary Ellen sponsored Ralph's Rotary membership.

### Is your birthday coming soon?

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

# Birthdays

21<sup>st</sup> **Allison Golias** (96)  
Financial Advisor,  
UBS Paine Webber



Born in Austin and a second generation Rotarian, she is a graduate of the University of Texas. She is the mother of Lee and Buffin, and is a member of Temple Emanuel. She enjoys playing tennis.

23<sup>rd</sup> **Jim McNicholas** (84)  
Partner,  
Germer, Bernsen & Gertz



Born in Maries County, Michigan, he is a graduate of the University of Michigan. He is the father of Jim Jr. and Graham, and is a member of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church.

23<sup>rd</sup> **Ryan Smith** (92)  
Executive Director,  
Texas Entergy Museum



Born in Fort Worth, he is a graduate of Harding University and the University of Texas. He and his wife Peggy are the parents of Jennifer and Kenneth. He enjoys running, playing tennis canoeing, backpacking and Texana book collecting. Ryan is a Paul Harris Fellow.

27<sup>th</sup> **Dan Ford** (02)  
Corps Officer,  
The Salvation Army of Beaumont



Born in Baltimore, Maryland, he is a graduate of the Salvation Army College for Officer Training. He and his wife Alba are the parents of Ariel and Dylan, and are members of the Salvation Army. Dan enjoys playing golf, reading, bowling, boating and fishing.

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Program Director - Juan Davila, M.D.