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The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery



Photo by Steve Buser

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Vol. 93 No. 6 August 6, 2003

## Gisela Houseman - Mount Kilimanjaro climber



August begins with adventure!

Gisela Houseman will be the first guest speaker of the month.

Born in Hamburg, Germany, Gisela immigrated to the United States in 1950.

She holds CLU and ChFC degrees and is currently the co-owner and Chief Financial Officer of the Tony Houseman Companies.

Gisela will relate her experiences and show wonderful pictures taken during her greatest solo adventure ...Climbing

Mount Kilimanjaro. Show and tell at Rotary on August 6<sup>th</sup> promises to be an outstanding day. Don't miss it!

### Attendance

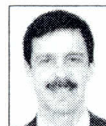
Throughout August and September, we will continue to post your July 2002—June 2003 attendance percentage next to your name on your *Rotary-Grams* address label.

One of **President Azim's** goals for his year is to raise our club's overall attendance. **Vice President Paula Bothe** and her Program Committee are lining up an outstanding schedule of programs so please plan to join us every week!

## Head Table



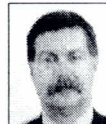
INVOCATION  
**ANDY BURNS,**  
 VICE PRESIDENT,  
 BURNS PROPERTIES



PLEDGE  
**JOE BROUSSARD IV,**  
 SHAREHOLDER,  
 MEHAFFY & WEBER

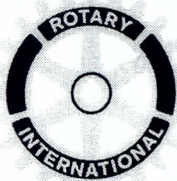


4-WAY TEST  
**BRAD BROWN,**  
 PRINCIPAL,  
 EDGAR, KIKER & CROSS

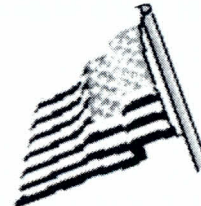


GUEST INTRODUCTION  
**JIM BROUSSARD, JR.,**  
 CO-CEO  
 BROUSSARD'S MORTUARY

From the chef: *Pork chops*



Don't forget to sign up  
 for the Flag Project!  
 See your July 23rd  
*RotaryGrams* for details.



**ROTARY CLUB OF BEAUMONT  
OFFICERS**

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 Maurine Gray ..... President-Elect  
 Paula Bothe ..... Vice President, Programs  
 Terry Bourdier ..... Secretary, Membership  
 Ben Orgain, Jr. .... Treasurer  
 Lee Freeland ..... Sergeant at Arms  
 Larry Beaulieu ..... Past President, Advisor

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 Camille Mouton ..... Community Service  
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**BEAUMONT ROTARY FOUNDATION, INC.**

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 Peg Towers  
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Alexine Boutin, Executive Director  
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 409-842-1913 • Fax: 409-842-5613  
 rotarybmt1@yahoo.com  
 Meets Wednesdays at Noon  
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**Future Programs**

**August**

13<sup>th</sup> Constance Reese - Federal  
 Prison Warden  
 20<sup>th</sup> Senator Tommy Williams  
 27<sup>th</sup> Joan Walker - Waterborne  
 Education Center

**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**

Last week's speaker reviewed some of the directions being taken by DuPont in executing its mission of realizing a sustainable growth. The company, which celebrated its bicentennial last year, was founded by E. I. duPont on the banks of the Brandywine River in Wilmington, Delaware to provide the growing country with a reliable source of black powder. Today it is a world-wide \$26 billion business with 83,000 employees.

Jim Ellis, the site manager of the DuPont Beaumont Works, described the core values established by the founder. These include safety, environmental stewardship, ethics and a respect for people. These same core values are held today.

Some of the fields in which DuPont is active include construction materials such as TYVEK moisture barriers and KEVLAR-reinforced concrete used in building storm protection rooms in houses. Another area is a merging of biology and chemistry to improve the

quality, quantity, and safety of food. A third is enabling electronic information transfer and storage. For example, 60% of cell phone components are supplied by DuPont. The firm expects 33% of revenue will come from new products in the next few years.

Four keys to corporate growth which must be addressed include Asia/Pacific markets, environmental regulations, health care service/costs, and public perceptions about the chemical and petrochemical industries.

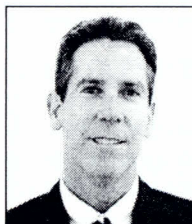
Key issues for local growth include taxes, litigation reform, and work force renewal and development (the average age of employees at the Beaumont DuPont site is 51 years).

Mr. Ellis ended his presentation by stating that DuPont's Community Commitment is "Operating Excellence" before answering questions from our members.

Our thanks to **Sam Lord** for providing an excellent program.

**New Members**

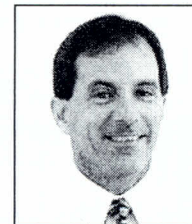
Please welcome two new members who were inducted at last week's meeting:



**Dean Conwell,**

Director, Convention & Visitors Bureau,  
 City of Beaumont,  
 "Municipal Government –  
 Convention & Visitors Bureau"  
 Proposed by **Maurine Gray**

Born in Corpus Christi, Dean is a graduate of the University of Southwest Louisiana. He moved to Beaumont from Dallas this year, has two children, Chris and Alex, and is a member of St. Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church. He enjoys playing golf, travel and fine food.



**Dan Ward,**

Vice President,  
 ICU Environmental, Health & Safety,  
 "Engineering – Testing & Inspection"  
 Proposed by **Henry Strait**

Born in Port Arthur, Dan attended Lamar University and is a graduate of the University of Houston. He and his wife Diane are the parents of Danielle and Holly, and are members of St. Therese the Little Flower Catholic Church. He enjoys playing baseball and golf, coaching girls softball and camping.

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## Competition

**John Quigley** sent in the following proposal for your consideration:

"One of the great things about Rotary is the opportunity for competition in any sport or game on the face of the earth. At Rotary International conventions, you see groups of Rotarians who golf, play tennis, collect stamps and coins; who play bridge and other card games; and chess players.

"Aside from an annual golf tournament (and long-ago tennis tournaments), our Beaumont club has no history of such things. I propose that we create a "ladder" of top Rotarians in various sports and games. All you have to do to move up the ladder is challenge someone ahead of you, and then beat them.

"I have created ladders for chess, tennis, ping pong and fantasy football. If you think you are equal to a 62-year-old tax lawyer in any of these areas, give me a call. If you beat me in chess, tennis or table tennis, you move up to #1. If you lose, you'll be #2, still not too bad. If there are more than I can handle, you will have to play each other.

"I will maintain the ladders and, if competition develops, the results will be posted from time to time. Entry is free and it will cost nothing to play the games. Just call me if you might be interested in going for the gold.

"Actually, our Rotary Club already has a ladder in fantasy football, where Frank Maida (a.k.a. Dream Team) is currently #1, followed closely by Robert Thomas (the Thomas Titans). But that could change before Super Bowl Sunday."

Please contact **John** for more information and suggestions. We'll keep everyone posted on the progress of the ladders.

Let the games begin!

## New Member Challenge

Last month **Secretary Terry Bourdier** posed a challenge to our members: any Rotarian in the room who didn't think she/he could bring one new member to the club during the next year should stand. Only one member stood.

To support that effort, the Rotary senior members who help set up the meeting every week are placing membership brochures and applications on every table.

So far, applications have been returned by **Jim Rich, Roger McCabe, John Quigley, Camille Mouton, Leonard Juncker** and **President Azim**.

Good work, y'all! The rest of you, get those applications out to your friends and business associates!

## Ramblings

Beaumont Rotary was certainly well represented at the International Association of Assembly Managers conference in New Orleans last week. **Paula Bothe, Roger Newton** and **John Aikin** attended the annual event.

Is Dowlen Road really the hotspot? **Melinda McNeely** will find out in September when Kelly Services relocates to the Crossroads Shopping Center.

It's a very good thing Rotary supplies name tags. Ask **Paul Davidson**.

Don't walk by **Tillie Hickman** or **Jolene Ortego** unless you want to be on asked to join their committee.

Our Board of Directors raved about their meal at the Beaumont Country Club last month. They invited the chef and general manager in to take a bow!

## Birthdays

**7<sup>th</sup> Shiv Bagri** (92)  
Associate Branch Manager,  
Met Life



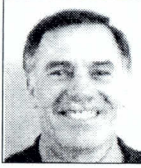
Born in India, he is a graduate of San Diego State University. He and his wife Kashi are the parents of Amola and Anita, both of whom are physicians. He enjoys playing bridge, tennis and ping-pong and travel.

**7<sup>th</sup> Terry Whiddon** (93)  
Shareholder,  
Funchess, Mills, White



A Beaumont native, he is a Lamar University graduate. He and his wife Linda are the parents of Ginger and Will, and are members of North End Baptist Church. He enjoys fishing, playing golf and hunting.

**12<sup>th</sup> Danny Babineaux** (98)  
President,  
Air Comfort



Born in Orlando, Florida, he is a graduate of Lamar Institute of Technology. He and his wife Charlene are the parents of Bret and Slate, and are members of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. He enjoys hunting and playing tennis.

**12<sup>th</sup> Azim Keramati** (86)  
President,  
Van Deventer Furniture Rentals/  
Boomtown Furniture



Born in Iran, he is a graduate of Lee College. He and his wife Marie are the parents of Layla, Kristina and Cameron, and are members of Calvary Baptist Church.

Azim enjoys traveling with his family, playing golf and fishing. President Azim is a Paul Harris Fellow.

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

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