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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. 2 July 9, 2003

## Carolyn Howard—What's Going on Downtown ?



Carolyn is a native of Dallas and was a 1981 Cum Laude graduate of Baylor University. She is the Executive Director of the Beaumont Main Street Program which is Beaumont's

non-profit downtown development corporation.

Carolyn has been with the Main Street Program since 1986. Before coming to Beaumont, she was the Director of the Main Street Program in El Reno, Oklahoma. The El Reno program received many statewide awards including Best Economic Restructuring, Best Image Promotion, Best Rehabilitation and a Citation of Merit from the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office.

Carolyn was named the Executive Director of the Beaumont Main Street Program in 1992. Since the program's inception, \$55 million has been reinvested in the historic central business district. The downtown area, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, has also experienced a net gain of 1300 jobs.

The Texas Downtown Association recognized Beaumont Main Street's Marketing and Publicity Package as the best in Texas in 1995 and the program's Classic Film Festival as Best Promotion in 2001. Beaumont Main Street has been designated a National Main Street community by the National

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Head Table



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**BECKY AMES,**  
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 TEXAS REGION,  
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PLEDGE  
**JOHN AIKIN,**  
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**PAT ANDERSON,**  
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GUEST INTRODUCTION  
**BOBBIE APPLIGATE,**  
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*From the chef: Italian Baked Chicken*

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**Future Programs**

**July**  
 16<sup>th</sup> Chuck Hunt - The Big Thicket  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Bob West - Independence Trail  
 30<sup>th</sup> Jim Ellis - DuPont

**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**



Past President and Past District Governor **Alex Broussard** led the installation of officers and directors for 2003-2004 at last week's meeting.

Expounding on RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe's theme for this year, "Lend a Hand", he urged the directors and the Sergeant-at-Arms to maintain willing and creative hands to assist the officers in the successful operation of our club throughout the coming year. This year's directors are **Eddie Arnold, Danny Babineaux, Paula Bothe, Terry Bourdier, Travis Brewer, Jim Broussard, Jr., Gerald Condon, Carol Flatten, Roy Huckaby, Becky Mason, Camille Mouton** and **Jim Rich**. They will be assisted by board appointees **Brad Brown, Allison Nathan Golias, Eric Lawrence** and **Jolene Ortego**. **Lee Freeland** returns as Sergeant-at-Arms. Past President **Larry Beaulieu** will serve as Advisor.

**Alex** introduced Treasurer **Ben Orgain, Jr.**, noting that his agile hands will control the money for our club and he may need to be tight fisted if necessary during the year.

He then introduced Secretary **Terry Bourdier** whose hands will be busy with all of the paperwork our club generates during the year to keep it running smoothly.

He noted that Vice President **Paula Bothe's** hands will be vigorous, confident and responsive during her year as director of programs. She will also stand at the ready to step in for our president when needed.

In his introduction of President Elect **Maurine Gray**, he said that her hands would be relaxed this year but poised to assist the President as needed. He encouraged her to flex her hands often so they will be pliable, practiced and prompt in taking the gavel a year from now.

Finally, he introduced President **Azim Keramati** whose hands should be humble for they have been entrusted with the leadership of the club, the greatest honor our members can bestow. His hands should also be directing the success of the club and searching to achieve harmony as well as being capable, cautious and confident throughout his presidential year.

**Alex** concluded the program by declaring that the slate of officers and directors had been duly installed.

**President Azim** addressed the meeting by stating his goals for the club: increasing member involvement, attendance, program participation and support of the new flag project. He then adjourned his first meeting.

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## Pre-Meeting Mixer

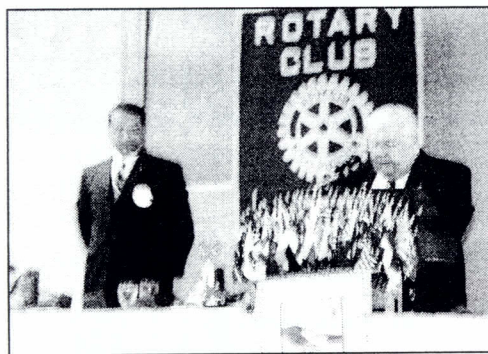


We wish to thank **Gary Underwood** and Time Warner Cable for hosting last week's Pre-Meeting Mixer. He brought a new high definition television and information about extended services his firm will be offering.

Many Rotarians enjoyed coffee, iced tea and punch along the information and a fellowship opportunity.



**President Azim** was joined by his family at his installation last week: son Cameron, daughter Kristina and wife Marie.



**Alex Broussard** installing **President Azim**.

## Birthdays

### 13<sup>th</sup> J. D. Landes (62)

Retired



Born in Eustace, he is a graduate of North Texas State University, the University of Texas, Southern Methodist University and the University of North

Carolina. He and his wife Mary Helen are members of the First Baptist Church. He enjoys visiting on the phone and going to a men's Bible study class. J. D. is a Paul Harris Fellow.

*(Continued from page 1)*

Trust for Historic Preservation's Main Street Center for the past 4 years. serves on the Board of Directors of the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce and is a graduate of Leadership Beaumont and Leadership Southeast Texas. Carolyn serves on the National Development Council's Advisory Board for New Market Tax Credits.

She was the 1997 recipient of the Anice Read Award for Excellence from the Texas Historical Commission's Main Street Program. She was the 1998 recipient of the prestigious Athena Award in Beaumont and was recognized for "Outstanding Achievement by a Professional Staff Person" by the Southeast Texas Arts Council in 1999. She received an Award of Merit in Historic Preservation from the Texas Historical Commission in 1999.

In 1997 she was elected to the Board of Directors of the Texas Downtown Association and was the 2002 President of the organization. She now serves as the Chairman of the Anice Fund of the Communities Foundation of Texas.

Carolyn has been a member of our club since 1992.

### 13<sup>th</sup> Ronnie Platt (85)

Retired



Born in Falls Church, VA., he is a graduate of Lamar University. He is the father of Laurie Platt Henderson, and is a member of Calder Baptist Church. He enjoys fishing and flower gardening.

### 13<sup>th</sup> Mary Randall (98)

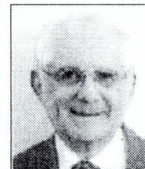
Secretary/Treasurer,  
Jemari Group



A Beaumont native, she is a graduate of Lamar University. She and her husband Edward are the parents of Edward III, and are members of Cathedral in the Pines. She enjoys singing gardening walking and most of all witnessing to others.

### 14<sup>th</sup> Nelson Alter (55)

Chairman of the Board,

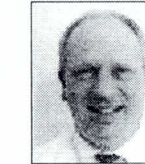


Alter's Gem Jewelry

Born in San Antonio, he is a graduate of the University of Texas and the UT school of Law. He and his wife Shirley are the parent's of Dennis, Keith, Brian, and Wendy, and are members of Temple Emanuel. Nelson is a Paul Harris Fellow.

### 15<sup>th</sup> Dan Parker (97)

Sr. Vice President,  
Community Bank



Born in Fort Worth, he is a graduate of Texas A & M University. He and his wife Jane are the parents of Rachel and Robert, and are members of Calvary Baptist

Church. He enjoys hunting, sports, and outdoor activities.

### 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.

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