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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. 35 March 17, 2004

## Gene Hughes- Ireland



Rotary returns to the Hilton on St. Patrick's Day with a photographic journey to the Emerald Isle presented by **Gene Hughes**.

Born in Beaumont and a 1980 graduate of Forest Park High School, Gene served on the staffs of the newspaper, yearbook and creative writing magazines. After graduating the University of Texas in 1983, he continued his career in photography in the U.S. Marine Corps, where his photos and writing won several Marine Corps and Defense Department honors.

*(Continued on page 3)*



The Rotary International Centennial Bell will be rung at this week's meeting. The bell is visiting the first 100 Rotary Clubs chartered by Rotary International, located in five countries: the United States, Canada, England, Scotland and Ireland. As Club #72, we are proud to be in this elite group.

Four other Centennial Bells began their journeys in Melbourne, Australia and will visit clubs in 158 countries by region: Asia/Pacific, Africa, Latin America/Caribbean and Europe/Middle East. The bells will stop at the

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Head Table



INVOCATION  
**MICHAEL IRELAND**



PLEDGE  
**LOUIS BEARD**



4-WAY TEST  
**VESTA BRANDT**



GUEST INTRODUCTION  
**DAVID WHITE**

*From the chef: Baked Chicken*

# BEAUMONT

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Grammy Award Winner

**Kathy Mattea**

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**BEAUMONT ROTARY FOUNDATION, INC.**

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Alexine Boutin, Executive Director  
 Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
 409-842-1913 • Fax: 409-842-5613  
 rotarybmt1@yahoo.com  
 Meets Wednesdays at Noon  
 Beaumont Hilton • International Ballroom

**Future Programs**

March  
 24<sup>th</sup> Polio Eradication  
 31<sup>st</sup> Jim Rich

**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**



We hosted 40 high school juniors and 12 returning senior counselors at the 24th annual Camp Enterprise held last week at the Holy Family Retreat Center.

Co-Chairs **Jamie Hogge** and **Robert Peavey** were assisted by **Carole Reeves** in charge of the kitchen and **Kari Dolan** who oversaw field trips and chaperones.

Friday morning and Saturday morning the students met as teams with Rotarians to discuss various aspects of their projects: **Kal Kincaid, Tom Neild, Sina Nejad, Chuck Mason, Robert Hickman, Dan Parker, Steve Lucas, Steve Grantham, Doug Chase, Sheri Arnold, Charlie Foxworth, Max Duplant, Russ Waddill, Gene Arnold, Kevin Roy, Henry Venta, Kyle Hayes, Jim Rich, Rick Barrilleaux, Angela Baker, Eric Lawrence, Ralph McBride** and **Mary Randall**.

On Friday afternoon field trips took the students to: the Port of Beaumont; Ford Park; the Police Tactical Center; the Jefferson Theatre and the Beaumont Enterprise; Fox Radio and KFDM TV; or Hibernia Bank.

On Saturday afternoon, the teams presented their projects to a panel which included **Bessie Chisum, Henry Venta, Jim Rich, President Azim Keramati, Chester Jourdan** and **Michael Lohr**.

Helping Carole in the kitchen were: **Pat Anderson, Danny Babineaux, Twila Baker, Chad Blanchard, Donna Blanchette, Terry Bourdier, Alex**

**Broussard, Toby Castro, Doug Chase, Gerald Condon, Dean Conwell, Phil Dunlap, Maurine Gray, Kyle Hayes, Chuck Heare, Robert Hickman, Michael Lohr, Chuck Mason, Becky Mason, Ted Moor II, Sina Nejad** and his son **Amir, Jim Tarbett** and **John Thomasson**.

Food and equipment were donated by **Bobby Celli, Arthur Berry, David Heilman, Chad Blanchard** and **Elaine Shellenberger** as well as Beaumont Coca Cola Bottling Company and Sartin's Seafood.

Chaperones who graciously spent Thursday and Friday night in the dorms included **Alan Sampson, Marvin Dunnam, Chester Jourdan, Bruce Hoffer, Becky Mason, Mary Parmer, Lorrie Hayes** and **Jay Johnson**.

Thank you, everyone, for helping make Camp Enterprise 2004 such a success!

**Take Me Out to the Ballgame!**

Don't forget to join your fellow Rotarians, their families and friends the Rotary tailgate party at 6:00 on Tuesday evening, March 16<sup>th</sup>, at Lamar University's Vincent Beck Stadium to root for your favorite baseball team when Lamar hosts Texas A&M at 7:00.

**Henry Strait** recommends bringing lawn chairs and blankets for the tailgate party. **Chad Blanchard** and **Munro's** are providing the food and beverages are provided by **Henry's** Southeast Texas Water Conditioning and Beaumont Coca Cola Bottling Company.

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

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## Rotary Goes to School



We wanted to share some of the Thank You notes the Rotary Office has received since February 25th in response to our Rotary Goes to School program.

Dear Mr. Keramati:

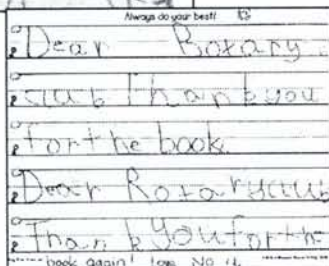
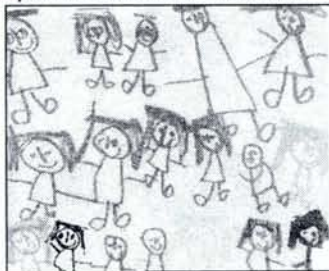
On behalf of everyone in BISD, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to the Rotary Club of Beaumont. Once again your members have touched the lives of our youngsters with the distribution of the wonderful All About Me books.

The students and staff alike cherish the special time they share with you. Their memory of this visit will surely be among their most favorite for many years to come.

Thank you for providing such a fine role model for our young people.

Sincerely,

Dr. Carrol A. Thomas  
Superintendent of Schools



Nineteen kindergarten students at Fletcher Elementary sent handmade artwork and notes which we will display in the hallway at this week's meeting.

## Large Club Conference

From **President Elect Maurine Gray:**

**Alexine** and I have just returned from the Western Division Large Club Conference in San Francisco. I wanted to share with you some of the things that I learned.

There are more than 31,000 clubs in Rotary International - 784 of those have over 100 members, 184 of those have over 200 members and only 61 of those have over 300 members (our club included). Currently the largest club is San Antonio with 707 members closely followed by Seattle with 706.

We rank 31<sup>st</sup> in the cost of our initiation fee (highest is Seattle at \$700) and 24<sup>th</sup> in our annual dues (highest is Denver at \$1,120 which includes a mandatory prepaid meal plan)?

Members of the Los Angeles club pay the most for their meals (\$28) and members of the Tulsa club pay the least (\$6.75 at the First Methodist Church). Beaumont, Kansas City, Omaha and Wichita pay \$10 or less.

(Continued from page 1)

### Bell

Rotary club representing each country joining Rotary International.

Our bell began its journey in Chicago on July 1, 2003 and has visited 36 Rotary Clubs in Western Canada, Washington, Oregon, California, Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma as well as 7 Texas Rotary Clubs.

From Beaumont it travels to New Orleans and throughout the rest of the United States, then on to Ireland, Scotland and England before completing its journey back in Chicago on June 19, 2005, for Rotary International's 100th Anniversary celebration

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

## Birthdays

**17<sup>th</sup> Bobbie Applegate (94)**

Partner, Brooks, Applegate & Wickland



Born in Morrison, Illinois, she is a graduate of Bradley University. She and her husband Joe share their home with Xena, a beautiful golden retriever. She enjoys reading and traveling. Bobbie is a Paul Harris Fellow.

**17<sup>th</sup> Jimmy Simmons (86)**

President, Lamar University



A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of Memphis State University, the University of Houston and McNeese. He and his wife Susan are the parents of Jennifer, Mike and Matt. He enjoys jogging, racquetball and playing the clarinet and saxophone. Jimmy is a Paul Harris Fellow.

**22<sup>nd</sup> Bessie Chisum (91)**

Owner, Chisum Resource Management



Born in Mississippi, she is a graduate of the University of Mississippi and Louisiana State University. She and her husband **Stewart** are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. She enjoys traveling, gardening, antiques and historic building restoration. Bessie is a Paul Harris Fellow.

(Continued from page 1)

### Hughes

Returning to Beaumont in 1996, he served as a copy editor for the Beaumont Enterprise for one year before being named as editor of the Orange County News. He was promoted to editor of the Beaumont Journal in 2001. Both publications have won many awards from the Southeast Texas Press Club and Hearst Newspapers.

Through his photography, Gene will relate his experiences during his trips to Ireland.

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