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The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery

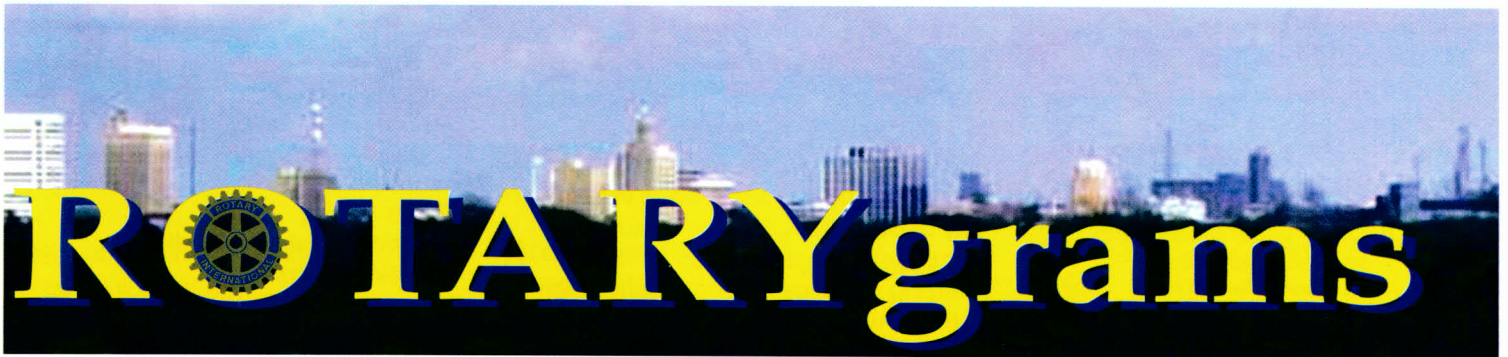


Photo by Steve Buser

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

Vol. 93 No. 18 October 29, 2003

Representative Joe Deshotel



Joe Deshotel represents the 22nd Legislative District, which includes parts of Jefferson and Orange Counties. He is a successful attorney, businessman and life-long

resident of Beaumont.

After the end of the 76th Legislative Session, the Legislative Study Group (LSG), the largest caucus in the state, presented Representative Deshotel with the Rising Star Award. The award is given to only three representatives of the 25-member freshman class and is

given to honor their outstanding dedication and achievement.

In the 77th Legislative session, his colleagues in the Texas Legislative Black Caucus elected him Chairman of that legislative body.

Representative Deshotel serves on the powerful House Appropriations Committee. He is also the Vice Chair of Local & Consent Calendars, the Chairman of Budget Oversight (CBO) for the House Elections Committee, and will serve on the Select Committee on State Health Care Expenditures.

Head Table



INVOCATION
 Mary Parmer



PLEDGE
 Rodney Martin





4-WAY TEST
 Tommy Lamb III



GUEST INTRODUCTION
 Miriam Johnson

From the chef: Fried Chicken


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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

November

5th David Dunirant
12th Dr. Jimmy Simmons

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

Program Review

**The Jefferson Theatre
Grand Re-Opening!**

The club membership was treated to a fine program when it met at the Beaumont Civic Center on October 22, as Carolyn Johnson, Director of the Jefferson Theatre announced plans for its public re-opening in November.

Delving into the history of the 1927 movie palace, she described the restored opulence of the building's fine Spanish-inspired decoration. Velvet drapes, Belgian marble, and other costly materials added to the one million dollar initial construction cost. Experiencing hard times in the 1970s it fell to the Beaumont Junior Forum and Junior League to come to the theatre's rescue forming the Jefferson Theatre Preservation Society (JTPS).

For twenty years the JTPS worked to operate and preserve the structure, part of that time in an alliance with the City of Beaumont and the Beaumont Community Players. Then in 1986, realizing the accelerating deterioration of the structure was beyond their ability to remedy without assistance, the Preservation Society began working with Beaumont Main Street. The goal of this collaboration was nothing less than the complete restoration of the theater and its establishment as a first-rate performing arts venue for Beaumont.

An enormously successful capital campaign to raise \$6.5 million for the project began in 1998 and construction was able to begin in April 2002. Now, on November 7, the structure will again open to the public. "Its time is now!"

Following her presentation, Ms. Johnson led the members in a round of "Jefferson Jeopardy" inviting them to answer trivia questions about the theater and its restoration, testing their knowledge of the landmark. The two tables with the greatest number of correct answers received tickets to opening events.



Marion Rienstra was remembered with a Memorial Resolution at last week's meeting. His daughters Nancy Rienstra Davis and Mary Rienstra Robinson and son George Rienstra are shown with his law partners **Gerald Flatten** and **Dale Dowell**. The Memorial Resolution will be printed in a future issue.

Board Action

Your Board of Directors met Thursday, October 16th and approved the following:

NEW MEMBERS:

Twila Baker,
Director of Internal Audit,
Lamar University,
Proposed by **Camille Mouton**
"Education - University Business"

Chester Jourdan, Jr.,
Executive Director,
SE Texas Regional Planning
Commission,
Proposed by **Jim Rich**
"Regional Planning"

Bonita Gibson,
Executive Director,
Anayat House,
Proposed by **Mary Ellen Robertson**
"Associations- Anaya house"

Steve McGrade,
Owner,
Able Fastener,
Proposed by **Leonard Juncker**
"Industrial Fasteners"

Unless written objections to the Board of Directors are received by Friday, November 7th, the candidates listed will be considered elected to membership.

(Continued on page 3)

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

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Birthdays

29th Miriam Johnson (01)

Tax Assessor Collector
Jefferson County Tax Office



Born in Jacksonville, Florida, she is a graduate of Lamar University. She and her husband Bill are the parents of

Karen. They are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. She enjoys playing the guitar.

29th Paul Skinner (89)

President
Star Graphics



Born in Kirbyville, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Cindy are the parents of Michelle and Ryan. They

are members of Pinewood Baptist Church.

29th Janet Walker (88)

Executive Director
Family Services of Southeast Texas



Born in Pueblo, Colorado, she is a graduate of Texas Tech and the University of Houston. She and her husband Jim are the parents of

Karen. They are members of St. Marks Episcopal Church. She enjoys playing bridge, tennis, canoeing and spending time with family and friends.

31st Neal Baker (81)

President
Thermacon Service Company



Born in Beaumont, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife, Helen, are the parents of Erin and Colin. They are

members of St. Jude's Catholic Church. He enjoys hunting and playing golf.

31st Travis Brewer (97)

Branch Manager
Blue Bell Creameries



Born in Houston, he is a graduate of the University of Texas. He and his wife Claudene are the parents of Angela and David. They are mem-

bers of First Baptist Church. He enjoys playing golf.

31st Toby Castro (02)

Sales Manager
Texas Coffee Company



Born in Beaumont, he attended Lamar University. He and his wife Diane are the parents of Sara and Colby. They are members of St. An-

thony's Catholic Church. He enjoys playing Jazz, hiking and camping.

3rd Arthur Berry (72)

President
Texas Food and Beverage Supply,



Born in Orange, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife, Connie are the parents of Alison and Catherine. They are members of

Trinity United Methodist Church. He enjoys hunting, fishing, and all outdoor "ing" sports.

3rd Henry Venta (02)

Dean
College of Business,
Lamar University



Born in Habana, Cuba, he is a graduate of the University of Puerto Rico and Northwestern University. He and his wife Luz are the parents of

Laura and Amanda. He enjoys biking.

4th Gretta Bowman (00)

Executive Director
Beaumont Habitat for Humanity

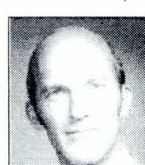


Born in Camden, New Jersey, she is a graduate of the University of Texas. She and her husband Lee are the parents of six children. They are

members of St. Anthony's Cathedral. She enjoys reading and traveling.

4th Gerald Flatten (83)

Partner
Rienstra, Dowell & Flatten



Born in San Antonio, he is a graduate of the University of Texas and South Texas College of Law. He and his wife

Carol are the parents of

Charles, Eric, Catherine and Christi. They are members of Trinity United Methodist Church. He enjoys teaching Sunday School and playing the banjo.

4th Gene Hughes (02)

Editor
Beaumont Journal



Born in Beaumont, he is a graduate of the University of Texas. He enjoys film, music, photography, writing, genealogy, commu-

nity theater, the study of Irish history and culture and the study of terrorism.

(Continued from page 2)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

Robert Edgar— 10/1/03 -12/31/03

Your board also approved reciting the Texas Pledge at weekly meetings:

TEXAS PLEDGE

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