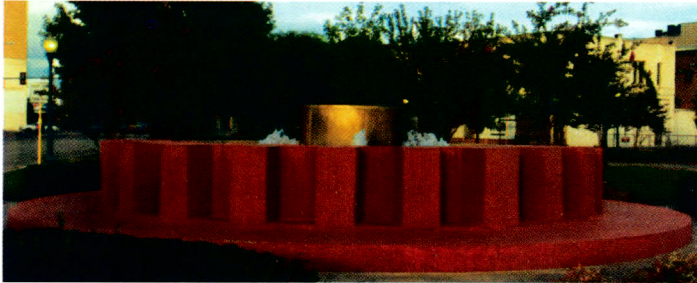


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The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery

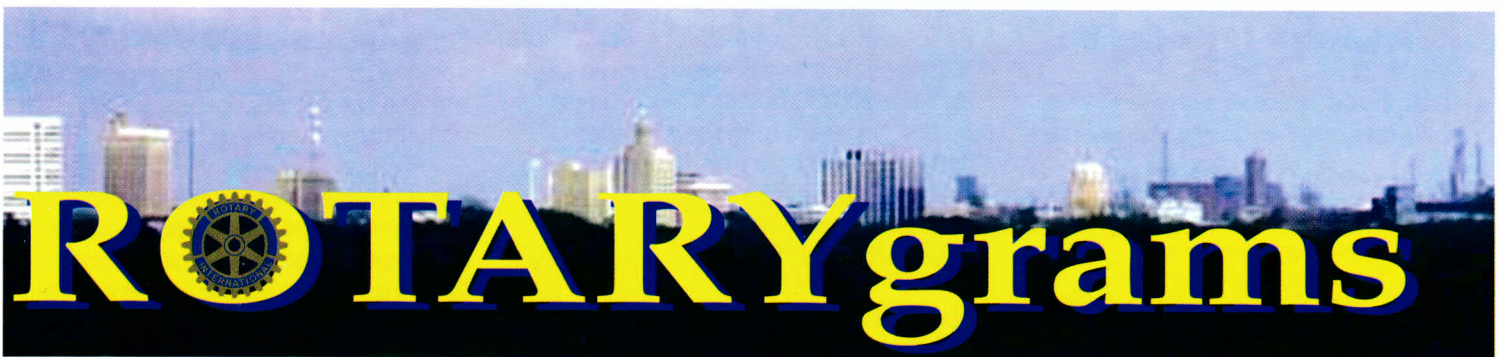
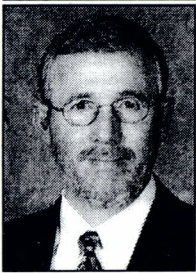


Photo by Steve Buser

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

Vol. 93 No. 11 September 10, 2003

## Chester Roy Jourdan, Jr.— Homeland Security and Emergency Management Planning



The events of September 11<sup>th</sup> heightened the awareness for plans that could prevent, mitigate or, if need be, respond to a similar event in South East Texas. At the request of the Governor's of-

ice, the Texas Division of Emergency Management (SETRPC) and local emergency management agencies, the South East Texas Regional Planning Commission lends planning expertise to a number of significant endeavors in the community.

The number of projects in which SETRPC is involved grew to such proportion that in January 2003 Chester Roy Jourdan, Jr. created the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Planning Division to focus its efforts on emergency preparedness plans and projects for natural and manmade emergencies.

Prior to his appointment as Executive Director of SETRPC, Mr. Jourdan was a staff associate with the U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Head Table



INVOCATION  
**BROCK BRENTLINGER,**  
 ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT,  
 LAMAR UNIVERSITY



PLEDGE  
**JO ANN BLOCK,**  
 JEFFERSON COUNTY  
 JUVENILE PROBATION



4-WAY  
**SCOT QUINTEL,**  
 RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR,  
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GUEST INTRODUCTION  
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 SALES MANAGER,  
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**Future Programs**

**SEPTEMBER**

17<sup>th</sup> Tony Houseman –  
 Bird Hunting in Africa

**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**

Chris Fisher, Executive Port Director for the Port of Beaumont, updated our members on the Port's progress since he spoke to us fourteen months ago. The Port of Beaumont is currently ranked fifth in the country.

As of August 31<sup>st</sup>, the Port has had its best year ever generating \$190 million and more the 1,500 local jobs in addition to completing \$40 million in capital improvements since 1998. The expansion was funded in part by general obligation bonds, an EDA Grant Award, revenue bonds and port revenues.

Port activity over the last year exceeded three million tons shipped on 220 vessels. The goods reached the Port via 20,000 rail cars and 10,000 trucks. In addition to the military activity as a strategic port, the cargo included bulk cargo (grain, ash products and aggregate), project cargo, forest products, iron and steel.

The Port of Beaumont has been a service partner with the U.S. military for over 40 years. They have shipped cargo to Vietnam, Panama, Desert Storm, Bosnia, Somalia.

The Port's recent expansion enabled it to expand its military role since Operation Desert Storm, significantly increasing its deployment of military equipment and supplies during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Port is classified as one of only two strategic Gulf ports in the country in large part due to its ability to handle the space requirements, security concerns, ability to handle military as well as commercial shipping simultaneously and the available local rail and highway infrastructure.

Additional expansion will begin this fall thanks to a \$1.197 million Security Grant Award that will increase Port security. Another proposed grant will provide for access and communication improvements.

Chris credited increased communications, increased information flow between ports and better synchronization of port calls for the Port's continued success.

We congratulate Chris for his accomplishments since taking office in May of last year. Thank you, **Jolene Ortego**, for arranging the program.

*(Continued from page 1)*

Office of State & Community Services in Washington, D.C.

He has expertise in community coalition building, strategic planning and program management. He has worked extensively with officials at the local, state and federal levels. In addition, Mr. Jourdan has provided technical assistance on community coalition building internationally and recently presented a keynote address at the 9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Safe Communities in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

A native of Jasper, he is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University with

a Bachelor of Science in Political Science graduating with honors and received a Master of Arts degree (Urban and Regional Affairs) at the University of Texas at Arlington. He also completed course work in a public policy and public administration doctoral program at Georgia State University in Atlanta, Georgia.

He and his wife Cheryl are the proud parents of two daughters. Casey is nineteen years old and Callie is three years old. The Jourdan family are active members of First Baptist Church of Groves.

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## Attendance

The attendance percentage on your address label for the next few issues reflects your attendance from July 1st of this year through last week's meeting.

## Ramblings

Congratulations to **Robert Turner**, owner of JK Chevrolet (and a United Way Board Member) for having been instrumental in bringing an Education Appreciation program to area educators. The program allows teachers to locate educational Internet websites as teaching aids in the schools.

Moving' on up. **Mark McKinnon**, KBTV - 12 is new board member of Texas Association of Broadcasters. Now, he just needs to memorize ALL the words to the 4-Way!

Speaking of taxes.... Best news is Beaumont City Manager **Kyle Hayes**, our **Lord Mayor**, Council persons **Nancy Beaulieu** and **Becky Ames** are predicting NO increase in tax rate this year. **Jolene Ortego** sez BISD held steady, too. Kudos to Port of Beaumont for LOWERING the Port tax rate. Hope news is good from the County, too.

Just an idea.....**Terry Bourdier** can perform on his bass guitar to increase Rotary attendance. Who wouldn't attend a musical session with a talented, well-known Rotarian?

**Paul Traylor's** latest media interview quoted him saying..."If you can't afford your hairdresser be honest and tell them." Paul would like to clarify his REAL comment..."Be honest with your hairdresser and inform them you no longer need their service."

Are you checking your attendance % on your RG mailing label? **President Azim** is almost smiling. Bet his kids have perfect attendance in school!

## Birthdays

**10<sup>th</sup> Mike Bradford (86)**  
Attorney, Benckenstein & Oxford



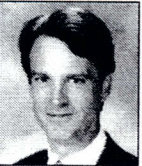
Born in Houston, he is a graduate of the University of North Texas and the University of Texas Law School. Mike and his wife Liz are the parents of Emma, and he also has a son, David Patrick. He enjoys playing golf and fishing. Mike is a Paul Harris Fellow.

**10<sup>th</sup> Gerald Condon (98)**  
President/CEO, Collision & Classics



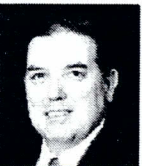
A Beaumont native and Lamar graduate, Gerald and his wife Jennifer are the parents of Molly, and he has another daughter, Michelle. His hobbies include golf, motorcycles, gardening and woodworking.

**11<sup>th</sup> Ben Thacker (99)**  
CFO, Amtex Bancshares



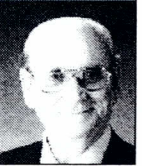
A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of the University of Houston, Lamar University and the University of Texas. Ben and his wife Lisa are members of Christ Community Church.

**12<sup>th</sup> R.J. Demahy (96)**  
Partner, Theobald, Demahy & Co.



Born in Port Arthur, he is a Lamar graduate. He and his wife Diana are the parents of Rod and Tammy, and are members of St. Pius X Catholic Church. His hobby is hunting.

**13<sup>th</sup> Bill Brown (86)**  
Owner, WFB Enterprises



Born in San Antonio, he is a graduate of Trinity University and the University of Texas. He and his wife Dorothy are the parents of Nancy, Billie Jean, Elizabeth and Mary Louise. He enjoys col-

lecting stamps and masks, photography and writing.

**14<sup>th</sup> Jamie Hogge (98)**  
Owner, Word Perfection



A Beaumont native, she is a graduate of Southwestern and Lamar. She and her husband Mark are members of the Church of Christ.

**15<sup>th</sup> Nancy Carlisle (02)**  
Owner, Quality Care Sitter Service



A Beaumont native, she is a Lamar graduate. She and her husband Norman are the parents of Patty, and are members of First Christian Church. She enjoys reading, travel, fishing and sewing.

**15<sup>th</sup> Russ Schultz (99)**  
Dean, College of Fine Arts & Communication, Lamar University



Born in Newark, New Jersey, he is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music, the University of Memphis and the University of North Texas. He and his wife Susan are the parents of Jennifer, and are members of Temple Emanuel. He enjoys playing golf and plays a mean trombone. Russ is a Paul Harris Fellow.



### 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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