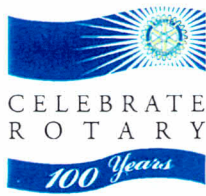
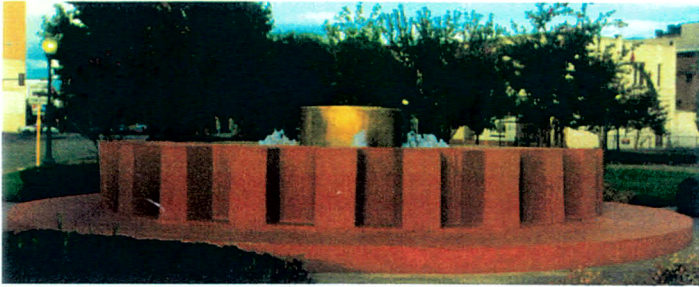


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The Rotary Fountain, Downtown Beaumont

Photo by Mark Low Imagery



Photo by Steve Buser

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Dr. Carroll Thomas - BISD



Rotary welcomes Dr. Carrol A. Thomas, BISD Superintendent of Schools, as our speaker. Dr. Thomas came to Beaumont in 1996 with a solid history of achievement in

Texas public education. He is known for his enthusiasm for challenge and his slogan "No Excuses, Just Results." His leadership has resulted in successfully guiding BISD through the implementation of the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills Test and the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

He began his career as a government teacher shortly after graduation from Texas A&I University in 1969. As he worked to make a difference in the lives of students and in schools, he advanced through the administrative ranks to become principal of Estacado High School in Lubbock. He received the Superintendent of the Year Award for Region 4 while serving in North Forest ISD in Houston. He hold's a Doctorate in Education from Texas Southern University and a Superintendent's Certification from Texas Tech University.

During his tenure in Beaumont, Dr.
(Continued on page 2)

Head Table



INVOCATION
DAN FORD



PLEDGE
TED MOOR III



4-WAY TEST
JAMIE HOGGE



GUEST INTRODUCTION
MARY RANDALL

From the chef: Grilled pork chops



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rotarybmt1@yahoo.com
Meets Wednesdays at Noon

Future Programs

September

15th Rene' McCabe, Literacy in Africa
22nd Dr. Jimmy Simmons
29th Representative Joe Deshotel

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.....Sanderson's

On-line: www.rotary5450.org/eclub
(limit 3 times in each quarter)

Program Review

Three Rivers Council Scout Executive, **Jack Crawford**, and local author and creator of the "Adventures of the Elements" educational card game, Richard James III, presented a program that made us proud to live in Beaumont.

In addition to sharing with us the excitement of this fall's Boy Scout and Girl Scout membership growth and program activities, they reminded some of us (and told some of us for the first time) of the history of Beaumont's place in the exploration of Antarctica.

That history is, of course, the history of the Ronne Research Expedition that began from the port of Beaumont in January of 1947. The trip lasted 15 months, covered 16,000 miles and ended in New York City.

On January 25th, Jackie Ronne, wife of Commander Finn Ronne, re-christened the ATA-215 the *Port of*

(Continued from page 1)

Thomas has received the Texas Superintendent of the Year Award for 1999-2000. The Board of Trustees has been recognized for its vision and business practices with the *Board of the Year Award* given by the Texas Association of School Administrators.

Dr. Thomas is President of the Texas Alliance of Black School Educators. He sits on the Governor's Commission for Education, serves as one of 30 superintendents in the nation to assist Secretary of Education Rod Paige in implementing the revolutionary No Child Left Behind initiative, and he is a member of the Texas Association of School Administrators Board, as well as numerous other boards that foster the cause of education for Texas children.

Beaumont. Thus began the last private expedition from the United States to Antarctica. All participants were volunteers, including Beaumont Eagle Scout, Arthur Owen, from Boy Scout 222 and Explorer Post 3. Most of them have geographic features in Antarctica named for them, including Mount Owen. Eagle Scout Charlie Landry traveled with the expedition as far as Panama and then flew back to Beaumont.

The key organizations that were a part of this event were the YMBL, the City of Beaumont, the Chamber of Commerce, the Boy Scouts of America and the Rotary Club of Beaumont.

On November 11, 2004 there will be a Ronne Expedition Reunion at the Clifton Steamboat Museum which will be mounting an exhibit commemorating the 1947 expedition including photographs and memorabilia. The organizations that played a role in the expedition will be taking part in the celebration along with Arthur Owen's brother, Eagle Scout Bob Owen.

Commander Ronne's widow Jackie Ronne will also be present. She is one of the first women to travel to Antarctica and the first woman to have spent a winter there.

Thanks to Jack and Richard for reminding us of how important Beaumont is and of how fortunate we are to live here.

Good News!

Camille Mouton welcomed twin grandsons Mark and Thomas on August 16th in Austin. She assures us they are absolutely precious!

Wedding bells rang on Tuesday, August 31st for **Joy Reagan** and Charles Regenbrecht.

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

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Konica TOSHIBA SHARP

Book Donations

On September 15th, **Roger McCabe's** daughter-in-law Rene' Sissons McCabe, a native of South Africa and a recent Lamar University graduate, will be speaking to us about a program to collect books to ship to Africa.

This year the Rotary Clubs in Jefferson and Orange Counties and our new Rotaract chapter at Lamar University have all agreed to make this our Rotary 100th Anniversary International Program. Our club's first collection will be on September 15th and we hope to collect 50,000 books during this Rotary year.

Since 2002, RI District 5890 (Houston) has participated in the program and has shipped seventeen sea containers (approximately 42,000 books each) to RI District 9300 (Johannesburg, South Africa) for distribution to needy schools.

We will have a truck in the parking lot, thanks to **Azim Keramati**, to collect the books as you come to the meeting. They will then be taken to be stored at Lamar University and then delivered to Pasadena to be added to books collected by District 5890 for shipment to South Africa.

Please start going through your home library now to find hardbacks, paperbacks, text books, reference books, dictionaries, encyclopedias, children's books, whatever, to bring to the meeting that day.

Those dusty books you haven't read in years will be precious additions to libraries throughout Africa. Please help us make our Rotary 100th Anniversary International Program a success and clear some space on your shelves for new books you've been wanting!

Maurine Gray

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Our People Make the Difference

Birthdays

8th Benny Hughes, Jr. (66)

Of Counsel
Orgain, Bell & Tucker



Born in Beaumont, he is a graduate of the University of Texas (BA, MA and LLB). He and his wife Allison are the parents of Seth Edward,

Gene and John Charles, and are members of St. Stephens Episcopal Church. He enjoys fishing and playing handball. Benny is a Paul Harris Fellow

9th Mark Theobald (93)

Vice President and Trust Officer
Hibernia National Bank



Born in Beaumont, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Julie are the parents of Sarah and Abby, and are members of Westgate

Memorial Baptist Church. He enjoys hunting, fishing, playing golf and, most of all, being a Dad.

10th Gerald Condon (98)

President/CEO,
Collision & Classics



A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Jennifer are the parents of Molly, and he has another daughter, Michelle.

They are members of St. Mark's Episcopal Church. He enjoys playing golf, motorcycles, gardening and woodworking. Gerald is a Paul Harris Fellow

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Note: artwork in ads on page 2 & 3 can be changed weekly if desired

11th Ben Thacker (99)

CFO,
Amtex Bancshares



A Beaumont native, he is a graduate of the University of Houston (BA), Lamar University (BA) and the University of Texas (MBA). He and his wife

Lisa are members of Christ Community Church. He enjoys working with the non-profit boards he is on, gardening, church work and movies.

12th R.J. Demahy (96)

Partner,
Theobald, Demahy & Co.

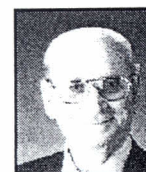


Born in Port Arthur, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Diana are the parents of Rod and Tammy, and are members of St. Pius X

Catholic Church. He enjoys hunting.

13th Bill Brown (86)

Owner,
WFB Enterprises



Born in San Antonio, he is a graduate of Trinity University (BA) and The University of Texas (MA and PhD). He and his wife Dorothy Forristall are the

parents of Nancy, Billie, Anne and Mary. He enjoys collecting stamps and masks, photography and writing.

14th Jamie Hogge (98)

Owner,
Word Perfection



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

Christ. She enjoys traveling, scrap booking, singing, and volunteering.

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