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Vol. 95 No. 21, January 11, 2006

## STEVE SMITH - MOODY GARDENS



**MOODY GARDENS**  
 GALVESTON ISLAND

Born and raised in Southern Indiana, Steve Smith studied journalism at the University of Indiana in Bloomington. Following graduation, he served for two years as an Intelligence Officer in the Army. Then, he learned the broadcasting business on local Indiana television stations.

In 1966, on a vacation to Houston, he landed a job at KPRC channel 2.

Soon, he anchored the 10:00 news and later the 5:00 news. He also wrote and produced both newscasts. For ten years, he wrote and hosted a public affairs program, Steve Smith's Sunday.

Mr. Smith spent 23 years at Channel 11. During that time he covered some of the major stories of the era: lunar landings, the fall of the Berlin Wall, the Challenger explosion, plus some hurricanes, including Hurricane Alicia.

His career as a newsman has taken him all over the world. He

has traveled to the North Sea, British Isles, Japan, Singapore, Cairo, Kuwait, Paris and Vienna, to name a few.

Mr. Smith has contributed his time and talents to numerous charitable and arts groups in the Houston-Galveston area including the United Way, The Audubon Society, The Park People, Houston Grand Opera, Briarwood School, The Brookwood community, The Houston Symphony, Galveston's 1894 Grand Opera

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**Roast Pork Loin & Chicken Marsala**



*The next flag display will be Presidents' Day in February. Subscribe now by calling the Rotary office - 842-1913*



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**Future Programs**

January

18<sup>th</sup> Patty Williams - Communities in Schools

25<sup>th</sup> T. Kelsey Lamb Award

**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.rotaryclubone.org](http://www.rotaryclubone.org)  
(limit 3 times in each quarter)

**REVIEW**

Despite horrific damage done by Hurricane Rita, Lamar University is booming again. That was the message brought to us Wednesday by Lamar's President, **Jimmy Simmons**.

In spite of the fact that entrance requirements for new students were raised last year, he said, the freshman class was the largest in history. More good news is that a dining facility costing almost \$8 million will open January 10<sup>th</sup> and a recreational facility three times the size of McDonald Gym will open later this year.

An Austin developer is building a new, first class student housing facility on Martin Luther King Drive, providing 400 beds for Lamar students, with no university funding involved. This is going to help us attract students," Dr. Simmons said.

But things looked bleak on campus September 25<sup>th</sup>, with roofs off most major buildings, water damage to all 800 rooms in the dormitories, the top floor of the library in shambles, the Montagne Center mezzanine (along with air conditioning and electrical systems) destroyed and the 400 acre campus littered with fallen trees.

President Simmons set a goal of returning the campus to normal within 24 days, "never thinking that we could actually meet that deadline."

But, he said, with about 2,000 people working on campus, with help from Entergy's **Joe Domino** and Beaumont Mayor **Guy Goodson**, among other leaders, and with the expenditure of almost \$35 million, classes resumed less than a month

after the storm hit and – three days before Christmas – 675 students graduated from Lamar, right on time.

And when the workers finished cleaning, drying and rebuilding the dorm rooms, Dr. Simmons said, washing all the clothes, sheets etc., they left a candy kiss on each pillow. One parent said he had never seen his son's room so clean.

Dr. Simmons gave credit to the chancellor of the Texas State University System, Charles Matthews, who told him to get the campus fixed and he would worry about the funding. Contrast that with McNeese State University in Lake Charles, where there was a 15 day delay before work began, dramatically increasing the mold problem and exponentially kicking up the cost of repairs.

In addition to the other good news at Lamar, Dr. Simmons mentioned his gratitude for the recent gift of \$5 million by Sheila and Walter Umphrey, the largest gift in the history of the university.

In addition to telling us about the storm damage, Dr. Simmons showed slide after slide of devastation, impressing even those of us who felt we had seen plenty of downed trees and ripped roofs.

Lamar's President thanked a lot of people for their help, but everyone attending Wednesday's meeting was impressed with the leadership and vision Dr. Simmons himself displayed during a time which could have signaled a great tragedy for the kids who depend on Lamar University for their education.

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## T. Kelsey Lamb, Sr. Award for Business Ethics

Committee Chair **Bobbie Applegate** announced at last week's meeting that nominations will be accepted for this year's T. Kelsey Lamb, Sr. Award for Business Ethics. Nomination forms are available at meetings or by request from the Rotary office.

An annual tradition since 1996, the Award is named in honor of the late T. Kelsey Lamb, Sr. who served as 1942-43 President of our club and as 1951-52 District Governor. It is presented to a Beaumont Rotarian who consistently exhibits the highest ethical standards represented by the Rotary Four-Way Test in his or her chosen profession.

Past recipients of the Award are:

- Tom Lamb, Jr.**
- Benny Hughes, Jr.**
- Lum Edwards, Jr.**
- Doug Steinman, Jr.**
- Dan Hallmark**
- Bobbie Applegate**
- Floyd McSpadden**
- Charlie Weinbaum, Jr.**
- Alex & James Broussard**

*(Continued from page 1)*  
house, The Galveston Historical Foundation, Galveston's Ronald McDonald House, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, St. Joseph Hospital and others. He has given his writing and talent work to Moody Gardens, Memorial Hermann Hospital System, Port of Houston, NASA/Johnson Space Center and others.

Mr. Smith retired from the news business in 1999 and formed a media consulting firm, Anchor Communications. When he is not working, he can be found fishing for flounder and speckled trout.

## BIRTHDAYS

### 12<sup>th</sup> Bobby Celli, Jr. (83)

President,  
ISI Commercial Refrigeration



Born in Galveston, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Sara are the parents of Tiffany and Christy. He enjoys playing tennis, traveling and participating in community projects.

### 13<sup>th</sup> Philip Long (01)

Architect,  
Long Architects



Born in Birkenhead, England, he is a graduate of Texas A&M University. He and his wife Kimberly Ann are the parents of Ryan, Aaron, Daniel and Patrick, and are members of First Baptist Church of Fannett. He enjoys camping, backpacking, soccer and sky diving.

### 14<sup>th</sup> Linda Moore (98)

Public Relations, Morris Moore Chevrolet, Buick, GMC & Dodge /Cowboy Harley Davidson (Beaumont & Jasper)/Cowboy Honda



Born in Toledo, Ohio, she attended Lamar University and has recently received her Real Estate License. She and her husband Morris are the parents of David Smith and Danny Moore, and are members of St. Anne's Catholic Church. She enjoys cooking, motorcycle riding, traveling and skiing.

### Jan 17<sup>th</sup> Kathleen Jackson (97)

Public Affairs Manager,  
Exxon Mobil Corporation



Born in Pensacola, Florida, she is a graduate of North Carolina State University. She is the mother of Tommy, Kit and Thea, and is a member of Amelia Baptist Church.

## BOARD ACTION

Your Board of Directors met Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> and approved the following:

### New Member:

Jane O'Hanlon  
SE Texas Regional Coordinator  
Bridges to Life  
"Associations – Bridges to Life"  
Proposed by **Uliana Trylowski**

Unless written objections to the Board of Directors are received by Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, the candidate listed above will be considered elected to membership.

### Resignation accepted with regret:

Larry Parnell  
Business Pressure

## CONDOLENCES

With deep regret we report the loss of two long-time Rotarians.

**Richmond Bennett, Jr.** passed away on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Rich joined our club in March 1963 and maintained 38 years of perfect attendance.

Former member Don Coleman also passed away in December. Don was a member of our club from April 1987 until he resigned in February 2005 due to poor health.

We extend our sympathies to both families.

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