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ROTARYgrams

Photo by Steve Buser

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LONNIE ARRINGTON



Lonnie Arrington is the Owner & CEO of Fabricon International, Inc., which provides engineering, design, and manufacturing of

pressure vessels. He is National Board registered with ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers) to apply the "U" and "R" stamps, certifying vessels for use in high pressure, high temperature operations including lethal service applications.

Prior to opening his own firm, he was Chief Engineer for Dresser Industries where he was responsible for engineering and manufacturing operations in Orillia, Ontario, Canada; Manchester, England; and La-Harve, France. His major projects at Dresser included designing and building a tunnel boring machine for the Washington DC Metro (subway) and 38' diameter water tunnel project in New York; designing gold processing operations in

(Continued on page 2)

HEAD TABLE



INVOCATION
 EVELYN LORD



PLEDGE
 SAM LORD



4-WAY TEST
 PAT ANDERSON



GUEST INTRODUCTION
 TERRY BOURDIER

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75th Anniversary Party

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 Meets Wednesdays at Noon
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Future Programs

March
 21th David Teuscher - BISD Bond
 30th CAMP ENTERPRISE

Make-ups

Monday:
 No. Port ArthurHoliday Inn Hwy 69
 Vidor.....Hibernia National Bank
Tuesday:
 Spindletop.....Elegante' Hotel
 Orange.....Sunset Grove
 Port Neches.....Pompano Club
Wednesday:
 Groves.....Pompano Club
Thursday:
 Port Arthur.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69
 Hardin County... Red Onion, Lumberton
Friday:
 Nederland.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69
On-line: www.rotaryclubone.org
 (limit 3 times in each quarter)

REVIEW

Richard Donovan, a former Temple-Inland employee of 20 years, grew up hunting and fishing along the creeks and streams of the Neches River. He had two reasons for speaking to our Rotary Club. One was to reacquaint us with the Neches River and the second was to sell us a book. All the proceeds from the sales of this book go to protect the Neches River Valley.

Mr. Donovan pointed out that the Big Thicket is the closest National Park to most of Texas and that the Neches River is the cradle of Texas. The cowboy image of Texas is not the real history of Texas and certainly not of East Texas. He reminded us we are not all sagebrush, tumbleweeds and cowboys.

He asked the question regarding why the Big Thicket and the Neches River Valley are not better known. Is it because we do not have a good opinion of ourselves or do we not recognize the natural beauty we have here?

He cautioned all of us to be more vocal and to work to protect what we have here from the forces at work against us. He told us that Region One gave Dallas water from the Neches. This is now in the courts. If Dallas does take water from the Neches, the water after it is used will not flow back to the Neches, but will flow to the Trinity. This will result in a loss of water for our area and we will not be able to grow our area, that

growth will go to Dallas.

He strongly urged us to be asking our legislatures what is going on because if the dam is built to divert our water it would impact the Big Thicket, wildlife, hardwoods and estuaries. It would greatly impact this very heart of the central fly away zone for geese, ducks and songbirds. Much of what we take for granted will be at peril.

Mr. Donovan then showed us some marvelous pictures, which President Gerald aptly described as majestic and peaceful. There were so many beautiful pictures of scenes along the Neches. Many of the pictures showed the fantastic wildlife, mixed with many historical pictures of the area.

His adventures on the 27 day canoe trip from the Highway 175 Bridge at Palestine, North of Jacksonville to Colliers Ferry Landing in Beaumont took him over many, many logs and even under some. Some nights were so quiet you could hear a pin drop and other nights he was kept awake by owls, coyotes and even flying squirrels. His point is that if we do not protect the Neches we stand to lose much of this beauty.

(Continued from page 1)

South Africa; and engineering tunnel operations through the Siberian Mountains to obtain coal from the Black Sea in Russia.

He also worked as Development
(Continued on page 3)

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

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FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

Please invite your family and friends to attend two upcoming fellowship events. Toby Castro will have sign up sheets at the meetings.

On Friday, March 16th you are invited to cheer on the Beaumont Wildcatters Hockey team when they play the team from Augusta. There will be a pre-game reception with food and beverages and we have a block of seats reserved. The cost will be \$20.00 per person for admission and the reception.

On Thursday, April 12th you are invited to join you fellow Rotarians for a crawfish boil with all the trimmings arranged by Chad Blanchard at Munro's at the corner of MLK and Liberty. Again, the cost will be \$20.00 per person.

(Continued from page 2)

Engineer at both Kerr McGee Nuclear Fuels Division, where he designed and built a pelletizer for Enriched Uranium 238 and U.S. Borax where he was responsible for mechanization of Canadian operations.

He was named Small Businessman of the Year, Manufacturing in 1988 and holds nine U.S. patents.

He is a graduate of New Mexico University where he earned a degree in mechanical engineering. He also served in the U.S. Army.

His has been active in community service as Past Chairman of the

BIRTHDAYS

17th Bobbie Applegate (94)
Partner,
Brooks, Applegate & Associates



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

17th Jimmy Simmons (86)
President,
Lamar University



Born in Beaumont, he is a graduate of Memphis State University, the University of Houston and McNeese University. 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.

Board, Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, Past Chairman of St. Anthony Cathedral Building Committee, Past Vice President, Lamar University Foundation Board, and Past Co-Chair of CUAEC. He currently serves on the St. Anthony Cathedral Finance Council and was appointed by Governor Perry as Chairman of Legislative Affairs for the Lower Neches Valley Authority.

He has his wife have three daughters. He owns Rancho Alegre where he raises Arabian horses. His horses have won the

18th Gillian Jenkins (05)
Sales Manager,
Transit Mix Concrete & Materials



Born in Beaumont, she is a graduate of the University of Texas. She and her husband Will are the parents of Hannah, Gates and Roy Thomas, and are members of St. Anne Catholic and Trinity Methodist Churches. She enjoys fishing, painting and horses.

18th Paula Nichols (04)
Director of Distance Education,
Lamar University



Born in Houston, she is a graduate of Baylor University and the University of Houston. She and her husband Kenneth are the parents of Bart, Adam, Neal and Luke, and are members of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church. She enjoys rose gardening and playing the piano.

19th Guy Crabtree (05)
Vice President,
Crabtree Barricade Systems



Born in Beaumont, he is a graduate of Texas A & M University. He and his wife Rhonda are the parents of Kyleigh, Morgan and Cody, and are members of Westgate Church of Christ. He enjoys hunting and fishing.

Canadian National Championship in 1999 and the US National Championship in 1998 & 1999. He also enjoys salt water sport fishing.

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