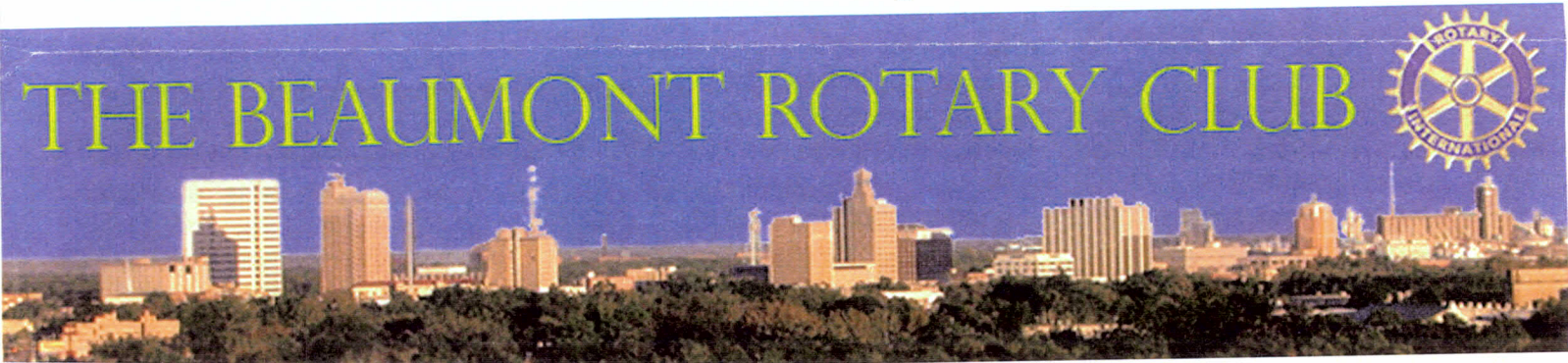


Published by the
 Rotary Club of Beaumont
 Subscription price \$5.00 per year
 Periodicals postage paid at Beaumont, Texas
 Published weekly, except Christmas week, New Years
 week & two unspecified non-meeting weeks
 POSTMASTER: send address changes to
 MCM Elegante' Hotel, Suite 213
 2355 IH-10 South
 Beaumont, TX 77705

USPS 471-700



Periodical
 POSTAGE
 Paid at
 Beaumont, TX



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

Vol. 97 No. 3, July 25, 2007

MAYOR BECKY AMES



Mayor Becky Ames was sworn in as Beaumont's 41st Mayor on May 22, 2007. A lifelong resident of Jefferson County who moved to Beaumont in

1981, Mayor Ames previously served the City as an At-Large City Councilmember from 1994 to 2007.

While on the City Council, Mayor Ames oversaw a number of initiatives that have had a lasting im-

pact on the Beaumont community, but perhaps her most significant role was played in the days and weeks following Hurricane Rita, a Category-5 storm that made a direct hit on Beaumont in September of 2005. Along with then-Mayor Guy Goodson, her Council colleagues, and city officials, Mayor Ames spent countless hours on both preparations for and response to the hurricane.

A frequent attendant at countless neighborhood meetings throughout Beaumont, one of Mayor

Ames' main goals as Mayor is to make city government more accessible to Beaumont citizens. Mayor Ames also plans to focus on improving city infrastructure and continuing the revitalization of downtown Beaumont.

(Continued on page 3)

REVISED PLEDGE TO FLAG OF TEXAS

Honor the Texas flag;
 I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas,
One state under God.

24-HOUR SERVICE ON ALL BRANDS,
 MAKES & MODELS

EFFICIENT SYSTEMS
 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

838-1676 www.efficient-systems.com

WE'VE GOT THE ANSWERS

Bill Clark • Buz Brown
 409-898-3224
www.billclarkbugsperts.com

ETHAN ALLEN
 DESIGN CENTER

4755 EASTEX FRWY • BEAUMONT • 409-898-2368

**ROTARY CLUB OF BEAUMONT
OFFICERS**

Angela Baker President
 Gerald Condon Immediate Past President
 Jim Rich President-Elect
 Kevin Roy Vice President, Programs
 George Crawford Secretary
 Lauren Brooks Treasurer
 Lee Freeland Sergeant at Arms
 Harland Merriam, Jr. Past President, Advisor

DIRECTORS

Pat Anderson
 Vesta Brandt
 Lauren Brooks
 Buz Brown
 George Crawford
 Phil Dunlap
 Joe Fisher, Jr.
 David Locke
 Robert Peavey
 Kevin Roy
 Russ Schultz
 Michael Wolf

BEAUMONT ROTARY FOUNDATION, INC.

Angela Baker
 Gerald Condon
 Jim Rich
 Bobby Celli
 Robert Edgar

Mary Ellen Robertson

Bessie Chisum, RotaryGram Committee Chair

Alexine Boutin, Executive Director

Office Hours: Weekdays 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
 409-842-1913 or 626-1418 • Fax: 409-842-5613

rotarybmt1@yahoo.com

www.beaumontrotaryclub.org

Meets Wednesdays at Noon

MCM Elegante' Hotel • 2355 IH-10 South
 International Ballroom

Next Week's Program

Aug 1st John Ratcliffe - U.S. Attorney

Make-ups

Monday noon:

No. Port ArthurHoliday Inn Hwy 69
 Vidor.....Hibernia National Bank

Tuesday noon:

Spindletop.....Elegante' Hotel
 Orange.....Sunset Grove
 Port Neches.....Pompano Club

Wednesday noon:

Groves.....Pompano Club

Thursday 7:30 a.m.:

Hardin County.....
 Cowboy Reds, Lumberton

Thursday noon:

Port Arthur.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69

Friday:

Nederland.....Holiday Inn Hwy 69

On-line: www.rotaryclubone.org

(limit 3 times in each quarter)

REVIEW

Surely, there is no one on Planet Earth that does not recognize, "I'd Like to Buy the World A Coke"! This slogan, along with "It's the Real Thing" and "Things Go Better with Coke", has become a part of our global lexicon. Do you suppose the creator of the original Coca-Cola in circa 1886 could ever imagine the impact of this product and company more than 100 years later? Statistically, if all the Coca-Cola products were converted to cans and laid end-to-end, they would stretch 12,973 miles which is about distance from the North to South Poles (that is 300 different packages and brands of soft drinks and non-carbonated drinks).

It was a real treat last week at Rotary to re-visit 100 years of Coca-Cola Bottling here in Beaumont and the surrounding 9-county area of our region. As we entered the meeting, there were favorite Coca-Cola commercials and slogans playing on video screens, a display of black and white historical photos of Coca-Cola delivery trucks participating in local events and parades, original art work and samples of Coca-Cola products for Rotarians to enjoy.

Beginning in 1907 at C. T. Heisig's candy company on Park Street at the former site of the Greyhound Bus Station, expanding in 1911 to another location at corner of Main and Wall Streets (what is on that corner today?), by 1931 the new plant was completed on Mariposa Street (now

MLK Blvd.) until moving to its present location on Eastex Freeway in 1985. There are currently 207 employees with a payroll impact of \$9 million to our local economy.

The "fish box" arrived in 1933 – Beaumont's first vending machine. Customers actually used a forked pole to fish for the drink they wished to buy. The drink was then picked up with the pole and placed in a compartment which opened when a coin was inserted.

Ivory Harrison, Sales Center Manager of the Beaumont plant and new Blue Badge Club Member, presented the original artwork of the 5 winners of the Centennial Art Competition with theme "Coca-Cola: 100 Years of Refreshment in Southeast Texas" from Students enrolled at Lamar University's College of Fine Arts and Communications (**Dean Russ Schultz** was smiling broadly). Rotarians at the meeting were each given a limited edition commemorative Beaumont bottle.

The Beaumont Coca-Cola plant in Beaumont delivers beverages to more than 5,305 retail customers in the 9-county area, covering 6,706 square miles – an average of 22 cities per day in 40 delivery trucks which translates to some 756,000 eight ounce serves consumed per day! In 2007, the Beaumont Plant will sell and distribute in excess of 6 million cases of Coca-Cola products.

(Continued on page 3)

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

Certified Public Accountants

4140 Glaschys, Ste. 101 • Beaumont, TX 77706-3648
 Phone (409) 838-1605 • Fax (409) 838-3316
www.wdjcpa.com

 **TIME WARNER
 CABLE**

Public Affairs Director
 George Perrett
 720-5506

Ad Sales Manager
 Bruce Walker
 924-9500

ROGER MCCABE – Rotary Past President
 Board Certified, Personal Injury Trial Law
 by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization
JOE E. BROUSSARD –
 Board Certified, Estate Planning and Probate Law
 by the Texas Board of Legal Specialization

MEHAFFYWEBER Houston | Beaumont
 ATTORNEYS
 A Professional Corporation
 MehaffyWeber.com
 713.655.1200 | 409.835.5011

(Continued from page 1)

In addition to her duties as Mayor, Ames serves as Executive Director of Atria Collier Park, an assisted living and retirement community in Beaumont, a position she has held since 1996. Prior to that, Mayor Ames spent 12 years as Director of Sales and Marketing for the Beaumont Hilton.

Mayor Ames has also been an active member of a number of Beaumont organizations, such as the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce, the Junior League of Beaumont, the Julie Rogers Gift of Life Breast Cancer Awareness Program, and the Downtown Rotary Club of Beaumont.

Elected as Mayor Pro-Tem by her Council colleagues four times during her tenure on the City Council, Mayor Ames has also been active in local government organizations such as the National League of Cities, Texas Municipal League, and Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission.

In 1998, Governor George W. Bush appointed Ames to the Regional Review Committee, which was charged with oversight of federal community development and planning funds to the area.

Mayor Ames attended public schools in Jefferson County prior to attending Texas A&M University, and has been married to Rodney Ames since 1983.

(Continued from page 2)

Ms. Harrison concluded by thanking Southeast Texas for allowing Beaumont Coca-Cola Bottling Company to be an integral part of the community for the last 100

BIRTHDAYS

25th Angela Baker (90)
Project Coordinator, United Methodist Committee on Relief



Born in Port Arthur, she and her husband Ray are the parents of Danny, and are members of Wesley United Methodist Church. She enjoys reading, travel and community service. Angela is a Paul Harris Fellow.

25th Ivory Harrison (06)
Sales Center Manager, Beaumont Coca-Cola Bottling



Born in San Augustine, she is a graduate of the University of Houston. She and her husband Bobby are the parents of Bobby, Jr., and are members of Fort Bend Baptist Church. She enjoys reading, traveling and crafts.

26th Jarren Garrett (05)
Vice President - Business Development, Memorial Hermann Baptist Hospital



Born in Nederland, he is a graduate of Lamar University. He and his wife Jill are the parents of Jenna, Jace and Jake, and are members of Stonagate Church of Christ. Jarren is a Paul Harris Fellow.

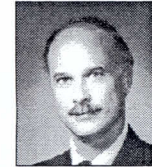
26th Ronnie Jones (03)
Vice President, Architectural Alliance
Born in Port Arthur, he is a

years...and counting for another successful century forward.



graduate of Texas A & M University. He and his wife Cindy are the parents of Tyler and Jennifer, and are members of Fellowship Baptist Church. He enjoys playing golf, fishing, camping and woodworking.

29th Pat Parsons (85)
President & Chief Operating Officer, Texas State Bank



Born in Lufkin, he is a graduate of Southern Methodist University and the University of Houston. He and his wife Melody are the parents of John Pat, Jr., and are members of Trinity United Methodist Church. He enjoys old sports cars and gardening.

31st George Perrett (06)
Public Affairs Director, Time Warner



Born in Galveston, he is a graduate of the University of Houston. He and his wife Barbara are the parents of Trey and Madison, and are members of St. Anne Catholic Church.

31st Kathryn Walker (96)
Retired



Born in Logansport, Louisiana, she is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University. She and her husband Bruce are the parents of Tyler and Jennifer, and are members of Trinity United Methodist Church. She enjoys travel, reading and cooking.

jkchevrolet.com 409-722-0443

JK CHEVROLET
ISUZU
at the airport
Our People Make the Difference

YOUR HOMETOWN
4 NEWS
KBTB

This space is available to our non-profit organizations for short-term advertising. Contact the Rotary office 842-1913 for information.