



RotaryGram Brief August 6th, 2008 \* Vol. 97, No. 54



## PROGRAM PREVIEW AUGUST 6th



### STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOSEPH D. DESHOTEL, CHAIR, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



The Rotary Club of Beaumont welcomes Texas State Representative Joseph D. Deshotel, representing the 22<sup>nd</sup> Legislative District which includes parts of Jefferson & Orange Counties. He is an Attorney, businessman and life-long resident of Beaumont. In the recent 80<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, Representative Deshotel was appointed to service as Chairman of the powerful House Economic Development Committee. According to Chairman Deshotel, "Being named Chairman of the Economic Committee is important for East Texas. This committee assignment insures that job creation and the increased vitalization of the local technology industry received proper attention during the legislative process". Deshotel was also appointed to serve as a member of the Labor and Economic Development Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures. After the end of the 76<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, the Legislative Study Group (LSG), the largest caucus in the State, presented him with the **Rising Star Award**. The award was given to only three Representatives of the 25-member freshman class and is given to honor their outstanding dedication and achievement. In the 77<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, his colleagues and the Texas Legislative Black Caucus elected him Chair. In the 78<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, Representative Deshotel served on the House Appropriations Committee, which is the budget writing arm of the House. He also served as Vice Chair of Local and Consent Calendars, Chair of Budget Oversight (CBO) for the House Elections Committee, and on the Select Committee on State Health Care Expenditures. In the 79<sup>th</sup> Session Representative Deshotel was appointed to the House Committees on Economic Development, on Transportation, and on Redistricting. Representative Deshotel's tenure on the House Committee on Economic Development has helped bring in needed investment dollars to Southeast Texas. He has worked tirelessly on the Transportation Committee to create opportunities for District 22. Transportation was a significant issue due to budgetary surpluses and expected allocation of millions of dollars toward highway funding. Prior to serving in the legislature, Representative Deshotel served on Beaumont City Council and was appointed by Governor Mark White to the Job Training Coordinating Counsel and Lamar University Board of Regions. He has a strong record as a champion of civil rights and civic responsibility, organizing Lamar University NAACP chapter and insuring that the former Spur 380 was renamed Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway. He also served as Vice President for Administration and Legal Council for Lamar University – Beaumont. Appreciation to Rotarian and County Commissioner Eddie Arnold for arranging the program.



**August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting will be held in the  
"FOUNTAIN VIEW ROOM"  
(Across the hall from Hemmingway's Cafe)**



## AUGUST 6th HEAD TABLE and LUNCH MENU

\*Invocation, Robert Besser, Wesley United Methodist Church \*Pledge, Michael Perez, Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club \* Introduction of Guests, Craig Escamilla, Symphony of Southeast Texas

**\*Elegante Menu will be Smothered Chicken & Sliced Roasted Beef \***



**ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS**



**Just as a reminder, points are earned towards your blue badge by participating in events and any Service Projects such as helping at the Wednesday weekly meeting.**

### ■ **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**\_\_\_\_\_

**August 6** – State Rep. Joe Deshotel,  
Dist.22, Chair House Economic Dev.  
Committee

**August 13** – Dr. Max Morley,  
Nacogdoches, Rotary 5910/RI Polio  
Plus Initiative

**August 20** – Texas Commissioner of  
Agriculture Todd Staples

**August 27** – Congressman Kevin Brady

**September 3** – Beaumont Community  
Players preview of “Smokey Joe’s  
Café”

## HAVE YOU UPDATED YOUR FILE YET?????

Remember the first thing you will come to after logging in under [www.clubrunner.ca/beaumont](http://www.clubrunner.ca/beaumont) is “Welcome to Beaumont Rotary”.

Next, you click on the top right hand corner of the page under “login”. Then you will come to “Login name & Password”. Enter your First name (dot) last name. Then click on “Forgot your password”. The next screen will ask for your “Last Name and email address”. Then hit **SAVE**. It will then send you your temporary password. (If you have any trouble, please email or call Donna Qualls at the Rotary Office). When you receive your temporary password, login again and it will take you to the “Administration Page” where you can click on edit your profile and add all your information.

Again, the most important thing you can do at this time is the “Edit my profile, Change my Password and Upload My Photo”.

## "PAST PRESIDENT'S MINUTE" (REFLECTIONS OF DAYS-GONE-BY)

**Charlie Weinbaum (1983-84) July 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Wilton White (1986-87) August 6<sup>th</sup>**

### Review of Past President Charlie Weinbaum History Minute from July 30th

Here is what was happening 25 years ago in the Beaumont Rotary Club, Charlie Weinbaum, President.

The Rotary International theme was "Share Rotary Service People". Margaret Cherb, the Executive Director of the Rotary Club, always asked the incoming Presidents what their theme should be. I told her having been in the club about 35 years at this point, which I always heard people say "It is Wednesday and I have to go to Rotary". I wanted to change that attitude so they would say "It's Wednesday and I can't wait to go to Rotary to enjoy the fellowship, the enlightenment of the programs, the excitement and the fun". We had 383 members at our beginning and ended up with 390 members in June. Our first program started with the Aggie war hymn in honor of Dr. Gordon Eaton, who was Provost and Vice-President of A&M at the time. This was to get everyone prepared for what was coming throughout the year. My RotaryGram editor was my good friend, Bill Cable and I arranged with him to blast me as often as he could in everything that we did during the year. He did such a wonderful job that later during the year, I was the only President in the History to have a pie in my face while presiding. Among our programs, Dr. Bob Kembel was President of Lamar. Dr. Robert E. Hayes, President of Wylie College received a standing vocation for his address. Dr. John Gray, Alex Broussard, and Frank Betts were all awarded Paul Harris Fellows. Bob Bullock Comptroller of the State of Texas was our speaker. We had a sports invitational at the Beaumont Country Club to benefit RI, with a trip to London, San Francisco, or Honolulu for a prize to enter. We had 60 Rotarians participating in the event. Our club projects were the Jacobs St. Park and the Babe Zaharias exercise trail. Dr. Carlos Canseco, President Elect of Rotary International, attended and we had a reception before the meeting and I welcomed and introduced him and his wife in Spanish. Then later had to translate into English for our members. Dr. Henry Cisneros Major of San Antonio also received a standing vocation. We took a Belle of Beaumont dinner cruise, having a dinner party while cruising up and down the Neches River which was very enjoyable. Pat Foster was the Lamar coach and member and he rejected my offer of one more year of eligibility. Jack Brooks was scheduled but was a no show so we had a workshop session. Other speakers were Jim Stewart, CEO of Stewart and Stevenson, Robert S. Salomon Jr. of Salomon Brothers of Wall Street, Congressman Phil Graham, Dr. William B. Lenoir, an Astronaut. Ray Miller of Eyes of Texas TV Program, John Fainter Jr., Secretary of State of Texas, Bobby Tolan Manager of the Golden Gators, Kent Hance, Congressman, Robert Kruger our Ambassador at Large, and our 21st Birthday was a Salute to all of the Past Presidents and their wives and Margaret Cherb and Lorise Beuler Executive Secretaries. We had 25 Past Presidents present, and they were presented by Herf Weinert, Alex Broussard, Ken Ruddy, and Jerry Nathan. We also had our Softball team compete on a regular basis. We also had the Civic Club Olympics which was held at Lamar with competition between all Civic Clubs. We conducted the 3rd Camp Enterprise which had 84 campers and 11-12 counselors with numerous Rotarians. My Swan Song was "Beaumont is Okey Dokey", which was a phrase that was heard many times during the year. Another phrase was "I knew your Grandpa" when introducing club sweethearts of the day. A super star was born from the Swan Song, Rosabelle Weinberger who later went onto star in other Swan Songs to follow. To sum up, this was an enjoyable year for Rotary.

## "ROTARIAN OF THE DAY"

Robert Besser - Wesley United Methodist Church July 30th

Chris Ayers - Ayers Patton & Associates August 6<sup>th</sup>

### ■ **LOOKING AHEAD** \_\_\_\_\_

**August 21<sup>st</sup>** – "30 Something" meeting at Verlo Mattress Factory

**Week of October 1<sup>st</sup>** – "Rotary Goes Home" (offsite). Contact Vernon Pierce to host evening dinner in your home for club members during this week.

**November 19<sup>th</sup>** – "Rotary Goes to Work" (offsite). Contact John Weitzel to host club members at your workplace.

**November 26<sup>th</sup>, December 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>** – No meeting

### **REVIEW FROM JULY 30th PROGRAM**

Our guest speaker was the syndicated columnist and Plant Doctor, Dr. Dennis Franklin. He was introduced by Jeff Dyson who said Dennis not only knows plants, but he is also a *precipitation wizard*...when Dennis talks about drought conditions, somehow it always rains. This "rained" true again today with a tremendous boom of thunder during Dr. Franklin's presentation and pouring rain as we left the meeting. Dr. Franklin certainly tested our recollection of high school chemistry and biology classes and Chemical Engineering 101. He explained that the interconnection of Carbon, Glucose the Magical Molecule and trees play an essential role in our lives whether we even realize it. Carbons are in the air as Carbon Dioxide, as organic compounds in all living things (including the food we eat) and in oil, coal and gas as energy. When carbon, water and light come together, the result is Glucose the Magical Molecule which provides the energy for all other molecules that have carbon in them such as carbohydrates, fats, oils, proteins and DNA. One of the Polymers of Glucose is Cellulose, the primary plant fiber in trees and where carbon is stored within the rings of trees. Tree rings tell lots about what occurred during the year and not only store carbon, but also provide shade and cooling, transpire water to add to the cooling effect, reduce air, noise and visual pollution and give us a sense of well being. Dr. Franklin wrapped up by reminding us of the importance of caring for our environment and planting trees. He was kind enough to award two people at each table a gift of his book, *Southeast Texas Plant Guide*. Thanks to Jeff Dyson for the arrangements.