



Friday, December 05, 2008

Editor: Donna Qualls
If you have any comments or questions, email the editor.

Future Speakers

Dec 10 2008

Barbara Best, Executive Director, CDF Texas

Dec 24 2008

NO MEETING "HAPPY HOLIDAYS"

Dec 31 2008

NO MEETING "HAPPY NEW YEAR"

Jan 7 2009

Robert Pledger

Jan 28 2009

Lone Star Challenge Blood Drive

"January is National Blood Drive Month "

Upcoming Events

Erin Lacy, Rotary University

Diploma 12-10-08

Dec 10 2008

Tentative Board Meeting Dec

17th before meeting

Dec 17 2008

"Holiday Party" December 17th

Dec 17 2008

"Rotary After Hours" December

18th Bistro LeMonde

Dec 18 2008

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PROGRAM PREVIEW

DECEMBER 10th



Barbara Best is the Texas Executive Director of the Children's Defense Fund, where she works to ensure access to affordable health coverage for every Texas child. Barbara has overseen the growth of the Texas office from a staff of one to 28 statewide, with a \$1.7 million annual budget. She started the Houston office in December 1999 and oversaw the establishment of the Rio Grande Valley office along the Mexican border in April 2001. Most recently, she played a critical role in directing the statewide Insure Texas Kids Campaign, mobilizing regional coordinators in ten Texas communities to restore the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to 176,000 Texas children during the 2007 Texas Legislature.

Barbara was recently profiled as one of 20 international advocates, and the only American, by the World Health Organization as part of the "Voices from the Frontline" web series on international efforts to improve access to health care.

Barbara came to Houston as a Jesuit volunteer to work with refugees and coordinated legislative affairs for the Houston Area Women's Center, a domestic violence and sexual assault center. She has attended human rights delegations to El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Thailand, and graduated magna cum laude from Duke University in 1995.

"30 Something" December 18th Collision & Classics Dec 18 2008
No MEETING-December 24th-Happy Holidays Dec 24 2008
No MEETING-December 31st-Happy New Year! Dec 31 2008
RYLA DISTRICT 5910 January 9-11, 2009 Jan 9 2009
2009 "Rotary Large Club Conference" Oklahoma City Feb 8 2009
T. Kelsey Lamb Ethics Award Mar 4 2009
Rotary "Goes To School" Mar 18 2009
Lone Star P.E.T.S March 27-29th 2009 Mar 27 2009
District 5910 Conference "2009" Apr 24 2009
2009 "RI Convention" Birmingham, England, UK Jun 21 2009

News
NEED TO MAKE-UP A MEETING?
QUOTE OF THE WEEK - Who Said It?
First Graduation Ceremony of
Sponsor Pins beginning in December

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DECEMBER 10th HEAD TABLE and LUNCH MENU

* Invocation; [Erin Lacy, Public Relations/Marketing, Spindletop MHMR](#)

*Pledge; [Patty Thompson, Director of Development & Administration, Legacy Christian Academy](#)

*Introduction of Guests; [George Pate, District Executive, Boy Scouts of America](#)

Elegante Menu will be Chinese Food Selections

December 10th meeting will be held in the BALLROOM

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***** **CONGRATULATIONS** *****

MEET OUR NEW

2009-2010

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alan Sampson

Teresa Simpson

Randy Fluke

Gene Arnold

AND OUR

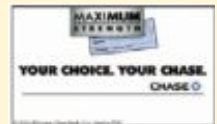
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Thank you also to the Committee members that selected the nominees; Past President Angela Baker, Terry Bourdier, Becky Mason, Pat Anderson, Carole Reeves & Robert Edgar

Thank you to the members that helped tally the ballots; Lee Freeland, Pat Anderson, Bob Harris & Donna Qualls

And thank you to all members who voted!

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*****BREAKING NEWS*****

NOVEMBER 25th THE BOARD PROPOSED THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS. SECRETARY VAN GREER ANNOUNCED THEM AT THE DECEMBER 3rd MEETING

Slate Babineaux, Vice President Air Comfort Inc., Classification: Air Conditioning-Commercial, Proposed by: Gerald Condon

Aarin Chatagnier, Development Coordinator Lamar University, Classification: Education-University-University Development, Proposed by: James (Buz) Brown

Madelyn Hunt, Associate Provost for Student Retention Lamar University, Classification: Education-University-Student Retention, Proposed by: Richard Bothel

Dennis Keene, Owner Sleep Labs of Texas, Classification: Health Care-Sleep Lab, Proposed by: Chad Blanchard

Raymond Troy, Resident Agent in charge Drug Enforcement Agency, Classification: US Government-Drug Enforcement, Proposed by: Daniel Mikolay

Rosie Delano, Vice President & Wealth Management Officer BBVA Compass Bank, Classification: Trust Banking, Proposed by: Joe Fisher

Frank Fuller, Reverend St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Classification: Religion-Episcopal, Proposed by: Karen Weller

Tom Elliot, Director of Communications & Organizational Development Brock Services Ltd., Classification: Industrial Maintenance-Organizational Development, Proposed by: John Thomasson

Christopher Plaunty, Realtor Remax Beaumont, Classification: Real Estate-Internet Marketing, Proposed by: Uliana Trylowsky

Melissa Hurd, Senior Development Coordinator Lamar University, Classification: Education-University Development,

Proposed by: John Quigley



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DON'T FORGET

ANNUAL ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY

COMING UP

DECEMBER 17th!

HAVE YOU TURNED YOUR PICTURE IN YET?

Price per seat - \$30.00 - MUST PURCHASE IN ADVANCE

CASH, CHECK or CREDIT CARD before or after the meeting on Dec. 10th

DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 12TH

Call Rotary office to pay by credit card

FUN, FUN, FUN, FUN AND MORE FUN!

"30 SOMETHING"

December 18th @ 7:30am

Collision and Classics, 550 IH-10 South with Gerald Condon, President

FUN, FUN, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!

"ROTARY AFTER HOURS"

December 18th @ 5:30pm until

Bistro LeMonde

3199 Dowlen

with Dean Conwell, Director of City of Beaumont Convention and Visitors Center

FUN, FUN, FELLOWSHIP & FUN

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SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Any events happening in the lives of our Rotary Club members, whether it be happy or sad, where a Congratulations or Sympathy is needed contact our **Chairperson Karen Weller at 409-782-0374.**

*******ATTENTION MEMBERS*******

This is the website link to the NEW ClubRunner Website: www.clubrunner.ca/beaumont. Once we finish the new website, we will no longer have the old one. **PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THE NEW WEBSITE.**

SPONSOR PINS

All club members who have sponsored a new member since July 1, 2008 will be awarded a Sponsor pin.

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PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

The Paul Harris Fellowship is named after Paul Harris, who founded Rotary with three business associates in Chicago in 1905. The fellowship was established in his honor in 1957 to express appreciation for a contribution US\$1,000 to the humanitarian and educational programs of The Rotary Foundation. Those programs include an array of projects that save and invigorate the lives around the world and enhance international friendship and understanding. Foundation programs provide educational opportunities, food, potable water, healthcare, immunizations, and shelter for millions of persons. These activities are funded, implemented and managed by Rotarians and Rotary Clubs around the globe. Rotarians also designate a Paul Harris Fellow to recognize another person whose life demonstrates a shared purpose with the objectives and mission of The Rotary Foundation to build world understanding and peace.

For as little as \$87.00/month you too can become a Paul Harris Fellow.

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CHECK OUT DISTRICT GOVERNOR ROGER McCABE'S NEWSLETTER WHICH HIGHLIGHTS HIS VISIT'S THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT WITH WRITE-UPS AND PHOTO'S

To view the attachment, go to the link below:
[Novembernewsletter..pdf](#)

If you cannot open the above link, copy and paste the following address into your browser:
<http://www.clubrunner.ca/Data/5910/NewsBulletin/2370/Novembernewsletter..pdf>

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Review of State Representative Allan Ritter



State Representative Allan Ritter representing District 21 is Vice Chairman of the influential House Committee on Ways and Means and is a member of the Land & Resource Management Committee. He was introduced by Rotarian Chuck Kalkbrenner, External Affairs Manager, AT&T.

Representative Ritter is in his sixth term in Austin and says that none of the sessions are alike. He anticipates that 81st Legislative Session beginning in January will be a "tough one." The two main concerns will be the issue of the regulation/non-regulation affect. Members are concerned about decisions made or not made by members of legislature during the last session. "We want to be fair and balanced and not under and over regulated. Attitudes have to change."

The second main concern is the "unknown". What affects the economy will have a significant impact both nationally and for Texas revenue. Texas operates on a biennium budget and the 2010-2011 will be decided this session. Of the \$167 billion state budget, the Legislature must be very conservative.

The budget will be the driving force this session along with state agencies going through the Sunset review process, including the Texas Department of Insurance, Transportation and Public Safety. The Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA) was formed in 1971 as an insurer of last resort. Sunset did not look at funding coastal counties. From 1971 through 2007, cumulative claims losses totaled approximately \$334 million. In contrast, for 2008, projected losses have reached \$3 billion dollars.

Mr. Ritter said that Texas has out grown the ability to handle the increase in losses. He said we must find a new mechanism for funding catastrophic losses. This could be done with more bonds to develop additional capital. However, he said that the rest of the state doesn't feel obligated to help Gulf Coast areas. Our job, he said, is to educate our fellow members in the legislature and to develop programs so that we have a broader approach to hedging the disasters.

One of the most important ways to affect change is to have everyone we know write our representatives and tell them how important it is to have total support for the Gulf Coast communities. We must try to bring back private insurance companies because this is more than a Texas problem. All coastal states in the U. S. are affected.

We must be careful however about what we ask for so that the end result is beneficial to all. Mr. Ritter closed by saying it's all about being "Fair and Doing the Right Thing for Everyone".