



Speakers

Feb 24, 2016

[Sergeant Cody Guedry, Beaumont Police Department](#)

Mar 02, 2016

[Anne Matthews, First Woman RI Vice President](#)

"Celebrating International Women's Day and the Roles of Women in Rotary"

Mar 09, 2016

[Lamar and Beaumont Rotaract Clubs](#)

World Rotaract Week Program

Mar 16, 2016

[Dr. Bart Foster, Entomologist, Bill Clark Pest Ctr](#)

"What's the Buzz About Mosquitos and the Zika Virus?"

Mar 23, 2016

[No Meeting at the Elegante: Rotary Goes to School!](#)

Dr. Karen Newton, Chair

Mar 30, 2016

[Master Gardeners of Nutrition&Service for Seniors](#)

Producing Produce for Seniors & How to Bring Freshness to Your Own Table

Apr 06, 2016

[Henry Venta, Dean of the College of Business, LU](#)

Ethics and Presentation of the T. Kelsey

ROTARYGRAMS

February 17, 2016
Vol. 103, No. 34

MCM Elegante' Hotel
2355 IH-10 South
Suite 213
Beaumont, TX 77705

Phone: [409-842-1913](tel:409-842-1913)
Fax: [409-842-5613](tel:409-842-5613)



Be a gift to the world

Stories

This Week's Program

The buffet line will open early and the meeting will begin promptly at 12:00 Noon with an abbreviated agenda so we can complete the Layettes and service projects within the hour. Bring friends to help who will enjoy doing service work with us!

PROGRAM PREVIEW

February 17, 2016

ROTARY HAS HEART!

Club Service Day

Lamb, Sr. Award for Business Ethics

[View entire list](#)

Upcoming Events

[Board of Directors Meeting](#)

The Beaumont Club
Feb 23, 2016 11:45 AM

[Rotary After Hours](#)

Jerry Nelson's Hill Country
Feb 25, 2016 5:30 PM

[Board of Directors Meeting](#)

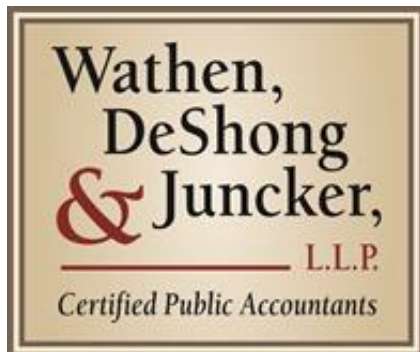
The Beaumont Club
Mar 22, 2016 11:45 AM

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Indeed, "Rotary has heart," and the Rotary Club of Beaumont has a **BIG** heart, giving time and resources in Service Above Self year round.

How appropriate that we designate a date close to Valentine's Day as our Club Service Day, providing hands-on service to multiple projects and collectively having a **BIG** impact!

We have plans for several different hands-on service projects to work on and possibly complete on Service Day. First priority is to assemble 200 Layette bags for women and children of Nicaragua. Everyone will have the opportunity to roll up his/her sleeves and lend a hand also to Gift of Life, Habitat for Humanity, and Nutrition & Services for Seniors.

Bring co-workers and friends who also believe in having fun while helping others. Don't miss it!

* * * * *

[Read more...](#)

[Head Table](#)

Head Table for February 17



Invocation:

Barry Bryant

Sales & Marketing Manager
Bill Clark Pest Control, Inc.



Pledges to the USA & Texas Flags:

Steve Gilbert

Marketing and Public Relations
Manager
Sour Lake Motor Company

[guide](#)

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Introduction of Guests:

Mellie Bevilacqua

Executive Director

Foundation for Southeast Texas



SERVICE DAY CHAIR:

Michele Cobb

Chiropractor

Cobb Family Chiropractic

Calendar of Events

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(and meeting make-ups)

February 17	Service Day at Rotary! All hands on deck to complete layettes and other community service projects; bring prospective members and friends.
February 20	SERVICE PROJECT at the Big Thicket - planting the next generation of long-leaf pines
February 23	Board of Directors meeting; 11:45 a.m. at the Beaumont Club
February 26	Service Project Proposals due by 5:00 p.m.
February 29	Reservations needed for Wednesday, March 2 meeting

PROJECTS:

READY TO BE PART OF A "GROWING" PROJECT?

Your help is needed in restoring a treasured part of Texas - the Big Thicket! The Big Thicket Association is seeking Rotarians' assistance in planting 10,000 seedlings for the Centennial Forest project in 2016. This will also help restore the native Long Leaf Pine forest in the Big Thicket. The tree seedlings are very small and the tools needed to plant the trees are provided.

Members of the club, friends and family members can join in the effort to help plant trees on two of their remaining tree planting days - **Saturday, February 20 or Saturday, March 12.**



Saturday February 20th

Meet at 8:15 a.m. at the Visitors Center or at 9:00 a.m. at the Big Sandy Creek planting site (directions below)

Project chairs are Nakisha Burns and Karyn Hawkins. They are in the process of arranging carpooling or group transportation. Please indicate on the sign up if you would like to share transportation or plan to drive yourself (and your family or friends.)

Directions from Beaumont to planting site:

Travel North on HWY 69...continue on Hwy 69 north past Kountze then turn left on 1003 (Honey Island)...turn right on FM 943 ...at the Big Sandy Creek Unit sign stay to the right on FM 1276...continue past Dallardsville...turn left at FM 1276 on to Lily Road...follow the signs to planting site. If you arrive later a Ranger can give you directions.

Come on out! [Sign up \(link here\)](#) so we know you plan to help.

RSVP requested by Noon on **Friday, February 19th**. We need to know how many are coming!

* * * * *

Service Projects Selection

WHAT PROJECT WILL WE TAKE ON NEXT?



The Service Projects Selection Committee is again opening the process for submission of new service project ideas with which the club can become involved. We have done some good work at local agencies that needed some assistance. It was fun and very rewarding, and it's time to do more!

Now it is time to look ahead and consider where and how the Club can contribute to another hands-on project that can have an impact on our community. Give it some thought, talk to others and submit a proposal for consideration.

[Download the brief form here](#) and submit by **February 26.**

Looking Ahead

**LOOK
WHAT'S
AHEAD!**



February 24 will be another favorite program with the presentation of the T. Kelsey Lamb, Sr. Award for Business Ethics. This is a much anticipated announcement each year and you will not want to miss hearing an excellent speaker and the news of the 2016 award recipient.



2015 T. Kelsey Lamb, Sr. Award Recipients

* * * * *

March 2 is the celebration of International Women's Day: Women in Rotary! Please read separate article and respond with your rsvp.

In recognition of

International Women's Day,
the **Rotary Club of Beaumont**

proudly presents

A celebration of
Women in Rotary



Wednesday, March 2nd
12:00 pm.

MCM Elegante Hotel & Conference Center

Special Guest Speaker



Past Rotary International
Vice President

Anne Matthews

* * * * *

International Women's Day 2016


PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU, WHETHER YOU ARE COMING OR NOT!

In recognition of
International Women's Day,
 the **Rotary Club of Beaumont**
 proudly presents

A celebration of
Women in Rotary

Wednesday, March 2nd
12:00 pm.
MCM Eleganté Hotel
& Conference Center






Special Guest Speaker



Past Rotary International Vice President
Anne Matthews

Ms. Matthews was the first woman elected to both The RI Board of Directors and The Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees.

A published author, an education accreditation commissioner, and a public speaker, Anne Matthews has spoken and/or consulted in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and thirty foreign countries on the topics of educational issues and The Rotary Foundation.

Lunch tickets are \$18 per person. To ensure appropriate seating and food, kindly make a reservation by calling the Rotary Club of Beaumont at 409-842-1913 or email: admin@beaumontrotaryclub.org

Reservations are requested by
Monday, February 29 at 5:00 pm.

We need to know how many people to plan for.
PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE OR ARE NOT
GOING TO ATTEND SO WE CAN MAKE PROPER
ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ALL OUR GUESTS!

THANKS!

Respond here for call the office at 842-1913.

Reservations for International Women's Day ~ March 2 ~ Noon

There are two key ingredients for a good Rotary meeting - plenty of food and plenty of places to sit! In order for us to properly arrange for both, please make a reservation if you will be attending. Please also include names of any guests you will be

* * * * *

Rotary After Hours: Cruise on the Neches

ALL ABOARD! Limited Space; Reserve Now!

Rotary After Hours: A Lovely Evening on the Neches!



Whether this is your first trip or you've been many times, you are sure to enjoy this Rotary After Hours which will take you on a cruise down the Neches River on a pleasant early spring evening.

Mark your calendar and plan to reserve your spot on the Ivory Bill on **Thursday, March 24** for a two-hour tour. Snacks and drinks will be available. Tickets are **\$10** per person and we can only take 35 people (spouses and guests are welcome), so don't delay.

The party is growing! Eight places are reserved to date. WITHOUT 35 PAID RESERVATIONS, WE MUST CANCEL THE TRIP. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS 8:00 A.M. on TUESDAY, MARCH 15.

[A sign up is online; link to it here.](#)

Flag Project

Posted on Feb 10, 2016

Show Your Colors Flag Project for Presidents Day



Thank you to all who helped with the flag project today.

WE ARE GRATEFUL!
Thanks for being great Rotarians and giving Service Above Self to the Club and your Beaumont neighbors.

**ROTARIANS LIVING
SERVICE ABOVE
SELF!**

* * * * *

[Read more...](#)

Family of Rotary

We send wishes for a

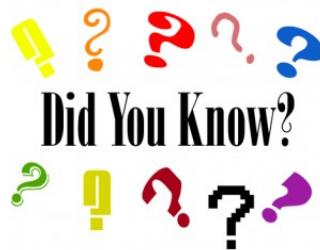


quick recovery to our friends and fellow Rotarians who have been ill or had a recent surgery. We hope you are better soon!

Lee Freeland

Please let us know of others to be included in our weekly good wishes article.

Did You Know?



**The Rotary tradition
of trading club
banners continues!**



Recently we welcomed fellow Rotarian Bill Davis from the Humble Club to our weekly meeting. Bill brought a banner from his club in Humble, TX, and was pleased to make a trade with Past District Governor Roger McCabe for one from the Rotary Club of Beaumont. Thank you, Bill!

* * * * *

[Read more...](#)

Birthdays



Chuck Kalkbrenner

February 16



Bruce Walker

February 16



Troy Aaron

February 17



Paul Eddy

February 17



Sheree Pierce

February 22

[Read more...](#)

Program Review

PROGRAM REVIEW

February 10, 2016

**"Jefferson County
and the James Commission:
A Hopelessly Unequal Contest"**



Christina A. Wilbur
Instructor & Author
Lamar University

by John Neely

Our speaker today was Christina Wilbur, Professor of History at Lamar University and Lamar Port Arthur State College. Professor Wilbur was introduced by Past President Robert J. Robertson who aptly described the local community and the club during the 60s era.

Professor Wilbur has several works published and more underway. In "**Sound Historian**" (Vol.12, 2009), her article "Lawless Leaders and a County Out of Control: Jefferson County and the James Commission, 1960" surely hits close to home.

In her presentation "Corruption and The James Commission in Beaumont", Professor Wilbur spoke about the widespread corruption (gambling, booze, brothels, and prostitution). She also spoke of the general acceptance of these activities by the local communities, as well as the general acceptance and participation of many of our local law enforcement during the early 60's. The exchange of racing forms, the operation of brothels, and all forms of vice and corruption operated out in the open in Port Arthur and Beaumont, to which local law enforcement "turned a blind eye."

Early attempts by the State to address this corruption were deliberately foiled. Law enforcement was described as "resistant, defiant, and hostile." Under the James Commission, the Texas Rangers came into our region "under cover."

Senator James, a young state legislator, "blew into town and spearheaded an intensive investigation into the rampant vice and governmental corruption that supported it. He tangled with a flamboyant sheriff and locked horns with some of the

area's most powerful leaders. And, at a time when such things were virtually unheard of, he and his committee played it out on live television.

When the dust finally cleared, the local governments of Jefferson County were turned inside out; but it would take a persistent citizenry months of legal warfare before law and order were finally restored." ... taken from "Betting, Booze, and Brothels" by Landrey & O'Toole.

Some say that the State Senator's investigation came about as the result of genuine concern from Attorney General Robert Kennedy and Austin. Others theorize that the investigation came about from intense pressure from the national energy industry which needed a certain Sheriff "out of the way" so that they could contain the cost of energy labor.

Professor Wilbur stated clearly that "Jefferson County was never directly connected to the existing corruption and vice."

Advertisers Invited

New Advertisers Welcomed and Renewals Needed

Have you considered becoming an advertiser in the RotaryGrams and on the website for the Rotary Club of Beaumont? What a great opportunity to support the club and have your business name in front of hundreds of potential customers or supporters every day.

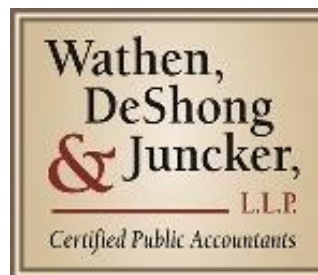
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For \$600 per year, your company's ad will run continuously on the homepage and on every subsequent page of the website. (New subscribers missed having their ad at work during January of this subscription year so join now for \$550 for February - December 2016.)

If you would like to pay in quarterly or semi-annual installments, please phone the Rotary office so we can accommodate your needs.

To see your company ad on the website, phone the Rotary office!

Office: 409-842-1913

admin@beaumontrotaryclub.org

Fax: 409-842-5613