

ROTARY PAST PRESIDENTS PROGRAM

AGENDA, MAY 17th, 2023

70+ current Active members have been in club under 10 years

Not aware of our Past Presidents and their accomplishments (in or outside of Rotary)

To give you some background on these 21 PP's (16 Current and 5 Honorary) who are still members of our Club, we're going to play a game called "NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT"

I'm going to give you a few clues about their careers, past achievements, public offices held, etc you guess who they are. WAIT till after I've given all the clues!! NOTE: Their photos (with some going back to Ronald Reagan's 1st term in office) will be shown on the screen

Obviously, all have been active in Rotary; in the community, in civic, charitable and religious organizations. Some have also had leadership roles and have been recognized by regional, state or national organizations. Some have even participated in semi-embarrassing endeavors.

LET'S GET STARTED !!!

PAST PRESIDENT # 1



- This PP has lived in 17 Texas cities; 4 times in Austin, 3 times on the Island. Obviously, some cities have even asked him to never come back !!
- He has been president of 2 ballroom dance clubs.
- He was Chairman of the Board, Texas Chapter of the American Heart Assn
- Was noted for giving Galveston the GAS ---- having spent 40+ years in the energy business

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Gene Curry, 1988-89; Former Southern Union Gas Company Area Director

PAST PRESIDENT # 2



- This PP has traveled to 6 of the 7 continents; his 1968 passport being issued in Moscow, Russia
- He pilfered 3 jelly beans from Pres. Ronald Reagan's Oval Office during a meeting with him.
- He created the initial funding guidelines for this Club's Foundation and its Treasurer's Manual
- In our Club's Top 4 for Perfect Attendance
- A Librarian and Academic Administrator
- He lettered in Band playing the sousaphone for 3 years in the Pride of the Univ of Oklahoma's Marching Band ----- although he is more often mistaken for a member of a famous American Rock Band.

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Our own ZZ Top ---- **Brett Kirkpatrick, 2005-2006**

PAST PRESIDENT # 3



- Community representative on one of UTMB's Advisory Committees
- The spouse of this PP is retired from maritime/tourist industry
- This PP likes to play Competitive Duplicate Bridge
- He is retired from 2 careers, the last being as a financial planner
- Our only Club President to also have been Pres of 2 different Rotary Clubs
- He was a "HIGH FLYER" in his first career

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Retired US Air Force Colonel, **Mike Cowan, 2007-2008**

PAST PRESIDENT # 4



- This PP was working in NYC at the World Trade Center during the 1993 parking garage bombing; moved to the Island shortly afterwards
- With a degree in Sociology, this PP has worked at UTMB as a Clinic Manager and at the Sealy Center on Aging.
- This PP has hosted Rotary Youth Exchange students.
- Assists our Club in "giving away money"
- A gracious hostess, you'll always feel "Right At Home" with her.

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Our Foundation Treasurer & owner of Right at Home Assistance Agency ---- **Kristen Carlson, 2017-2018**

PAST PRESIDENT # 5



- Yankee born, this PP was involved in community health for many years at UTMB before retiring as Professor Emerita.
- Has authored an award-winning textbook in community health; 8 editions from 1988 to 2019.
- Spent 5 weeks as a Team Leader in Tasmania for Rotary International's Group Study Exchange; a program for young non-Rotarian professionals
- A vocalist, artist, gardener and avid Mah-Jongg player, this PP is a namesake to a former English monarch

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Our own Queen Elizabeth ----- **Bets Anderson, 2008-2009**
(whose leadership helped guide this club after Hurricane Ike)

PAST PRESIDENT # 6

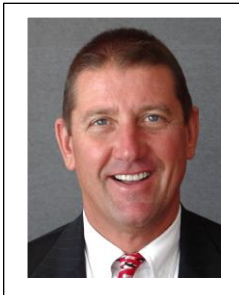


- Once owned a small lavender farm
- Is certified in pediatrics & does martial arts ---- hopefully not at the same time but possible
- Loves the water ---- been on shark dives, went scuba diving in the Great Barrier Reef and was married in the Aquarium at Moody Gardens; not sure if ceremony was in or outside the tank
- Although this PP is quiet and soft-spoken. “If you get out of line, she’ll straighten you out with a quick adjustment

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Our immediate PP and Doctor of Chiropractic, **Mary Brechtel, 2021-2022**

PAST PRESIDENT # 7



- In his youth, his job was to tap maple tree for their syrup
- A Past President of the Texas Restaurant Assn, two of this PP’s adult children wear a uniform to work serving Texas and the United States
- Has hosted visiting Rotary Exchange Students for years in his Garden
- Others have dogs & cats for pets, this PP has birds, monkeys, sloths, Komodo Dragons, penguins and sharks.

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

John Zendt, 2016-2017; Pres Moody Gardens;
daughter w/TX Highway Patrol, son a Lt Cmdr in US Navy

PAST PRESIDENT # 8

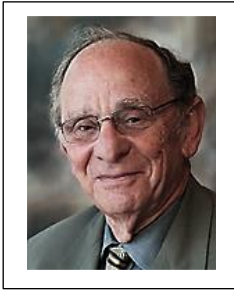


- As a teenager, this PP lived one summer with French family in Paris
- This PP’s e-mail address begins with “hunter...”
- Spent 20 years “punishing bad guys ”
- Known for annually honoring those who have served or are servicing in this country’s military
- our Covid Pres ----

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Former Galv. County District Attorney, **Mike Guarino, 2020-2021**

PAST PRESIDENT # 9



- This PP spent his early business career dressing the most fashion-conscious women in Galveston
- Served as Pres of both the Galveston Independent School District Board of Trustees and the Gulf Coast Area Assn of School Boards and as Trustee of the Texas Assn of School Boards
- Celebrated going on Medicare by bungee-jumping off a mountain top in New Zealand
- In the Club's Top 4 for Perfect Attendance
- Take this PP's first name, middle name and last name ----rearrange them in any order you wish and ----- you'll always come up with the same initials.

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Neil N. Nathan, 2009-2010

PAST PRESIDENT # 10



- As a toddler, he was the inspiration for a Galveston City Ordinance
- Toured with the Grateful Dead part of one summer
- Arrested twice in 1 week in 2 different states as a fraternity pledge; still finished Tulane in 3 years
- The youngest trustee of one of this Island's most prestigious & philanthropic foundations
- One of 3 in his family currently a member of this Club
- Longest continuing historic renovation in Strand history
- Epitomizes the word "entrepreneur"

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

My adopted #4 Son, Keith Bassett, 2015-2016

PAST PRESIDENT # 11



- This PP is the 5th generation to be involved in the family business ---- which is the oldest business of its type in Texas
- Served as President of both its Southwest and North American Trade Assn's
- A 3rd generation Galveston Rotary Club member === our Club's 3rd female member

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Linda Ott-Thompson, 2002-2003 (Monument Builders' Assn)

PAST PRESIDENT # 12



- Another Yankee, this PP's profession career is in Health Care Management
- A UTMB Retiree, this PP continues to serve on 3 of their advisory committees as a community rep
- As a teenage sang in cast of "Up With People" --- a musical road show that toured the US
- An avid pet owner --- 17 birds, 11 cats & 1 dog --- this PP still finds time to walk, act, sing and ring bells

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Our current District 5910 Asst Governor, **Ruth Suhler, 2018-2019**
(who chairs our Club's Annual Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive)

PAST PRESIDENT # 13



- A banker by profession, this was our Club's Centennial Pres
- Partner in East Texas cattle venture; not rustling
- Helped in establishing interest in & contributions to the Jamail Park on 61st Street (which was this Club's Centennial \$100,000 Gift to the City)
- Hosted a Rotary Exchange Student from Spain in 2012
- Instrumental in having the Rotary "Safe Driving" Signs erected around all Galveston Schools both public and private

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Tom LaRue, 2012-2013

PAST PRESIDENT # 14

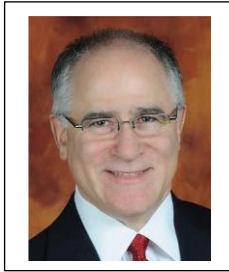


- Founding Member, Knights of Momus Krewe
- Once rode an elephant in Mardi Gras parade
- Received Dr. of Jurisprudence from Univ. of Houston in 1978
- Said as he took off his necktie when leaving office "you will never see me wear a necktie at a Rotary meeting again".
- The 2nd youngest member (age 28) to join our club; now going on 43 years w/Perfect Attendance

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

V J Tramonte, 1995-1996

PAST PRESIDENT # 15



- This PP was a Charter Member & sat on the Club's first Foundation Board
- His professional careers included insurance and banking
- Experienced first-hand the 1978 Tiananmen Square Protests in Beijing, China where he photographed much of the activities
- Current Regent of Galveston College and Secretary of the College Assn of Texas Trustees

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Armin Cantini, 1989-1990

PAST PRESIDENT # 16



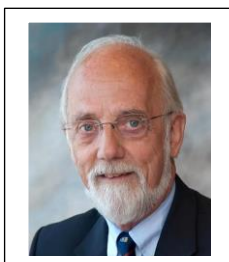
- A 3rd generation member of this Club
- Only 1 of 2 PPs whose father was also a PP of this Club
- Hosted numerous Rotary Exchange Students
- Provided medical assistance during Moody Church's missions to Bolivia
- For 3 generations --- over 100 years, this Rotary family has "put a smile on Galvestonians' faces"

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Dr. Bill Glenn III, 1997-1998

(who our own, soon to be married, Dr. Gilbert Garcia now owns the practice)

PAST PRESIDENT # 17



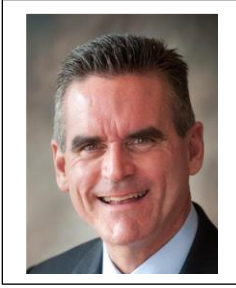
- Avid stamp collector; bought his first car by selling stamps
- Briefly piloted a small airplane WITHOUT a pilot's license
- Bungee jumped twice from a 210 foot platform
- Has NEVER had a cold !!!!!
- Only 1 of 4 Club members to be award our "Heart of Rotary Award"
- Promotes Rotary each and every day

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Our own Ulli Budelmann; Pres 2004-2005

If anyone knows how he promotes Rotary every day, Ulli will donate \$100 to TRF

PAST PRESIDENT # 18



- A Financial Advisor almost 30 years
- Tutored in his love for Rotary by then Exec Sec'y Jack Bushong
- Highly involved in Rotaract, Youth Exchange, Literacy and Fundraising
- Volunteers to teach investing concepts & macro economics
- An avid fisherman, this PP oversees our VIT Foundation's Investments

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Randy Klibert 2006-2007

PAST PRESIDENT # 19



- Worked in the office supply business from a teenager to retirement
- a Charter Member of the Club's VIT Foundation
- Only 1 of 2 Club members to have been given Rotary's International "Avenue of Service Award"
- The 3rd member to have been named a recipient of the Club's "Heart of Rotary Award"
- A former Governor of Rotary District 5910

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Harold Fattig Sr., 1981-1982

PAST PRESIDENT # 20



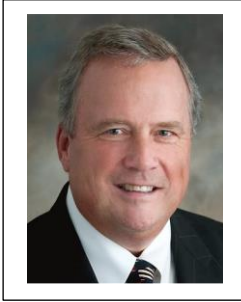
- Lead guitarist for the local musical group "Mid Life Crisis"
- Practicing attorney specializing in educational law
- A 2nd generation Rotarian
- Worked as a "professional" dancer (lap ?)
- Always willing to "take a walk with other volunteers"

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Jim Byrom, 2019-2020

helped in Club's annual Walk to End Alzheimer's

PAST PRESIDENT # 21



- Always called our meeting to order with “Did you know”
- This PP served as Pres of the International Fellowship of Golfing Rotarians
- A Senior Partner in the oldest continuous law firm in Texas
- Past Pres of BOTH the Texas Assn of Defense Attorneys and the Natl Assn of Defense Trial Attorneys
- Known for wearing a bright yellow blazer to promote the Chamber of Commerce’s Lemonade Day (although it’s a bit snug now)
- A current Galveston College Regent

NAME THAT PAST PRESIDENT

Fred Raschke, 1994-1995

RECAP

In preparing this program, I’ve learned a lot about my fellow Past Presidents ----- all good !!! Always knew they were more than just a bunch of “pretty faces”. Numbers alone don’t tell you of their dedication. These ladies & gentlemen have served and continue to serve our community, our state and country in general and to this Club and Rotary in particular. In this group -----

- 20 are Multiple PHF’s
- all are VIT members; 16 having reached Multiple level status
- 15 are honorees in Rotary District 5910’s Hall of Fame
- 2 are Past District Governors
- 4 are current or past District Asst. Governors
- 18 were President when club received a Rotary Presidential Citation
- 3 are Club Benefactors
- 9 are Club Sustaining Members
- 10 are Polio-Plus Society Members
- 4 are Paul Harris Society Members
- 1 is a Club Major Donor
- 11 have been named Most Valuable Club Member
- 4 have received our Club Service Award
- 3 have Perfect Attendance from 33 to 45 years
- 2 have received the Club’s “Heart of Rotary” award
- and our own beloved Ulli, is so involved in Rotary on an international basis, that we could do an entire program on him.

WOULD ALL THE CLUB’S PP’S COME FORWARD & BE RECOGNIZED