

# Rote-A-Bit

Rotary Club of Columbus, Georgia  
Club No. 200 - Founded 1916

*Program for July 9, 2008*

LT. GOVERNOR CASEY CAGLE

# THE ROTE-A-BIT

1246 1st Avenue  
Published Weekly

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## EDITORIAL FOR JULY 6, 2008



WE HAVE.....  
A NEW ROTARY YEAR  
A NEW PRESIDENT  
NEW RESPONSIBILITIES . . .

## ROTARY NOTES (06/25/2008)

The meeting was called to order by President Carmen, who then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mike Smajd gave the invocation. Phil Scoggins provided news update to the group and Lori Auten introduced visiting Rotarians from other clubs as well as member guests. Dave Konze introduced our military guest, SSG Jared Adams, member of the Army's Marksman Unit at Ft. Benning. Next in order was the introduction of the head table by President Carmen. Joining him today were Mike Smajd, State Representative Richard Smith, John Stacy, Greg Camp and our speaker, Jim Donald.

President Carmen announced to the club that next week will be Pas President Day and the annual "changing of the guard," in which our incoming president Mallon Faircloth will assume his duties. It will be a day to not only celebrate our club's wonderful accomplishments this past year, but to also look to the future as we anticipate a great year ahead.

Greg Camp introduced our speaker, James (Jim) Donald, Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Corrections. With a Bachelors Degree from the University of Mississippi and a Masters Degree from the University of Missouri, Mr. Donald brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Georgia Department of Corrections. Mr. Donald shared several important pieces of information with the group, none of which was more eye-opening than the fact that Georgia has the 2nd fastest growing prison population in the country; only Florida's inmate population is growing at a faster rate.

Running a state agency with a budget of approximately \$1.1 billion brings both challenges and opportunities, Mr. Donald said. While Governor Perdue has asked all departments to reduce their budgets by 3.5% (38.5 million for the Dept. of Corrections), Mr. Donald insists this is an opportunity to reevaluate the way the system is designed and how it operates. The Department of Corrections currently has 113 lock-up facilities, a number that is perhaps too high. It can be argued that the smaller facilities are not as feasible and certainly not as cost efficient as the larger ones.

Mr. Donald believe the system would benefit from an increased emphasis on rehabilitation of inmates and is an advocate of the Day Reporting Centers. A large majority of convicted felons are eventually released back into society and often are doomed from the outset. Mr. Donald believes strongly that all felons need two things - meaningful work and a suitable place to stay. In the last few years, the Georgia Department of Corrections has tripled the number of beds in work release programs and has put an emphasis on growing the work release program.

In conclusion, Mr. Donald left the group with some advice his father had given him.

1) Give kids the same "drug" problem he had as a kid - he was drug to school, drug to church, etc.

2) Don't "give" you kids or grandkids anything - work is a learned behavior.

3) Kids need the "blessing," which consists of three parts: tell your kids you love them everyday, tell them they have value, and tell them they are part of something special.

## MESSAGE FROM MALLON

First, I want to tell all of you what all of these Past Presidents already know; it is a privilege to serve you as President of The Rotary Club of Columbus. This is a very special Club, arguably the best in our District in many, many ways. I know we are the envy of many of the Atlanta area clubs, and an inspiration to many clubs in other parts of the District. We don't always get the recognition as aggressively as some of the other Clubs do, and I personally believe that also is an admirable trait. So, this is one of the proudest moments of my life - to be you President for a year. I'm really excited about it, and I'm looking forward to it.

I count Columbus and Rotary as two of the best things that ever happened to me, -- after Kay, of course. Almost 10 years ago, I was called here by appointment to the Federal Court, - a Dream Made Real for me - for which we could not be happier; - Kay and I love Columbus and are happy to know it now as our permanent home. I hope you will let us continue to pretend to be natives.

Let me recognize again Past President Bill Smith, a special friend for more than 25 years, from the days when he was the Chattahoochee Circuit's District Attorney. Bill asked me to come with him to lunch at Rotary the first week I was in town. I did and I got hooked on Rotary, and I was privileged to have been accepted for membership.

However, I have to tell you, especially all of the newer Club members, I was a member of the Rotary Club of Columbus for about two years, before I really became a Rotarian. It took that long for me to fully appreciate what Rotary was all about. I guess I was a very slow learner.

About that time, President Ed Sprouse asked me if I was interested in being on the Executive Committee. I told him "No," I had no ambitions, political or otherwise, that I was happy as a clam just where I was. And then, he told me something that I did not immediately appreciate, but I soon came to understand. He said, "Well, there are lots of other ways you can serve in Rotary - when you decide what you want to do, let me know how I can help."

I very soon learned how true and Rotary-sincere his comments were. I became a Will Watt Fellow, then a Paul Harris Fellow, and then a Will Watt and Paul Harris Sustainer, and I participate in and supported the Clubs Community Service Projects, because I

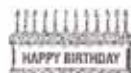
*(continued on back cover)*

## MEMBERSHIP PROPOSAL

The following person has been approved for membership by the Classification Committee, Membership Committee & The Board of Directors:

Richard E. Anthony, Chairman & CEO;  
Synovus. Proposed by Lovick Corn.  
Classification: Banking Administration

If no written objection to this proposal is received by The Board within ten (10) days, stating reason, this person shall be considered elected to membership.  
-July 4, 2008



Marvin Foster	7/5
Phil Scoggins	7/7
Joe Lucas	7/9
Mary Bode	7/9
Michelle Hawkins	7/10
Ed Sprouse	7/11

### RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BIRTHDAY FUND

Hooper Turner  
Jerry White  
Rick Alexander

Number 2



07/06/2008

## MAKE-UPS

### PHENIX CITY (6/23)

**Meets Monday 12:15**  
**Central Activities Bldg.**  
Tracy Fisher  
Thelon Hamby  
Buddy Martin  
Terri Parodi  
Phil Swift  
Billy Turner

Thelon Hamby  
Gene Kern  
Ed Kendast  
Tracy Fisher  
John Sheftall  
Jim Thorsen  
Billy Turner

### Oxford Isis Club

Neal McCrillis

### PHENIX CITY (6/9)

Rick Alexander  
Joel Ames  
Peggy Connell  
John Cargill  
Scott Ferguson  
Bob Offer  
Terri Parodi  
Carole Rutland  
Tony Wright

### Oxford North Club

Neal McCrillis

### rotaryclubone.org

Sam Wetzel  
Rich Martindale  
Janet Davis  
Ken Leuer  
John Martin  
Joel Ames  
Tracy Sayers  
Thacker Cargill  
Mike Gaymon  
Hix Myrick  
Virginia Peebles  
Ashok Kumar  
Tommy McDonald  
Atap Shah  
Hugh Wilson  
Richard Smith  
Ray Crowley  
Wayne Anthony  
Don Campbell  
Josh McKoon  
Drew Rhodes  
Ben Williams

### MUSCOGEE (06/26)

**Meets Thursday 7a.m.**  
**River Club**  
John Lee  
Marion Scott  
Philip Thayer

### NORTH COLUMBUS

(06/24)  
**Meets Tuesday 12:30**  
**Green Island**  
Perry Alexander  
Mary Dede  
Mitch Britn  
Robert George  
Tracy Fisher  
Tom Friedmann

## Message from Mallon cont'd

learned how much good Rotary was actually doing for great humanitarian causes around the world, as well as how much our Club was doing locally for the betterment of our community. And I wanted passionately to be a part of it; I had become a real Rotarian.

So, ... your Board of Directors and I have planned a variety of local and international projects for you, in addition to Rotary International's permanent projects, so that you can become, not just a member of the Rotary Club of Columbus, but a real Rotarian, and enjoy the amazing satisfaction of participating in causes that count for something - something very meaningful to others, in the most critical ways - Making Dreams Real for young people in our community, and around the world - young people who dream of a better life for themselves and for their world - our world. Theirs are truly worthy Dreams which we should encourage and support.

That is what Rotary is all about, and that is what your Board of Directors and I want for each of you in this year of Making Dreams Real.

In the coming weeks, we will be discussing specific projects with you, and together, hopefully, find a place in Rotary that truly fulfills you. That will make this year a true success, not for me, but for all of us, and for everyone we touch.

So, I earnestly thank you for enabling me; and I promise to work hard to return the favor.