



# Rote-A-Bit

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

*Program for November 19, 2008*

**BECCA HARDIN - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW**

# THE ROTE-A-BIT

1246 1st Avenue  
Published Weekly

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TED PROPES  
2008-2009 District Governor

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2008-2009 President  
Rotary International

ROTARY CLUB OF COLUMBUS  
1246 1ST Avenue 31901  
P.O. Box 1138  
Columbus, GA 31902  
Phone 706/322-6232  
Subscription Price: \$4.00 per year  
E-mail: rotary200@earthlink.net  
Fax: 706-322-2433

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## EDITORIAL FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2008 SIDELINE OR CENTER STAGE?

Pauline Arrillaga, writing for the *Associated Press* in the *Ledger-Enquirer*, asked a profound question: **“Is America now a nation of bystanders?”**

Arrillaga notes that “fewer people engage in civic life these days.” She cites civic club after civic club whose membership has grown in age and declined in number. There are exceptions including our own Rotary Club. However, there are fewer men and women even willing to serve on the PTA, coach sports, help with scouts, teach Sunday School or work with youth programs in churches, schools or community programs even when their own children are involved. Memberships in civic clubs and faith-based organizations are generally declining.

Arrillaga quotes Meredith Stam, a 26 year old paralegal who is completely out of place at a 21st Century Lions Club luncheon. She is only one of four “without white hair and wrinkles.” Stem observes, “Civic involvement isn’t much of a national past time anymore. We’re sitting on the sidelines.”

Harvard University political scientist Robert Putnam, agrees and has the data to prove it. He cites Roper polls that indicate the number of Americans who worked for a political cause fell 42 percent between 1973 and 1994 and engaged in a civic activity fell 35 percent. He concludes, “We have become a nation of bystanders.”

The results: when ordinary citizens are not engaged in civic life, civilized society declines.

The Rotary lessons: to make our world a better place, we must get engaged. Not just attend civic functions, but actually engage in civic activities.

-Wayne Anthony

## ROTARY NOTES (11/05/08)

The meeting was called to order by President Mallon, who then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Lance Duke gave the invocation, followed by the news update by Reggie Richards. Lori Auten welcomed and introduced visiting Rotarians from other clubs as well as member guests. Dick Ellis introduced our military guest Master Sergeant Mario Cirinese with the 3rd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division. MSG Cirinese is the brigade master gunner and has recently been promoted to Master Sergeant. He has been in the army for sixteen years with three tours in Iraq. MS Cirinese has been wounded several times from combat in Iraq. He hails from Hollywood, Florida. He is married and lives in Phenix City with his wife and two children: 15 year old daughter and an 11 year old son.

George Flowers presented the Paul Harris Fellow to Sissy Doll.

President Mallon mentioned that it is time to elect three new board members and club officers. He asked that names be submitted to the nominations committee.

President Mallon introduced the head table. Joining him was Lance Duke, George Jeter, Lamar Johnson, George Flowers and speaker Roy Strickland.

George Flowers introduced today's speaker, Roy Strickland, District 6900 Governor Elect. Strickland is a member of the Smyrna Rotary Club. He had been named Smyrna Rotarian of the Year twice, served as the Paul Harris Society Committee Chair twice and was awarded the Sheffield Leadership Award. He met his wife Suzanne at Georgia State and they reside in Cobb County. They have two sons, one daughter and two grandsons. He is a Paul Harris Fellow, Will Watt Fellow and his wife is a Paul Harris Fellow.

Roy Strickland joined Rotary in 1996 and quickly got involved in the club activities. As District Governor he will focus on the Rotary Foundation and its programs to improve the lives of people all over the world. He pointed out that 26,000 children die each day from preventable causes. Unfortunately, polio still exists in a few countries.

The Rotary Foundation is a not-for-profit organization. One of the important things the foundation can do is provide the ability to give aid to others. Mr. Strickland pointed out a few ways on how and where the Rotary Foundation has made a

difference and has touched people from District 6900. Three noted programs he outlined include: wheelchair project, India Polio Trip; and Dominican Republic water project to build a water filtration system to provide clean water.

He urged the club to continue to identify students who are eligible for foundation grants, submit grant projects, and take on international grant projects. Rotary Foundation is there to provide support.

President Mallon re-welcomed visiting Rotarians, guests and military guests.

Meeting adjourned.

-Leo Goodsell

## WHY I AM A ROTARIAN Carl S. Rosenbaum

I have contemplated this question over the past few days and have come up with a few questions of my own:

Why do Rotarians constantly feel the need to create goodwill and better friendships in our localities as well as with peoples of other nations?

Why do Rotarians give so much of their time and effort for those less fortunate in distant lands who they will never meet much less be thanked for what they give?"

Why do Rotarians have a burning desire to help those unknown faces of the poor, uneducated and sick human beings that seem endless in this world of over 6.8 billion souls?"

My answer is simple:

I believe I am a Rotarian because I have a need to do God's work on this earth, to do my part to help make this world a better place to live. In Rotary I can accomplish collectively with my fellow Rotarians what I would possibly not be motivated to do at all, much less do it alone.

As Rotarians, we are a body of wealth to every cause known to man, which in its 101 years of existence has managed to leave a trail of service and goodwill to humanity so numerous and so great that we should never have to ask ourselves why we are a part of this organization.

As a Rotarian, I am fulfilling a part of God's plan for my life in using my gifts of service, giving and administration, and by my actions, it is my strongest desire to challenge others to become a part of this great organization we call Rotary.



Carmen Cavezza	11/15
Jimmy Elder	11/15
Lamar Powers	11/15
Grag Camp	11/18
Joe McClure	11/19
Bill Ploeger	11/19
Mark Holloway	11/20
Charles McCall	11/20
Thacker Cargill	11/21
Leo Goodsell	11/24
Chuck Hecht	11/28
Ron King	11/28
Don Wilhite	11/28

**RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO THE BIRTHDAY FUND**

- Ron Mullins
- Ken Peirce
- Gerald Carey
- Lamar Powers
- Jack Key
- Billy Turner

**MAKE-UPS**

**PHENIX CITY (11/03)**  
**Meets Monday 12:15**  
**Central Activities Bldg.**  
 V.A. Holman  
 Bob Jones  
 Geoff Love  
 Joe Lucas  
 Mac Plummer  
 Jerry Rothschild  
 Ben Saunders  
 Dicky Sanders

**MUSCOGEE (11/06)**  
**Meets Thursday 7a.m.**  
**River Club**  
 Rick Alexander  
 Johnny Johnson  
 Joe Robbins  
 Ernie Smallman  
 Philip Thayer

**rotaryclubone.org**

- Otis Pickett
- Sharon Lyon
- Bill Heard III
- John Martin
- Jack Key III
- Scott McLaurin
- Joe McClure
- Sam Wetzel
- Frank Morast
- John Richards
- Ken Leuer

**NORTH COLUMBUS  
(11/04)**

**Meets Tuesday 12:30**

**Green Island**  
 Perry Alexander  
 Rick Alexander  
 Edgar Chancellor  
 Tom Friedmann  
 Thelon Hamby  
 Chuck Hasty  
 Chuck Hecht  
 Meredith Jarrell  
 Bob Jones  
 Frank Jordan  
 Dick Nurnberg

**ANN JOHNSON ROTARY FOOTBALL**

11/05

TEAM	THIS WEEK	CUMULATIVE
Alabama	35	290
Auburn	7	158
Citadel	41	257
Davidson	49	197
Florida	49	343
Florida State	28	282
Georgia	10	284
Georgia Tech	31	221
Iowa	24	262
Maine	55	222
Miami	24	268
Newberry	38	229
Oklahoma	62	447
Tennessee	6	153
Tulane	10	149
South Carolina	27	206
Vanderbilt	Off	168
Washington & Lee	19	222

**TOTAL ROTARY DOLLARS RAISED TO DATE \$11,181  
 ALABAMA IS #1! FLORIDA ROUTS THE DAWGS AND  
 MOVES UP TO #5! THE YELLOW JACKETS STING THE  
 SEMINOLES FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1975! MAINE  
 MOVES TO 6-3 AND IS IN THE PLAYOFF HUNT!**

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