



Rote-A-Bit

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

Program for February 11, 2009

HOWARD "BO" CALLAWAY

THE ROTE-A-BIT

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Published Weekly

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EDITORIAL FOR FEBRUARY 11, 2009

THINK ABOUT IT

Two Entirely Unrelated Thoughts the May Be Related If You Think About It Long Enough

1) I was listening to National Public Radio recently and heard an item about the Red River Army Depot. The person being interviewed talked about the process of stripping Humvees and other military hardware down and building them back up and said that when they finish the job, they put a sticker on each vehicle that says "we build it like our lives depend on it" because they know a soldier's life will depend on it. When I heard this, the thought came to me that wouldn't it be nice if we all did our jobs as if our lives depended on it; if we all took our responsibilities as husbands and wives, sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, employers, employees, Rotarians, Americans, and fulfilled our commitments as if our lives depended on it. It may sound nonsensical, but our lives do depend on how we live our lives. We shouldn't need to be reminded of it.

2) My grandfather, Oscar Cochran, was a banker in Hurtsboro, Alabama. I don't think I ever heard him say "thank you" to anyone. It was not that he was unkind, or ungentlemanly, and he certainly was not ungrateful, but "thank you" was just not part of his vocabulary. Instead, whenever anyone did anything for him, his unfailing response was "much obliged," and sometimes with a second "much obliged" added for emphasis to show how grateful he truly was. I was reminded of him recently when a stranger said "much obliged" to me after I had done a small kindness.

My language expert son tells me the word "obliged" is part of the thank you phrase of some languages as in "obrigado" and "obregada" in Portuguese. According to the internet's **Urban Dictionary**, "much obliged" is simply a way of saying "thank you," "often associated with the Deep South and/or Bible Belt," or the "stinking rich" as in this from P.G. Wodehouse: "I've finished tarring the roof of the estate, sir." "Much obliged, Jeeves."

We are all much obliged to others, become more so everyday. If we can't say "thank you," we should at least say "much obliged" to acknowledge our gratitude for and obligations to those who in ways great and small smooth our paths through life. Our lives may depend on it.

-Ron Self

ROTARY NOTES - 01/28/09

The meeting was called to order by President Mallon, who then led us in the pledge of allegiance. Joseph Roberson gave the invocation.

Colin Martin introduced visiting Rotarians from other clubs as well as member guests. Ralph Puckett introduced our military guest Gloria Gonzales member of the 209th Military Police Attachment. Julia Lumpkin introduced new member Homer Shuler, a University of Georgia Graduate and Financial Advisor at Morgan Keegan.

President Mallon introduced the head table: Joseph Roberson, Mat Swift, Thacker Cargill, Lon Alexander, Newt Aaron, and Jerry Newman...

Mat Swift was the speaker highlighting Eagle-Phenix Rivermill Loft Apartments. Eagle & Phenix Mills, one of the leading textile centers in the South, was built in 1851 on the banks of the Chattahoochee River. Serving as one of Columbus' two textile dynasties, and deemed the largest mill in the South by the late 1800's, the Eagle and Phenix produced over 100 varieties of cotton and woolen goods. Truly a cornerstone within Columbus, the mill survived the tests of time, war and economic hardships until it's closing in 2003.

The vibrant history contained within the bricks and mortar of this renowned mill will breathe life once again through the initiative of the W.C. Bradley Company. The remarkable buildings and breathtaking views of the Chattahoochee will be made available to the public through waterfront lofts, office space, and retail opportunities.

True to its industrial origins, the Riverfront Lofts of Eagle & Phenix feature historic elegance and exposed brick, beams and ductwork. From the soaring natural wood ceilings to the concrete floors, this 19th century structure has been updated and retrofitted to suit the needs of today's homeowner.

After a brief video clip and a presentation to our speaker by President Mallon, the meeting was adjourned.

-Mark Overby

WHY AM I A ROTARIAN?

On June 30, 2006, I had the honor of becoming my club's Rotarian of the Year in Manassas, Virginia. It was a honor that took me completely by surprise - and one that means more to me than I could possibly put into words. My official membership in Rotary began in 2004, but my history with Rotary goes back much further.

As a high school senior in Wayzata, Minnesota, my civics teacher informed me that a local Rotary Club (Plymouth, MN) was willing to sponsor a student to a 3-day retreat called 'Camp Enterprise'. She asked me if I'd be interested in attending and (to be honest) the thought of getting out of school sounded great!

The camp included students from throughout the Minneapolis suburbs - each sponsored by their local Rotary Club. These business professionals used their personal time to lead seminars in their various areas of expertise. They covered everything from how to obtain financing to investing in the stock market to business ethics. The topics and enthusiasm of the speakers enthralled me.

I still have my folder full of notes collected from those presentations. However, what remains most vivid in my mind is that the men and women who volunteered their time (and money) to sponsor me and teach me about business seemed to be having as much fun as I was as a participant. They genuinely cared about me and future generations as they shared their business experiences and encouraged us to think about the future. They were amazing examples of leadership and service.

In 2002, I incorporated and began my own marketing consulting company. Many of the concepts I have used to grow my business were first introduced to me at Rotary's Camp Enterprise.

Something special was ignited in me at Camp Enterprise as I participated in those seminars. I saw that giving of ones' time and energy to help others can make an impact that can resonate years later. Seeds were planted that continue to grow in me. I hope that I can encourage and reach out to others as much as those before me have.

I am a Rotarian because, just like those before me, I want to work toward a better tomorrow. I've got big shoes to fill.

CALLING ALL MATHEMATICIANS

Remember this one: Take your age; double it; add 5; multiply by 50; subtract the number of days in a regular year; add the loose change in your pocket under \$1.00; add 115.

If your arithmetic is right, the first two figures are your age and the last two are the change in your pocket.



Philip Adams	2/8
Scott Ferguson	2/9
Linda Hadley	2/10
John Marshall	2/11
Selby Rollinson	2/13

**RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE BIRTHDAY FUND**

- Jimmy Biggers
- Ed Adams
- John Richards
- Dickie Edge
- Ed Kendust
- Larry Neal

MAKE-UPS

PHENIX CITY (01/26)
Meets Monday 12:15
Central Activities Bldg.
 Debbie Cabellero
 John Cargill
 Mark Carroll
 Larry Neal

MUSCOGEE (1/29)
Meets Thursday 12:00
Green Island
 Tommy Boyter
 Larry Cardin

**NORTH COLUMBUS
(01/27)**
Meets Tuesday 12:30
Green Island
 Billy Cunningham, Jr.
 Allen Denham
 Bill Feighner
 Tom Friedmann
 Dick McMichael

rotaryclubone.org
 Otis Pickett
 Hix Myrick
 Rick Alexander
 Richard Illges
 Roy Reese
 Jere Richardson
 Philip Thayer
 Josh McKoon
 Lance Duke
 John Martin
 Janet Davis

Savannah West (1/21)
 Neal Wickham

Attendance Averages

July	94.11	October	94.13
August	94.85	November	93.44
September	94.25	December	95.11

Number 33

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Some days are a total waste of makeup.

A balance diet is a cookie in each hand.

Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.

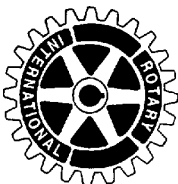
Opportunities always look bigger going than coming.

Junk is something you've kept for years and throw it away weeks before you need it.

Experience is a wonderful thing, it enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.

By the time you can make ends meet, they move the ends.

Learn from the mistakes of others. Trust me...you can't live long enough to make them all yourself.



02/11/2009