



Rote-A-Bit

Rotary Club of Columbus, Georgia
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Program for May 13, 2009

DR. JOSEPH R. ZANGA - CHIEF OF PEDIATRICS, MEDICAL CENTER

THE ROTE-A-BIT

1246 1st Avenue
Published Weekly

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EDITORIAL FOR MAY 13, 2009

A line from a once-popular radio song bemoans the fact that "Oh, yeah, life goes on... long after the thrill of living it is gone." This cryptic phrasing points out the dilemma many American are facing in their homes and families today as improved medical procedures, miracle drugs and healthier life-styles are extending the life spans of elderly loved ones. May adults today (including two personal friends) are actively caring for their surviving parents, who are living years beyond what their parents lived just a generation ago. While living longer normally would seem to be a God-sent gift to any family or relationship with loved ones, the accompanying issues of life QUALITY, not just life QUANTITY, are causing serious difficulty and heartache.

How do we come to grips with issues like loss of independence, loss of dignity, and even loss of conscious interaction when the victims are our closest human relatives, those to whom we owe our very lives, literally? How do adult children know what's right to do or to feel while they watch aging parents teeter back and forth on the brink of death and life and think to themselves "This CAN'T be a good life for my parent?"

Although it doesn't provide a definitive answer to those deeply personal questions, a constructive result from such dilemmas could be a renewed commitment to do what we CAN do with our own lives today, while we still have independence, dignity and conscious interaction with those around us. Recognizing that it may actually be possibly to outlive the "Thrill of living" should make us better people NOW. We should appreciate the blessing of our current physical and mental health and strive to maximize our positive impact on the world around us, whether it's through organized groups like Rotary or just through a smile at the person at the next gasoline pump. Our lives are too brief and too precious to use for anything less.

-Joel Ames

ROTARY NOTES - 04/29/08

President Mallon welcomed us and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Mike Smajd gave our invocation and Phil Scoggins presented the news. Elizabeth Barker introduced visiting Rotarians and guests, and Selby Rollinson introduced our military guest, Spec. Brad Balsley of the Army Marksmanship Unit.

It was noted by President Mallon that at the District Conference in Jekyll Island we again won the Attendance Award (25 years in a row!) for large clubs throughout the state. Mary came to the microphone and said she bets that 350 Rotarians (all of us) will attend her funeral one day, "to make sure I'm dead," and she'll be holding a sign in her casket that says "this doesn't count as a makeup." She said the funeral would be at 12:30 sharp on Wednesday! We love Mary.

George Flowers then introduced 3 Paul Harris Fellows: Mike Wooldridge, Brian Stone, and Jim Laycock. Congratulations and thank you to these generous Rotarians.

Lee Brantley then made the Mary Reed Award Presentation, given to someone in our Rotary Club that embodies the Four Way Test, someone who has gone above and beyond what is expected of our members, and someone who has truly put others before himself. That person is George Jeter! George received a standing ovation several times and came up and thanked everyone.

Lee told us a little bit about George, which is difficult to do in only a few minutes. George was born in Montgomery, AL and graduated from Coffee County High School. He graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in Accounting. He joined the Army, then spent several years working for the U.S. Treasury, and later joined Aflac (1969-1986), as the CFO; he continues to serve as a Consultant for Aflac.

Upon retiring, here are just some of the organizations/charities that he has poured himself into: St. Paul United Methodist Church, the Boy Scouts of America (winning it's highest award), CSU, Columbus Tech, Troy, Rotary Foundation, Medical Center, Columbus Regional, Ronald McDonald House, the Chattahoochee Riverclub, and many more were mentioned (and many more weren't). Numerous awards were also mentioned, but I couldn't write them all down.

The common theme mentioned by those on the video that was shown, was that anything that happens good in Columbus, GA goes through George Jeter. Congratulations!!!

-Walter Calhoun

THANK YOU NOTE

Thank you again, Columbus Rotarians for hosting me at your luncheon on March 18th and for honoring me with an award and a donation in my name.

I hope my presentation on education was thought-provoking and inspiring!

All the best,

Mike Geisen, 2008 National teacher of the Year

WHY SHARE ROTARY?

If my life is just a little bit better because I'm a Rotarian - shouldn't I share it? If I enjoy the good fellowship and warm, friendship of Rotary, then shouldn't I share it? If my opportunities in Rotary have helped me to increase my knowledge of important events, to appreciate other people's business and professional activities, and to cultivate greater understanding among people throughout the world, shouldn't I share it? Sharing Rotary with other qualified persons is an obligation of every Rotarian.

WORTH REPEATING:

When change is successful, we look back and call it growth.

It is not in doing what you like, but liking what you do that is the secret of happiness.

Following the path of least resistance is what makes men and rivers crooked.

"I shall pass through this world but once. Any good that I can do, or any kindness that I can show any human being, let me do it now, and not defer it. For I shall not pass this way again."

I will not find fault with friends, relatives, or colleagues. I will not try to change or improve anyone but myself.



Al Gaston 5/10
 Bill Woolfolk 5/15

**RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS
 TO THE BIRTHDAY FUND**

Joe Miller
 Tom Butler
 Joe Sandri
 Peggy Connell

Number 46

MAKE-UPS

PHENIX CITY (04/27)

**Meets Monday 12:15
 Central Activities Bldg.**

Newt Aaron
 Joel Ames
 Paul Perry
 Perry Borom
 Tom Boyter
 Lee Brantley
 Debbie Caballero
 Marc Calhoun
 Edgar Chancellor
 Ryan Clements
 Leonard Crain
 Billy Cunningham
 Richard Davis
 Gloria Dodds
 Tracy Fisher
 Al Gaston
 Madden Hatcher
 Isaiah Hugley
 Charlie Johnson
 Dexter Jordan
 John Kelly
 Jack Key, Jr.
 Larry King
 Jim Martin
 Terri Parodi
 Otis Pickett
 Lamar Powers
 Jerry Rothschild
 Ben Saunders
 Ed Sprouse
 Mat Swift
 Ben Williams
 Jim Wink
 Kevin Wilkerson
 Tony Wright

NORTH COLUMBUS (04/28)

**Meets Tuesday 12:30
 Green Island**

Dickie Edge
 Tom Gates
 Buddy Martin
 Joe Robbins
 Phil Scoggins

MUSCOGEE (04/30)

**Meets Thursday 12:00
 Green Island**

Ken Peirce
 Marion Scott
 Tom Titus
 Mary Bode

EUFAULA (4/2)

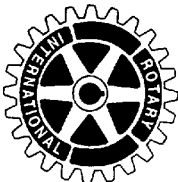
Neal Wickham

GEORGETOWN (4/28)

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rotaryclubone.org

Richard Anthony
 Joel Ames
 Andy Waddell
 Kevin Wilkerson
 Harry Walker
 Scott McLaurin
 Chuck McClure



05/13/2009