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Rote-A-Bit

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

PROGRAM FOR JULY 22, 2009

CATHY WILLIAMS - HOUSING

THE ROTE-A-BIT

1246 1st Avenue
Published Weekly

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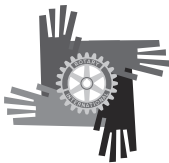
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EDITORIAL FOR JULY 22, 2009

The Classroom Lesson

Submitted by Lori Auten

Back in September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a social studies school teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten. On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks out of her classroom.

When the first period kids entered the room they discovered that there were no desks.

'Ms. Cothren, where're our desks?'

She replied, 'You can't have a desk until you tell me what you have done to earn the right to sit at a desk.'

They thought, 'Well, maybe it's our grades.' 'No,' she said.

'Maybe it's our behavior.'

She told them, 'No, it's not even your behavior.' And so, they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom.

By early afternoon television news crews had started gathering in Ms. Cothren's classroom to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the deskless classroom, Martha Cothren said, 'Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he/she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you.' At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and

opened it. Twenty-seven (27) U.S. Veterans, all in uniforms, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk.

The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall. By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time

in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, 'You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don't ever forget it.'

ROTARY NOTES - 07/8/09

The meeting was called to order by President Bob, who then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Larry Cardin gave the invocation followed by the news of the day with Jason Dennis.

Colin Martin welcomed and introduced visiting Rotarians from other clubs as well as member guests. Selby Rollinson introduced our military guest Staff Sergeant Timothy Acosta, a member of the 197th Infantry Brigade.

President Bob introduced the head table. Joining him were Larry Cardin, Audrey Hollingsworth, Virginia Holman, Phil Tomlinson, and Mike Gaymon. Mr. Gaymon introduced today's speaker, Phil Tomlinson. Mr. Tomlinson is the Chairman of the Board and CEO of TSYS.

Phil began by acknowledging the great work of the Chamber and the City to bring new business to Columbus. He also noted that the massive construction at Ft. Benning has begun.

TSYS began as a card processing business as a part of CB&T and Synovus in 1974. The company spun out in 1983. TSYS continued to have good growth, revenue, and earnings since that time up until this new economic situation. In the past year, the company has had to perform cut backs.

On December 31, 2007, the remaining percentage of TSYS was spun out of Synovus. A great relationship continues with both CB&T and Synovus. Mr. Tomlinson stated that this is a time to become more efficient, improve processes, make operations bulletproof, and to reduce costs.

In the past year, TSYS has suffered lost business. However, it has also seen its international business grow. The company's goal is to have 30% of its revenue be international business by 2011. The card industry has also seen massive and new federal regulations. TSYS is currently looking at new technologies and ways to use cards.

The TSYS board remains strong, the company will continue to expand globally, and the 9,000 team members continue to work hard. TSYS will emerge from this bad economic situation as a leaner and stronger company.

President Bob thanked our military guest, visiting Rotarians, and guests.

The meeting was adjourned.

-Elizabeth Barker

WHAT PAUL HARRIS SAID

Dear Friends,

It is July and the beginning of a new Rotary year. Using www.historysearch.org, I found something written in July by Paul Harris. Here is what Rotary founder Paul Harris had to say in July of 1912, the year that the National Association of Rotary Clubs changed its name to the

International Association of Rotary Clubs. At our next RI convention, in Montreal, Canada, we will celebrate the 100th year since Paul Harris, Ches Perry, and 16 Rotary clubs created N.A.R.C....

“What is Rotarianism?”

There are already more than Six Thousand answers to that question and there are many, many more to follow. How do I make that out? There are more than Six Thousand Rotarians in the world and many more to come. Each has his own individual conception of Rotarianism and he will continue to have it even if a brief concise definition of the word be generally accepted. You can't hold Rotarianism in words any longer than you can hold the spirit of brotherly love in a bushel basket.” Paul P. Harris, writing the July 1912 issue of the National Rotarian.

Today there are 200 times more Rotarians than in 1912. If we continue to answer Paul's question, perhaps in the next decade there will be 2,000,000 members. The growth of Rotary was rapid in the early years. According to the Appendix of the first edition of “My Road to Rotary,” in twelve more years the membership had increase nearly 17 fold. By 1930, there was another fifty percent increase to 150,000. By 1938, despite the depression, another 50,000 had become Rotarians. Shortly after Paul's death, the 1948 total was 320,000. However, as Rotary Founder Paul Harris noted, the most important means of Rotarianism lies with each of us.

Next week, watch for “Our Foundation Newsletter,” and the week after for “Rotary Global History Day” Want to have your own Rotary Global History Day? See www.11october.org to learn more. Our first international Rotary Global History Day will be in Cairo, Egypt Saturday 3 October 2009. Special tours of the sites of Cairo will be arranged for Rotarians at that event. Hold the date, more details to follow. If you want more information, just respond to this email.

WHY I AM A ROTARIAN?

My selection for the Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarship was what introduced Rotary to me.

An initial impression of “just any other scholarship” soon changed into a world where Rotarians act voluntarily and with their care, love and affection I was attracted and entered into an ever-lasting relationship.

All throughout the scholarship period, the support and concern of the host Rotarians (Dist. 5890) was incredible and unprecedented.

Although I could easily continue my stay in the U.S., my moral commitment to R.I. and TRF compelled me to return to Pakistan.

I am glad that I honored my commitment. Now I am mentoring new ambassadorial scholars and also serving my community as an active Rotarian. The Ambassadorial Scholarships for Low Income Countries is a wonderful concept. I would love to add to it as much as possible.

Kamran I. Makhdoom,
Rotary Club of Karachi Cosmopolitan



Bob Tant 7/21
 Debbie Cabellero 7/22
 Howard Jefferson 7/23
 Carl Rhodes 7/24
 Mac Flowers 7/24

**RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS
 TO THE BIRTHDAY FUND**

John Martin
 Lance Duke
 Betsy Covington
 Dan Parker
 Dave Konze

MAKE-UPS

PHENIX CITY (07/6)
Meets Monday 12:15
Central Activities Bldg.
 Ed Adams
 Debbie Cabellero
 Lance Duke
 Mike Gaymon
 Jack Key, III
 Jerry Rothschild

HIGHLANDS, NC (7/4)
 Walter Calhoun

GEORGETOWN (6/30)
 Neal Wickham

HARRIS COUNTY (7/8)
 Bill Smith

NORTH COLUMBUS (07/07)

Meets Tuesday 12:30

Green Island
 Anthony Berger
 Tom Titus
 Marion Scott
 Dan Parker
 Perry Alexander
 Craig Reaves
 Valeria Canepa
 John Kelly
 John Sims
 Lance Duke

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Rich Martindale
 Joel Ames
 Perry Alexander
 Neal McCrillis
 Jerry White
 Claudya Muller
 Rhonda Mobley
 Bill Heard III
 Joe McClure
 Sally Sinclair
 Mike Gaymon
 Wayne Anthony
 Frank Star
 Carmen Cavezza
 Joseph Zanga
 John Martin

MUSCOGEE (07/09)

Meets Thursday 12:00

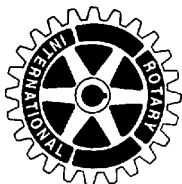
Green Island
 Wayne Anthony
 Harold Bryant
 Ken Leuer

A SALUTE TO 13 ROTARIANS

We have 13 of our members with 50 or more years in Rotary!

- Rupert Triplett 60 years
- Frank Philips 59 years
- William Buck 58 years
- Lovick Corn 57 years
- John Kinnett 57 years
- Hooper Turner 57 years
- Billy Key 54 years
- Wilson Camp 53 years
- David Rothschild 53 years
- Thacker Cargill 52 years- *Perfect attendance for 52 years!*
- W.E. Gross 52 years
- Ed Neal 52 years
- George Trussell 52 years

Number 4



07/22/2009