

THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS



Rote-A-Bit

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

PROGRAM FOR AUGUST 5, 2009

CONGRESSMAN LYNN WESTMORELAND

THE ROTE-A-BIT

1246 1st Avenue
Published Weekly

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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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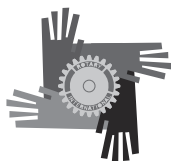
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EDITORIAL FOR AUGUST 5, 2009

Some Good Men

The time is 1954. The scene is the Mirror Room of the Ralston Hotel. It's change of command day at the Rotary Club of Columbus. A 36 year old rawboned Texan accepted the gavel from a 76 year old Scotsman, George Murray, M.D. Among those serving on the Board of the New President, Rupert Triplitt, were William Buck, Lovick Corn, and Richard Hecht. Heavens to Betsy, this Wednesday I will dine with these men! Only Dr. Murray has passed the Four Way Test and been honorably excused from further meetings!

As temporary custodian of Columbus Rotary's old records, I hold a letter to President Rupert from Maynard Ashworth, then Publisher of the Ledger-Enquirer and our Club's first Rotary District Governor. Maynard complains that an increase in dues to \$30.00 a quarter might "price ourselves out of the market". He indicated that Kiwanis locally pay \$22.50 and that Atlanta Rotary only pays \$20.00. A letter from E.J. Knight protest about being charged extra for milk. Jake writes that he "usually has a small glass, just in case we have lunch like we had yesterday of fat meat and bones."

It is 55 years later. Our membership has virtually doubled (334 versus 182) and we're still conversing about the economy and the menu. If you are one of our newer members, I challenge you to follow the example set by Rupert, William, Lovick and Richard. Such a pleasing camaraderie in which to grow older gracefully.

-Bunky Pease

ROTARY NOTES - 07/22/09

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water, the July 22, 2009 was called to order by returning, Past-President Mallon. The Pledge of Allegiance to our country was recited and the "Voice of God," Roy Plummer, gave his usually stirring invocation.

Phil Scoggins delivered the news of the day and Lori Auten introduced visiting Rotarians and guests. Meridith Jarrell introduced our military guest, New York City born Specialist Blake Henley, who is a member of the Ft. Benning Post Medical Allergy Clinic.

Rotarians Scott Ferguson and Blake Lane were presented Paul Harris Fellowships and Lori Auten gave us an update on the club's annual Third Grade Dictionary Project.

After a reprise of the left/right syndrome, Past-President Mallon introduced our head table: Roy Plummer, Michael Eddings, Past-President Mallon, Frank Etheridge, our speaker Cathy Williams and Len Willams, who introduced Rotarian Cathy.

Our speaker, Rotarian Cathy Williams of NeighborWorks Columbus, gave us an interesting update on her work and the work of her board and President's Council. Quite a few members of our Rotary Club play an important role at NeighborWorks Columbus.

Rotarian Cathy told us about three programs: The Columbus Cottages, The Hallock Soldier's Fund and the Aflac Employee Assistance Housing Program.

In addition to these interesting programs, she gave us a telling analysis of how Alabama has surged in residential housing permits. Alabama's permits for residential housing were up 26% from last May, representing 62% of the market's sales.

Of the 749 new home purchases NeighborWorks has assisted to date, 82% were on the Georgia side. Isolating 2008, only 57% of the homes purchased through NeighborWorks were in Georgia.

According to Cathy, first time home buying here is still strong. To date NeighborWorks Columbus has assisted 751 new homeowners in the valley area with purchases worth more than \$745 million and they had rehabbed 100 homes in their target neighborhood.

Of particular interest to this writer, almost 300 Aflac employees have benefited from the financial counseling and 69 have successfully purchased their first home through the Aflac Employee Assistance Housing Program!

The Hallock Soldier's Fund has disbursed to over 215 families the original \$1 million capital investment born of the vision of Mim Hallock, the wife of now deceased Col. Richard R. Hallock.

Because Rotarian Cathy says "we can't be a great city until we can be a good city," the Columbus Cottages program seeks to improve the living conditions of local impoverished elderly residents. We saw a moving video of one local woman who is in this plight.

GEORGIA ROTARY STUDENT PROGRAM

Since the Will Watt Foundation started in 1982, the Columbus Club has donated \$174,879.79 to the endowment. This is an outstanding achievement. The purpose of the endowment is to generate income to subsidize the club payments for the GRSP scholarships. Currently, the income from the endowment now covers about 1/3 of the total cost for each student.

The commitment and support of our Club to the GRSP program has been consistently high as demonstrated by the amazing total contributions to the endowment. However, please note that in the 08/09 Rotary Year, our Club gave almost \$13,000 to the endowment. This means that our Club gave 7.5% of this 27-year total in the last year. This is incredible Mallon, thank you for your leadership; and Barbara thank you for your chairmanship of our Club's Will Watt Committee. As a result of the generosity of our Club to the endowment and the increased income from the endowment, many Clubs that could not afford to sponsor a GRSP student are able to do so.

Instilling Rotary values and a commitment to world peace through understanding among the future generation of leaders and professionals from around the world is of critical importance today.

Pres. Robert, you have done an outstanding job already in helping our new student prepare for her life-changing adventure in Georgia.

On behalf of the GRSP Trustees..THANK YOU COLUMBUS.

Ian Bond

HEARD ON THE STREET

"When a Rotary Club loses sight of the individual member, it squanders it's most priceless possession."

Past District Governor Dan Reed

"Dodging work is the hardest work of all and yields the poorest returns."

Perry Orant, Psychiatrist

"A fool and his money are soon parted. The rest of us wait until income tax time."

Jerry Farmakis, CPA

"Girls are like modern paintings. You'll never enjoy them if you try to understand them."

Greg Low, Recent Bridegroom

SOMEONE GOOFED! (YOUR EDITOR)

We have 14 of our members with 50 or more years in Rotary - not 13 as I stated in a recent Rote-A-Bit!

Richard Hecht has been a member for 59 years - joined October 19, 1949.



Philp Thayer	8/1
Jim Crosse	8/1
Nelson Kittle	8/1
Craig Reaves	8/2
Cecil Cheves	8/5
George Trussell	8/6
Alap Shah	8/6
Wayne Anthony	8/7
Richard Davis	8/7
Mike Hill	8/7

**RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE BIRTHDAY FUND**

- Mary Bode
- Phil Swift
- Carl Rhodes

Number 6

PHENIX CITY (07/20)
Meets Monday 12:15
Central Activities Bldg.
 Phil Scoggins

NORTH COLUMBUS (07/21)
Meets Tuesday 12:30
Green Island

- Newt Aaron
- Ed Adams
- Rick Alexander
- Lori Auten
- Jim Ballengee
- Mary Bode
- Sharon Borger
- Perry Borom
- Mitch Britt
- Harold Bryant
- Marc Calhoun
- Larry Cardin
- Patty Cardin
- Edgar Chancellor
- Ryan Clements
- Jimmy Coppage
- Billy Cunningham
- Janet Davis
- Gloria Dodds
- Lance Duke
- Norman Drummond
- Alan Feagin
- Tom Flowers
- Tracy Fisher
- John Flory
- Al Gaston
- Robert Granger
- Linda Hadley
- Thelon Hamby
- Vince Haneman
- Madden Hatcher
- Chuck Hecht
- Mike Helms
- Michael Holbrook
- Audrey Hollingsworth
- Isaiah Hugley
- Johnny Johnson
- Gene Kemp
- Ron King
- Ashok Kumar
- Joey Loudermilk
- Buddy Martin
- Frank Morast
- Claudya Muller
- Warner Neal
- Eddie Obleton

MAKE-UPS

- Jack Pezold
- Roy Plummer
- Mac Plummer
- Otis Pickett
- Sam Rawls
- Roy Reese
- Marc Reid
- John Richards
- Joe Robbins
- Jerry Rothschild
- Joe Sandri
- Larry Sanders
- Ben Saunders
- Dicky Saunders
- Tracy Sayers
- John Sheftall
- Guy Sims
- Barbara Smith
- Lynne Taylor
- Tripp Wade
- Kevin Wilkerson
- Don Wilhite
- Len Williams
- Michael Willey
- Tony Wright

MUSCOGEE (07/23)
Meets Thursday 12:00

- Green Island**
- Bill Edwards
 - Mark Lupo
 - H.J. Peters
 - Ricky Wright

APALACHICOLA, FL (7/14)
 Bunky Pease

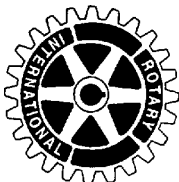
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- Philip Thayer
- Frank Jordan
- Otis Pickett
- Tyler Townsend
- Jack Key III
- Harry Walker
- Joe Johnson
- Scott McLauren
- Janet Davis
- Ernie Smallman
- Richard Anthony
- Joe McClure

**ROTARY FOUNDATION, THE
INTERNATIONAL ARM THAT UNITES US ALL**

One of the great, unique features of Rotary is that it is worldwide in scope, but it never loses sight of the individual. It starts with fellowship around a lunch table and extends out to service through better business practices and building a better community. But it doesn't stop there. Its long, strong arm reaches across national borders to join people - individual people - of all ages, races, and creeds in a common effort to create a better world through caring, sharing, and understanding.

The central organization for promoting international service and exchange is The Rotary Foundation. Through it, an enormous amount of good is done - the kind that last a lifetime.



08/05/2009