

# THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS



## ***Rote-A-Bit***

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

PROGRAM FOR JANUARY 20, 2010

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY - DICK MCMICHAEL

# THE ROTE-A-BIT

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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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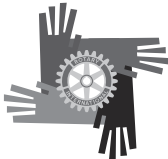
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## EDITORIAL FOR JANUARY 20, 2010

### *WHAT'S HAPPENING TO OUR WATER?*

It has been 20 years since the State of Georgia passed combined sewer overflow (CSO) legislation and the State of Alabama sued the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over the proposal to allocate more of Lake Lanier for Metro Atlanta water supply. Columbus took an aggressive approach to addressing its CSO problem with new technology, development of the RiverWalk and met the legislative deadline of 1995 with its \$100 million dollar effort. The other six cities with CSO's took longer to address their solution with the City of Atlanta currently in the final stages of its \$1 billion plus program.

On the other hand since the start of the Water Wars in 1990 nothing positive has happened. A nine year compact between the three states ended in 2003 with no agreement. More than a year of judge ordered arbitration followed with no productive outcome. Since the original Alabama law suit in 1990 many others, including Columbus, have filed related legal action. All of these lawsuits are now consolidated under a special federal judge in the North Florida Federal Court. In July, that judge ruled that Lake Lanier was not authorized for water supply and that the Atlanta area water suppliers would have 3 years to address their needs or reduce their demand back to about a 1970 level when Metro Atlanta had about 1 million people rather than the 4 million that live there today. Currently the three governors are meeting. Georgia has several groups addressing water issues, a new group with water users from all three states called the ACF Stakeholders was formed in 2009 and the Judge will rule on another phase of the legal issues in the Spring of 2010. The WATER PRESSURE is building, something's gotta give!!!

-Billy Turner

# ROTARY NOTES

01-06-10

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Jones, who then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and Ron King offered the Invocation. Phil Scoggins brought our report on breaking news, finance and weather. Colin Martin introduced visiting Rotarians and guests.

Eddie Obleton introduced our military guest, SSG Justin Grimm, including exemplary achievements of SSG Grimm's career. He was presented with our Rotary commemorative coin and a copy of Col (Ret) Ralph Puckett's book, *Word for Warriors*.

President Bob introduced the head table. Joining him were Ron King, Kyle Djukick, Michael Willey, and our speaker, Audrey Bergeron, who was introduced by Sharon Borger.

Audrey introduced her presentation, "Educating our Children to Succeed in a Changing World." She began her remarks asking what our community might look like in ten years, as the 'Trophy Generation' comes of age; where "everyone gets a prize." She notes our economy is driven by information technology, biotechnology, and nanotechnology, and that 41% of Americans will be 65+ in the next 15 years. America has changed. National trends of note among others: baby boomers are retiring earlier, and life span has increased to 77 years on average.

In Georgia, fastest growing occupations are among registered nurses, network systems and data communication, computer software engineers, dental hygienists, and physician assistants. Among Georgia jobs, 20 fastest growing industries are full-service restaurants, hospitals, computer systems design, and nursing care facilities. Against this backdrop it's noted that, within a sample of 100 9th graders, 40 will go to college, 10 will be employed in degree field and 10 will be underemployed.

In view of this history, new Georgia graduation rules are in place for FY09: College/work readiness curriculum requirements for all students, one diploma track, one set of requirements, promoting blend of academic and CTAE courses, and CTAE (Career Technical and Agriculture Education) as a strategy for increasing engagement and rigor and increasing the graduation rate.

The reality is that industry wants us to teach students the competencies that employment requires; while parents want their student prepared to "go to college." Moreover students want to be engaged with relevant, real world activities that use their multitasking talents. Educators should prepare students through fostering intellectual development, preparing students to be informed, caring and productive citizens, prepared for higher education and prepared for the world of work. The SOLUTION (goals) for industry, parents, and students can be met through career and technical education pathways. Among pathways available in Muscogee County are Culinary Arts (popular), Family and Consumer Sciences, Government and Public Safety, Healthcare Sciences, and Marketing Sales and Service.

From among today's attendees, Audrey recognized program

graduates who excelled and advanced through career-specific education and training; emphasizing that vocational technology students can, and often do go on to productive college experiences.

President Bob thanked Audrey for the program and dismissed the meeting.

-Art Fultz

## WHAT PAUL HARRIS SAID

Many long years after grandfather's death, there came to me a small well-preserved leather covered memorandum book containing a brief summary of his financial standing on the first of January each year beginning with 1826 and continuing until 1888, the year of his death. Inscribed without date on one of the pages were the words: "For Ma and Paul." It was an eloquent testimonial of the careful planning and self-denial which made his benefactions possible. Chapter 20 of "My Road to Rotary" by Paul Harris

[www.whatpaulharriswrote.org/library/myroad/#20](http://www.whatpaulharriswrote.org/library/myroad/#20)

The story of Paul Harris lacks clarity without knowing about his grandfather, Howard Harris. Howard truly set Paul on the right road that led to Rotary. Today, all Rotary Clubs that becomes a 100% RGHF clubs will receive copies of "My Road to Rotary" for all members. [www.rghf.org/join/100.htm](http://www.rghf.org/join/100.htm)

Best wishes for the New Year, from RGHF!

## TAKING ON CHALLENGES THAT NO ONE ELSE CAN TACKLE. WHY? BECAUSE WE KNOW WE CAN!

I often talk about how The Rotary Foundation supports the entire family of Rotary. Rotary is like a family in so many ways - in the ways we lift each other up, help each other grow, and accomplish things together that we could never do alone.

Through Rotary, with the help of our Foundation, we can take on challenges that no one else has the ability, or the inclination, or the organizational resources to tackle.

We in Rotary share what we have in a way that no one else does - with love, with kindness, and with simple generosity. And that is why, when I was traveling with my wife, Mary, during Rotary's centennial year, she so often said to me, "The finest people in the world must be Rotarians."

What we have both seen in the last 50 years, over and over again, has been a pure and overwhelming desire to be of assistance - a desire that thanks to the Foundation, is backed with financial and practical resources.

Rotarians work to address needs that seem so large or so intractable that no one else will even try - or sometimes so insignificant that no one else will bother.

In our Rotary family, we rise to these challenges because we know we can - with the strength of our Foundation behind us.



John Allen	1/17
Frank Brown	1/18
Tom Flowers	1/19
Dicky Saunders	1/19
Gary Gullatte	1/19
Sam Rawls	1/20
Ed Kendust	1/21
Larry Neal	1/21

**RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
THE CHILDREN'S FUND**

Walter Trussell  
Jim Pate  
Gloria Dodds

**MAKE-UPS**

**PHENIX CITY (01/04)**

**Meets Monday 12:15**

**Quality Inn**  
Joey Loudermilk  
Lamar Powers  
James Snead

**rotaryclubone.org**

Susan Andrews  
Peggy Connell  
Ron King  
Claudya Muller  
Hix Myrick  
Cathy Williams

**NORTH COLUMBUS (01/05)**

**Meets Tuesday 12:30**

**Green Island**  
Billy Cunningham  
Bill Edwards  
Jamie Hempstead  
Ashok Kumar  
Mark Overby  
Bob Tant  
Tony Wright

Harry Walker  
Madden Hatcher  
Jack Key III  
Philip Thayer  
Joel Ames  
Tyler Townsend

**MUSCOGEE (01/07)**

**Meets Thursday 12:00**

**Green Island**

Michael Eddings  
Cathy Williams  
C.F. Riley

**FOUNDATION MAKES ROTARY'S WORK  
POSSIBLE**

January is Rotary Awareness Month – a time to learn more about our organization, and a time to focus on our public image. Raising awareness of Rotary is an important part of the RI Strategic Plan: The more Rotary is known for its good work, the more good work Rotary will be able to do.

As Past RI President Robert Barth of Switzerland said, "We believe that the Rotary pin on our lapel sends a message. It says, 'You can rely on me. I am dependable, I am reliable, I give more than I take. I am available.'"

Because of The Rotary Foundation, people around the world know that they can depend on Rotary in their time of need. It is the Foundation that allows Rotarians to say yes to calls for help, when otherwise we might be forced to say, "There is nothing we can do."

As Rotarians, you are here because you believe in Service Above Self. And as Rotarians, you know that through Rotary, you can have an impact beyond what you could ever hope to have as individuals. One person, no matter how great the talents and resources, is limited. Working alone, there is only so much that can be done. But when we work together, when we pool our resources with those of 1.2 million other Rotarians around the world – and with the resources of our Rotary Foundation – we can make a difference that will be remembered for generations. It is up to all of us.

Glenn E. Estess Sr.  
Foundation Trustee Chair

Number 20

01/20/2010

