



**BUILDING COMMUNITIES
BRIDGING CONTINENTS**

R O T E - A - B I T

Rotary Club of Columbus, Georgia

Club No. 200 • Founded 1916

Program for July 7, 2016

CHANGING OF THE GUARD & PAST PRESIDENT'S DAY

THE ROTE-A-BIT

1246 1st Avenue
Published Weekly

CLUB OFFICERS:

BETSY COVINGTON
President

BOB JONES
Vice-President

JIMMY ELDER
President-Elect

CHARLES JOHNSON
Treasurer

ROBERT OFFER
Sgt-At-Arms

GEORGE FLOWERS
Rotary Foundation

Mary K. Reed, Editor

Published Weekly For The
ROTARY CLUB OF
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

by Mike Konze
X-Press Printing
1520 - 13th Avenue

CASEY FARMER
2010-2011 District Governor

ROY KLINGINSMITH
2010-2011 President
Rotary International

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

DIRECTORS

LORI AUTEN

JULIUS HUNTER

IAN BOND

TRAVIS CHAMBERS

KAYRON LASKA

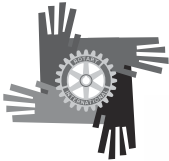
NEAL MCCRILLIS

CAROL BRADSHAW

RYAN CLEMENTS

JOEL AMES

THE ROTE-A-BIT (USPS 471780) Periodicals postage paid in Columbus, GA • www.rotarycolumbusga.org
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Rote-A-Bit, PO Box 1138, Columbus, GA 31902



EDITORIAL FOR JULY 7, 2010



ROTARY MINUTES - 06/22/10

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

Michael Smajd introduced our military guest, SSG Brandon White, including exemplary achievements of SSG White's career. He was presented with our Rotary commemorative coin and a copy of Col (ret) Ralph Puckett's book, *Word for Warriors*. In his remarks, SSG White expressed thanks both for the support and honoring of the service of his fellow service members.

Kayron Laska next introduced new member Dr. Timothy Mescon, President, Columbus State University. Dr. Mescon serves on the boards of the River Center, the Boy Scouts and the United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley, and will serve as Chairman of the United Way's annual campaign. He has his PhD from the University of Georgia and is formerly a member of the Rotary Club of Atlanta. Welcome to the Rotary Club of Columbus, Dr. Mescon.

We were pleased to receive Bill Edward's presentation to the newest Paul Harris Fellows: Joe Robbins and Selby Rollinson, and acknowledgement of multiple; (MULTIPLE) Paul Harris Fellow George Jeter.

President Bob introduced the head table. Joining him were Sharon Lyons, Hudson Garrett, Tom Black and our speaker, William D. Underwood, who was introduced by Ron King.

Our guest, William Underwood, became President of Mercer University four years ago. In opening remarks to the club he made mention of current World Cup Soccer events noting also, "I hate soccer." He came on this occasion speaking of the university's ground-breaking work in providing low-cost prosthetic limbs in developing regions of the world.

Thirty-five years after the Vietnam War, there are still many injuries due to land mines. This is true in other developing regions in Liberia, Somalia, and Afghanistan. Unfortunately, the cost of outfitting prosthetic replacement limbs for those injured by explosives is between \$5000 and \$50,000 and is prohibitive for many in these places. High cost is attributed to the cumbersome process to custom fit traditional prosthetics. Biomedical Engineering at Mercer University has developed a universal adjustable socket which can be fitted in approximately thirty minutes in the field. Last summer, 18-20 students and staff made a mission to Vietnam to fit thirty patients with new-technology prosthetics, more durable than traditional counterparts. They will return this summer with the goal to serve a hundred patients with the new prosthetics costing less than \$200, a fraction of the cost formerly. A video showed the group's mission among those missing limbs; giving an overview of not only the process, but also the joy of the recipients who can now walk more normally.

Underwood noted there is now an even greater need for this type of technology, where the lives of 40,000 amputees in earthquake ravaged Haiti could be changed forever with replacement limbs. Manufacturing on the Mercer Campus simply cannot accommodate the volume. He said this is but one of a dozen similar innovative projects being undertaken at Mercer.

President Bob expressed out thanks for the program and dismissed the meeting.

- Art Fultz

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!

WE LOVE YOU!

by Ralph Puckett

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from service of his country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

These words from Thomas Paine's *Common Sense* describe the situation in the Colonies during the early days of the Revolutionary War. Almost everything that could go wrong had gone wrong. Washington was a "loser". Fighting the British, arguably the best army in the world, with untrained recruits must have seemed an impossible task. But George Washington was frequently at his best when circumstances seemed the worst.

The army was plagued by one-year enlistments. Since the majority of forces joined December 31, 1775, Washington faced this reality on December 30, 1776. Six inches of snow were on the ground, the cold was more severe than men could remember. Ranks were thinner, so were the men. They were underfed and ill-clothed. They had endured grinding hardship as they were ready to go home. One more day!

As the men formed on the drum beat, they saw Washington to the side, alone and on his horse. They knew something was up. Washington rode to the center of the line and began to speak slowly. He told them why they, the veterans, were still needed. When Washington finished, he rode to the side. The regimental officers called on the volunteers to step forward. *No man moved!*

Washington wheeled his horse, rode to the center of the line in front of his embarrassed soldiers and began to speak again.

"You have done all I have asked you to do, more than could be reasonably expected; but your country is at stake, your wives, your houses, and all that you hold dear. You have worn yourselves out with fatigues and hardships, but we know not how to spare you. If you will consent to stay only one month longer, you will render that service to the cause of liberty, and to your country, which you probably never can do under any other circumstances." What we are facing today, he concluded, is "the crisis which is to decide our destiny."

Washington rode out to the side again. Finally, one lone veteran stepped forward saying that he would not go home when the army needed him. After a moment, all who were able to move stepped forward!

Who was the first soldier? Who was he who set the example, who inspired or shamed his comrades into taking that fateful step? Who was he, to paraphrase Neil Armstrong, who took "One small step for man, one giant step for America?" Without him it can be argued the American Revolution would have been lost.

(continued on back)



Walter Calhoun 7/2
 Frank Jordan 7/2
 Jack Rodgers 7/3
 Dan Kosobucki 7/4
 Marvin Foster 7/5
 Phil Scoggins 7/7

**RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO
 THE BIRTHDAY FUND**

Tom Titus
 Lance Duke

MAKE-UPS

PHENIX CITY (06/21)

Meets Monday 12:15

Quality Inn

Buddy Cooper
 Alan Feagin
 George Flowers
 Buddy Martin
 Jim Martin
 Joe McClure
 Bob Tant
 Jim Thorsen

NORTH COLUMBUS (06/22)

Meets Tuesday 12:30

Green Island

Debbie Caballero
 Gloria Dodds
 Tom Titus
 Joe McClure
 Marion Scott

MUSCOGEE (06/24)

Meets Thursday 12:00

Green Island

Rick Alexander
 Patty Cardin
 Larry Cardin
 George Flowers
 Vince Haneman
 Charlie Johnson
 Tom Titus
 Ron King

LAGRANGE (06/16)

Thelon Hamby

rotaryclubone.org

Janet Davis
 Dan Parker
 Peggy Connell
 Neal McCrillis
 Ernie Smallman
 Jack Key III
 Virginia Peebles
 Rich Martindale
 Chuck McClure
 Wayne Anthony
 Jennifer Newman
 Guy Sims
 John Martin
 Hix Myrick
 Jimmy Coppage
 John Stacy
 Drew Rhodes

Number 1

PUCKETT, continued

Who were these men who gave us our freedom? They were soldiers in name only - at least at the beginning. Yet they, like Washington, rose to accomplish the impossible. It was the ordinary soldier that delivered all that Washington asked - and then some!

Washington, also, made a difference. He was exactly what the Colonies needed. He was the inspiration and glue that held the army together. He rose to the challenge; he accomplished what any thinking observer would have considered impossible.

Without their courage, their dedication, their sacrifice, their superhuman effort the American Revolution would have been lost. Thank God for them all!

This historical information is from The Winter Soldiers by Richard M. Ketchum, Easton Press. Norwalk, CT. 1973.



07/07/2010