

ROTARY ROTAGRAPH

Official Publication of the Rotary Club of Fort Worth, Texas

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June 26, 2009

Editorial

A Year to Remember

Amid the high drama of a presidential election, an economic recession, and a flu outbreak that “hogged” the headlines for weeks, the Rotary Club of Fort Worth pressed forward with its 96th year of service to our community. And because scores of members took on the tasks required to keep our club in motion, the 2008-2009 year was an unqualified success. Thanks and congratulations to all!

My year as club president was a joy and a revelation – joy in seeing the energy, the reach, and the impact of our club, and revelation in seeing the commitment of so many that made our impact possible. Join me for a quick stroll down memory lane to reflect on some highlights of our Rotary year.

Literacy – Our club maintained a sharp focus on adult/workforce literacy, advancing two key objectives in a year that saw a year of planning unfold into a year of action! September’s *Corporate Spelling Bee*



Doug White

drew teams of spellers from across the city and raised a bottom line exceeding \$50,000 that helped establish the Tarrant Literacy Coalition – a non-profit that will serve individuals, companies, and other non-profits who seek to provide or to access literacy resources. Club members also mobilized to assist employees at John Peter Smith Hospital as a first worksite for direct partnership in literacy training. Plans were also completed for a first-ever Literacy Summit to be held next February as a service to employers across the region. We are making a difference in this all-important fight!

Programs – What a tremendous year of speakers/programs we enjoyed! Politics and Rotary made great bedfellows, as we heard from candidates and pundits alike. Kim Brimer, Wendy Davis, and Rick Noriega were early guests, while

Roger Williams, Bill White, and Tom Schieffer made appearances this Spring. Sports enthusiasts found Friday joy as well, with Jim Christian (TCU basketball), Mayor Robert Cluck (Cowboys Stadium), and Nolan Ryan and Chuck Morgan (Texas Rangers) leading the way. Sprinkle in CEOs, developers, authors, and more for a year that exceeded even the highest expectations.

Education and Outreach – Our club again made a difference in hundreds of lives this year through service and support. Grants from our endowment funds were spread to organizations large and small across our community, as well as toward a project to send books to students on the other side of the globe. Likewise, our members continued a tradition of volunteerism highlighted by the Back to School Roundup and another incredible year of the STARS Program, where the lessons of *service above self* become real to students at Riverside Middle School.

Membership – Our club takes understandable pride in being one of the largest Rotary clubs in the world. And while numbers are important, I was reminded often this year that it is the *quality* of our members that makes

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Program

June 26, 2009

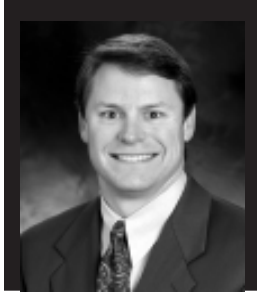
SPEAKER:

The Roast,
Wayne Carson

FORT WORTH CLUB



Last Meeting



Matt Graves

On Friday, June 19, 2009, our club welcomed Chesapeake Energy Chairman of the Board and CEO, Aubrey McClendon as the meeting's guest speaker. Past president and W.B. Todd Award recipient, *J.R. Labbe* introduced Mr. McClendon by describing his "hands' on" approach to running his Fortune 500, energy exploration and production company. He personally meets with all new employees in Q&A sessions that often last several hours.

We learned that McClendon is a third generation oil and gas explorer. Despite being a history major at Duke University and starting his career as a staff accountant, it did not take him long after becoming a mineral landman to focus on his passion of finding and producing oil and gas. He co-founded Chesapeake Energy a short 20 years ago in 1989. And today they are celebrating that milestone in their Fort Worth offices.

McClendon discussed how, five years ago, Chesapeake invested a large amount of capital in Fort Worth in order to pursue the natural gas in

the Barnett Shale play. He explained that today the company employs 700 Fort Worth citizens, utilizes 5,000 local contractors, and has economic impact on approximately 20,000 people through their daily operations. He discussed Chesapeake's interdependence on the Fort Worth community and his desire to get Chesapeake involved in civic, cultural, and charitable establishments.

Fort Worth is in the national spotlight for what McClendon described as the newly discovered abundance of natural gas as the logical replacement for coal and oil as the primary energy source for our country. He described the cyclical problem of importing 70% of our nation's oil from sources that foster and encourage terrorism, which in turn require more U.S. dollars to fund the war on terrorism. He also touted natural gas as the only energy source to reduce our nation's carbon footprint and make real progress towards reducing global warming. Despite the Barnett Shale's estimated 50-year production lifetime, McClendon explained that the next two significant gas fields to be developed are the Haynesville in northwest Louisiana and the Marcellus in West Virginia and Kentucky. He finished his discussion by answering Jim Austin's question about water consumption in the fracking process.

The meeting opened with *Susan Blue's* prayer for our daily walk, and

was followed by our national anthem sung a cappella by the club. *Steve Dutton* recognized visiting Rotarians and brilliantly acknowledged our thirty plus guests to the meeting by asking all to stand for a brief applause. *Gary Cumbie* delivered a classic newscast, surpassing all of his previous efforts. And if he ever gets his Audio/Video presentation to match, he'll be a shoe-in for hosting the Emmy's.

Past President *Zem Neill* presented the 2008-2009 W.B. Todd Award to a very deserving *J.R. Labbe*. After which, Secretary *Ames Fender* introduced new member *Mary Kathryn Anderson* and presented the blue badge to *Jim Lewis*.

~ Matt Graves,
Pinnacle Environmental

Next Week's Program

July

Meeting Cancelled

ROTARIAN: Joan Trew

ROTARIAN: Tim McKinney, Ann Rice, Sue Matkin

ROTARIAN: Michael Berkowitz, Tom Law Jr.

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The Roast



time in the past year is liable to get singed.

Putting flame to the pilot light this year is *Wayne Carson* and co-roaster *J.R. Labbe*. And *Doug Briley* will play the accompanying music...makes you curious, doesn't it?!

So make sure to clear your calendar for lunch this Friday, June 26, and join us to salute President *Doug* in grand, if not respectful, style at the annual Rotary Roast!

The last Friday in June is always a special meeting at the Rotary Club of Fort Worth. Time to thank our outgoing president for the terrific leadership provided during the year, time to reflect on how often our 550-plus Rotarians put Service Above Self for the benefit of others, time to get ready for a new president whose vision and energy will lead us in the coming year.

This meeting is also known as THE ROAST. Beloved Rotarians Roger Rienstra and Loyd Turner began this annual tradition in 1982 and we're still trying to figure out how to stop it. Since that hasn't happened yet, outgoing president *Doug White* should prepare for the worst, a review of every foible and flub he made during his year at the head table.

The rest of you shouldn't get too comfortable. As past president *Zem Neill* said on her day of fame, all is fair in love and roasts, so any Rotarian who has done something noteworthy, notorious or just plain silly some-

THE FOUR-WAY TEST
of the things we think say or do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOOD WILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

THE ONE-WAY TEST
of the things we think say or do

...at the Roast

1. Is it **FUNNY**?

Make-Up Attendance

Fort Worth East — 6.15.09 — *Emil Friberg*

Western Fort Worth — 6.16.09 — *Clem Constantine, Wilton Hammond*

Fort Worth South — 6.17.09 — *Kathryn Bryan, Bobby Grigsby*

Judith Carrier Online

Years of Service:

Clem Constantine, 59 Years

Bob Cargill, 40 Years

Alan Barr, 25, Years

Doug Harmon, 32 Years

Gracias

Thank You

Merci

A Special Thanks



To the following Rotarians who quietly but consistently go above and beyond to provide for our Club:



- Roger Williams
- Golden Putters
- Nancy Gibson
- Flowers for Head Table
- Walter Littlejohn
- Fort Worth Club



Vielen Dank

William B. Todd
Service Above
Self Award

The motto of Rotary International is "Service Above Self." In the Rotary Club of Fort Worth, the William B. Todd Service Above Self Award honors our members for their outstanding and ongoing contributions through the four avenues of Rotary service: Club, Community, Vocational and International. This is our Club's highest award; so high that we don't hand it out every year. But we are this year.

THIS William B. Todd recipient has been a superior member of our club, and served ably during her tenure as president. She brings solid thinking and a willing attitude toward all she does. Her record as a community volunteer is a good one, and she presents Rotary well. she has continued to serve this club since earning the past president title. Her good humor has shown through in her willingness to contribute to the annual roast, to the annual Holiday Harmonies program, and to the now annual Fear-some Foursome program.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in congratulating *J.R. Labbe*. On behalf of the other members of the Award Committee, Past Presidents *Ken Barr*, *Bronson Davis*, *Mac McLain* and *Mark Nurdin*, we are happy and honored to announce that our William B. Todd Service Above Self Award recipient are *J.R. Labbe*.

~Zem Neill
 Committee Chairman



Editorial

(continued from page 1)

our club unique. That quality was enhanced through the addition of 33 new members and the transition of roughly an equal number from red to blue badges. My heartfelt thanks to all proposers and reviewers of new members, and a warm welcome to those who joined our club.

Fun and Fellowship – No recap of 2008-2009 would be complete without mention of special fellowship opportunities we enjoyed. Formal or informal, scripted or unscripted, this was a year filled with fun! Certainly a highlight was the Rotating Rotarians event at the new Omni Hotel where we filled a ballroom and enjoyed VIP tours. Many in the club also enjoyed the chance to show their spirit by donning costumes for the Halloween meeting and baseball jerseys for the visit of Nolan Ryan. And who could forget this year's celebration of Holiday Harmonies and the Fearsome Foursome? The club even succeeded in its efforts to lobby the U.S. Navy to name a ship for our city!

I hate to stop here, but there isn't enough copy space available to cover all the 2008-2009 highlights. Let me close with a word of thanks to the members of our Board and to those who have volunteered their time to lead and serve on our numerous committees. **I am indebted to each and every one of you.** We now look to a new year under President Sid and his leadership team and to new opportunities to say "yes" when asked to become a part of the action. We belong to one of the biggest and best Rotary Clubs in the world. I encourage you to continue to look for new ways to serve.

~ Doug White,
 Texas Health Harris Methodist
 Foundation

ROTAGRAPH

ROTARY CLUB OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS

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ROTAGRAPH

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 Associate Editors

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Craig Schaefer	New Members
Craig / Roger	Editorials

Personals



I could not have been more stunned or honored than I was on Friday when *Zem Neill* presented the William B. Todd Service Above Self award. It is my privilege and joy to be a member of the Rotary Club of Fort Worth. Any success that I have achieved as a Rotarian is because so many of you have been willing to run with my sometimes zany ideas. To be recognized by people I respect, admire and care so deeply for is a blessing.

Thank you. ~ *J.R. Labbe*



2008-2009 Grants



Your contributions to the Rotary Funds go to make life better for children and adults right here in Fort Worth. The following is a list of contributions made during President *Doug's* year.

Children's Fund

Fort Worth Sister Cities	\$1,000.00	to support the International Leadership Academy which strives to prepare global leaders for the future and create a more cohesive and peaceful world
Child Study Center	\$1,000.00	to continue the Center's fight against illiteracy and further allow all children with developmental disabilities to reach their full potential.
Alliance for Children	\$2,000.00	to support the children's emergency needs fund which is used to meet the immediate needs of children throughout an investigation. A child might need shoes, clothing or food, baby bed, car seat, etc.
The WARM Place	\$2,000.00	to support the Sons and Daughters program to provide grief support to children ages 5-18 who are
United Way of Tarrant County	\$3,000.00	to support the Imagination Library project which will purchase books for 100 children in targeted zip codes. The will receive a new book each month for a full year.
Easter Seals	\$2,000.00	to provide audiological services and hearing aids for children with disabilities who have no other means of obtaining these services or devices.
Girl Scouts	\$1,000.00	to support the Together for Girls and Girls Scouts at Schools programs, to confront issues that place girls at risk while strengthening academic skills and providing a stabilizing influence of positive behaviors.
Performing Arts Fort Worth (Bass Hall)	\$2,000.00	to support the Performing Arts Children's Education Program's literacy initiatives.
Boys & Girls Clubs	\$2,803.00	to support the Reading is Fundamental program
Hill School of Fort Worth	\$4,000.00	to provide scholarships for school, a specialized learning environment for students of average or above-average intelligence who have dyslexia, ADD, ADHD or other learning differences
Rotary Club of Fort Worth	\$2,000.00	to provide copies of 'Angels at My Door' a book about living with HIV/AIDS written for children and illustrated by children to Fort Worth's Sister City, Mbane Swaziland
The Parenting Center	\$5,000.00	to provide play therapy to low-income children who have been abused

Endowment Fund

The Women's Center	\$1,500.00	to support adult literacy program, serving adults who read at or below 4th grade reading level.
United Community Centers	\$1,500.00	to support the Adult Literacy Program including curriculum and expansion of program at the Bethlehem and Polytechnic Centers
The Arc of Greater Tarrant County	\$2,000.00	to reduce illiteracy in adults with intellectual & developmental disabilities & their families by allowing us to expand the Arc Literacy & Reading program.

