



The Westbank



Rotator

June 3rd, 2003

www.RotaryWestbank.org



By:
Ron Mosel

President's Pen

This past week, I spoke to Paul Verret who is doing well since his surgery. He said he has started a walking program, and he is feeling better. He also said that he would have to go back for some additional treatment in the latter part of June. If you have an opportunity to give him a call, I'm sure he would really appreciate hearing from you. His phone number is 895-1091.

This week our President-elect, Bob Watzke, is at the International Rotary Conference in Brisbane Australia. I look forward to the report he will be giving about what he has learned at the International Conference.

I also would like to remind everyone about the installation banquet, which will be held at Timberline Country Club on Saturday June 28th at 7 p.m. I strongly encourage all members to attend. There is no additional cost to attend this event, because it is covered in your quarterly dues. This is your club, and this banquet is for the installation of your officers. Not to mention the fact that Bob would appreciate your support for his upcoming presidency.

The theme for Rotary this past year was "Sow the Seeds of Love." The new theme for the coming year will be "Lend a Hand." Our new president is Jonathan

Majiyagbe, and he is the first person from Africa to serve as an International Rotary President.

The war in Iraq has triggered a humanitarian crisis of enormous proportions for the people of that country. Before the war, according to the United Nations, two thirds of the Iraqi people required food aid distribution. During the war, this distribution system completely collapsed, leaving large numbers of the population without food.

The Rotary club of Raleigh North Carolina has a program called "Stop Hunger Now," which was created in 1998. Ray Buchanan from the club traveled to Iraq at the beginning of the year to develop partnerships with two local relief organizations based in Jordan and Syria. This organization has been feeding the people of Iraq since January. Mr. Buchanan travels to as many as 20 countries each year, but he said the trip to Iraq was unforgettable.

He took time to photograph Iraqi children in classrooms to put a human face on the fundraising effort. He reports that a \$20 food box can feed a family of four for four weeks. The local relief agencies do the work of preparing and distributing food. Stop Hunger Now is in the background providing a pipeline for financial support that those agencies could never have tapped.

Mr. Buchanan understands the significance of the four-way test. He said, "We don't have to get the credit. Were

only interested in getting the job done." Rotary is not about you! Rotary is about service to the community and to your fellow human beings.

The object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideals of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and in particular to encourage and foster the development of acquaintances as an opportunity for service. Maintain a high ethical standard in business and professional life. Recognize the worthiness of all useful occupations and identifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society. The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarians personal, business and community life, and lastly the investment of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

This is a sign of a Rotarian who is in his club for the benefit of the community, and this is what we strive to achieve in our club from all of our members.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"Every calling
is great when
correctly pursued."*

-Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.

Rotary Club of the Westbank

1309 Whitney Avenue
Gretna, LA 70056
Club 3995 - District 6840

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS 2002-2003

Ron Mosel
President

Robert Watzke
President-Elect

Pat Campbell
Vice-President

Charlie Jones, III
Secretary

Bubby Gauthreaux
Treasurer

Joe Stephens
Sergeant-At-Arms

Kathy Ockman
Immediate Past President

Robert Folsie
Director of Club Services

Paul Verret
Director of Community Service

Michael Dendy
Director of International Service

Debbie Guins
Director of Vocational Services

Tuesday Meetings, 12:15pm
Gretna United Methodist Church
1309 Whitney Ave., Gretna

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

June 10, 2003 _____ Neal Fromenthal
June 17, 2003 _____ Carl Orgeron
June 24, 2003 _____ Kathy Ockman



LUNCH GUESTS



Jan Mayeux _____ member of St. Bernard
Al Hotard _____ member of Westwego
Maggie Bean _____ guest of Jan Mayeux
Frank Ranatza _____ guest of Ed Grady
John Schlumbrecht _____ guest of Ed Grady
Shawn Heiden _____ guest of Brian Heiden
Dave Lunderen _____ guest of Bob Weileman
David Nielsen _____ guest of Rob Folsie
Tony DiGerolamo _____ guest of the club
Vincent Robbin _____ guest of Bubby Gauthreaux

Program Chairman

We will not have a guest speaker for June 3rd.

GUEST SPEAKER

For June 3rd, is Club Day.

Drug Awareness Poster Contest Winners



RECAP OF LAST WEEK

Spotlight of the Week

Gerry Carr

My name is Gerry Carr and I was born in the Bronx, in New York. I was raised in Queens before going into the Navy in 1952 during the Korean War. I served on two destroyers, the USC Daily DD 519 and the USS Warrington DD 843.

After the Navy, I became a plumber's helper in my dad's plumbing business. Slowly, over the years, I went into management. I met my lovely wife while I was in

the Navy. We dated for two years and then got married 49 years ago.

We moved down to New Orleans in 1967. I opened Weight Watchers and watched it slowly grow to 600 employees, covering a two state area. In 1989, H. J. Heinz purchased my franchise.

We have two children together. Randy and his wife, Lisa, own Carr Drugs and have two children of their own, Greg and Alanna. Our daughter, Heidi is married to Jerry, who is also a member of our Rotary Club. Heidi runs day and night with my twin granddaughters, Gabie and Bric.

I joined the Rotary Club in 1971 and stayed with it for 7 years before having to leave. I rejoined in 1989 and have been in the club ever since.

My hobbies include wood turning and ornamental wood turning, leather craft and flying.

Coming Soon!!!

- 6/3 Nancy Wagner
- 6/10 Vicki Polo, Past President
- 6/17 Sister Laura Meloncon
- 6/24 Neal Fromenthal, Past Pres.
- 7/1 Robert Watzke, Incoming Pres.



Guest Speaker:

Beverly B. Haslauer, CPC, QPA
*President of the Haslauer Group
 A Retirement Planning & Pension Plan
 Administrator in New Orleans, LA*

How Pending Legislation May Affect Your Retirement Plans

Beverly highlighted several issues of interest regarding the different kinds of retirement plans available to us and how bills currently in the hands of our legislators will affect us. Among other activities, the Haslauer Group lobbies the legislature to protect small business owners' and their employees' interests on retirement plans and benefits. As a result, the group assists in formulating government policy on retirement planning and rules. Several of the new bills are designed to make employers more responsible for assisting their employees and improving information flow to their participants.

Ms. Haslauer provided four handouts which contained more detail into the proposed legislation and commented that the bills will probably become law very soon. Among the main bills' purview is

language pertaining to:

1. Improved ability for participants to diversify their portfolio(s) which include their employer's stock, actionable over the employee's specific years of participation;
2. Specified intervals for employers to send statements of retirement accounts to each participant and the means of communications to be used by each type of plan sponsor;
3. For plans subject to ERISA, to give participants the right to make direct investments within their account(s) and requires employers to provide periodic investment education on risk and investment;
4. Retirement Plan Administrators have a fiduciary obligation to the plan's participants during a "blackout period" and may be held liable for any losses incurred if he/she does not act in the best interests of the plan's participants;
5. Permits the participants to utilize investment advisors to assist in portfolio selection and management, provided specific rules are followed and full disclosure of the advisor's agreement is provided; and,

6. Other provisions covering inclusion or exclusion of taxable income for reporting purposes for highly compensated employees, expansion of "notice and consent" period for distributions from 90 to 180 days, rules regarding terminations of participants accounts and other related retirement administration issues.

Finally, Beverly touched on the changes coming in how plan expenses may be charged against participants' retirement accounts and how the new rules will benefit participants. And, she summarized how employers can greatly increase the amounts of annual contributions to retirement accounts through the Small Employer Safe Harbor 401(k) Plan, with the new "Comparability Profit Sharing Contribution" feature.

Few financial outlays will rival the importance of good, sound retirement planning. It's what you do with the rest of your life. For further information, contact Beverly at 737-6565 or Bevhhh@aol.com, or your financial consultant. Whether you are an employer or an employee, give some time and attention to planning your golden years.



Rotary Annual Seafood Boil
 Hosted by Kass Koaches
Saturday May 31st
 5 pm - til
 1650 Stumpf Blvd.
 just off Whitney Ave.
 costs \$12 per person

Potatoes Soft Drinks
 Corn Shrimp
 Desserts Fun
 Crawfish Beer



Lunch Menu
 Ham
 Pasta Salad
 Peas
 Cantaloupe & Pineapple Salad
 Brownies

Happy Birthday!



*James Barse
Bob Weileman*

Absent:

Anding, Bryant, Dendy, Doubleday,
 Gegenheimer, Gonzales, Harris, Leaber,
 J. Macalouso, Maggio, Melancon,
 Polo, Rodriguez-Fierro, Schexnayder,
 Stumpf, Stuntz, Ward, Watzke



\$66.00

Charlie Jones, III

1/2 & 1/2

