



The Westbank



Rotator

June 24th, 2003

www.RotaryWestbank.org



by
Ron Mosel

President's Pen

The final board meeting for this administration was this past Wednesday evening. All the members of the Board were present for the meeting. We also invited the new board members for community service, and club service. The minutes were approved from the last meeting with no corrections or additions. The treasurer's report indicated the balance in the checking account is approximately \$11,000, however there are several outstanding bills, which still need to be paid.

Under old business, we currently have four members who have outstanding dues that are seriously past due. These members will be receiving a letter in which we will ask them to correct their delinquent account. If there is a problem with the billing, or a situation that may exist which you believe warrants special consideration by the Board of Directors, please contact our treasurer, Bubby Gauthreaux, as soon as possible so we can resolve the issue.

According to the Rotary Club of the West Bank constitution and bylaws, Article X, section 4(1) states: "A member failing to pay dues within 30 days after the prescribed time shall be notified in writing by the Secretary at the members last known address. If the dues are not paid on or before 10 days from the date of notification, said membership shall automatically terminate."

In the past, we have not been as stringent about following the above-mentioned bylaws. However, our current board feels the issue needs to be addressed, and if the members are delinquent and do not notify the Board as to the status of their situation, they will automatically be terminated. If the member chooses to rejoin the club, they will be required to pay the delinquent dues in addition to a new initiation fee.

Also under other old business, the Board has agreed to supplement the \$1000 generated from the raffle project for the Young Marine's program with an additional \$2000.

Under new business, two additional charities will be receiving donations. We have been a longtime supporter of Bridge House, so they will receive a donation of \$500. Bridge House has served this community for approximately 50 years, and helps people in their quest for recovery from alcoholism and drug addiction. According to the California drug and alcohol treatment assessment program, every dollar spent for substance abuse treatment saves society about seven dollars. Those seven dollars would have been spent instead on the needless housing of nonviolent drug offenders in penitentiaries, addiction related medical expenses, or sick claim benefits. According to Dan, Bridge House statistics indicate that 70% of those that complete the program remain sober for two years.

We also will be purchasing a table

for the Gretna Prayer Dinner. There will be room for ten members to attend this event. Ronnie Lamarque will be the guest speaker. If you would like to attend this event please contact me at my e-mail address: rmosel@attglobal.net

We have been given an invitation to the "Victims and Citizens Against Crime Awards Night Banquet," which is on the evening of June 26th. Bubby Gauthreaux will be representing our club at this event.

Our directors have completed all activities for this year, so there were no reports to be obtained. However, I encourage ALL of you to attend the Installation Banquet to show your support for the hard work of this past year, and the efforts planned for the coming year. Our club is successful because of the team effort put forth by our membership. Join us Saturday Night and support our team!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"He who
exceses himself
accuses himself."*
-Gabriel Meurier

Rotary Club of the Westbank

**1309 Whitney Ave.
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 Folse
Director of Club Services

Paul Verret
Direct of Community Service

Michael Dendy
Director of International Service

Debbie Guines
Director of Vocational Services

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

PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

July 1, 2003 _____ Bill Bravender
July 8, 2003 _____ John Kushler
July 15, 2003 _____ Laura Hummel
July 22, 2003 _____ John Centani
July 29, 2003 _____ Garey Alimia



LUNCH GUESTS



Bob Fadaol _____ guest from Westwego
Paul Thiels _____ guest of the club
Cheryl St. Cyr _____ guest of Angie Magee
Stanton McNelly _____ guest of Angie McGee

Program Chair

Kathy Ockman will have our guest speaker for June 17th.

Guest Speaker

For June 24th, Kathy Ockman will have **Robin Rome, R.N.**, Clinical Manager from West Jefferson Hospice, who will talk about "What Is Hospice?"

Announcements:

Paul Thiels is invited to join the Rotary Club of the Westbank. He is an Investment Advisor Representative for GE Financial. Paul is also a member of the Greater New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, the New Orleans City Energy Club, and the Elfun Society which is a service organization within General Electric.

Happy Birthday!



*Robert Anding
Brian Heiden*

RECAP OF LAST WEEK

Spotlight of the Week

Sister Laura Melancon

I was born in New Orleans on December 7, 1934. For those of you who are older than I, you will remember that in 1934 a gallon of milk cost 45¢, a loaf of bread 8¢, a new car \$575, a gallon of gas 11¢, a new home cost around \$6,000 and the average income was \$1,518.

In 1934, on the world scene in sports, you may remember that St. Louis won the World Series in the seventh game against Detroit. The heavyweight boxing title changed hands when Max Baer KO'd Primo Canera.

The president was Franklin D. Roosevelt and the vice-president was John N. Garner, and also in that year, the US Army perfected a tank that could travel more than 60 m.p.h..

I grew up in Algiers, went to a Catholic elementary school and to the Academy of Holy Angels for high school.

After graduation, I entered the novitiate to become a Marianite of Holy Cross. Last year I celebrated my golden jubilee (50 years) of profession as a Marianite.

I received a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Our Lady of Holy Cross and taught in elementary schools in New Orleans and later attended the University of Clermont Ferrand in Vichy France and again at the University of Angers in France. After receiving a master's degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in French, I taught high schools students in New Orleans, Lake Charles, and in Morgan City.

In 1972, I was sent to Our Lady of Holy Cross College as Academic Dean and remained in the position until 1981 when I became the First Assistant General of the Congregation. That meant that I had to move to our headquarters which was

located in LeMans, France.

After several years, I returned to Our Lady of Holy Cross College and became Vice-president for Development, then moved on to Vice-president for Institutional Planning.

I really like the work I am doing at the college and I am especially grateful for the people who have come into my life in my years of teaching, as well as in my years as an administrator at the college. But most especially, I am grateful to my Congregation which has afforded me so many wonderful opportunities of personal growth both spiritually and professionally.

I would like to thank Dr. Jerry Fortino who invited me to join Rotary in 1992. I have enjoyed the camaraderie of this organization and consider it a privilege to be a member of this wonderful group.

Coming Soon!!!

Neal Fromenthal, Robert Watzke, Roy Gattuso



Guest Speaker:

Chip Cahill
President Jefferson Parish
Levee District

Present Status of West Bank Levees and Flood Gates

The main objective of the Jefferson Parish Levee District and the supporting agencies is to protect all property from flood waters and associated storm damages, up to a fast moving Category III storm, or less. The threat of damage shifts from property to life saving in storms of a slow moving Class III or greater. In those cases, early evacuation will be a major factor in personal survival. The Levee District and the Corps of Engineers have been working hard to improve the protection system and achieve their goals.

Two years ago, the District was having difficulty in obtaining funds for the levee operations and improvements. That condition has improved recently and many new projects have been planned and/or begun to improve the system.

Major projects in progress include -

Cousins Pump Station (Lapalco @ Destrehan) – with two pumps in place, construction of a third pump is about 200 days into a 900-day contract. This phase will cost about \$30 million and serve areas west of the Harvey Canal.

Sector Gate Complex in the Harvey Canal (Just south of the Lapalco Bridge)

A flood gate structure will be built between the banks of the Harvey Canal to permit closure and limit the water height between it and the lock at 4th St. It has been designed to minimize closure time of motor vehicles over the Lapalco Bridge and will probably start up in 2005. The complex will cost about \$24 million and the associated discharge channel will add about \$6 million more.

Floodwalls and/or earthen levee improvements are under way on the **Algiers Canal and the Harvey Canal**. Inspections revealed some problems and low areas which are being corrected.

Lake Cataouatche – The lake overtopped in September of 1998 and projects are under way to build and bolster additional protection in that area.

Lafitte/Crown Point – 205 different projects have been put on hold by the Corps of Engineers to allow them to per-

form new surveys and obtain soil samples. It is felt that some of the projects may be bundled together and that a better, coordinated effort would yield better results for the money.

Single Biggest Problem on the West Bank – The area around the **Stewart & Stevenson Work Center on Destrehan Avenue** on the west bank of the Harvey Canal needs a lot of work. The soil beneath the foundation of their building has sunk or eroded substantially so that the slab basically rests on its pilings which makes the structure vulnerable to high winds and surges. The District and Corps of Engineers are reviewing option to repair that problem, along with some other issues on the east side of the canal.

Chip also touched on improving funding conditions and stated that we may well get some flood insurance relief from all this protective work, maybe around a 5% reduction, next year. By the time all the currently approved work is completed in 2006, they will have cost about \$60 million in local money plus \$240 million in federal funds for about \$300 million; about as much as the construction of the new Crescent City Connection or the Super Dome. That's a lot of money, but we're worth it!



You Are Cordially Invited To:

2003

Rotary Club of the Westbank

Officer & Director

Installation Banquet

Saturday, June 28th

Timberlane Country Club

Gretna, Louisiana

6:30 pm Cocktails

7:00 pm Dinner

*Free to members and guest,
additional guests \$45.00*

Please Rsvp to Bob Watzke, 341-0971



Lunch Menu

- Pork Loin
- Rice Pilaf
- Peas
- Mock Waldorf Salad
- Chocolate Pudding

Important Notice:

Thank You

to Cheryl St Crye and all the club members who donated toys for Children's Hospital terminally ill children.

Absent:

Autin, Bryant, de la Bretonne, Doubleday, Dunbar, Foley, Folsie, Gassen, Gegenheimer, Grady, Lupin, Maggio, Moore, Osborn, Polo, Rodriguez-Fierro, Schexnayder, Stuntz, Sullivan, Tucei, Ward, Weileman



\$60.00

Judy Marshall

1 1/2 & 1 1/2

For comments, suggestions, or questions please contact:

Design@DesignThePlanet.com



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**Budget from Foundation for 2002/03
\$55,075.00**

**Unallocated Budget Remaining
\$42750**

Projects	Amount Allocated	Amount Paid	Month Due/Paid	Remaining Balance
Convention (Ron Mosel)	\$2,737.50	\$2,737.50	Jul-02	\$ -
Jamica Dental Project	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	Aug-02	\$ -
Rotary Rose Parade Float Contribution	\$300.00	\$300.00	Aug-02	\$ -
Frineds of Jefferson	\$250.00	\$250.00	Sep-02	\$ -
Senior Citizens' Dinner	\$500.00	\$360.00	Sep-02	\$140.00
GSE Team Clothing	\$800.00	\$781.33	Oct-02	\$18.67
Wynhoven Bingo in Honor of Sylvia	\$600.00	\$600.00	Nov-02	\$ -
Thanksgiving Baskets to the Needy	\$4,000.00	\$3,936.83	Nov-02	\$63.17
GUMW - Annual Donation	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	Dec-02	\$500.00
Paul Harris Fellows 20	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	Dec-02	\$ -
Ambassidorial Scholarship Posters	\$500.00	\$610.00	Dec-02	\$(110.00)
Law Enforcement Officer Award	\$500.00	\$565.58	Dec-02	\$(65.58)
Band Deposit (Christmas Party)	\$100.00	\$100.00	Dec-02	\$ -
Top Fire Fighter of 2000	\$500.00	\$538.28	Dec-02	\$(38.28)
Chichuba Christmas Party	\$600.00	\$387.81	Dec-02	\$212.19
Dictionary Project	\$5,000.00	\$5,304.07	Jan-03	\$(304.07)
District Fundraiser	\$900.00	\$905.00	Jan-03	\$(5.00)
RI Convention (Bob Watzke)	\$500.00	\$437.50	Jan-03	\$62.50
House of Ruth	\$350.00	\$350.00	Jan-03	\$ -
Easter Seals	\$1,000.00	\$850.00	Feb-03	\$150.00
Cerebral Palsy Gift	\$100.00	\$100.00	Feb-03	\$ -
Just Say NO Poster Contest	\$330.00	\$615.00	May-03	\$(285.00)
RYLA - 7 Students @ \$450.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	Mar-03	\$ -
LA Boys' State - American Legion	\$400.00	\$400.00	Mar-03	\$ -
LA Girls' State - American Legion	\$400.00	\$400.00	Mar-03	\$ -
Young Life of New Orleans	\$500.00	\$500.00	Apr-03	\$ -
Teacher of Year - HS Nominations Awards	\$2,360.00	\$2,234.70	Apr-03	\$125.30
Gretna Prayer Dinner	\$120.00	\$120.00	Jun-03	\$ -
Rotary International Permanet Fund	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	May-03	\$ -
YES Adult Literacy Program	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	May-03	\$ -
STAIR Children's' Literacy Program	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	May-03	\$ -
GSE Team	\$1,000.00	\$955.17	May-03	\$44.83
Young Marine Program of Jefferson	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	Jun-03	\$ -
Bridge House	\$500.00	\$500.00	Jun-03	\$ -
	\$54,647.50	\$54,138.77		\$508.73