



# **THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN**

*“Service above self”*

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Issue Date ..... December 21, 2000  
Next Meeting ..... December 26, 2000  
Meeting Place ..... Ramada Inn, Church Street

## **Rotary moving to Poinsett Hotel**

Everyone needs to be prepared for the meeting place change from the Ramada Inn to the Westin Poinsett Hotel. Our last meeting at the Ramada Inn will be Tuesday, December 26. Our first meeting at the Westin Poinsett Hotel will be the Rotary Heritage Celebration Dinner Wednesday evening, January 10. (There will be no regular lunch meeting on January 9.)

Our first regular lunch meeting at the Westin Poinsett will be

Tuesday, January 23. Please mark your calendars now! More details to follow in subsequent newsletters.

Members will park in the parking deck behind the building and pick up a voucher at the front registration table when they sign in, which will cover the parking costs. Upon exiting the parking garage after the meeting, give the voucher to the parking attendant.

Please call Kitty Allen at 232-1979 if you have any questions.



## Final Ramada meeting promises to be 'zoo'

The Downtown Rotary Club will hold its final meeting at the Ramada Inn on Church Street December 26 — and you can expect it to be a zoo. Really. At least in part.

Children and grandchildren of club members will be honored guests at the day-after-Christmas meeting, and plans are for the Greenville Zoo to bring some animals for the enjoyment of the youngsters. According to Jim Scott, a third of the meeting room will be set apart for the zoo display. He said there would be time before and after the meeting for the children to view, and probably pet, the animals.

The children's chorus from Furman University will provide entertainment for the meeting. The business portion of this Rotary meeting will be kept short.

## Reservations still accepted for 85th fete

Reservations are still being accepted for the 85th anniversary celebration of the Downtown Rotary Club on January 10 at the Poinsett Hotel.

Black tie is optional at this event, which will pay tribute to the club's history and signal its return to its former meeting place, the Poinsett Hotel. A feature of the program will be the premiere of a video on the club's history. Each member attending will receive a copy of the video produced by Don Koonce of the Koonce Group in Greenville.

"It's not too late to make reservations for the celebration," said Ruud Veltman, "but seating is limited, so you should hurry. Remember, this event is open to guests and other Rotary clubs."

Cost of the birthday bash is \$100 per person, and reservation forms are available from Gene Hindman.

## When you have news

If you have won an award, been elected to an office, named to a board, or have family news to tell, report it to the Bulletin Editor by phone, 232-8736; fax, 232-8488; e-mail, don@baptistcourier.com; or U.S. mail, 100 Manly St., Greenville 29601.

### *The Greenville Rotarian*

Volume 47, No. 24  
December 21, 2000

Phillip A. Kilgore, President  
Beth Padgett, President-Elect  
Gene Hindman, Secretary-Treasurer  
Don Kirkland, Bulletin Editor

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## Business executive Darla Moore urges action on higher education

A South Carolinian who is president of one of the nation's largest private investment firms has called for action to make sure that the state's 33 public institutions of higher education remain "viable and flourishing."

Darla Moore, who leads Rainwater, Inc., said in a December 12 speech to Greenville Rotary Club, "In a time in South Carolina when we are seeing a real renaissance in public education, a time when government, business and education leaders are coming together to address the problems of our public schools, we need to focus equally hard on our higher education system."



Moore

Moore, a native of Lake City and graduate of the University of South Carolina, whose business school is named for her, said the "continuum of reform" is not just K-12, but K-16. "My concern," she said, "is that there are signs that access to a college education may soon be impossible unless we take strong, drastic steps to ensure the kind of support that higher education institutions will require to educate our citizens."

She pointed out that South Carolina, which spends \$5,556 a year to education a college student, ranks 40th nationally in increases in appropriations to public higher education in the last decade, trailing neighboring Georgia, 8th, and North Carolina, 15th.

Moore, who is a trustee of USC and member of the advisory board at Clemson, said the whole system of funding for South Carolina's public colleges and universities should be "overhauled and changed significantly" to meet the current needs.

"We are working hard in South Carolina to bring business, civic, and educational entities together to forge real reform and lasting change in the quality of life in our state," she said, "and we need to recognize the integral role of higher education at the center of this metamorphosis."

She concluded, "We are dealing with our greatest natural asset, our fundamental source of wealth, our elemental access to capital. We are talking about our intellectual capital —the single greatest determinant of wealth creation and quality of life in the century we now live in."

## Padgett elected club president for 2001-02

Beth Padgett was elected club President for 2001-2002 and Nell Stewart was elected President-Elect at the December 12 meeting of the Downtown Rotary Club. Elected to two-year terms on the Board of Directors were Stan Ingram, Ben Crider, Fay Towell, Terry Weaver and Jim Scott. The new positions take effect on July 1, 2001.

The slate of officers and directors was placed into nomination by Past President Coleman Shouse, chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Shouse announced that Gene Hindman, currently serving as club Secretary-Treasurer, had agreed to serve another term in that position. However, because of personal commitments, Hindman has informed the Nominating Committee that he cannot serve as Secretary-Treasurer next year.

Shouse said that the Nominating Committee is searching for someone to fill the position of Secretary-Treasurer and would bring a nomination back to the club membership at a later date. He also said that if club members have any suggestions for filling this most important position, they should contact Shouse, Padgett, or President Phillip Kilgore.

## The Family of Rotary

Tuesday, December 12, was an important day for **Roger Meek**. Roger, who is president of the Bramlett Insurance Agency, was introduced as a new Rotarian at lunch, and later in the day was re-elected to a third one-year term as chairman of the Greenville County school board.

The December 13 issue of *The Greenville News* carried a full-page feature on our club's Roper Mountain Holiday Lights project, under the heading of "Community Service." The article had profiles of Rotarians **Ben Crider**, chairman of the project which started in 1992; **Bob Olson**, who had the idea for the holiday lights; and **Bob Schmid**, a Rotarian for 36 years who started volunteering for the Roper Mountain project after his retirement. Crider said, "I don't feel like it's Christmas until I have had a chance to work on the lights."

He added, "To do anything like this, you have to have a love for it."

The chairman hopes that more than 19,000 cars will be admitted this year.

## Missing Persons Report

Wanda Adams, Carol Allison, Warren Arseneaux, Tom Barton Jr., Louis Batson III, Audrey Bettger, John Bettger, Jim Blakely Jr., John Brearley, Tim Brown, Andy Cajka Jr., Lang Cheves Jr., Scott Christopher, Gary Clark, Bob E. Coleman, Dean Crain II, Charles Dalton, Art Dreskin, John Dullea, Marcia Duncan, Mel Duncan, Jason Elliott, Bill Engle, Mills Gallivan, Harold Gallivan Jr., Nelson Garrison, Gray Geddie Jr., Frank Gibbes III, Will Gowan Jr., Paul Grier, Allen Grumbine, Tap Haley, John Hardaway III, Alan Harkey, Al Hotz Jr., Bob Howard, Stan Ingram Jr., Whit Jordan Jr., Rick Knight Jr., Todd Korahais, Frank Landgraff, Tom Latham Jr., Bessie Lee, Charlie LeGrand, Harrell Ligon, Billy Long Jr., John Lummus, Collin Mackie, "Rip" Major III, Sara Mansbach, Alex Martin, Bob Martin, John McCarroll, Scott McClelland, Brad Medcalf, David Merline Jr., Charlie Mickel, Mel Miles Jr., Bill Millen, Van Moore, Bill Newell, Ray Orvin Jr., Lee Palms, Arthur Phillips Jr., Tom Piper, J.J. Puryear, John Reynolds, Frank Richards Jr., Jim Robbins, Bill Robertson III, Chris Rogers, Roy Seaver, Sam Simmons, Des Smith, Sam Smith III, Willie Smith Jr., Kirk Stone, Roger Stone, Lyndon Stovall, Kyle Thomas, John R. Thomas, Rocky Thomason III, Fay Towell, Kristi Turner, Turner Ross III, John Uprichard, Mike Vincent, Doug Wilson, Freddie Wilson, James Woodside Jr., Baker Wyche III.

Attendance for the December 12 meeting:

<u>Members</u>	<u>Rotarian Guests</u>	<u>Other Guests</u>	<u>Total</u>
211	5	25	241

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