



THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN

"Service above self"

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Next Meeting February 13, 2001
Meeting Place Poinsett Hotel, Main Street

McKnew to speak on 'living dangerously'

A Greenville attorney formerly with the Development Association of Greater Greenville (DAGG) will speak at the Downtown Club's February 13th meeting at the Poinsett Hotel.

Tami McKnew, of the Leatherwood, Walker, Todd and Mann law firm, has chosen for her topic, "The Year of Living Dangerously." She will discuss the Reedy River project.

She was a member of the founding committee for the Greenville Tech Charter High School, and is a member of its board. She also is a board member and general counsel for the Greenville Chamber of Commerce. She is a recent recipient of the Metropolitan "Heart in the Arts" award, but says her proudest accomplishment is her daughter, Kelson.



McKnew

Downtown Club opens new office

The Downtown Club has a new office located in the Ideal Uniform Service building at 2200 Poinsett Highway. The phone number is 235-2293, and the office hours are 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. The mailing address remains P.O. Box 3537, Greenville, 29608.

The Club has hired Vickie Pittman as administrative assistant to handle clerical duties and answer Rotary questions. Vickie worked as secretary and administrative assistant for Arthur Magill and his family for 15 years until their office closed last December.



Ward

Three officers honored at annual Law Day

Three of the top law enforcement officers based in Greenville County received special recognition at the Downtown Rotary Club's Law Day on January 23rd. It was also the Club's first regular meeting in the newly renovated Westin Poinsett Hotel.

Honored as top officers were Master Deputy Gary Lee Ward of the Greenville County Sheriff's Office,

Sergeant Scott Willis of the Greenville City Police Department, and Special Agent Martin Brown of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This year was the first time that a federal law enforcement officer has been honored by the Downtown Club.

Master Deputy Ward has 11 years experience with the Greenville County Sheriff's Office. He began his career in 1989 as a member of the



Willis

Field Operations Division. In 1990, he was transferred to the Vice and Narcotics Unit, where he continues to be assigned as a member of the Federal Drug Enforcement Task Force.

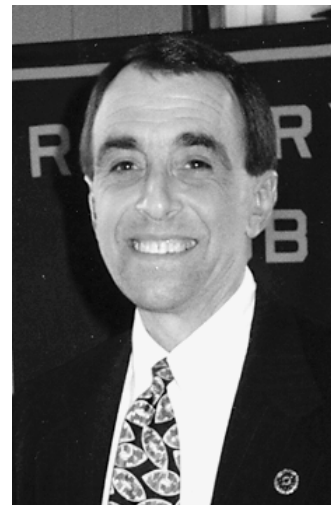
Ward has been involved in more than 750 felony drug cases, and assisted local, state and federal agencies in these investigations. As a member of the Federal Drug Task Force, he played a vital role in a 1998 case resulting in multiple arrests of Colombian nationals, the seizure of more than 800 kilos of cocaine and the confiscation of millions of dollars in cash and property.

Sergeant Willis has 10 years experience with the Greenville City Police Department. He

began his law enforcement career in 1991 as a patrolman. He was promoted to corporal in 1994, and was transferred to the Investigative Services Division, Vice and Narcotics Bureau. From there, he served in the Violent Crime Unit and the Homicide Bureau. In October 2000, he was promoted to sergeant.

Willis is credited with helping bring several high profile investigations to a conclusion over the past decade. He was one of the lead detectives investigating the 1996 homicide of Greenville Police Officer Russ Sorrow. Between 1996 and 2000, Willis was assigned 35 homicide cases. Only two remain unsolved.

Special Agent Brown has 25 years experience with the FBI. He began his FBI career in 1976 as an entry level file clerk. He became a special agent in 1979, and served 10 years in New York and Washington, D.C.



Brown

In 1989, Brown transferred to Columbia, and in 1992 to Greenville. In a case worked closely with SLED, Brown was credited with an investigation resulting in the first federal life sentences ever ordered in South Carolina for a drug conviction. He led investigations into two violent South Carolina kidnappings resulting in the safe release of the victims and conviction of those responsible.

Brown is the first federal agent honored at the Club's Law Day. A police officer has been honored since 1976, and a sheriff's deputy has been honored since 1988.

Deke DeLoach — who retired from the FBI after 28 years service that included serving as deputy director to J. Edgar Hoover — was the guest speaker.

Members proposed

Paul Landers, Human Resource Manager, Teletech/TeleServices, Inc., under the classification of Human Resource Management-Call Center (Active), sponsored by Frank Kolb and Nell Stewart.

Marcus DelGato, Branch Manager of Thyssen Dover Elevator, under the classification of Elevator Manufacturing (Active), sponsored by Frank Kolb and Nell Stewart.

Crawford Banks Long, E-Business Developer and Strategist, Brains On Fire, under the classification of E-Business Strategist (Active), sponsored by Bruce McPherson and Bill Robertson.

Bruce E. Bowman, Retired, Ford Motor Co., under the classification of Automotive Manufacturing (Active), sponsored by Randy Bell and Myles Golden.

Wanted You to Know ...

I did not fully understand what it would take to get us moved to the Poinsett Hotel when the idea started picking up steam almost two years ago. After the developers announced plans to renovate the Poinsett, the Club leadership immediately saw an opportunity to return the Club to Greenville Rotary's home for decades.

Months of discussions, negotiations and exchanges of proposals later, we are back. But not without the hard work of your fellow Rotarians who made the transition so smooth — members such as Kitty Allen, Gene Hindman, Frank Kolb, Bill Jones, Glyn Finch, Vickie Pittman (our new secretary), Don Kirkland, Rhemar Lane, Neel Hipp, Deb Sofield and Coleman Shouse, among others whose names escape me. When you see these members, please thank them for their efforts.

You also will want to thank those who played a part in making the first program an outstanding success: Carol Allison, Chief Willie Johnson, Sheriff Sam Simmons, Chief Harold Jennings (ret.), Sheriff Johnny Mack Brown (ret.), Jim Scott, Beth Padgett, and Mac Walters. What a great way to begin our 86th year of service!

— Phillip Kilgore

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

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The Family of Rotary

George Fletcher's picture appears on the cover of the February issue of Greenville Magazine, recognizing him as "Business Person of the Year 2000."

Ralph Bailey is recovering from a heart attack suffered on December 19th.

John Dalton has been re-elected chairman of the board for the Western Carolina Regional Sewer Commission. He has served on the commission for 16 years. George Fletcher has also been named a commissioner of that board.

Rotary Heritage videos for sponsors and those attending the anniversary dinner will be ready for pick-up at the February 13th meeting. Even if you were not able to attend the celebration, a copy of the video "85 Years of Service" has been reserved for you, too. See Jack Cromartie or Vickie Pittman at the meeting.

The Club's 85th anniversary celebration program has been posted to the website. Go to the Bulletins page, and you'll see the link to the program. Additionally, the timeline produced for the anniversary celebration has been added to the Home Page as a "Club History."

Missing Persons Report

Members absent from the January 23 meeting: Glen Adkins, Dave Anthony, Warren Arseneaux, Ralph Bailey Jr., Judith Bainbridge, Louis Batson III, Tom Benston Jr., Gerry Benston, Maxcy Boineau, Doug Brown, John Bruner, Andy Cajka Jr., Royce Carter, Scott Christopher, Gary Clark, Dean Crain II, Jim DeMint, Tom Donn, Mark Dullea, Marcia Duncan, Mel Duncan, Dave Ellison, Glyn Finch, George Fletcher, Frank Gibbes III, Fred Gilmer III, Andy Goldsmith, Will Gowan Jr., Tom Harvey, Ted Hendry, Jay Hewitt, Richard Hewitt, Neel Hipp, Al Hotz Jr., Jody Howard, John Huebner, Bob Hughes Jr., Scott Hull, Manoj Jain, Matthew K. Johnson, Neil C. Jones, Bill B. Jones, Bill Kehl, Worth Kiger, Rick Knight Jr., Don Koonce, Bud Lawton, Charles Little Jr., Billy Long Jr., John Lummus, Barry Lynch, Sara Mansbach, Colin Martin, John McCarroll, Bill McCauley II, Scott McClelland, Bruce McPherson, Brad Medcalf, David Merline Jr., Bill Newell, Arthur Phillips Jr., Tom Piper, J.J. Puryear, Mark Ratchford, John Reynolds, Bill Robertson III, Karen Rogers, Gerald Seals, Milton Shockley Jr., Coleman Shouse, Matt Shouse, Wade Shugart III, Sam Smith III, Willie Smith Jr., Roger Stone, Lyndon Stovall, Kyle Thomas, Rocky Thomason III, Kristi Turner, Virginia Uldrick, Roger R.R. Varin, Don Vaughan, Mike Vincent, Nancy Whitworth, Doug Wilson, James Woodside Jr., Ann Wright, Baxter Wynn.