



THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN

“Service above self”

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Relief needed after India earthquake

The recent earthquake in India has wrought unimaginable destruction. Thousands have died, and thousands more have been left homeless. The biggest earthquake in the last 100 years ravaged the state of Gujarat and other parts of India. Reports include more than 50,000 dead in Bhuj District, Gujarat — the epicenter of the 7.9 Richter-scale quake. There was 90 percent damage in Bhuj city, with several villages completely destroyed. In Ahmedabad, 99 high-rise buildings collapsed, killing more than 100,000 and causing millions of dollars in damage.

By
Surendra
Jain

Most countries, including the United States, and many institutions have come forward to help the victims and rescue workers. But there is still a need for much more aid. Relief is needed to provide shelter, food and medicine for victims and rescue workers. Tax-deductible contributions can be made to: Vedic Center Earthquake Relief Fund, P.O. Box 5311,

Greenville, SC 29606 (FID #57-0769188). Because this fund-raising effort has no overhead, all donations will go to India.

Tiencken to speak

John Tiencken, president and CEO of Santee Cooper, the state's largest electric power provider, will speak at the February 27th meeting.

On January 1st, Santee Cooper became the source of power for five upstate electric cooperatives serving nearly 160,000 customers.

(Editor's Note: The Downtown Club's board has endorsed efforts to provide disaster relief for India. The club will match total donations by members up to \$1,000.)

Ten new members proposed

Milton H. Bates Jr., Senior Vice President, First Union Securities, under the classification of Financial Advisor (Additional Active), sponsored by Rush Wilson III and Rush Wilson Jr.

Brian Scott Bergmann, General Manager, Ryerson Tull, under the classification of Industrial Distribution (Active), sponsored by Surendra Jain and Nell Stewart.

Jan Cross, President, Cross Commercial Properties, under the classification of Real Estate Sales Commercial (Additional Active), sponsored by Roxanne Cromartie and Donald Koonce.

Lewis W. Freeman Jr., Director of New Business Development, Young Office Environments, under the classification of Sales Office Furniture (Active), sponsored by Nell Stewart and Don Kirkland.

Terry Graves, General Manager, Fairway Outdoor Advertising, under the classification of Outdoor Advertising (Active), sponsored by Jim Williams and Paul Goldsmith.

Vicki Sharif, Managing Partner/CEO, Goldwood Crossing International, under the classification of Consulting-Business Start-Up/Venture Planning (Active), sponsored by Myles Golden and Nell Stewart.

J. Henry "Hank" Sitton, President, Sitton Buick Pontiac GMC, under the classification of Sales-Automotive (Active), sponsored by Nell Stewart and Robert E. Coleman.

Fred Carpenter, Senior Vice President of Retail and Commercial Banking, CCB, and City Council Member-at-Large, City of Greenville, under the classification of City Government-Local Elected Official (Active), sponsored by Roger Gower and Phillip Kilgore.

Brad Van Meter, Branch Manager, Johnson Controls Inc., under the classification of Industrial Controls (Active), sponsored by Frank Kolb and David Fortson.

Carol P. Hallman, Human Resource Director, SHARE, under the classification of Human Resource Management-Community Action Agency (Active), sponsored by Frank Kolb and Phillip Kilgore.

'Christmas Tree' CDs, videos for sale

At the next three meetings (through March 13th), the Downtown Club will sell CD recordings of the grand finale of the Singing Christmas Tree. CDs are \$15. The club will also take orders for videotapes at \$13 each and commemorative T-shirts for \$10 each.

Orders for videotapes and T-shirts must be paid for in advance. They will be distributed starting with the March 27th meeting. All proceeds will go to the local Rotary Foundation. The Downtown Club sponsored the Singing Christmas Tree for 35 years.

Three new members introduced

Three new Downtown Rotary Club members were introduced at the February 13th meeting.

Ted Hendry, president of the United Way of Greenville County, was introduced by Roxanne Cromartie. Ted became the president of Greenville's United Way in September 2000. Before that, he was president of the United Way of Pensacola for 13 years, having 23 years of United Way service. He is a native Floridian, and he and his wife have two children. His passion is genealogy; his ancestors arrived in Charleston in the 1750s.

Judge C. Victor Pyle Jr., retired resident judge of the 13th Judicial Circuit, was introduced by Gray Geddie. A Greenville native, Victor graduated from Greenville City High School and the University of South Carolina. He practiced law with his father, served as a traffic court judge in Greenville, and served three terms in the State House before he was elected a circuit court judge in 1974. He retired last year.

Doug Kelly, president of Greenville Jet Sales, was introduced by Coleman Shouse. Doug was born in western North Carolina and attended the University of North Carolina. He retired from the Air Force after 23 years. He served several tours in Vietnam and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross three times for bravery. Doug was a stockbroker for a number of years in Greenville with Smith-Barney before he retired and started selling airplanes.

Check out new members online

Do you ever wonder who the newest members of Greenville Rotary are?

The Members page of the website now has a new members section. This view selects all members who have joined within one year of the present date. Remember, the user name for the Members section is "greenville," and the password is "rotary." Both are all lower case.

Wanted You to Know ...

I guess you have noticed that an unusually high number of new members are joining the Club. We introduced three at the last meeting. Twenty joined during the first six months of the Rotary year. And we are on target to add a total of 45 to 50 for the year. Hopefully, this is a trend that will continue into next year.

This is not happening by accident or just for the sake of a numbers game. Our ranks declined over a period of years, from about 375 members to 330 at one point. Adding new members became a matter of necessity.

To maintain our accustomed role in the community, remain financially sound, and breathe fresh life into our Club, we resolved this year to make a concerted effort to build up membership. We knew we would get 15-20 applications without lifting a finger. Our goal was to identify up to 30 good prospects who would not have otherwise joined.

Under Nell Stewart's leadership, and your response to her challenge, the Club has had an outstanding year in membership growth. We are now enjoying the results of her, and your efforts. You can learn about our new members by accessing the Club website, going to the "Member" link, and clicking on "New members."

We are doing great on new member recruitment. Let's keep it up!

— Phillip Kilgore

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Phillip Kilgore, President
Beth Padgett, President-Elect
Frank Kolb, Secretary-Treasurer
Don Kirkland, Bulletin Editor

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The Family of Rotary

John A. Dalton has a new great-granddaughter, Shian Dalton Blackburn. She was born February 10th.

David Freeman, a member of our Club since 1964 and Club President in 1970-71, was named a Paul Harris Fellow at the February 13th meeting. The award was presented by Surendra Jain and David's wife, Keller Freeman. In presenting the award, Surendra noted that "to be honored as a Paul Harris Fellow is one of the highest honors one can receive in Rotary." He called David "a man who has given so much to this community. He has touched the lives of so many people in this town, including me and my family."

Nell Stewart, incoming President-Elect and Membership Committee Chair, made a plea for more new members. "We need some new members to keep up the quality work we do in the community," she told club members at the February 13th meeting. She asked club members who are eligible to take senior active status and allow a new member to fill their active classification. Speaking to the club, Nell said, "It's up to you to suggest people in this community who would make quality members of this Rotary Club."

Missing Persons Report

Members absent from the February 13th meeting: Warren Arseneaux, Tina Ballew, Glenn Batson, Louis Batson III, John Bearden, Charlie Bell, Doug Bell, Tom Benston Jr., Gerry Benston, Jim Blakely Jr., Johnny Mack Brown, Tim Brown, Andy Cajka Jr., Scott Christopher, Gary Clark, Mark Clary, Phil Conner, Dean Crain II, Pat Currie, Jim DeMint, Tom Donn, Jeanet Dreskin, Rick Dreskin, John Dullea, Marcia Duncan, Mel Duncan, J.K. Earle Jr., Bob E. Ellis, Dave Ellison, Bill Engle, Allen L. Freeman, John Funderburk, Ted Gentry, Myles Golden, Andy Goldsmith, Will Gowan Jr., Steve Graddick, Darrell Harrison, A.V. Huff Jr., Scott Hull, Stan Ingram Jr., Bill Jackson, Mike Jaskwhich, Willie Johnson, Neil C. Jones, Whit Jordan Jr., David Karr, Worth Kiger, Todd Korahais, Randy Kowalski, Tom Latham Jr., Steve LeFevre, Wallace Lightsey, Charles Little Jr., Billy Long Jr., Jacob Lowrey III, John Lummus, Barry Lynch, Scott Mace, Brown Mahon Jr., "Rip" Major III, Tuck McAfee III, Scott McClelland, Allen McSween Jr., Roger Meek, Charlie Mickel, Bill Newell, Jimmy Orders III, Arthur Phillips Jr., Walt Phillips Jr., Roddy Piper Jr., Tom Piper, Richard Rabb, Neil Rabon Jr., John Reynolds, Jim Robbins, Bill Robertson III, Chris Rogers, Karen Rogers, Jim Scott, Gerald Seals, Tim Sellers, Milton Shockley Jr., Sam Simmons, Scot Singletary, Joyce Smart-Buchanan, Des Smith, Sam Smith III, Willie Smith Jr., Deb Sofield, Candace Sommer, Roger Stone, Lyndon Stovall, John Taylor Jr., Kyle Thomas, Rocky Thomason III, Fay Towell, Turner Ross III, Virginia Uldrick, Roger R.R. Varin, Ruud Veltman, Bubba Watts, Chuck Welch, Doug Wilson, John Wofford, Ann Wright, Baxter Wynn.