



THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN

"Service above self"

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Next Meeting May 8, 2001
Meeting Place Poinsett Hotel, Main Street

Arnold Burrell, chairman of the "Better Schools Now" support group for education, will speak at the May 8th meeting on the school tax referendum set for May 19th.

Burrell, a member of Greenville Rotary since 1988, recently retired from BellSouth after nearly 28 years, 19 of them in Greenville. At the time of his retirement, he was regional director for the Upstate.

A former teacher at Greer High School, he has served on advisory boards for the University Center, Furman University and North Greenville College. In 1991 and 1998 he received the Superintendents' Award from the School District of Greenville County.

Burrell also has chaired the boards of the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce, the United Way and the Better Business Bureau. He currently is a member of the boards of the United Way, the Urban League of the Upstate and the Piedmont Health Care Foundation.

He is a graduate of The Citadel and deacon at Greenville's First Baptist Church. He and his wife Patsy have two children and one grandchild.



May 8th

**Burrell to
speak on
school tax
referendum**

Rotarians distribute books to preschoolers

On April 19th, 800 families from the Family Learning Team's GED Family Literacy Program and Parents As Teachers Program visited the Greenville Zoo.

The families, who have children under the age of four, are considered some of the neediest in Greenville. Rotary's Read to Me Project donated \$350 to help purchase books for the families. Each family received a copy of a book about polar bears titled "On My Own."

Five members of the Greenville Rotary family deserve special thanks for responding to a call for volunteers for the Read to Me Project. Helping out were Skip Young's wife Kitty, Ted Hendry, Rush Wilson III, Terry Graves, and Charles Warne's wife Guillaine.

Remembering Billy Mitchell

Article honors life that made a difference

In a tribute to a colleague, Perry Opin, an orthodontist from the New York-Connecticut area, said of Greenville Rotarian Billy Mitchell, "He had the ability to affect others with his enthusiasm and help lead them in righteous causes for which he felt so strongly."

His tribute, subtitled "Living Life So It Makes A Difference," appeared in the newsletter of the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics. Opin said that Mitchell, who died on March 17, 2000, lived his life in such a way as to "make a difference." He pointed out that if "a measure of a man's life are the deeds he does on earth," then "this humble man succeeded extraordinarily."

Of continuing encouragement and challenge to Rotarians was Mitchell's love for and involvement in the club. "He so enjoyed his Rotary bond," said his wife Patsy, adding that members of Greenville Rotary "were dear to his heart and a very meaningful part of his life — certainly touching his life in special ways."

She said her late husband would be "so proud" that his son Bill is now a member of the Greenville Rotary Club.

Buddy Lingle, left, and Jim Ray, right, were the main speakers at the April 24th meeting. They were introduced by Jim Scott.



Pros, cons of school vouchers presented

Jim Ray, superintendent of Spartanburg School District 3, is against school vouchers. Buddy Lingle, professor of pharmacology at the University of South Carolina, is for them.

Both defended their positions at Greenville Rotary's April 24th meeting. Ray said he is concerned that school vouchers would channel money into the private sector of education, further weakening a public school system that is "terribly underfunded" now. Lingle believes vouchers would "empower parents to make choices that are best for the education of their children."

Ray said the public schools are "doing a much better job than they are being given credit for." Lingle said he is for public schools and "wants all families to have equal access to educational opportunities."

Each educator was given 10 minutes to make his case, followed by 10 minutes of questions from Rotarians.

Volunteers needed for Furman Women's Pro-Am

Our Club has agreed to assist Furman University in promoting its 20th annual Women's Pro-Am. On May 14, 32 of the finest women golfers in the nation — including Furman alumnae Dottie Pepper, Betsy King, and Beth Daniel — will team up with amateurs to provide the field. A children's clinic will be held May 13 by the Furman men's and women's golf teams, along with Coaches Mic Potter and Todd Satterfield.

The Pro-Am offers us an opportunity to help Furman while also helping Greenville Rotary Club. Tickets are \$10 — half of which will go to Furman's golf teams and the other half to the participating groups.

A representative of the Paladin Club will be available at our May 8th meeting to provide tickets or sign up volunteers. For further information, contact Kitty Allen at 232.1979 or kallen@crosscommercial.com.

Wanted You to Know ...

The program for the May 8 meeting is very important for us, as Rotarians and as citizens of Greenville. Our own Arnold Burrell will give a presentation on the issues in the Saturday, May 19, referendum on whether to authorize the School District to raise taxes by up to 9.9 mills. Arnold is the chairman of "Better Schools Now," an organization supporting the referendum, and admittedly has a particular point of view. He will present both sides of the case. Given the importance of the issues, we have invited School District Superintendent Bill Harner and District CFO Robert Morales to be guests of the Club to answer questions. This Club has dedicated itself to the improvement of education for children in this community. Our philosophy is reflected in most of our community service efforts. Improvement in education is engrained in the culture of the Club. As Greenville Rotarians, we have a couple of obligations in this upcoming election. First, we should take opportunities to understand both sides of this debate. I hope to see you May 8 to participate in one such opportunity. Second, I think we have an obligation to vote. Regardless of the side you end up supporting, I hope you make a special effort to get to the polls (or file an absentee ballot). And take three friends with you.

— 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

Joel Patterson has tossed his hat into the ring. He is a Republican candidate for the at-large seat on Greenville City Council.

Vicki Sharif recently was named president and CEO of Goldwood Crossing, a global growth catalyst consulting firm.

Ray Ramage, senior vice president of Piedmont Travel, has been appointed to the first National Advisory Council of Travelbyus, Inc., a travel and marketing technology company.

Don Kirkland and his wife Linda are grandparents for the fourth time. Bennett Lewis Kirkland was born to Jeff and Jane Kirkland of Greenville on April 20.

Four new Rotarians were introduced at the April 24 meeting. They are **Larry Bonorato**, **Robert Hampton**, **Lou Holtzner** and **Jane Thomas**.

Do you have news for **The Family of Rotary**? If so, send it to don@baptistcourier.com, call 232-8736, fax 232-8488, or mail to P.O. Box 2168, Greenville 29602.

Club members with **e-mail accounts** are asked to call Vickie at 235-2293 or e-mail her at execsecretary@greenvillerotary.org to be sure she has your e-mail address.

MISSING PERSONS REPORT

Members absent from the April 24th meeting:
George Acker, Larry Ayers, Dreugh Batson, Glenn Batson, Ken Bauder, Doug Bell, Thomas Benston, William Benston, Marco Bottari, John Brearley, Johnny Mack Brown, Tim Brown, Andrew Cajka, De Canaday, Lang Cheves, Scott Christopher,

Gary Clark, Mark Clary, Bob A. Coleman, Dean Crain, Jan Cross, Kelly Dixon, Jeanet Dreskin, Mark Dullea, Marcia Duncan, Charles Eldridge, Bob E. Ellis, Allen Freeman, Mason Goldsmith, Paul Goldsmith, Will Gowan, Terry Graves, Paul Grier, David Grumbine, Tap Haley, John Hardaway, Tom Harvey, Bob Howard, John Huebner, Scott Hull, Stan Ingram, Kevin Jones, Neil Jones, Bill Kehl, Don Koonce, Randy Kowalski, Bill Kutz, Ed Lathan, Steve LeFevre, Harrell Ligon, Charles Little, Billy Long, John Lummus, Scott Mace, Sara Mansbach, Colin Martin, Tuck McAfee, John McCarroll, Scott McClelland, Bobby McLain, Roger Meek, Van Moore, Bill Newell, Jimmy Orders, Arthur Phillips, Roy Phillips, Walt Phillips, Charlie Pyle, Buddy Reynolds, John Reynolds, Bill Robertson, Karen Rogers, Oz Rogers, Jim Rumrill, Roy Seaver, Vicki Sharif, Kevin Short, Matt Shouse, Wade Shugart, Bob Simonet, Lee Sims, Scot Singletary, Joyce Smart-Buchanan, Des Smith, Sam Smith, Willie Smith, Deb Sofield, Bob Stillwell, Roger Stone, Lynn Stovall, Mark Taylor, Kyle Thomas, John Uprichard, Roger Varin, Mike Vincent, Fred Walker, Bubba Watts, Chuck Welch, Jim Williams, Doug Wilson, John Wofford, Baker Wyche. Total attendance: 212