



THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN

"Service above self"

Published Semi-Monthly By The Rotary Club of Greenville, S.C. Box 3537, Greenville, S.C. 29608

Issue Date September 6, 2001
Next Meeting September 11, 2001
Meeting Place Poinsett Hotel, Main Street

Directors agree to sponsor evening club

The Rotary Club of Greenville's board of directors has agreed for the Greenville Downtown Club to sponsor a new evening Rotary Club that should be chartered within a few months. For several years, District 7750 has considered starting an evening club in Greenville County to serve a business and professional community that finds it difficult to attend lunch or breakfast meetings.

"Our Rotary Club has a rich tradition of helping grow Rotary by sponsoring new clubs."

— Padgett

The agreement to sponsor the club comes with the responsibility of helping fund the chartering of the new club and

sponsoring a reception for potential new members. At least one member of our club would leave Greenville Downtown Rotary to become a charter member of the evening club and ensure stability in its leadership.

District 7750 PDG Sue Poss and Lt. Gov. Myles Golden will help coordinate the chartering of the new club. Several Greenville Downtown Rotary leaders will donate their time for this exciting new venture.

Rotary International grows in two ways: by bringing more members into existing clubs and by chartering new clubs to meet membership needs currently not addressed.

Greenville President Beth Padgett said, "Our Rotary Club has a rich tradition of helping grow Rotary by sponsoring new clubs. By my count, our club has sponsored at least 13 clubs in our area. It is rewarding for us to have the opportunity to continue down this path."

Greenville Rotary to honor top teachers

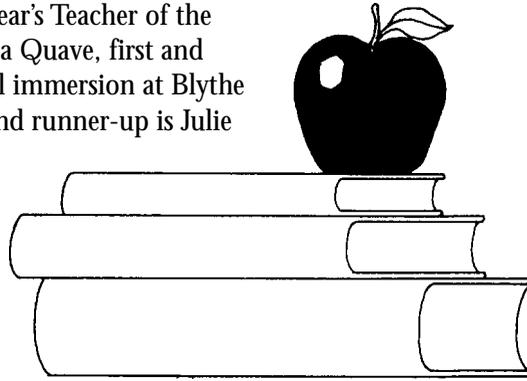
Greenville County's top public school teachers will be honored by the Rotary Club of Greenville at the club's regular meeting on September 11th. This meeting often is called "Teacher Recognition Day."

One of the community service projects in which the Greenville Rotary Club participates is the Greenville County Teacher of the Year recognition program. The top teacher for 2001-02 will receive a cash award of \$1,000 from our club, and the three runners-up also will receive a cash award.

Gregory Fox, a mathematics teacher at Greenville Senior High School, is this year's Teacher of the Year. First runner-up is Gloria Quave, first and second grade language partial immersion at Blythe Academy of Languages; second runner-up is Julie Hartman, five-year-old kindergarten at Paris Elementary; and third runner-up is Melodie Barron, fifth grade at Mitchell Road Elementary.

In addition to providing cash prizes and a special recognition luncheon for these outstanding teachers, the Greenville Downtown Club provides one of the four judges for this program. Jason Elliott was our club's representative for the selection process that began last fall when schools and centers selected their individual Teachers of the Year. The four judges met with all the candidates during an informal reception in March.

Each Top Ten candidate is judged on a number of criteria, including a classroom visit and an oral interview.



The Greenville Rotarian

Newsletter of The Rotary Club of Greenville, South Carolina
Organized January 7, 1916

Volume 48, No. 17, September 6, 2001

Rick King, Rotary International President Jim Futrell, District 7750 Governor

Beth Padgett, President

Frank Kolb, Secretary-Treasurer

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The Greenville Rotarian (USPS 576760) is published twice a month by The Rotary Club of Greenville, P.O. Box 3537, Greenville, SC 29608. Periodical postage paid at Greenville, SC, post office. Subscription cost is \$2.50. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Vickie Pittman, The Greenville Rotary Club, P.O. Box 3537, Greenville, SC 29608.

Business leaders from U.S., Canada discuss increasing Rotary membership

Business leaders from the United States and Canada gathered in Salt Lake City, Utah, August 30-September 1 at the Salt Palace to discuss increasing membership in Rotary International, one of the world's largest humanitarian organizations. They were welcomed to Utah by Governor Mike Leavitt.

Richard King, Rotary's 2001-02 president, is determined to strengthen and expand the 96-year-old service group. He has created Rotary's Global Quest, a mission to add one new member per club each month.

"We simply cannot do the business of Rotary — feeding the hungry, healing the sick, providing hope to thousands of people — without a committed, dedicated volunteer army of professional men and women," said King in a letter encouraging all Rotarians to attend. "It's also no secret I have made membership my top priority."

Membership has been holding steady in North America, and it has increased worldwide in part due to Rotary's growth in Asia and Eastern Europe. Rotary leaders hope that this membership boost will allow Rotary to bring more assistance to people in need around the world.

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace in the world. There are approximately 1.2 million Rotarians who are members of more than 30,000 Rotary clubs in 163 countries.

Polio summits point to 2005 celebration

To evaluate and lay strategies to complete the global campaign to eradicate polio by Rotary's centennial celebrations in 2005, RI President Richard King will convene two PolioPlus summits in Africa and Asia in early 2002. The first will be in Abuja, Nigeria, on January 11-13 and the second in Mumbai, India, on February 22-24. All Rotarians are encouraged to start early on planning to attend.

Both India and Nigeria are populous countries that are reservoirs of the wild polio virus. They also are located in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, which are home to nearly all of the remaining polio-endemic countries in the world. Hence, the two summits will draw attention to the urgent need to marshal all available resources to wipe out the crippling disease.

In addition to rallying Rotary's volunteer troops for the final battle, the summits will highlight Rotary International's commitment to, and raise public awareness of, global polio eradication.

President's Corner

One way that Rotary International encourages peace and goodwill is by creating a way for young people to learn of other cultures and spend time in other countries. The Rotary Youth Exchange Program helps accomplish these worthwhile goals.

The Rotary Club of Greenville's new exchange student was introduced at the August 28th meeting. She is Gabriela St. Martin from Puebla, Mexico. The city is about 90 miles from Mexico City.

Gabby, as she is called, was her class president and she wants to be a businesswoman some day. She now is a junior at Eastside High School.

It takes charitable contributions from our club to make this program work. This program is one of many funded through our club's Rotary Charities.

It takes more than money, though. Myles Golden has been a real leader in the RI Youth Exchange Program, and he now serves on the district committee. Randy Bell heads the program for our club, and Elizabeth Lyons is serving as Gabby's counselor this year. Gabby is currently residing with her first host family, Mike and Cynthia Jaskwhich.

Welcome to Gabby, and thank you to Myles, Randy, Mike and Elizabeth for making this program a success!

— Beth Padgett

The Family of Rotary

The Family of Rotary continues to gain new members. Introduced at the August 28th meeting were **Dave Anderson, Dan McNamara, and Dan Wood.**

And here are a few facts about your extended **Family of Rotary**: Forty-nine Rotarians helped draft the United Nations charter in San Francisco in 1945; RI's largest convention, with 39,834 registrants, was held in Tokyo in 1978; in 1989, the Council on Legislation opened Rotary to women; in 1994, the Western Hemisphere was declared polio-free, thanks in large part to Rotary's PolioPlus efforts.

The time is drawing closer for the **Fall Outing**, which will be a highlight of the Rotary year. If you haven't already, make plans to attend the October 9th event at Furman University.

When submitting items for Health and Happiness to **John Redmond**, send them also to the *Greenville Rotarian* for publication. They may be sent to: *The Baptist Courier*, P.O. Box 2168, Greenville, S.C. 29602; Fax 232-8488; E-mail don@baptistcourier.com.

Writer paints positive image of Rotary

Kenneth Klee, a writer from the U.S. monthly publication *Fortune Small Business (FSB)*, recently set out to discover how Rotary "was faring in a faster, more complicated world" nearly 100 years after it was founded. He attended Rotary club meetings, interviewed a slew of Rotarians (including RI President Rick King and Frank Devlyn, his predecessor), and watched up close Rotary's activities in communities. The result is a sympathetic portrait of the world's pioneer service organization at the turn of the 21st century.

"Rotary at the Crossroads," Klee's article — first published on August 28th in the online version of *FSB* magazine — discusses some of the reasons behind the decline in Rotary club membership and how this trend may be reversed. It also features profiles of a new type of club membership that, according to President King, is based on "a quality of the heart, not just on income or position." The article is printed in the September issue of the magazine.

In spite of the demographic challenges that face service organizations in the United States and across the world, the *FSB* writer saw much optimism in the fact that many Rotarians he met live the service ethic that has distinguished Rotary. To Klee, a major sign of Rotary's willingness to transform itself is RI's launch of "The New Models for Rotary Clubs," a pilot project aimed at finding a new model for a Rotary club that will better meet the needs of the 21st century, be more attractive to younger professional and business leaders, and increase the effectiveness of clubs and future potential for membership growth and extension.