



# THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN

*"Service above self"*

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## Mayor brings 'crystal ball' to Rotary



**G**reenville Mayor Knox White spoke at the October 23rd meeting of the Greenville Rotary Club. Afterward, he was greeted by club member Rush Wilson III. Story on the inside.

## Program to create 'ridicule-free zones'

President-elect Nell Stewart gave an update on Greenville Rotary Club's involvement in the "Don't Laugh at Me" program, including plans to immediately begin creating "ridicule-free zones" in 12 elementary schools, spreading eventually to 51 schools.

Speaking at the October 23rd meeting, she said that bullying is a big part of school violence and is "in the background" of many who are in prison today. The "Don't Laugh at Me" program, she said, is designed to help teachers and students nurture within their schools more compassion and less conflict.

"The goal is to help children deal with other children who don't talk and look like they do," she said. "These children need us and we have the ability to make changes in their lives."

## Make Christmas come early for Kheli

It's not too soon for Rotarians to get in the Christmas spirit, especially concerning the club's exchange student, Kheli Fiadjoe. Kheli, an accomplished musician attending the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities in Greenville, needs some winter clothing.

His most immediate need, however, is for a tuxedo, size 46 regular. On November 17th, Kheli will appear at Furman University with the South Carolina Youth Symphony. Also upcoming are various Governor's School competitions and recitals calling for the tux.

Randy Bell, who is the student's counselor, suggests that the best way for Rotarians to help is by making contributions of money or gift certificates in Kheli's name. Randy says he will be happy to accept checks made payable to Kheli Fiadjoe, which would go into an account for him. More information on Kheli's needs is available from his "host mother," Jennifer Smith, 244-9322.

### *The Greenville Rotarian*

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Jim Futrell, District 7750 Governor

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**Frank Kolb, Secretary-Treasurer**

**Nell Stewart, President-Elect**

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Fellow Rotarian Knox White of the North Greenville Club has dusted off the mayoral crystal ball and disclosed to members of Greenville Rotary what he sees in the city's future — at least in 2002. The future was his focus at the October 23rd meeting.

Pointing to the terrorist attack on the United States on September 11th, he called on citizens of Greenville to continue to "dream big dreams" and to "forge ahead." "It is the nature of this community," he said, "to have confidence in itself."

White predicted that Greenville's skyline will change in 2002 with new additions "as space becomes available." He said to look for as many as seven new buildings on the city's horizon.

The mayor also said to expect acceleration of what he called a "wonderful trend" — the return of residents to the city. He pointed with satisfaction to the development of housing in the downtown area. White also said there would be continuation of "quality development" in the public sector of downtown Greenville.

## Mayor White looks into city's future

White also hailed the advent of a new Greenville landmark — the Reedy River Falls, to be reclaimed by the removal of the bridge on Camperdown Way. "This," he predicted, "will become the symbol of the entire community."

White said that with the help of Clemson University engineers, the community is also destined to get a "new vision" of the Reedy River. He said that a public garden is in the works right away to "give a sense of what might be" in the area along the Reedy. Much of the planning for enhancement of the river is long term, he pointed out.

New management of the Palmetto Expo Center will bring that formerly financially-troubled facility "to a new level" of enrichment for the community, according to White. The mayor said "the hogs" will be back, referring to the return of the Harley Davidson motorcycle club which had considered taking its annual meeting elsewhere.

Mayor White stopped short of predicting a better baseball stadium in Greenville's future, but said it "ought to happen in 2002." He called Greenville Stadium, built in 1983 on Mauldin Road, as "woefully inadequate" for AA baseball.

He said the Braves' contract is up in 2003 and to keep the team, improvements must be made to the stadium to raise it to AA standards. He said renovation, not relocation, is the goal. "The Braves want to stay on Mauldin Road," White said. He said the project would cost approximately \$18 million and called it a "community challenge."

Mayor White challenged the city and the county to join forces in the days to come to "make good things happen" for the Greenville area.

## President's Corner

The first Health and Happiness Hour was a smashing success. More than 50 Greenville Downtown Rotarians dropped by Soby's on Main Street on Tuesday night, October 30th, for some great fellowship and a relaxed social hour. Well, actually, two hours.

If you didn't sign the attendance sheet and you need a make-up for the October 23rd or November 13th meeting, give Vickie or Frank a call if you were at the Health and Happiness Hour for any part of the merrymaking.

This idea came back from One Rotary Center with Frank Kolb and me when we went to the first Large Club Meeting back in August. Several of the large West Coast clubs have an occasional after-hours mixer to encourage fellowship and give Rotarians a chance to do a little networking.

Large Rotary Clubs have many advantages, but one downside is they don't allow for the cozy atmosphere and more casual socializing that takes places about every week at most of the smaller clubs.

By the way, make sure you tell Kitty Allen how much you enjoyed the first H&H Hour. She and her committee (Jay Hewitt, Matt Shouse, Mark Dullea, Judy Hardison, Jody Howard, Gary Caldwell, Elizabeth Lyons, Collin Mackie and John Redmond) did a great job!

— Beth Padgett

## The Family of Rotary

New members introduced at the October 23rd meeting were **Doug Bowling, Tommy Finch, Bob Knight** and **Jim Wright**.

Also at the October 23rd meeting, a Rotarian turned in a makeup card without his or her name on it. The card was signed by Anita LeBold of the **Greenville Breakfast Club** for the meeting of June 22. Was this you? If so, call **Vickie Pittman** at the Greenville Rotary office to get credit for the makeup. As a reminder to all Rotarians, cards reporting makeups must include your name, the club attended and the date of the makeup meeting, and the date of the missed Greenville Rotary Club meeting. Phone calls and e-mails are fine for reporting makeups.

And this reminder: Under new RI rules, official committee meetings and official occasions in which you represent our club count as makeups. But you must take the initiative and contact the Rotary office (235-2293) or send Frank Kolb or Vickie Pittman an e-mail.

Makeups have never been easier, so don't cheat yourself.

## Bi-Lo's Rubinstein next speaker

**E**d Rubinstein, executive director of the Bi-Lo Center, will be the featured speaker at the November 13th meeting.

Before coming to the Bi-Lo Center, Rubinstein owned Scottsdale, Arizona-based Penny Lane Productions, an event promotion and marketing company. Prior to owning his own business, Rubinstein served as general manager for the Spectrum Arena in Philadelphia, executive director of the Target Center in Minneapolis, and executive director of Blockbuster Desert Sky Pavilion in Phoenix.

A native of Philadelphia, Rubinstein is a certified public accountant and holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Franklin and Marshall College. He and his wife Pam, along with their two children, relocated to Greenville from Scottsdale.

Rubinstein is employed by the Bi-Lo Center management company Volume Services America, based in Spartanburg and one of the nation's leading providers of food service, facility and merchandise management services, and entertainment venues.

### Did you know?

**E**very time a Rotary club in one country helps a Rotary club in another to complete a local project, it's an example of World Community Service (WCS). Rotary clubs seeking assistance with a local project can register it with the WCS Projects Exchange, a semi-annual listing which brings together clubs in need of resources with those willing to help.