



THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN

“Service above self”

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Powell to talk development April 9

Economic development will be on David Powell’s mind when he speaks to Greenville Rotary on April 9th.

In fact, it is in his thoughts every day as vice president of economic development and small business with the Greater Greenville Chamber of Commerce. He was named to the position in September 2001.

Prior to this appointment, he was studio director of government markets for two years at Freeman White Architects in Charlotte, which provides architectural, engineering and consulting services to local and state governments. He was also regional manager of community and economic development services at Verizon in Research Triangle Park for two years, where he was responsible for planning and managing the community and economic development programs for a five-state region — Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. For eight years, he was economic development director for Durham/Research Triangle Park, N.C., directing all aspects of the economic development program focused on technology transfer, Centers of Excellence promotion, entrepreneurship, small business development, business recruitment and marketing.

Powell earned his first master’s degree in 1987 from the University of North Carolina in economics and a second master’s degree in 1992 from North Carolina State University in urban design. He earned a baccalaureate degree in 1985 from Elon College.

Powell is married to Pilar DePablo Powell. They have a son named Mason, are the legal guardians of their two nieces, Melina and Monica, and are expecting another child in April.

Hong Kong GSE team coming to town

One of the ways that Rotary International promotes peace and understanding of other countries is through the Group Study Exchange concept. Each year, our District 7750 sends a GSE Team to another country for four or five weeks, and in turn, the Rotary district in that country sends a team to Upstate South Carolina.

Currently, our District 7750 GSE team is in Hong Kong, and on April 11th the Hong Kong GSE Team arrives in Spartanburg for their visit that ends May 11th. The Rotary Club of Greenville will help host the Hong Kong Team when it is in the Greenville area from April 21 to April 26. The Hong Kong GSE Team is scheduled to make a presentation to our club at the April 23rd meeting.

Following are the members of the team: Leader — Simon Wong, Salvation Army director for public relations; Kwok-Wai Chan, Salvation Army minister; Kent Chan, executive manager, InfoSource; Fiona Law, family social worker and accredited family mediator; Suzanne Wan, lawyer.

PHF 'easy money' going quickly

The money is quickly being used by Rotarians in District 7750 who have an unprecedented opportunity to become a Paul Harris Fellow or a Multiple Level PHF. The Leila J. Goldsmith Estate left almost \$87,000 to the PolioPlus Program, and because of this most generous gift our District 7750 has earned PHF matching points (a point equals one dollar). This estate gift can be used to match dollar-for-dollar contributions for first-time Paul Harris Fellows and Multiple PHFs. About \$25,000 remained at the end of March.

A gift of \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation makes a Rotarian a Paul Harris Fellow. Or, a Rotarian can make a gift of \$1,000 in either the name of another Rotarian or someone special in his or her life and that honored person will become a Paul Harris Fellow. A Rotarian can make a gift for as little as \$100 or for a maximum of \$500. Call the Rotary office for details.

The Greenville Rotarian

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Rick King, RI President

Jim Futrell, District 7750 Governor

Beth Padgett, President

Frank Kolb, Secretary-Treasurer

Nell Stewart, President-Elect

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Rotary International President King honors Taiwan leader at conference

More than 800 Rotarians from some 23 countries across Asia and other continents attended the final RI presidential conference of the current Rotary year at the Grand Hotel Taipei in the Taiwanese capital March 22-24.

A highlight of the three-day event was the inaugural banquet on March 22, which was attended by Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian, who praised RI for the contributions it has made to international humanitarian efforts against illiteracy, hunger, and poverty, and in support of medical care to children and the underprivileged.

"The people of Taiwan are eager to take part in international humanitarian missions," he said. "Rotary International's professionalism has been a major driving force behind my promotion of voluntary service in Taiwan since the time I served as Taipei city mayor." The Taiwan president noted that he has been a proud honorary Rotarian since 1987.

Rotary International President Richard King honored President Chen with Rotary's Polio Eradication Champion Award, established to recognize world leaders and other prominent individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the goal of polio eradication. Past recipients of the prestigious award include former U.S. President Bill Clinton, former British Prime Minister John Major, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, media magnate and philanthropist Ted Turner, Egyptian First Lady Suzanne Mubarak, and Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo.

The Taiwan leader presented President King with a \$1 million check that will be used to fund immunization activities and surveillance efforts in polio-endemic countries. This gift represents the second \$1 million installment of a commitment made by the Taiwan government to provide \$5 million in support of the Rotary Foundation's PolioPlus program.

In the keynote addresses he made at the opening session and first plenary session, President King emphasized the importance of Rotary's Global Quest for membership and the organization's role in promoting world understanding and peace. He singled out the Rotary Centers for International Studies as a prime example of Rotary's contributions toward peace and conflict resolution. In the 2002-2003 academic year, 70 peace scholars will commence studies at seven peace centers hosted by leading universities across five continents.

"It is our hope that the scholars who study at these centers will become the world's future diplomats and international leaders," said President King. "These scholars will learn the invaluable skills of preventing and resolving conflicts."

President's Corner

It takes a tremendous amount of work to pull off a twice-a-month meeting for a club our size. The scheduling of the agenda is a real headache, in part because we get in twice as much meeting during our hour as most clubs that meet weekly. We are constantly trying to shoehorn in one last agenda item, and then trying to make sure everyone who's on the agenda is at the meeting on time.

One thing I've never had to worry about is the behind-the-scenes work for each meeting: making sure the badges are out, that the meals are being paid for, that the name tags are at the tables. All those kinds of things.

Three people who seldom get any public recognition are largely responsible for making sure our meetings run so smoothly: Vickie Pittman, our administrative assistant, and the Luncheons Committee Co-Chairs, Bill Jones and Glyn Finch. Without these three people working so hard from before noon each meeting until close to 2 p.m., our meetings wouldn't run nearly as smoothly. I've told them personally how much I appreciate them, and I want the rest of the club to know it, too. They make my life as club president much easier!

— Beth Padgett

The Family of Rotary

Charlie Bell has served Rotary well since joining our club in 1951. He was Club President in 1960-61 and District Governor in 1964-65. He is also a Paul Harris Fellow.

In recent days, Charlie had lived at Brighton Gardens, a Marriott assisted living community on Pelham Road.

Recently, Charlie moved to his native Alabama and lives with his sister. His memory is not as sharp as it once was, and he's having trouble recalling the name of his Greenville attorney, who is also a Rotarian. If you've done legal work for Charlie, please contact Bill Raines at 244-1704, and he can put you in touch with Charlie.

The **District 7750 Conference** is set for May 3-5 at Springmaid Beach, affordable for any Rotarian who would like to spend a spring weekend at the beach learning about Rotary and meeting Rotarians from other clubs in the western half of South Carolina.

Other important dates: **District Foundation Banquet**, May 20, Palmetto Expo Center. Tickets \$30; **installation of District Governor** Bruce Baker, member of Pleasantburg Rotary Club, June 10, Westin Poinsett Hotel.

Two Rotarians perish in Peru explosion

Two Rotarians were among the eight victims of a car bomb that exploded on March 21st near the U.S. embassy in Lima, Peru. Carlos Rodriguez and Augusto Gill were coming from the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Monterrico Surco, held at the El Polo Apart Hotel, when they stopped to help two policemen trying to extinguish a car fire.

Tragically, this act of Service Above Self so typical of the two Rotarians turned out to be their last, as a bomb hidden in the burning car exploded a few seconds later, killing them, the two policemen, and four others. "By a miracle, no more members of the club were injured," said District 4450 Governor Ernesto S. Carlin, also a member of the Monterrico Surco club.

Rodriguez and Gill were Rotarians for more than 30 years. They were both active members who especially enjoyed working with teenagers and young adults through the Interact and Rotaract programs. They also played a key role in building membership.

The men "set a very good example for all of us," said Carlin, who was a longtime friend of both. Gill served as his Interact advisor in 1964. Carlin added, "I would appreciate it if all the Rotarians of the world would join us in our prayer for these friends and their families."

The District 7750 Assembly is scheduled for Saturday, April 13th, at the Buck Mickel Center at Greenville Tech. The assembly will meet from 8:30 a.m. until noon.