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G-Braves GM DeSalvo to speak

Steve DeSalvo, general manager of the Greenville Braves, will speak at the August 13th meeting of the Greenville Rotary Club.

The 42-year-old native of Centereach, N.Y., is in his 16th season with the Greenville Braves and his 22nd season in professional baseball, 21 of them as a minor league general manager.



DeSalvo

DeSalvo began his career in Daytona Beach, Fla., as assistant general manager of the 1981 Florida State League Champion Daytona Beach Astros. From there, DeSalvo was promoted to general manager of the Auburn Astros of the NY-Penn League. In his two years in Auburn, DeSalvo's club broke an all-time attendance record, helping him earn the league's 1983 Executive of the Year honors.

DeSalvo returned to the FSL in 1985-86, as general manager of the Ft. Myers Royals. At the conclusion of the 1986 season, DeSalvo accepted the position of assis-

tant general manager of the Tucson Toros, "AAA" affiliate of the Houston Astros. However, three months later, DeSalvo was named general manager of the Greenville Braves.

DeSalvo involves the G-Braves with many charitable organizations in the Greenville area. He is a "lifetime" member of Strathmore's Who's Who for Business Professionals in the United States, and is an active member of the Pleasantburg Rotary Club in Greenville.

DeSalvo and his wife Bonnie reside in Taylors with their three children: Jessica, 13; Hannah, 12; and Brandon, 6.

South Carolina cleaning up its roads

State Sen. David Thomas, chairman of PamettoPride, brought some good news to the Greenville Rotary Club during his July 23rd speech on the state's initiative to clean up litter along the highways. The multi-layered approach adopted in South Carolina a few years ago seems to be working. "We're receiving national attention," Thomas said. "Other states are looking at what we're doing — the layered approach."

Litter Trashes Everyone. Don't Do It. Thomas became the state's "Litter Czar" a few years ago when he was appointed by Gov. Jim Hodges to chair PalmettoPride. The state's litter problem "really was getting out of hand," Thomas said. The problem got a lot of public attention when the University of South Carolina's new football coach, Lou Holtz, observed that "people in South

Carolina must have the cleanest cars in the country because all their litter is by the highways."

South Carolina's multi-layer approach relies on: (1) An educational campaign in schools to teach kids at the elementary school level about highway beautification and recycling. (2) Law enforcement that tries to cite people for littering and tougher fines for the 15 percent of the people who just don't care. (3) A strong advertising campaign aimed at changing people's behavior. (4) Pick-up efforts aimed at cleaning up the trash that is beside the highways.

"The key is to change behavior," Thomas said. "If the program's not working, we'll change it. The bottom line is results."

The Greenville Rotarian

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Volunteers needed

Rotary to build another Habitat house

The Rotary Clubs of Greenville County will begin building their second Habitat house on Thursday, September 5th. The construction work will be done on Fridays and Saturdays thereafter, running for six consecutive weekends.

The Greenville Rotary Club needs volunteers to work on the Habitat house. The first weekends are heavy on actual construction work, meaning people who know how to use hammers and saws are most in demand. As the construction work nears the end, weekends will be set aside for painting and landscaping.

The Habitat house will be at Saluda Bluffs, where the first Rotary Habitat house was built.

Sign-up sheets for volunteers will be circulated at our club's August 13th and August 27th meetings. A full shift runs from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Volunteers can choose to work a full day or half days.

People interested in volunteering also can e-mail Beth Padgett at bpadgett@greenvillenews.com and state their construction skills and their preference for days to work. Beth is acting as the club's volunteer coordinator. The goal is to have 20 to 50 Rotarians on the construction site each Friday or Saturday, with the skill sets roughly equal to the work that must be accomplished that day. Volunteers are asked to bring personal tools relevant to the tasks they will be performing if they already own those tools.

About 10 Greenville County clubs are participating in the Habitat project. This is a great opportunity to get to know Rotarians in other clubs, help truly worthwhile causes, and have a lot of fun.

Rotary nutrition program honored

Children need balanced nutrition to grow and learn. It's an elementary concept that the Rotary Club of Augusta, Maine, has been promoting in its community through the Feed the Kids program, which provides dinner for school children who typically would go without it.

The program recently caught the attention of Maine Governor Angus King, who proclaimed June 25 as Feed the Kids Day throughout the state to raise awareness of the importance of a healthy meal to a child's development and to recognize the hard work of the Rotary Club of Augusta.

Feed the Kids is a pilot project through which the club provides three evening meals a week to Lincoln Elementary School students in Augusta who already qualify for free or reduced-price breakfasts and lunches. Eligible kids receive a nutritious, hot meal prepared by school nutrition staff. Rotary volunteers help serve and clean up.

Extraordinary giving is goal for 2002-2003

This Rotary year, the need for ongoing support of the Annual Programs Fund and the launch of the Polio Eradication Fundraising Campaign (PEFC) present an exceptional challenge to the fundraising efforts of Rotarians committed to making the world polio-free and ensuring the strength of The Rotary Foundation's humanitarian and educational programs.

The Annual Programs Fund goal of \$63 million and the \$80 million PEFC goal provide an opportunity for every dedicated Rotarian to make a difference in the world. One way for clubs and districts to achieve their goals in support of the fund and the campaign is to create a Matching Gift Challenge.

Clubs, districts, and individual Rotarians can make a major gift to either the Annual Programs Fund or Polio Eradication Campaign and use those funds to encourage other Rotarians to contribute and have their gift matched. It's a great way to create new Paul Harris Fellows and ensure future goodwill through the Foundation's programs.

For more information, contact the Annual Giving team, (847) 866-3352; fax: (847) 328-5260; or e-mail: apf@rotaryintl.org

The Family of Rotary

Three new members were introduced to the Rotary Club of Greenville at the July 23rd meeting—Scott Boswell, Richard Lane and Nancy Welch.

And this reminder: **New** member luncheons held the first Monday of every month at noon at the Ham House are a good way to meet other new members. They also count as a make-up.

The **new yearbooks** are in, but we don't mail them. Pick up yours at our regular meeting — or at the Rotary office, 2200 Poinsett Hwy.

In our larger family of Rotary, District Governor Bruce Baker of the Pleasantburg club spoke to Mauldin Rotarians July 30th, encouraging them not to be "RINOs" — that is, Rotarians In Name Only." "Too many club members," he said, "know little about Rotary, but are too embarrassed to ask." The district governor also advocated his "Just Do It" motto, noting that Rotarians must not be rendered inactive "because they cannot be certain of the outcome of their actions" — that their efforts might fail. "Just do it," he declared, "and let the results take care of themselves."

Rotary grows by 4.6 percent in 2001-2002

Rotary clubs added 54,939 members to their rolls in the 2001-2002 Rotary year, bringing net membership worldwide to 1,243,431, a 4.6 percent increase over the previous year and the best one-year growth ever. More than 1,100 Rotary clubs were chartered in the year ending June 30, 2002, bringing the net total to 31,256 clubs in 163 countries.

The greatest percentage membership growth was in Asia, where Bangladesh, India, Korea, Malaysia, Philippines, and Thailand registered double-digit percentage increases. Membership in Rotary clubs in India grew almost 18 percent, for a net gain of 14,209 members, making the country the world leader in the number of new Rotarians.

Growth occurred in virtually every area of the world. Besides India, 10 other countries with at least 2,000 Rotarians each netted more than 1,000 members last year. They were: the United States, 8,618; Korea, 7,398; Philippines, 2,929; Italy, 2,495; Brazil, 2,166; Germany, 1,971; Nigeria, 1,637; Bangladesh, 1,577; England, 1,429; and Turkey, 1,272.

A major impetus for the growth was Rotary's Global Quest, the campaign that called for each Rotary club to induct at least one member a month, with a minimum net gain of five members for the year. It also asked each district to form a minimum of three new clubs.

The five districts that led the way in raising membership levels and organizing new clubs were 3150 (India), 3260 (India), 3700 (Korea), 3790 (Philippines), and 9140 (Nigeria). The top 10 clubs were Bareilly North, Cuddalore Central, Green Woods-Yellandu, Jaggayyapet, Mangalore East, Murwara, all in India; Sentul, Malaysia; Uttara, Bangladesh; Daegu-Eagle, Korea; and Paranaque-Lakambini, Philippines.