



# THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN

*"Service above self"*

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*Issue Date* ..... *May 22, 2003*  
*Next Meeting* ..... *May 27, 2003*  
*Meeting Place* ..... *Poinsett Hotel, Main Street*



## Congressman DeMint May 27 Rotary speaker

**F**ourth District Congressman Jim DeMint will speak at the May 27 meeting of Greenville Rotary Club.

DeMint was owner of a Greenville market research firm before being elected to Congress in 1998. He turned his talents to the political arena in 1992 as an informal advisor to former Congressman Bob Inglis. Six years later, when Inglis left the House, DeMint won the Fourth District seat.

DeMint serves on the House Education and Workforce Committee, where he is vice chairman of the Employer-Employee Relations Subcommittee. He also sits on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Small Business Committee, where he is chairman of the Workforce, Empowerment, and Government Programs Subcommittee.

A graduate of Wade Hampton High School, DeMint earned his bachelor's degree at the University of Tennessee, and his MBA from Clemson University. He is a certified management consultant and a certified quality trainer. He and his wife Debbie have four children and live in Greenville.



*Bob Howard and Jill Kintigh with Governor Mark Sanford*

## Governor wants to 'close wealth gap'

South Carolina Governor Mark Sanford emphasized the importance of raising the income level of the state's citizens in a speech May 13th to the Rotary Club of Greenville.

Sanford said that the Palmetto State consistently ranks below the national average income and underscored the need to "close the wealth gap." The one exception to the rule in South Carolina, the Governor pointed out, is Beaufort County, where per capita income is higher than the national average.

Characterizing South Carolina as a "state of small businesses," the Governor said the state needs "a more competitive business climate."

Sanford said that in today's communications world, "brain power is mobile" and that power "can go where the highest salaries and best opportunities are." "We must," he said, "keep brain power in South Carolina."

### *The Greenville Rotarian*

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## Presidential Pondering

We heard the Governor, the economic development gurus, and others say it: We need to bring more higher paying jobs into our area to improve our economy, quality of life, and the opportunities for our citizens. We've heard that many jobs of the future may not require a four-year degree, thus the enlargement and enhancement of our technical college system. But we have heard no one say that jobs in the future will not require a quality high school education.

Will you explain to me, then, why we are allowing such dramatic cuts in funding our public schools, K-12? I understand the budget constraints in Columbia, but why are there not more creative methods being sought to fund K-12 classes across the state? How can we hope to get higher paying jobs without providing good educational opportunities for our children?

Why are we willing to let it be called the "education" lottery, when only 29 percent of the monies go to education, and a small percentage of that to K-12 schools? Why are we willing to award a prize of \$11 million to one winner and plan to cut approximately \$28 million in one action for our K-12 schools in Greenville County alone?

If you know reasonable answers to these questions, please tell me because I certainly have not been able to find them. If you, like I, do not know the answers, ask your legislators these and other pertinent questions.

— Nell Stewart

At its May 20th meeting, the board of directors of the Rotary Club of Greenville approved seven high school seniors to receive Rotary Club scholarships for 2003-2004.

Scholarship recipients are: Kathleen Dean McDonough, Greer High School, to attend College of Charleston; Shawn M. Olsen, Riverside High School, Clemson University; Minh Phung Thi Pham, Greenville Senior High Academy, Clemson University; Cindy Nessim Youssef, Southside High School, Furman University; Megan Alyse Wakefield, Travelers Rest High School, Clemson University; Nikki R. George, Woodmont High School, Wingate University; William Joseph Warden, Mauldin High School, Clemson University.

The scholarship committee received 80 applications from graduating seniors at 17 high schools in Greenville County. The average SAT score among the seven winners was 1263, the average GPA was 4.52, and the average class rank was 6.5 percent.

## High school seniors named Rotary scholars

## New Members Proposed

**J. Brodie Bricker**, Principal, Beck Academy, classification: Education Administration, sponsors: Phillip Kilgore, Nell Stewart (Past Service: Greenville Downtown 1988-1998, Elec-

tric City, Anderson 1998-2002).

**Hollis "Chip" Felkel**, President, Strategy South, classification: Public Affairs, sponsors: Baxter Wynn, Nell Stewart.

**Matthew R. Hawley Jr.**, Judge, Greenville Municipal Court, classification: County-Judicial, sponsors: Fred Carpenter, Fred Suggs.

**Robert A. "Bob" Jeter**, Account Manager, Aide Inc., classification: Employment Service, sponsors: Roland Knight, Robert Knight (Past Service: Union Rotary Club).

**Jennifer W. Mims**, Special Events Coordinator, Bon Secours/St. Francis Hospital System, classification: Hospital-Special Events, sponsors: Myles Golden, Rich Estrin.

**Lisa Sabin**, Director of Catering, Hyatt Regency Hotel, classification: Hotels-Catering, sponsors: Frank Kolb, Bill Whitney.

**Bob Taylor**, Dean of College of Arts and Science, Bob Jones University, classification: College Administration, sponsors: Phillip Kilgore, Nell Stewart.

**Suzanne H. Thaler**, President, Impressions Media Services Inc., classification: Media Services, sponsors: Pat Duncan, Kelle Corvin.

**Ronald "Ron" Washington**, Greenville Area Sales Manager, TSC Inc., classification: Air Conditioning-Heating, Sales and Service, sponsors: Jill Kintigh, Trey Pennington.

Welcome, new members Rich Witowski and Steve Loftis.