



THE GREENVILLE ROTARIAN

"Service above self"

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Next Meeting *April 13, 2004*
Meeting Place *Gold Room*

Atlantic Fleet Chief of Staff to speak

Vice Admiral Albert Konetzni Jr., Deputy and Chief of Staff for the U.S. Atlantic Fleet, will speak at the April 13 meeting of Greenville Rotary.

Konetzni, born in New York City in 1944, attended the U.S. Naval Academy, where he graduated with merit and received his commission in 1966.

Following graduation from the Naval Academy, Konetzni attended Naval Submarine School in New London, Conn., Nuclear Power School in Mare Island, Calif., and Naval Nuclear Power Prototype Training in West Milton, N.Y.



Konetzni

He served as Deputy Commandant of the U.S. Naval Academy from August 1984 until May 1987. He commanded Commander Submarine Squadron Sixteen from May 1987 until July 1989. He assumed his current duties in 2001.

Konetzni is entitled to wear the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with a silver star, the Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with two gold stars, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. He holds a master's degree in industrial personnel management from George Washington University and is co-author of the book, "Command at Sea."

Welcome to Rotary

A warm Rotary welcome is extended to the Club's newest members: Kristie Bohm, Jim Bourey, Bill Bradshaw, and Jim Childress.

Wells praises 'special' environment

The business environment in the Greenville area "is special," Tom Wells, senior vice president of Rosen Associates Development Inc., told Greenville Rotarians at the March 23 meeting.

That "special" environment accounts for the Rosen company's eagerness to be part of the Clemson University ICAR project that is going on property once belonging to John D. Hollingsworth. Wells was the March 23 guest speaker because the company's president, Cliff Rosen, had a last-minute conflict.

The Rosen company is developing the Millennium Campus within the ICAR project. Its positioning statement is "Inspiring Innovation." It will develop more than 400 acres of the wooded, scenic land that is part of this public-private partnership.

The automobile industry is migrating to South Carolina for specific reasons, Wells said. Those include low taxes, availability of land, the pleasant climate, excellent labor force and high standard of living. Once BMW located in the Upstate, the suppliers wanted to move here, too, to be close to the manufacturer.

There also are more than 12 major colleges and universities within a 200-mile radius of Greenville, Wells said, and the South Carolina technical schools are great. One of the best tech schools is in our own backyard — Greenville Tech.

Preliminary economic numbers show that ICAR will bring \$2.6 billion in new investment and create 22,000 new jobs, Wells said. And he repeated Cliff Rosen's philosophy concerning public statements about a project's potential: "Underestimate and over-deliver."

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We forget sometimes

By Terry Weaver, President

Tom Wells, our speaker on the International Center for Automotive Research (ICAR), reminded us of the many attributes and advantages of Greenville's location, our region's economic resources and the business climate we enjoy.

On a recent trip to South America, I was stunned by the contrast between their economies and ours. Imagine a business climate burdened by 80 different taxes, a five-month process to establish a company, double-digit inflation, impassable roads, limited available financing, and kidnappings for profit — all resulting in a population of which 50 percent are below the poverty line. This is life in the big economic "engines" of South America — Argentina and Brazil.

We sometimes forget the luxury of a business climate that supports business formation (which we can do in 48 hours versus five months), celebrates entrepreneurship, and has many available sources and means of raising capital.

ICAR is expected to be a catalyst for the formation of the hundreds of knowledge-based businesses that will be needed to support its mission. Its corporate sponsors — BMW, Michelin, IBM, Microsoft, et al — know that these entrepreneurs will be the sources of much of the innovation that they're expecting to spring from ICAR.

Brazil and Argentina have effectively shut down the small business segment of their economies through misguided, populist public policies. As Rotarians, let's regularly remind our elected officials to do the opposite.

PHF ranks grow by 6

Recently joining the PHF ranks were Mason Alexander (1st Multiple PHF), Neel Hipp, Fred Suggs, Victor Pyle, Phillip Shoopman, and John Thomas.

Unique H&H Hour set for April 19

A unique Health and Happiness Hour is scheduled for Monday, April 19. Longtime Rotary Club member Mills Gallivan — of Gallivan, White and Boyd, P.A. — will host the monthly networking reception with an "Open House" to celebrate the one-year anniversary of their new office location at One Liberty Square, 12th Floor (Commerce Club Building). Henry's Barbecue will be served, so bring your appetites.

This special Health and Happiness meeting, which starts at 5:30 p.m., is open to all the Rotary Clubs in District 7750. As usual, it will also serve as a make-up meeting. Rotarians are encouraged to invite their spouses, guests, or potential new members.

Got a minute?

Have you got a minute? A "Patriotic Minute," that is. Volunteers are needed for the May 25 and June 22 meetings. If interested, call Ann Wright at 271-8222 or e-mail her at wrightann@usa.redcross.org.

Missing Persons Report

The following members missed the meeting of **March 23 without a makeup reported by press time**: Glen Adkins, Kitty Allen, John Bearden, Brian Bergmann, Mark Berry, Jim Blakely, Andrew Bolen, Michael Bostick, Welch Bostick, Doug Bowling, Brodie Bricker, Diane Cagle, Gary Caldwell, Fred Carpenter, Heyward Clarkson, Mark Clary, John Cooter, Ben Crider, Kara Dullea, Bill Edmonds, Mark Eley, Bobby Floyd, John Fort, Matt Foster, Gally Gallivan, Nelson Garrison, Ted Gentry, Frank Gibbes, Gene Gibbs, Andy Goldsmith, Jane Goolsby, Vaughn Graham, David Guthrie, Alan Harkey, Bill Harner, Randy Harrison, Tom Harvey, Ted Hendry, Jay Hewitt, Bob Howard, Jody Howard, John Huebner, Stan Ingram, Bob Jeter, John Johns, Jill Kintigh, Bob Knight, Todd Korahais, Bill Kutz, Tom Latham, Lillie Lewis, Julie Lisenby, Steve Loftis, Woody Long, Jacob Lowrey, Rip Major, Sara Mansbach, Mark Martin, Alex McNair, David Merline, Mel Miles, Jennifer Mims, Bill Misiaveg, Ray Orvin, Lee Palms, Tom Piper, Richard Rabb, Louis Redmond, John Reynolds, Jeffrey Rogers, Richard Rowell, Lisa Sabin, Jim Scott, Wade Shugart, Joyce Smart, Laura Smart, David Smith, Eric Steele, Trey Suggs, Bob Taylor, David Taylor, Suzanne Thaler, Fay Towell, John Uprichard, Brad Van Meter, Don Vaughan, Gill Walker, Jeff Watson, David Weekes, Linda Wentworth, Carla Whitlock, Bill Whitney, Charles Williams, Dan Wood, Kelly Wood.