



**THE FUTURE OF ROTARY
IS IN YOUR HANDS**

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 25, 2009

Today



US CONGRESSMAN PARKER GRIFFITH
Representing the Fifth District of Alabama

Club No. 56
Birmingham, Alabama
Volume 98 Number 22
4 Pages

Dwight M. Beeson Banquet Hall
The Harbert Center

Lunch - 11:45
Bell - 12:20
Adjournment - 1:15

Happy Thanksgiving

FUTURE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Dec 2 Randall Stephenson
Chairman, CEO & President
AT&T

Dec 9 Governor Bob Riley

Dec 16 UAB Music Dept
presents Music, Music and More
Music
Yes, there will be EggNog

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Dec 23 No meeting

Dec 30 No meeting

Congressman Griffith is a retired physician and small business owner. He developed several local businesses and has been active in charitable and community activities for more than thirty years. He was elected to the Alabama State Senate in 2006, and has worked to improve our healthcare system, lower taxes and expand early childhood education programs. As a physician, Griffith was the first radiation oncologist in North Alabama, and a pioneer in the early diagnosis and treatment of cancer. He established the first Comprehensive Cancer Center in North Alabama to treat all types of cancer. As a doctor, he provided free and discounted care to patients without insurance.

Dr. Griffith has also been involved in our schools through the Griffith Family Foundation, which awards cash grants to elementary school libraries across North Alabama. He is no stranger to the classroom, having taught seventh grade math before attending medical school, and having lectured in local schools on biology and health issues. Parker and his wife Virginia have five children and eleven grandchildren. They are Episcopalians, are members of the Church of the Nativity and have long been active members of the Huntsville community.

In 2008, Dr. Griffith was elected to his first term in Congress where he serves on three House Committees - Transportation & Infrastructure, Science & Technology, and Small Business.

Questions from club members on the national healthcare plan have been submitted to Congressman Griffith.

ADDRESSES OF RECENT SPEAKERS



Bob Donaldson, PhD.
University of Tulsa
800 South Tucker Drive
Tulsa, OK 74104

Raymond Harbert
Harbert Management Corporation
PO Box 1297
Birmingham, AL 35201

John McMahon
1927 1st Avenue North
5th Floor
Birmingham, AL 35203

Gary Warner
Director of Research in Computer Forensics
Campbell Hall, CH 100
1530 3rd Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35294-1170

**Meetings are recorded. Tapes are available for \$3.50 each, which may be added to Rotary invoices

ROTARYGRAMS (USPS 064-770)
Published weekly by
ROTARY CLUB OF BIRMINGHAM
The Harbert Center
2019 4th Ave. N.
Birmingham, AL 35203.

Subscription rates: \$15 per year.

MEETING DAY:

Every Wednesday, 12:15 p.m.
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Membership: 557

Honorary Members: 21

CONSIDER THE HARBERT CENTER

For your company's next social or corporate event, why not consider the most versatile facility in Birmingham? Built and maintained by you to serve the needs of corporate and non-profit organizations, this building transforms into many other backdrops - elegant, whimsical, wedding, classrooms, prom, fun, serious - just name it. The menu of food is very different (and excellent) from what Rotarians experience every week. Please call Chandrel, Jessica or Leslie to help you make your next arrangements. Receptionist, Kathy Alexis, will be happy to guide you to any of the three sales people, 226-8800.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE FIGHTING BREAST CANCER

2009 International Service - The Mammography Machine, Sri Lanka

Please notice each week the slide indication the club's progress in reaching the mammography machine goal. Vulcan, lit in pink (for Breast Cancer Awareness), points to the most recent amount reached in the fundraising. To date, approximately \$52,000 has been raised. To purchase a mammography machine, we hope to raise an additional \$25,000. Anything beyond that, we will use in the breast cancer awareness campaign which is equally important. As President Hatton said, no matter what our economic experience has been, theirs is far more challenging.

We do not undertake an international project every year. When the need arises, a need that can be met with opportunity, the path seems clear. To help our sister club and the citizens of Sri Lanka, the International Service Committees of both Rotary and Rotaract are pleased to introduce The 2009 International Service Project: joining Sri Lanka in the fight against breast cancer by contributing a mammography machine to their Cancer Early Detection Center in Colombo. There is no access to a mammography machine for early detection available to the millions of women in Sri Lanka who fall outside the privileged set. This project will have immediate effect in saving lives of mothers, sisters, wives and friends.

Breast cancer is a disease with which we are all intimately familiar; this is a disease we can fight from Birmingham by supporting Sri Lanka's prevention efforts.

Asking for your participation and support, for you to contribute to multiple Rotary projects, and for you to think globally at a time when resources locally are in such demand is a challenge. Our friends in Sri Lanka are engaged in similar struggles.

The bottom line is that we have discovered, through this club's personal connections with Rotary in Colombo, Sri Lanka an outstanding opportunity for us to make a big impact on a community in need for a relatively small investment. We are committed to this project and we have each pledged financial support. I hope you will join us.

This project is consistent with the challenges that the 3rd largest Rotary Club in the world readily accepts.



UPCOMING ROTARY OPPORTUNITIES

DEC 1* District 6860 Annual Foundation Dinner featuring Glenn Estess, Chairman of The Rotary

Foundation of Rotary International. Reception 6:30; Dinner and Program 7:00. Reservations required.

DEC 6** Deadline to submit deposit for the annual District Conference, April 15-19, 2010 held on a 4-day Western Caribbean Cruise from Mobile to Cozumel. Celebrate Success ! Register Immediately.

DEC 15*** Last date for discounted registration for the Rotary International Convention, June 20- 23 in Montreal.

ALL Rotarians are encouraged to participate in ALL of the above. Very few things are limited to District or Club leadership only. Please call the Rotary office for more information and to sign up for any or all of the above. 251-1995

- Glenn Estess served as President of RI from 2004-2005 and is currently serving as Chairman of The Rotary Foundation Trustees. No one is better positioned to explain the state of the foundation, the progress toward eradicating polio, other current foundation goals and what humanitarian works are carried out in the name of Rotary, and new partnerships (like the newly formed partnership between RI and the U.N. - Global Compact or the \$350 million grants from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation). Dinner = \$50 per person.
- The district conference is a time to celebrate the year of Rotary achievements in clubs, in the district and in Rotary International. Success stories will be shared by RtNs from throughout District 6860. A representative of RI President John Kenny will be on board as a featured speaker as will other special guests. The cruise prices are better than reasonable. Transportation from Birmingham to Mobile and back is complimentary if cruise deposit is paid by Dec 6. Cabins and suites are available. Welcome reception, onboard entertainment, 24-hour buffets, exercise classes, day trip into Cozumel, movies, casino, deck chairs and pools add to the fun ambience of the conference.

Continued on Page 4

UPCOMING ROTARY OPPORTUNITIES (from Page 3)

- The Rotary International Convention is something every Rotarian should experience. By participating in an RI Convention, you'll gain a broader appreciation of Rotary's global impact and strengthen your commitment to service. Rotarians from every part of the world gathered in one location to hear speakers on many topics of international interest. Former speakers have included Nobel Peace Prize winners like Mohammed Unus on micro-credit, Bill Gates Sr., Paul McCartney, the head of the CDC and WHO, the Secretary General of the U.N. and many others. One of the confirmed speakers for the convention in Montreal is Greg Mortenson, Author, Co-founder and Executive Director, Central Asia Institute. Every time you attend a plenary session, an entertainment event, a breakout session on any topic, walk through a corridor or participate on a local tour, you will meet Rtns from everywhere imaginable expanding your understanding of this worldwide organization as will your understanding of the plight of millions of others and what Rotary does to address all kinds of needs.

Thus far, a fabulous group of eighteen Rotarians from the Birmingham Rotary Club have signed on. We are registering for host events and planning private tours and dinners. We are grabbing hotel rooms in some of the most interesting boutique hotels in Montreal and we are planning a two-day extension to Quebec. President Hatton and President-elect Charlie and I will ensure your excellent Rotary experience but it is important to register now, as after Dec 15, it is unlikely that late registrants can be confirmed for the same events as the group.

In Rotary's Past



Harry "The Hat" Walker

1969 - On January 15th, 1969 manager of The Houston Astros (1968-1972) and the former manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates (1965-1967) Harry "The Hat" Walker spoke to The Rotary Club of Birmingham. A Leeds, Alabama native, Harry Walker played in three World Series games and won the 1947 National League batting title. He was the hero of the 1946 World Series game, hitting a double, which resulted in driving home Enos Slaughter which led to a St. Louis Cardinals win over the Boston Red Sox. He spoke to the club on (you guessed it) baseball.

