



Rotaract Review

THE ROTARACT CLUB OF BIRMINGHAM

Volume 1, Issue 2

August 2006

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Speaker TBA

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A Note From the President...



Dear Rotaract Members,

I hope everyone is continuing to have a good summer. We had

another fantastic turnout for Art on the Rocks! What a great event to take in the diversity of interests Birmingham has to offer.

Over the next month we will remain fully engaged in rolling-out the pilot program of Ready-2-Read and will begin planning for our Second Annual Rotaract Gala. So, if you're not already involved in a committee, please take the opportunity to help out with these two very important components of Rotaract.

In addition, please remember that there

are many committees and activities that you can get involved in and make an impact on Rotaract and the Birmingham community. Please contact the appropriate board member (listed inside the newsletter) and they will help you get involved in the area that interest you most.

As always, feel free to give me a call or drop me an e-mail if there is anything you think I or the board can do to better serve you.

-Ben Moncrief, President

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Zandy Moro
Camille Spratling

Rotaract Vision

To be the premier civic club whose members, alumni, and sponsors responsibly lead the organizations that comprise a world-class community.

Rotaract Mission

To responsibly pursue the wisdom and experience necessary to improve the quality of life of our community's citizens.

Did You Know?

History of Rotaract

Rotaract is an international program for adults ages 18 to 30 who want to make a difference. It was founded in 1968 by Rotary International, an association of clubs made up of service-minded business and professional leaders.

Today, there are more than 7,600 Rotary club-sponsored Rotaract organizations with some 176,000 members - known as Rotaractors - in over 158 countries.

With over 100 members, and just over 2 years old, the Rotaract Club of Birmingham is made up of talented young professionals who have demonstrated intelligence, integrity, energy, and leadership in their personal and professional lives. The Rotaract Club of Birmingham has quickly become one of the largest Rotaract Clubs in the world.

The Downtown Rotary Club of Birmingham (5th largest in the world), whose 550 members include leaders from every industry in the community, sponsors our club.

August Luncheon Speaker: Tom Broughton

Tom Broughton spoke to the Rotaract members in attendance at the luncheon on August 1st. Tom is the President and CEO of ServisFirst Bank. Tom has been in the banking business for over 25 years and most notably co-founded First Commercial Bank.

He shared with us his ideas on customer service and how he has grown ServisFirst to be the first urban bank in the State of Alabama. He addressed the need for more of a pioneering approach to business and especially banking that is necessary in today's economy.

Please join us for the next luncheon meeting on Tuesday, August 15, 2006 at 11:45 a.m. in the Bruno Hall of the Harbert Center.

New Online Membership Directory

The Rotaract Club of Birmingham is pleased to announce we have an "online" membership directory available for your reference.

The members only section of our website is now accessible. To access this page you should have already received an email with login instructions and directory details. If you haven't received this email, contact Ginny Debardeleben at gdebardeleben@sterneagee.com.

For now please visit the site and let us know if there are any changes/problems/suggestions. Thanks for your patience with the progress of the site and we look forward to providing this beneficial resource to our membership.

Membership Spotlight on Charles Brammer



Name: Charles Brammer

Place of Employment: Morgan Creek Vineyards (A Family Business) and Owner of Town and Country Wine

Distributors

Birth Place: Birmingham, Alabama

Typical Day:

There really is no typical day in a family winery where you are a farmer, winemaker, retailer, and distributor. A day can consist of giving tours and tastings at the winery, selling and distributing to stores in Alabama and Mississippi, making and bottling wine, down to working in the vineyard.

Most Embarrassing Moment:

The most embarrassing moment has to be blacking out while giving a biology presentation at Birmingham-Southern and almost hitting the floor but luckily

finding a chair.

How you learned about Rotaract:

I was introduced to Rotaract by John Peinhardt who I knew from soccer growing up and as a KA at Birmingham-Southern.

Most Memorable Moment:

The most memorable moment has to be getting to listen to and meet many of our speakers. Paul Finebaum's wit and sarcasm makes him stand out from the rest.

Greatest Benefit of Rotaract:

Rotaract has had several benefits to me as a young business owner outside of the obvious networking opportunities. Learning from other Rotaractors has helped me avoid several mistakes, while being around such an impressive group of young professionals helps to keep me motivated about my own business. The most important benefit however has been to help me keep a healthy balance between work and community involvement.

Social Event: August 17th Jazz on the Porch Rucker House

New member orientation will be held at this event prior to the general membership social. Please make sure to come by and meet some of our newest members. You will enjoy smooth jazz music while watching the sunset over the Magic City. There will be a discounted cover charge for Rotaract members and more details will be available prior to the event.

Historic Rucker Place is located in Southside at 1804 12th Avenue South (two blocks down from Mellow Mushroom and Dave's Pub). Visit www.ruckerplace.com for additional details.



Art on the Rocks Recap Held July 21, 2006

Our dessert table at Art on the Rocks last Friday night was a big hit. Around the 9 o'clock hour, when it felt about 100 degrees outside, folks were still lining up to eat cobbler a la mode. VJ Graffeo coordinated all of the table shifts so that we'd always have about three members representing the club at a time. We had 24 people give us their names and contact information for Rotaract, and many more got to know us in person. Thanks to all who volunteered a little time away from socializing to help our marketing effort!

Richard Davis, who donned an apron to serve, recaps: "All I know is that our dessert table was the place to be! We had the best time watching the same five people dance by the DJ all night long, what a show! Oh, and I now can absolutely relate with my old lunch line server, Eva, at Crestline Elementary!"

Rotaract Club of Birmingham Board of Directors

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August Service Event

The Salvation Army August 23rd

Mark your calendars for Wednesday August 23rd at 4:30pm when we will be serving dinner at the Salvation Army kitchen. Come prepared to roll up your sleeves, throw on an apron and have some fun. We will be split up into two groups-cooking and serving. We did this project last year and had more fun than ever expected

If you can't get off work early, then come when you can. There be plenty to do.

The Salvation Army is located at 2130 11th Ave North behind the Civic Center. For more information call Eve Rhea at 251-5864 or Marilyn Harvest at 334-221-7936.



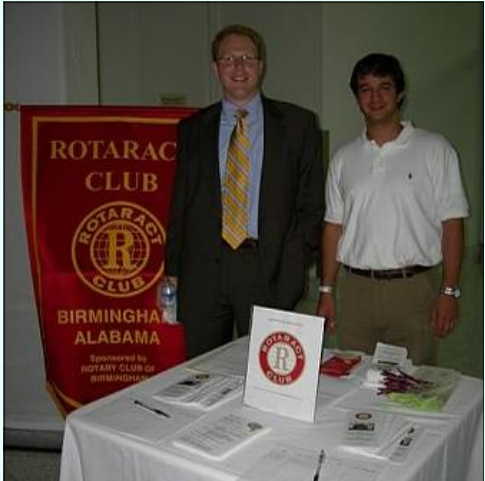
Happy Birthday to our August Birthdays



- Camille Spratling - 6th
- James Darnell - 6th
- Blair Badham - 11th
- Alyson Fuqua - 14th
- Justin Weintraub - 17th
- Nick Gardner - 21st
- Jarred Brown - 22nd
- Scott Howell - 24th

BIRMINGHAM ROTARACT PHOTO GALLERY

**Art on the Rocks Dessert Table
July 21, 2006**



**July Luncheon, Lt. Gov. Lucy Baxley
July 18, 2006**

