



# Rotaract Review

THE ROTARACT CLUB OF BIRMINGHAM

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August 2007

## A Note From the President

One of the main reasons I joined Rotaract was to become more involved in the community. I wanted to feel as though I was making a positive impact in Birmingham outside of just my career. Upon joining, Rotaract immediately satisfied that need by providing several opportunities to serve the community.



been invited to attend and WIAT/CBS 42 has agreed to televise the forum. Rotaract will have the opportunity to help prepare questions for the candidates and will be invited to attend the forum and a post-forum VIP reception with Catalyst and the candidates. We will be solidifying the format of the debate soon, so if you have any ideas for potential questions for the candidates, please email me your questions at [amason@burr.com](mailto:amason@burr.com).

Our signature service project, Ready 2 Read, has personally been a very rewarding service opportunity. R2R has the potential to make a tremendous impact on literacy and education within the city and I am certainly proud to be a part of that. In addition, Rotaract has provided additional service opportunities in Birmingham for its members, including building a home with Habitat for Humanity, volunteering at the Lakeshore Foundation, and serving dinner at the Salvation Army.

Obviously, one of the most meaningful ways to make an impact in the community is to get involved in the political process. By co-sponsoring this debate, we are helping to educate the public on the candidates' views so that the voters can make an educated choice for mayor come election time. Additionally, we are able to partner with other civic groups in Birmingham and strengthen our relationship with those organizations. Therefore, not only are we helping to inform the public about what each mayoral candidate plans to do to improve Birmingham, but we are also building stronger relationships with other like-minded civic groups. There is no doubt that our impact on Birmingham will strengthen as we strengthen our relationship with others. I hope to see you at the forum!

On September 18, 2007, Rotaract will be providing another opportunity for its members to get involved in the community, but in a somewhat less traditional format. We will be co-sponsoring a mayoral forum at Workplay along with the League of Women Voters, Catalyst, the Black Journalist Association and the 16th Street Baptist Church. Each mayoral candidate has

Warmest Regards, April



Look Inside for ...

### PROGRAMS

August 21st Luncheon  
Mr. Robert L. Fuqua  
Atlas RFID Solutions, Inc.

Sept. 18th Luncheon  
Mr. Nelson S. Bean  
First Commercial Bank

### MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHTS

### SOCIAL UPDATE

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Kelsey Powell  
Angie Segars

### 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 information, connections, and practical experience necessary to improve the quality of life of our community's citizens.

**Future Events**

**UPCOMING  
LUNCHEON  
SCHEDULE**

**August 21st**

**Mr. Robert L. Fuqua**

President & CEO

*Atlas RFID Solutions, Inc.*

**September 4th**

**Speaker TBD**

**September 18th**

**Mr. Nelson S. Bean**

President & CEO

*First Commercial Bank*

**October 2nd**

**Mr. David Gray**

CEO

*DAXCO*

**AUGUST SOCIAL**

*Think & Drink*

**On Tap in Lakeview**

**August 29th**

**NEW MEMBER  
ORIENTATION**

**August 29th**

**On Tap in Lakeview**

*(before August Social)*

This is a great chance for all new members to meet the board, get information about Rotaract, ask questions and most importantly,

**GET INVOLVED!!!**

Caroline Williams will be contacting the new members to verify the time.

**August and September Luncheon Speakers**

**Mr. Robert L.  
Fuqua**

*August 21st*

Mr. Fuqua is a seasoned business leader with over 10 years of experience in organizational development, leadership, sales, and marketing. His 6 years as an Officer and Ranger in the U. S. Army developed his leadership and management skills in the most demanding of environments. In 2001, Mr. Fuqua joined the sales and marketing team at Abbott Laboratories, where he was recognized company-wide for his sales and leadership abilities. In 2002, Mr. Fuqua became the VP of Business Development for Blitz Research, Inc. While at Blitz, Mr. Fuqua earned clientele from many blockbuster brands from the top pharmaceutical companies in the world and managed multi-million dollar promotional campaigns aimed toward healthcare professionals throughout the U. S. Mr. Fuqua earned a BS in Political Science and Systems Engineering, with Honors, from the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, and an MBA from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.



**Mr. Nelson S.  
Bean**

*September 18th*

Mr. Nelson is a native of Birmingham and a graduate of Vanderbilt University where he received his BA in Business Administration. Following graduation Mr. Nelson held the position of Commercial Loan Officer at Third National Bank, now SunTrust Bank of Tennessee. In 1988, he began his career at First Commercial Bank as a Vice President and has since moved up the ranks to his current position of President and CEO. Mr. Nelson presently serves as secretary for the Kiwanis Club of Birmingham and serves on the board of the Alabama Chapter of Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, The Bell Center, the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the Board of Trustees Birmingham Area Chamber of Commerce. He is a past board member of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of Birmingham. In 2004 and 2005 Mr. Nelson served as a cabinet member of the United Way of Central Alabama Campaign and was a member of the 2003 Leadership Birmingham Class.



**Membership Spotlight on Michael Rediker**

**Name:** Michael Rediker

**Company:** The Bankers Bank

**Hometown:** Birmingham

**Briefly describe a typical day in your life as a young professional.** Banks, banks and more banks.

My company provides merger advisory services to the banking industry, so my day consists of analyzing bank financial statements, computer modeling, talking with bank management, negotiating with opposing advisors, and watching the financial markets, all in an effort to see if any two banks are candidates for a potential deal.

**How did you come to join Rotaract?** I got to know Jenny Nunnelley through my family and she introduced me to Rotaract in early '06.

**What have you enjoyed most about Rotaract?**

Working with children through our reading initiative. The ability to read is probably the most vital thing to a child's cognitive development, so it is rewarding beyond words to



know you are helping children build a critical lifelong skill.

**Describe the benefits you have seen of Rotaract for a young professional.** It is a great way to break away from the grind of work and socialize with people going through the same things in life that you are.

**What do you like to do in your free time?**

Anything that puts me outside, particularly golf and exercising with my Labrador.

**What is the best vacation that you've taken?**

My family took a cruise from Acapulco to Puerto Rico via the Panama Canal. We saw the rainforests of Costa Rica, luxury and squalor side-by-side in Colombia, and paradise in the Caribbean islands. The Panama Canal is simply indescribable.

**Tell us one thing most people don't know about you.** I'm naturally right-handed, but as a child I mimicked my older brother (a natural lefty) and learned to write left-handed. This turned out to be a problem during college and the SAT because they only make desks for right-handed people!

## Membership Spotlight on Jessi Grizzard

**Name:** Jessi Grizzard

**Company:** Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce

**Hometown:** Oxford, Alabama



**Briefly describe a typical day in your life as a young professional:**

As Manager of Membership Services at the Birmingham Chamber, my day varies from corresponding with our higher investors including over 300 Board of Trustee members and over 40 Chairman's Circle members to coordinating events for our entire membership. My job is to keep the members updated on what we are doing at the Chamber and to provide incentives and benefits for our higher investors.

**How did you come to join Rotaract?** I learned about Rotaract through working at the Birmingham Regional Chamber of Commerce. My fellow coworker, Alison Howell, has been developing the YP Program at the Chamber. We both felt that Rotaract was an organization that would help us develop both professionally and personally.

**What have you enjoyed most about Rotaract?** I have enjoyed developing contacts and close relationships with other young professionals. I also feel more connected within the Birmingham community.

**Describe the benefits you have seen of Rotaract for a young professional.** There are so many benefits for being involved in Rotaract. The most important one to me is knowing that I belong to an organization that promotes service, social, professional and

personal development. I think that is what sets Rotaract apart from other organizations that I am a part of.

**What do you like to do in your free time?** I enjoy spending time with friends and family, going to sporting events, running, shopping and volunteering in the community.

**What is the best vacation that you've taken?** The best vacation that I've taken was junior year of college when I visited Paris with a group of my friends. It was amazing getting to experience such a different culture. I loved the relaxed atmosphere and of course the shopping. My favorite site that we visited was the Montmartre – it was so beautiful!

**Tell us one thing most people don't know about you.** One interesting thing about me that most people don't know is that I have a twin sister. Not very many people know this because she lives in our hometown, Oxford, AL. My twin sister's name is Julie and she has 3 wonderful kids and has been married for six years. Since we lead such different lifestyles our lives rarely cross with many of the same people.

### Rotaract Club of Birmingham Board of Directors

<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Ben Moncrief</b>
<b>President</b>
<b>April Mason</b>
<b>Vice President</b>
<b>Jarred Brown</b>
<b>Membership Recruitment</b>
<b>Bentley Sloan</b>
<b>Membership Development</b>
<b>Caroline Williams</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Andrew Petrofsky</b>
<b>Programs Director</b>
<b>Grant Lauderdale</b>
<b>Communications Director</b>
<b>Jason Goggins</b>
<b>Service Director</b>
<b>Anthony Oni</b>
<b>Social Director</b>
<b>Sarah Peinhardt</b>

## Social Update

### THINK & DRINK

TEAMS WILL TEST THEIR I.Q.  
WITH PRIZES FOR THE WINNING TEAM

- D** DATE: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29
- T** TIME: 5:30PM . TRIVIA BEGINS AT 6:00PM
- L** LOCATION: ON TAP, LAKEVIEW  
727 29TH STREET SOUTH

Happy Birthday to our August Birthdays



- Christopher Strong - 3
- James Darnell - 6
- Bill Rowe - 6
- Camille Spratling - 6
- Blair Badham - 11
- Alyson Fuqua - 14
- Justin Weintraub - 17
- Nick Gardner - 21
- Jarred Brown - 22