



Rotaract Review

THE ROTARACT CLUB OF BIRMINGHAM

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November 2006



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A Note From the President

It's been a great month. As I am sure many of you saw in the local media, we had a successful launch of our Ready 2 Read program on October 19th. We delivered over 1,700 books to the first 7 of the 150 second grade classrooms in the Birmingham City School System. It was a great time of service as well. We had the opportunity to read to the children, something I encourage you all to do. As we continue to roll-out our program into additional schools over the coming months, we'll be calling upon each of you to sign-up to read once or twice a month to these second graders. Do it; it's a great time! To find out more about how you can get involved in reading to our Ready 2 Read classrooms, contact Eve Rhea at eve_rhea@uss.salvationarmy.org or Jarred Brown at jbrow@srwhl.com.

Other exciting things are happening. Mainstreet Birmingham has launched a new roundtable of young professional groups. Rotaract looks forward to

taking a leading role in this organization. If you are involved in other young professional groups and want to get involved, let me know and we'll be sure to get you plugged-in.

Gala is coming. Mark your calendars for March 2. The second annual Gala - the premier gathering of Birmingham's young professionals - will mark the culmination of a \$250,000 fundraising effort backing our Ready 2 Read initiative. Stay tuned to how you can help out.

As always, our goal is to make Rotaract a resource for its members. If you've got ideas or initiatives you want to put into place to improve our community, let us know and we will work to put you in contact with the people and resources you need to make it happen.

Sincerely,
Ben Moncrief, President

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

- John Burdett
- Chris Champion
- Leigh Nicholson
- Anthony Oni

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.

Future Speakers

Upcoming Luncheon Schedule

November 7

Mr. Shelley Stewart

Birmingham Living Legend and renowned author

November 21

W. Michael Warren, Jr.

Energen Corporation Chairman of the Board and CEO

December 5

Max Cooper

Largest McDonald's Franchisee and Broadway Producer

December 19

Luncheon Cancelled Due to the Holidays

**Nov. 7th
Mr. Shelley
Stewart**



Our feature speaker will be Shelley Stewart, president of O2 Ideas, a Birmingham-based, 100-employee advertising agency. Stewart a civil rights legend, known to many as "Shelley the Playboy," motivated the youth during the Civil Rights Movement.

Despite numerous setbacks, he never gave up his will to succeed. Eventually, odd jobs at radio stations laid the foundation for a 50-year career in broadcasting. As an African American radio personality, he helped launch the careers of such legends as Otis Redding, Isaac Hayes, and Gladys Knight. Instrumental in the Civil Rights Movement, he publicized the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. A remarkable witness to and participant in the momentous social changes of the last three decades, Stewart, now a successful businessman and community leader, shares his courageous personal story that shows the indomitable strength of the human spirit.

**Nov. 21st
Mr. Mike
Warren**



Mike Warren has been employed by the Company in various capacities since 1983. In January 1992 he was elected President and Chief Operating Officer of Energen and all of its subsidiaries. In October 1995 he was elected Chief Executive Officer of Alagasco and Energen Resources and in February 1997 he was elected Chief Executive Officer of Energen and effective January 1998, he was elected Chairman of the Board of Energen and each of its subsidiaries.

He serves as a Director of Energen and each of its subsidiaries. He is also a director of Protective Life Corporation and Associated Electric and Gas Insurance Services Limited. Warren was chairman of the American Gas Association in 2002 and is on the board of trustees of the Gas Technology Institute and the American Gas Foundation. He is a graduate of Auburn University and Duke University Law School.

Membership Spotlight on Frank Lassiter

Name: Frank Lassiter
Company: Protective Life
Hometown: Birmingham



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

My typical day begins with waking up around 6:30, getting ready for work, and then feeding my Springer Spaniel Champ on my way out the door. The workday has its fair share of meetings and conference calls. My evenings are spent going to the gym, frequently attending meetings for various organizations, and then hopefully relaxing a little before going to bed.

How did you come to join Rotaract?

Bill Hankins "rushed" me, and I was also looking to become involved in a young professionals civic group in Birmingham. Other than that, I filled out the forms like everyone else!

What has been the most memorable moment during your time with Rotaract?

Reading to the second graders at Glen Iris as part of the "Ready 2 Read" launch has been a definite highlight. That was definitely a rewarding experience to see how we (both collectively and individually), can make a positive impact on others. As the next generation of community leaders, it is imperative that each of us understand and embrace the concept of "servant leadership" and share our time and talents to benefit others.

What aspect have you enjoyed the most from your membership?

Developing friendships with people whom I otherwise would not have met is the aspect I have enjoyed the most. Rotaract is fortunate to have a diverse membership base, and membership provides great networking benefits and opportunities to get involved in a wide range of activities throughout the community.

Greatest Professional Accomplishment:

Passing all three levels of the Chartered Financial Analyst program to obtain my CFA designation.

Favorite TV Show:

"The Office"

R2R in the press!



Sarah Verser ran a special about Ready 2 Read in her segment "What's Right With Our Schools" PM on Tuesday October 31st. You can watch this report from going to the fox website at www.myfoxal.com.

Also keep an ear out for Jenny and President Ben Moncrief this weekend on local Cox Radio stations! Jenny and Ben discussed Ready 2 Read with Don Dailey for a 15 minute spot to go out on all Cox Radio public affairs shows this Sunday.

We need your help in this important effort! Here are some key contacts:

- Fundraising: Meet with donors, bring in the dollars. Contact Mike Mahon, mmahon@fhicapital.com, 205.706.1576
- Logistics: Get the libraries in front of students. Contact Blair Badham, blairbadham@yahoo.com, 205.937.3340
- Communications: Spread the good word. Contact Ginny DeBardleben, gdebardeleben@sterneagee.com, 205.936.4946
- Gala: Dress Up, Get Down. Contact Katye Pinkerton, katyep10@uab.edu, 205.329.0041
- General: All things R2R. Contact John Peinhardt, jpeinhardt@cahabagba.com, 205.807.0573

Highlights from the PDS Event at the Botanical Gardens with Stewart Welch

The Professional Development series on October 30th with Stewart H. Welch, III gave all who attended an insight into what traits self-made millionaires portray. We learned how Stewart, a self-made millionaire, set personal simple professional goals and built a substantial net worth by achieving them. Our members had an opportunity ask questions about financial planning, real estate investing and a variety of other issues we deal with so early in our careers. The event closed with a book signing and an opportunity to meet one of the best in his industry.

Rotaract Club of Birmingham Board of Directors

Chairman	Bill Hankins
President	Ben Moncrief
Vice President	D.J. Hampton
Membership Recruitment	Emily Duff
Membership Development	Jarred Brown
Treasurer	Andrew Petrofsky
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Mentoring Opportunity for Rotaract Women through MOMENTUM

As a member of Rotaract, the YWCA Central Alabama is providing a wonderful opportunity for you to get involved in a mentoring program with the alumnae of MOMENTUM, a premier executive women's leadership program. The recent alumnae of MOMENTUM have made a commitment to mentor young professional women in the community to help build women leaders. Therefore, if you are interested in a January-June 2007 mentoring relationship with an executive woman leader, please contact Tina Upshaw at 322-9922 x179 or tupshaw@ywcabham.org for details.

Deadline to apply for the mentoring program is November 17, 2006.

Information on the MOMENTUM program may be found at <http://www.ywcabham.org/Momentum/index.asp>. This is the second year MOMENTUM has partnered with Rotaract and last year those who participated found it to be a great opportunity.

Please do not hesitate to contact April Mason if you have any questions.

Happy Birthday to our November Birthdays



- Carrie Pittman - 1st
- Enid Dean - 4th
- James Holmes, III - 9th
- Robby Hayes - 19th
- Michael Kassouf - 20th
- Ali Louis - 20th
- Andrew Petrofsky - 20th
- Eve Rhea - 20th
- Eric Rogers - 23rd
- Jenny Nunnelley - 24th
- Paul Roess - 29th
- Jack Russell - 29th

Ready 2 Read Launch Day October 19, 2006



Habitat for Humanity—October 14, 2006

