



Rotaract Review

THE ROTARACT CLUB OF BIRMINGHAM

Volume 2, Issue 9

September 2007

A Note From the President



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PROGRAMS

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September 18th

CHILDREN'S
EMPOWERMENT
WEEK

September 11th, 12th
and 13th

MEMBER
SPOTLIGHT

We are pleased to
welcome the
following new
members:

Charlotte Bohrer

Brandon Haushalter

The leaves might not be changing colors and there may not be a cool breeze in the air, but my favorite season has definitely arrived – FOOTBALL SEASON! It's that time of year where friends gather together at the neighborhood pub to cheer on their favorite team to victory. It's that time of year when the talk around the water cooler is about how many fantasy football points your favorite running back got last week. And it's that time of year when coaches are giving legendary pep talks to their players, urging them to give 100% and lead their team to a win.



But it's not just football players that will be giving 100% this season. You can too. In September, Rotaract will provide many opportunities to give back to the community. Most notably, Rotaract has designated the second week in September Children's Empowerment Week. During this week, Rotaract will be partnering with groups such as

the YWCA, Girls, Inc. and Glenwood, just to name a few, on various service projects targeted toward and benefiting children.

A project has been planned for almost every day of this week. Therefore, we will need numerous volunteers to make this event a success. In fact, why don't we stick with the theme, and have 100% Rotaract participation in Children's Empowerment Week. With so many projects to choose from, hopefully everyone will be able to fit at least one event in their schedule. This is a great opportunity for Rotaract to make a powerful impact in the community, and it would be incredible if every member of Rotaract can be a part of this. It's the time to give 100% and go for a "win" for the community.

Finally, in the spirit of the season, I would like to say Roll Tide! You didn't think I was going to end this letter without getting that in did you?

Warm regards, April

Rotaract Vision

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

Rotaract Mission

Rotaract provides an opportunity for Birmingham's young professional leaders to promote responsible citizenship, develop professional skills, and employ effective leadership by offering venues to learn from proven leaders, network with committed young professionals and serve the needs of the community.

Future Events

**UPCOMING
SCHEDULE
OF EVENTS**

September 11th
**Girls Inc- Garden
and Student
Enrichment**

September 12th
**Children's Village-
College Prep
Seminar**

September 13th
**Junior Achieve-
ment - JA in One
Day**

September 18th
**Luncheon speaker
Nelson Bean**

September 18th
**Mayoral Forum at
Workplay, 7 pm**

October 2nd
**Luncheon Speaker
David Gray**

Upcoming Luncheon Speakers

September 18th

**Mr. Nelson
Bean**



Nelson S. Bean is the President and Chief Executive Officer of First Commercial Bank, where he has been a part of that institution for almost 20 years, since he began as a vice president in 1988. Prior to First Commercial Bank, Mr. Bean worked for the Third National Bank, which is now SunTrust Bank of Tennessee.

Mr. Bean graduated from Vanderbilt University with his B.A. in Business Administration in 1983. He is involved in numerous community organizations including Kiwanis Club of Birmingham, Alabama Chapter of Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, The Bell Center, UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center, and the United Way of Central Alabama.

October 2nd,

Mr. David Gray, DAXKO

David serves as president and CEO of DAXKO. He is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the company and sets the company's strategic direction.

DAXKO, headquartered in Birmingham, provides on-demand software and related services to member-centric nonprofits in 43 states across the US.

David has extensive experience in the development, management, and operations of high-tech software and consulting firms. His past clients include a number of Fortune 500 corporations and leading technology companies.

In addition to his position at DAXKO, David is the chairman of TechBirmingham (www.techbirmingham.com) and is the chairman of Auburn University's Board of Advisors.

Ready 2 Read Update



**2 More Schools Getting
Ready 2 Read!!**

This will be an exciting month for second graders at Wilson and Sun Valley Elementary Schools! During September, children in eight classrooms will see their classroom libraries grow by more than 300 books, they will receive free books to start or enhance their own home libraries, and they will meet their new Rotaract Reading Buddies.* Wilson and Sun Valley are the two remaining schools to receive benefits under the Ready 2 Read Pilot Program. The Pilot Program has allowed the Ready 2 Read team to test and improve program components prior to the project's citywide rollout.

To help raise awareness and ensure all Birmingham elementary schools gain the benefits of Ready 2 Read, Rachael Diliberto is leading a professional design team in the development

of Ready 2 Read promotional materials. A slick Ready 2 Read promo video and marketing packet are slated to be available in October, just in time for the next Ready 2 Read fundraising push.

Finally, Chris Strong is leading the Ready 2 Read team through a sophisticated Implementation Planning process. The purpose of this effort is to establish the plan for Ready 2 Read's citywide rollout. This critical plan will contain the structure and strategies necessary to ensure Ready 2 Read's success.

*The Reading Buddy Program coordinates volunteers interested in reading to second grade classrooms; contact Rotaractor Richard Davis for more information: Richard.Davis@HRH.com. To learn more about the Wilson and Sun Valley rollout, please contact Holly Brown: hbrown@harbertrealty.com.

Membership Spotlight on Brandon Wilson

Name: Brandon Wilson

Company: o2 ideas, inc

Hometown: Birmingham, Alabama



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

As a public relations supervisor for o2 ideas, Inc. my days are comprised of creating public relations strategies for clients we serve. The diversity of our client base makes this very exciting. One minute I could be solving public relations challenges for our quick-serve seafood client and the next a construction company.

How did you come to join Rotaract? A few Rotarians I have come to admire encouraged me to join. One of them, a great mentor to me, was the speaker at one of our luncheons and invited me to accompany him. Meeting the membership and learning more about the group was more impressive than word-of-mouth gave it justice. I quickly learned that Rotaract was comprised of some of the best and brightest young professionals in Birmingham.

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

Working with Rotaracters to build a Habitat for Humanity home for a single mom with a child diagnosed with Aspergers Syndrome was a pretty memorable moment. More than 20 volunteers all pitched in to build a home for a family in need. This moment sums up for me what Rotaract is all about.

Describe the benefits you have seen of Rotaract for a young professional. Being able to assemble with like-minded young professionals in Birmingham is priceless.

What do you like to do in your free time?

I enjoy cooking, a recently acquired hobby. I recently made the decision to attempt to duplicate the meals I enjoyed at restaurants. The result is a mixed bag of successes and horrible failures; however, there is fun to be had in every attempt.

Tell us one thing most people don't know about you.

Very few people know that I once played basketball in junior high school. I made a buzzer beating three point shot in one of the games. Sounds great... however, it was the only basket I made the entire season.

Rotaract Club of Birmingham Board of Directors

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

Mayoral Forum, September 18th

Rotaract is co-sponsoring a Mayoral Forum on Tuesday, September 18th at WorkPlay with a reception to follow. The tickets are first come first serve and there is a very limited supply, so please email glauderdale@servisfirstbank.com if you are sure you can attend.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to hear from the candidates and get a better understanding of how they intend to address the issues in Birmingham. All in attendance must be seated by 6:30 for introductions and on-air coverage with CBS 42 will begin at 7 p.m.

Immediately after the forum, Catalyst and Rotaract will be hosting a reception for our members in the front bar of Work-play. All of the candidates will be notified

of this reception and the opportunity to meet and greet with our members.

The following people are currently running for mayor:

- Larry Langford
- Barry Taylor
- Raymond Brooks
- Valerie Abbott
- Patrick Cooper
- Bernard Kincaid
- Carole Smitherman
- William Bell

Willis H (Buddy Hendricks) alias Mickey Mouse (yes, that's how he wants it written on the ballot)

Happy Birthday to our September Birthdays



- Charlotte Bohrer – 5th
- Maibeth Deas – 8th
- Chris Frohock – 11th
- Emily Duff – 12th
- Jennifer Wallis – 16th
- V.J. Graffeo – 16th
- Grant Lauderdale – 16th
- Bentley Sloan – 17th
- Caroline Williams – 18th
- Kelsey Powell – 22nd
- Leo Karpeles – 23rd

ROTARACT HOSTS WEEK'S WORTH OF EVENTS TO EMPOWER KIDS ACROSS BIRMINGHAM

KIDS SHOULD FEEL A LITTLE MORE IMPORTANT AND EMPOWERED WHEN THEY AWAKE THE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 10. IF THEY DO, THEY HAVE ROTARACT TO THANK. FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER IN BIRMINGHAM, ROTARACT WILL HOST CHILDREN'S EMPOWERMENT WEEK, A WEEK'S WORTH OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES TO PREPARE KIDS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD.

ROTARACT AND FIVE OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS JOIN FORCES TO REACH OUT TO KIDS IN A WAY THAT'S NEVER BEEN DONE, THUS RAISING THE COMMUNITY SERVICE BAR WHEN IT COMES TO SUPPORTING BIRMINGHAM'S YOUTH. THE PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDE JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT, CHILDREN'S VILLAGE, GIRLS INC., YWCA AND GLENWOOD.

"EACH OF OUR PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS HELP KIDS EVERY DAY, BUT IT'S RARE YOU SEE THEM UNITE FOR THE CAUSE OF EMPOWERING BIRMINGHAM'S GREATEST TREASURE: OUR KIDS," SAID BRANDON WILSON, COMMUNITY SERVICE CHAIR FOR ROTARACT.

"BIRMINGHAM'S YOUTH ARE IN NEED OF OUR HELP AND ATTENTION," SAID MEGANN CAIN, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR FOR GIRLS INC. "THEY NEED TO FEEL EMPOWERED AND IMPORTANT. THIS WEEK WILL HOPEFULLY INSPIRE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO FOCUS MORE ON WAYS TO PREPARE OUR CHILDREN FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE."

DURING CHILDREN'S EMPOWERMENT WEEK KIDS HAVE THE OPTION OF PARTICIPATING IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

GIRLS INC- GARDEN AND STUDENT ENRICHMENT

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

ROTARACT WILL PLANT FLOWERS AND ENHANCE THE CURB APPEAL OF GIRLS INC.'S HEADQUARTERS. ROTARACT WILL ALL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR ONGOING AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM.

CHILDREN'S VILLAGE- COLLEGE PREP SEMINAR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

ROTARACT HOSTS A COLLEGE PREP SEMINAR FOR KIDS AT CHILDREN'S VILLAGE AND GRACE HOUSE- THESE ARE BOTH FOSTER CARE FACILITIES IN BIRMINGHAM.

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT - JA IN ONE DAY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

ROTARACT WILL SPONSOR COUNCIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND TEACH A JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT ECONOMICS CURRICULUM IN EVERY CLASSROOM DURING CHILDREN'S EMPOWERMENT WEEK.

GLENWOOD- FUNDRAISER RECEPTION

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

PLEASE USE THE LINK BELOW TO SIGN UP AS A VOLUNTEER DURING ROTARACT'S CHILDREN'S EMPOWERMENT WEEK::

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=tjF_2bFjoS6PfQYmSncYd0gA_3d_3d

SEPTEMBER SOCIAL EVENT
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

CHILDREN'S EMPOWERMENT WEEK
C E L E B R A T I O N



LOCATION
THE J. CLYDE
1312 COBB LANE
DATE
9.13.07
TIME
5:30 PM