

SPACE CENTER ROTARY CLUB BLASTOFF

The Space Center Rotary Club
meets on Mondays, 11:45 a.m.
at the Nassau Bay Hilton

Rotary International District 5890

"Real Happiness is Helping Others"



Rotary International President: Clifford Dochterman
District 5890 Governor: Billy Weseman
Club President: Vic Maria

BLASTOFF STAFF: EDITOR - Gene Oley; PRODUCTION - Robert Frost, Bill Geissler; PHOTOGRAPHERS - Vince Lipovsky, "Mac" Balfe, Dennis Dillon, Carver Shivers
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MARCH 21, 1994

DEBAKEY VISITS ROTARY

PROGRAMS

MAR. 21 BRAD THOMPSON
UTMB DEPT.
CHAIR
* * *

EVENTS

MAY 21 JAMBOREE
Contact: David Taylor

APRIL 21 WESTERN
HOEDOWN
Contact Mike Dennard

MAY 12 DISTRICT
CONFERENCE
Lafayette Louisiana

THE 58/90 CAR RAFFLE
Contact Ken Gurry
* * *



ROTARIANS HELP

Space Center Rotarians are helping formerly at-risk students with careers through the Career Development Committee.

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CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Our speaker was Debbie Mantooth. Ms. Mantooth is an Assistant District Attorney and Chief Prosecuting Attorney.

(See Page 2)
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THANK YOU

Bay Area Meals On Wheels was the primary recipient of the Shrimporee in, our first year, 1982.

(See Page 2)
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EXPECTATIONS EXCEED RESOURCES

Larry Mathis accompanied Dr. DeBakey and shared the podium today.

By Gene Oley

March 14 - Dr. DeBakey was our keynote speaker today!!!

Thanks to Rotarian George Fleming, we were honored to have this world famous heart surgeon as our guest.

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Debbie Mantooth

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

By Brent Caldwell

March 7. Our speaker today was Debbie Mantooth. Ms. Mantooth is an Assistant District Attorney and Chief Prosecuting Attorney. She is also a candidate for District Judge, 180th Judicial District. She is the step-daughter of Rotarian George Fleming.

Ms. Mantooth provided the Club with a brief description of a typical day in the life of a District Attorney. Her comments about the criminal justice system were quite illuminating. She told us why she was so committed to her job, despite its difficulties, and admonished us to be aware of and support the criminal justice system.

Editor: We note that Ms. Mantooth won the Republican primary race on March 8 by a convincing 2:1 margin over her opponent.

* * *

ROTARIANS HELP STUDENTS WITH CAREER

Space Center Rotarians are helping formerly at-risk students with careers through the Career Development Committee, which consists of Jack Lister, Lamar Bowles, Teri Hernandez, Terry Hesson, Dave Baldwin, and Claire Taylor, chairperson. This is a pilot project involving Clear View Alternative High School. If the programs successful, other high schools in the area will be added. Committee members will introduce VIP students to the community through visits to local businesses, industries, professional organizations; and attendance at Space Center Rotary Club meetings and functions. This program not only serves as a tremendous incentive for at risk students to complete high school, but it also helps them become productive citizens. Committee members enlist your help in introducing and placing these students in viable careers. Please contact committee members if you can help. Students at Clear View Alternative High School who have completed requirements for the VIP (Vocational Internship Program) are being helped with their career choices. Requirements for acceptance into the VIP program are a semester grade point average of 3.0, absent no less than 5 days during the first semester, excellent previous job evaluations, ten hours of community service during the school year, and staff recommendations. Other criteria include vocational testing, portfolios, and career plans.

Three students have achieved VIP status: Truong Ngo, a junior interested in electronics;

David Way Brown, a senior interested in instrumentation; and James Taylor, a senior interested in law enforcement. These young people have made a commitment to complete their education and can serve as examples for other at-risk teenagers. They will be guests of the Career Development Committee on April 28. Please make welcome. One of the most desirable outcomes of the VIP program is exposure to successful people. There is no better place than Space Center Rotary.

* * *



Joan Geissler

THANK YOU

By Joan Geissler

March 7 - In our first year, 1982, Bay Area Meals On Wheels (BAMOW) was the primary recipient of the Shrimpooree. We received \$5,000 which assured BAMOW stability at that time. Since that first donation, BAMOW has received an additional \$2100 including today's donation from the Space Center Rotary. Thanks again, you help to keep BAMOW alive.



Larry Mathis

EXPECTATIONS EXCEED RESOURCES

By Gene Oley

March 14 - Larry Mathis accompanied Dr. DeBakey and shared the podium today. Larry is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Methodist Hospital System and its twelve member corporations.

He opened his speech with great praise for Dr. DeBakey. Phrases such as "foremost medical statesman of all time" and "most widely known doctor in history".

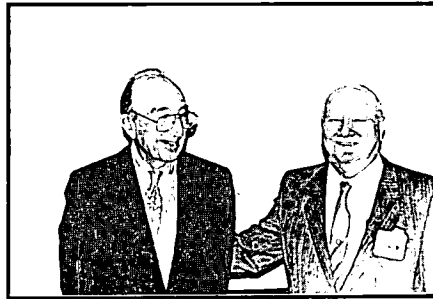
He then provided us with a comprehensive overview of the costs of health care in the U.S. today and how health care reform may impact these costs. Larry explained that American expectations for millionaire health care far exceed the resources that individuals, business and government can practically provide. We want it, but we can't afford it!

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DR DEBAKEY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

As part of Dr. DeBakey's introduction, our membership sang happy birthday and



George Fleming greets Dr DeBakey

presented him with a candle lit muffin. Later one of our members gave him a coffee mug as a birthday gift.

Simple and to the point, characterizes DeBakey's speaking style.

Medically speaking, he told us arterial sclerosis was the cause of most heart failure, but no one knew what the cause was.

Original heart replacement devices, called "V.A.D." (ventricular assist device), focused on the left ventricle and were used to aid a weak post surgery heart. They were too large to be permanently implanted.



The latest in a long line of heart pumps is being developed as a joint venture between NASA and DeBakey. It is a magnetic drive screw pump that is just 3 inches long. It's total length, including peripherals, is about 6 inches and consumes 10 watts of power. It shows promise as a permanent heart replacement since it doesn't affect the characteristics of the blood as have all previous devices.



Dr. DeBakey tells us that the heart can recover in some instances. He told us of a young woman who recovered from heart surgery with the aid of a V.A.D.. until her heart became strong enough to do the total work. Unfortunately she died in an automobile accident 6 years later. Upon examination of her heart, after the autopsy, it was found to be fully recovered.



Vic & DeBakey speak privately







"How can you avoid a heart attack?" was a question from the audience. "Pray", was DeBakey's answer!

Since doctors do not know the cause of a heart attack, they can not tell us how to avoid one.

Our thanks to Dr. DeBakey for coming to visit us, and our thanks to George Fleming for bringing the good doctor to us.



H'mm, I wonder what DeBakey eats?!?

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