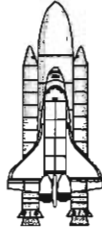


# THE BLASTOFF



December 3, 2001



Rotary Club of Space Center  
Rotary District 5890  
Meetings are held on Monday's at 11:45  
Holiday Inn - 1300 NASA Road One  
(281) 333-2500  
www.spacecenterrotary.org  
Chartered: August 6, 1964



**Whatever It Takes**  
District 5890 2001 - 2002 Theme

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**Jon Eiche**  
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Asst. District Governor  
**George Yeiter**  
gyeiter@yeiter.com

## Today's Agenda

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>11:45 am</b> | Buffet luncheon begins                              |
| <b>12:05 pm</b> | Call to order                                       |
|                 | Song for today <b>Jerry Bourgeois</b>               |
|                 | Pianist <b>Ann Fulcher - John Wilson</b>            |
|                 | Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance                 |
|                 | Introductions of Guest and Visiting Rotarians       |
|                 | Four Way Test                                       |
|                 | Announcements                                       |
| <b>12:30 pm</b> | Program Chair <b>Rolfe Young &amp; David Taylor</b> |
| Program         | Robert Miller/METRO                                 |

## Upcoming Rotary Programs / Socials

**Rotary Club of Space Center**

Dec 10 Rocketmen  
Dec 14 Holiday Party/Lakewood Yacht Club/  
Contact **Bill Taylor**

Dec 17 Soundwaves  
Dec 24 & 31 Holiday - no meeting

**Rotary District 5890 for 2001**

Dec 3 Pasadena South "Christmas Auction" 11:30 am  
Jan 17 All Club Mtg/Radisson Hotel Astrodome  
Convention Center

Mar 16 Ambassadorial Scholarship Interviews  
Mar 21-23 Lone Star P.E.T.S.  
May 9 - 12 District Conference in New Orleans - *Jazz it up!*



Printing courtesy of  
**Barrios Technology**  
"Where Innovation and Motivation Meet"  
Blastoff Editor: **Sheila Self**

## Today's Song

### *Winter Wonderland*

Sleigh bells ring are you listening  
in the lane snow is glistening  
A beautiful sight we're happy tonight  
walking in a winter wonderland

Gone away is the bluebird here to stay is a new bird  
He sings a love song as we go along  
walking in a winter wonderland

In the meadow we can build a snowman  
Then pretend that he is Parson Brown  
He'll say: Are you married? we'll say: No man  
But you can do the job when you're in town

Later on we'll conspire as we dream by the fire  
To face unafraid the plans that we've made  
walking in a winter wonderland

In the meadow we can build a snowman  
and pretend that he's a circus clown  
We'll have lots of fun with mister snowman  
until the all the kids knock him down

When it snows ain't it thrilling  
Though your nose gets a chilling  
We'll frolic and play the Eskimo way  
walking in a winter wonderland

Walking in a winter wonderland  
walking in a winter wonderland



## *Clear Lake Metropolitan Ballet*

*University of Houston-Clear Lake Bayou Theatre*

December 7<sup>th</sup> at 8 PM  
December 8<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM & 8 PM  
December 9<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM

Tickets: \$16 - \$22  
Available at the CLMB office (281) 480-1617  
and through all Ticketmaster outlets  
[www.clmb.org](http://www.clmb.org)

## Today's Speaker



Robert D. Miller was appointed to the METRO Board by Harris County Commissioners Court in January 1996 and became Chairman in March 1998. He served as Secretary of the Board prior to becoming Chairman. An honors graduate of Cy-Fair High School, Rice University and the University of Texas School of Law, he is a partner in the law firm of Locke Liddell & Sapp. His areas of legal expertise include real estate, real estate secured lending and government relations.

Mr. Miller was named one of the Five Outstanding Young Houstonians by the Houston Jaycees in 1992. He was selected for inclusion in Who's Who in American Law in 1990, and Who's Who in America in 1995. He is a Fellow of the Houston/Gulf Coast Chapter of the American Leadership Forum for the 1998-99 class and is a graduate of Leadership Houston, Class X. He currently serves as Secretary and Director of the Texas Lyceum Association, as President and Director of Vote Texas, and as a Director of the Houston International Festival. He previously served as a Director of the Greater Houston Preservation Alliance.

In 1987, Gov. Bill Clements appointed Miller as a member of the Battleship Texas Advisory Board. In 1988, he was elected to Chairman and served in that capacity until 1993. Mr. Miller served as legal counsel and a member of the Finance Committee for the Houston Convention Fund during 1991 and 1992. The Houston Convention Fund raised from private sources the City of Houston's contribution to the 1992 Republican National Convention. He has served as a Director and officer of numerous judicial reform organizations, including the Citizens' Commission on the Texas Judiciary, the Committee for Judicial Merit Election and Merit PAC. <http://www.hou-metro.harris.tx.us/millrbio.htm>

### **Rotarians in Pakistan - Submitted by Alan Wylie**

Good Rotary publicity  
Something positive for all of us to enjoy

Please see the following article from the Nov 28 Chicago Tribune:  
<http://chicagotribune.com/features/lifestyle/chi-0111280042nov28.story?coll>

### **Mark Your Calendars!!**

Vocational Excellence Award "Outstanding Business Person"  
Nominations are due December 14 - Contact **Dr. Adena Loston**  
Bicycles with helmets and knee pads - \$50.00 Contacts are: **Vic Maria, Earl Maudlin, Al Brady and Dennis Dillon**

Rotary Holiday Party - December 14 7:30 pm - 11:30 pm  
Lakewood Yacht Club - Dinner and Dancing - Kurland Street  
Band and a Surprise Special Guest - \$42.50 per person  
Contact **Bill Taylor** for tickets

Pancake Breakfast January 19 at 7:30 am - \$5.00  
Nassau Bay Baptist Church - Purchase tickets from **Jack Lister**

## ROCKETMEN - Next Week's Program



Recently, a team from the Johnson Space Center participated in the taping of a television show that aired in October. The show is called "Junkyard Wars", and is carried by The Learning Channel (TLC).

Mike Jensen (NASA), Jim Dewberry (NASA) and Tom Evans (Barrios) were one of the 8 teams selected, out of nearly 1000 teams that entered, to participate in the Fall 2001 series of episodes. The team originally entered under the team name of "Orbital Debris", but then changed to "The Rocket Men", at the production company's request. The series of shows aired in late September, with the Rocket Men taking on the "Dukes of Spook" on October 24<sup>th</sup>, at 8 pm on TLC.

"Junkyard Wars" is the American version of a British show, "Scrapheap Challenge", and started out as an educational show intended to try and get kids interested in technically related things, also providing explanations on how things work. Cathy Rogers, one of the co-hosts and President of the company that created the show, actually came up with the idea for the show while watching the movie "Apollo 13". She said that it came to her when the NASA Engineer walks into the room with a box full of stuff and says that the task is to figure out how to build a Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) scrubber out of these parts. A typical show pits 2 teams against one another, with a common challenge to build a machine out of junkyard parts, in ten hours, then to compete those same machines the next day. The winner gets a handsome reward; bragging rights.

In the Oct 24<sup>th</sup> episode, The Rocket Men and the Dukes of Spook were challenged to build a powered watercraft that would negotiate a single-fastest lap, with three laps available to each team to accomplish the task. There was also one additional small detail; this had to be done on a white-water river.

The chance to intentionally tear up stuff and use all sorts of tools was very fun, and having to scrounge the parts and build the machine in 10 hours was quite a challenge. Mike, Jim and Tom all agreed that the experience was quite a lot of fun, and that they would all participate again, if given the chance.



From the far left, is Mike Jensen, Cathy, Jim Dewberry, Tom Evans and Doug Riddle, our team expert for the boat challenge.

Be sure to tune in for the upcoming reruns on TLC.

**December 1-29, Christmas at the Kemah Boardwalk.** Get in the Christmas spirit with a stroll through the Boardwalk's holiday-themed areas including Toyland, the North Pole, Candy Land and Winter Wonderland. Santa photos and letters to Santa are offered weekends all month. Information 281-334-9880 or 1-877-AT-KEMAH.

**December 8, Holiday Canoeing, Armand Bayou Nature Center.** A special holiday canoe trip down Armand Bayou. Start off by personalizing your canoe with various provided holiday decorations, then take a leisurely paddle to the boathouse to enjoy a light breakfast. Continue canoeing down the bayou to discover what winter wildlife awaits you. Travel approx. 2-3 miles round trip. Beginning and experienced canoers welcome. Ages 10-adult, 7:30-11:00 a.m. For fee and info 281-474-2551.

**December 8, 40th Annual Christmas Boat Parade on Clear Lake.** More than 100 beautifully lighted and extravagantly decorated boats travel leisurely through the Lake and up Clear Creek Channel to Galveston Bay, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The parade can be viewed along the shoreline in Seabrook and Kemah. For information, call 281-488-7676.

**December 22, Breakfast on the Bayou.** Start your weekend by enjoying a leisurely morning breakfast drifting down the bayou on the "Bayou Ranger" pontoon boat at Armand Bayou Nature Center. Observe wildlife searching for their own breakfast. An uncommon opportunity to watch and learn about bayou life while enjoying rolls, juice and coffee. For Information 281-474-2551.

**December 29, Sunset Cruise at Armand Bayou Nature Center.** Leave from Bay Area Park aboard the "Bayou Ranger" 28' pontoon boat. Enjoy a leisurely educational and relaxing trip on the bayou in the cool of the evening. Sunset on the water is a beautiful and a very active time for birds and other wildlife. For ages 5-adult. Nominal fee. For Information 281-474-2551.

**American Red Cross Urges Companies  
to Develop Emergency Response Plans for their Workplaces**  
*Submitted by Denise Platt*

**Washington, September 23, 2001**—In the wake of the worst terrorist attack in the history of the United States, Americans continue to suffer from a collective sense of shock, disbelief and loss. The American Red Cross is always there with emergency relief in the aftermath of disasters—but just as importantly, the organization works in communities every day by teaching people the skills they need to prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies and to save lives.

Now more than ever, the Red Cross is urging companies to develop emergency response plans for their workplaces and to ensure that their employees are trained to respond to life-threatening situations. General disaster response training for all employees should address:

- Individual roles and responsibilities—Your employees need to know who does what in an emergency.
- Information about threats, hazards and protective actions—Determine what natural or manmade threats your workplace is susceptible to and how your employees will respond.
- Notification, warning and communications procedures—Develop a warning system in your workplace to notify your employees of an emergency situation.
- Means for locating family members in an emergency—Collect emergency contact information for every one of your employees that is kept current and would be accessible in an emergency.
- Emergency response procedures—Employees should know and practice all emergency response procedures.
- Evacuation, shelter and accountability procedures—Conduct evacuation drills twice a year and select a location outside your workplace where everyone would meet after escaping.
- Location and use of common emergency equipment—Employees should know the location of emergency equipment, including fire extinguishers, first aid kits, and automated external defibrillators (AEDs), and be trained in how to use them.
- Emergency shutdown procedures—Determine which systems need to be shut down in particular types of emergencies.

Training in first aid, CPR and automated external defibrillation (AED) can also give your employees the skills and confidence they need to be prepared for emergencies. Red Cross courses prepare millions of American workers to prevent and respond to workplace emergencies every year.

For information on health and safety training and disaster preparedness for your workplace, contact your local American Red Cross chapter or visit [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org). Ask for the brochure "Preparing for the Unthinkable," which addresses business disaster planning and preparedness.

The American Red Cross is dedicated to saving lives, easing suffering and restoring hope at home and around the world. Every year, the Red Cross trains almost 12 million people in vital lifesaving skills and mobilizes relief to the victims of more than 67,000 disasters nationwide. Bernadine Healy, M.D., is president and CEO of the American Red Cross.

**Make – Up Locations**

|                         |                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Monday - noon</b>    |                               |
| Angleton                | A-D Gen. Hosp. Prof. Bldg.    |
| Galleria Area           | University Club               |
| <b>Tuesday - noon</b>   |                               |
| Galveston Island        | San Luis Hotel                |
| Harrisburg              | Brady's Landing               |
| La Porte                | St. John's Episcopal Church   |
| Pearland                | Golfcrest Country Club        |
| River Oaks              | Briar Club                    |
| Texas City              | Nessler Center                |
| <b>Wednesday - noon</b> |                               |
| Baytown                 | Goose Creek Country Club      |
| Deer Park               | Court & Theater Center        |
| Dickinson               | Methodist Church              |
| Friendswood             | Village on the Park           |
| So. Pasadena            | Baywood Country Club          |
| <b>Thursday - noon</b>  |                               |
| Alvin                   | Homestead Inn                 |
| Gulfway/Hobby           | Hobby Hilton                  |
| Houston                 | Jr. League of Houston         |
|                         | 1811 Briar Oaks Lane          |
| La Marque               | Gulf Greyhound Park           |
| League City             | Esteban's Fiesta Shack        |
| Seabrook (7:00am)       | Lakewood Yacht Club           |
| <b>Friday - noon</b>    |                               |
| Pasadena                | First United Methodist Church |
| Hitchcock/Santa Fe      | MaximBank Hwy 6               |
| W. Galveston Cty.       | Ramada Inn                    |



Happy Holidays ! ! ! !

**REINDEER**

According to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, while both male and female reindeer grow antlers in the summer each year, male reindeer drop their antlers at the beginning of winter, usually late November to mid-December. Female reindeer retain their antlers till after they give birth in the spring. Therefore, according to every historical rendition depicting Santa's reindeer, every single one of them, from Rudolph to Blitzen, had to be a girl. We should've known. Only women would be able to drag a man in a red velvet suit all around the world in one night and not get lost.

*Submitted by Bill Geissler*

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## The Rotarians Four Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all Concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and better FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



## Smith Space

## NOTE:

Makeup forms, checks, and other  
communiqués to club  
secretary, treasurer, or president  
should be mailed to:

P.O. Box 58862  
Houston, Texas 77258  
[www.spacecenterrotary.org](http://www.spacecenterrotary.org)  
[www.rotary5890.org](http://www.rotary5890.org)



Thank you for  
your inputs &/or  
comments! *THE  
BLASTOFF* in-  
puts are due each  
Wednesday.



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Articles, items, jokes, typos, etc. in  
*The Blastoff* are not intended to offend  
readers.

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*Club Service D* **Geoff Atwater**  
(Club History, Constitution &  
Bylaws, Memorial, Rotary Info)

### Other

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