

# WHEEL TALK



## ROTARY CLUB OF ABBEVILLE

March 25, 2009

### TODAY'S PROGRAM

Dental Health and Dental Advances by  
Dr. Lance Savoie, DDS

#### Last Week's Program:

Menhaden industry in Vermilion Parish by Al Vidrine

Badge Drawing Winner: Dan Dartez

Lotto Winner: None

Club Guests: None

Visiting Rotarians: None

#### Rotarians with Guest:

Richard Primeaux (1)

Mark Shirley (3)

Deborah Parsons (1)

### REMINDERS !

- ◆ Rotarian Jim Russo is in the hunt for auction items. Let's make Jim's job a little easier by getting him items to sell off.
- ◆ Remember the proceeds go to our club treasury.

### SPOTLIGHT GUEST SPEAKER:

Dr. Lance Savoie attended McNeese State University and Louisiana State University School of Dentistry. He was president of his class in his sophomore, junior and senior years while at LSU. He was awarded the Pierre Fauchard Scholarship for his outstanding achievements in academics and leadership. Dr. Savoie is a student representative for LSU School of Dentistry Alumni Association Board. He is married to the former Debra Churchman, and they have one daughter, Malory, and twin sons, Philip and Nathan. Dr. Savoie enjoys dentistry, family time, gardening and fishing.

### Afghanistan students earn money through carpet weaving

Rotarians in Pakistan and the United States are using the centuries-old craft of carpet weaving to help inhabitants of a town in Afghanistan make better lives for themselves.

Spin Boldak, in southern Afghanistan near the Pakistani border, has certainly felt the effects of the war. Thousands face a daily struggle to survive or find work.

Past RI Director Lynmar Brock helped connect the Rotary Club of Abaysin Central in Peshawar, Pakistan with the Rotary Club of Central Chester County, Pennsylvania, USA, to establish a project, to teach residents the art – and marketable skill – of carpet weaving, after Brock returned from a visit to Pakistan. The Pakistan club wrote up a matching grant application and sent it to Brock, who helped them find an international partner.

For centuries, experienced weavers in Afghanistan have painstakingly created a heritage of rugs, with many families passing on their designs for generations. A new 3 x 5-foot rug made by an amateur can sell for US\$50 at a local bazaar – and overseas, the decorative carpets sell for far more.

“Skills in carpet weaving in war-torn areas of Afghanistan are an immediate source of earning, either in a carpet weaving factory, or one can start his or her own facility,” explains Vasanth Prabhu of the Central Chester County club.

The two Rotary clubs raised \$15,000 with the help of the matching grant, which was used to buy 10 looms, tools, and wool for the training center.

Despite continued unrest in the region, materials still flow to Spin Boldak, allowing more and more of its residents to learn to weave. As of March, 90 men and women, mostly in their 20s and 30s, had graduated from the two-month training program.

### MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

|             | Birthday |
|-------------|----------|
| Bertha Mire | March 27 |
| James Russo | March 27 |

### PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

|      | Partner's Name | Birthday |
|------|----------------|----------|
| None |                |          |

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

|      | Partner's Name | Anniversary Date | Years |
|------|----------------|------------------|-------|
| None |                |                  |       |

### CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

|      | Date of Induction | Years In Club |
|------|-------------------|---------------|
| None |                   |               |

### CHILDREN BIRTHDAYS

|      | Child Name | Birthday |
|------|------------|----------|
| None |            |          |

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY

**0031** 1st Easter, according to calendar-maker Dionysius Exiguus  
**1668** 1st horse race in America takes place  
**1813** 1st US flag flown in battle on the Pacific, frigate Essex  
**1882** 1st demonstration of pancake making (Department store in New York NY)  
**1954** RCA manufactures 1st color TV set (12½" screen at \$1,000)  
**1961** Elvis Presley performs live on the USS Arizona  
**1995** Boxer Mike Tyson released from jail after serving 3 years

### BULLETIN BUZZ

If anyone would like to post news, information, etc. in the weekly “Wheel Talk” bulletin, please contact Bernard Duhon at (337) 893-5066 or [bernard@bernardduhon.com](mailto:bernard@bernardduhon.com)

### MEMBER ABSENTEE LIST

|                 |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Noel Bajat      | Duncan Boutwell | Mike Couvillion |
| Madeline Dehart | Tobi Edwards    | Judge Edwards   |
| Raymond Gagne   | Suzanne Jones   | Bertha Mire     |
| Eric Robicheaux | Jim Russo       | Joey Russo      |
| Rodney Simon    | Emery Troups    |                 |