

WHEEL TALK



ROTARY CLUB OF ABBEVILLE

September 9, 2009

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Organ Donation by Suzanna Morton

Last Week's Program:
Timmy Melancon—KHS Speech Teacher

Badge Drawing Winner: Bertha Mire

Lotto Winner: None

Club Guests:

Elen Arceneaux—Vermilion Parish School Board
Chris Rosa—Abbeville Meridional

Visiting Rotarians:

Rotarians with Guest:

Charles Dill—Elaine Dill; Mark Shirley—Rebecca Shirley; Garolyn Landry—Elen Arceneaux

REMINDERS !

- ◆ September 9—10, 2009—Governors-Elect and Governors-Nominee and Spouses Seminar Marriott Tulsa Southern Hills Hotel in Tulsa, OK
- ◆ September 10-13, 2009 : 2009 Rotary Zones 30 & 31 Institute at Marriott Tulsa Southern Hills Hotel in Tulsa, OK

SPOTLIGHT GUEST SPEAKER:

Suzanna Morton received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication with a concentration in Public Relations from Jacksonville State University in Jacksonville, AL. With a background in communication and public relations, Suzanna's dream was to eventually work for a non-profit organization. Little did she know, three years later that dream would become a reality. In June of 2008, Suzanna began working for the Louisiana Organ Procurement Agency (LOPA) as full-time Community Educator for the Acadiana area.

TAKE STEPS TO KEEP RECESSION FROM HURTING RETENTION

In a global recession, humanitarian services – and volunteers – are more necessary than ever. So how can your club hold on to members who are experiencing financial difficulties? "We're hearing reports that some areas of North America are experiencing resignations from Rotary due to the economy," says Judi Beard-Strubing, a regional Rotary International membership coordinator from Zone 23 and a retired Wall Street financial adviser. Club presidents and district governors can take steps to help prevent the recession from negatively affecting member retention, says Beard-Strubing, who has given presentations and facilitated workshops on this subject in recent months. For example:

- Find a less costly venue for club meetings, or talk to the restaurant where you currently meet about the possibility of less expensive meals. Consider changing meeting times so that club members can attend without having to pay for a full meal.
- Give members a way to stay active in the club without having to write a lot of checks. This might mean partnering with local organizations on more hands-on projects, such as stocking a local food bank. Consider waiving a struggling member's dues for a few months in exchange for more project participation.
- Keep your radar tuned to any signs of financial difficulty among club members, and be sensitive to those who might be feeling the pinch. Identify members who might leave for financial reasons, and reach out to them sooner rather than later.
- Remember that fellowship adds value to Rotary membership. Find inexpensive ways for club members to socialize regularly, such as pot-luck dinners. Consider starting a job bank in a club or district newsletter or Web site.
- Keep an eye on membership records to see how the economic situation is affecting your roster. This applies at both the club and district level.

MEMBER BIRTHDAYS

	Birthday
Gagne Raymond	September 12

PARTNER BIRTHDAYS

	Partner's Name	Birthday
Daniel Dartez	Rose	September 9
Bernard Duhon	Jeanell	September 11

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

	Partner's Name	Anniversary Date	Years
John O'Bryan	Ann	September 13	20

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

	Date of Induction	Years In Club
Gagne Raymond	September 15	5

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

1776 Continental Congress renames "United Colonies," "United States"

1850 California becomes 31st state

1908 Orville Wright makes 1st 1-hr airplane flight, Fort Myer, Va

1956 Elvis Presley appears on national TV for 1st time (Ed Sullivan)

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

MEMBER ABSENTEE LIST

Ted Ayo, LOA	Paul A. Bourgeois, Jr.	Don Chauvin
Dan Dartez	Martial Broussard, LOA	Tobi Edwards
John O'Bryan	Earl Parquette, LOA	Eric Robicheaux
Emery "Bichon" Toups	Rodney Simon	Joey Russo
Karl "Bubba" Weill		