



North Carolina's Oldest Civic Club
Chartered August 1, 1914

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FOUR WAY TEST

- 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?

Thought For The Day

I take it that what all men are really after is some form of, perhaps only some formula of, peace.

— James Conrad

January 6, 2003 Today's Program

Agustin Landa
Ambassadorial Scholar

Upcoming Programs

January 13—Anne Bryan—Exploris Year in Review

January 20—No Meeting—Martin Luther King Holiday

January 27—Kevin Sommers—Communities in Schools

February 3—Howard Hobbs—Parkinson's Center

Rotary Club of Raleigh **Bulletin** is published each week the Club meets. To contribute items contact Tom Wood: tpwood@coastalnet.com or phone 319-1793. Visit www.raleighrotary.org where bulletins since January, 2001 are posted ... or call Club phone at 848-2333 and request one be faxed to you.

DECEMBER 16, 2002 SUMMARY

The December 16, 2002 meeting of the Rotary Club of Raleigh was called to order by **President Jim Lofton** who gave the invocation. **Hugh Campbell** led the Pledge of Allegiance and introduced visitors and guests. A special recognition was given to **Mrs. Marlene Shaw**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President **Jim Lofton** expressed sympathy from the club to **Mike Holt** whose mother recently passed away.

Luther Penny led a round of applause in thanks to the members who made last week's Holiday Party such a great event. He also asked everyone to turn in the "Taste of the Triangle" checks and any remaining books.

Bill McLaurin recognized **Neil and Cam Webb and Lawrence Davis** for their generous support of the Rotary Foundation. Lawrence and Neil are multiple Paul Harris Fellows. Neil honored Cam with a Paul Harris Fellow level donation in his name. Neil's daughter in California is also a Rotarian and she was similarly honored by her father.

Garrett Briggs welcomed back and introduced to the meeting **Venera Ishmuratova**. Venera attended Peace and Meredith Colleges and received Rotary Scholarships for two years. She spoke to us about her completion of the Finance Program with Smith Barney in New York and her current position as Assistant Vice-President-Analyst-International Private Bank with Bank of America in Miami, Florida. Venera expressed her appreciation to Rotary for assisting a small town Russian to reach her dreams.

Braxton Wilson said the Environmental Committee is working with the City of Raleigh and we will have a project this spring.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT.)

Chuck De Smet thanked the bell ringers to date and said contributions are ahead of the same time last year.

Jim Graham encourage all members to ready to contribute to Warmth for Wake at the first meeting of the new year.

PROGRAM

Garrett Briggs gave a warm introduction of our Club's own **Dr. Talbert Shaw**. He noted Dr. Shaw's doctorate from the University of Chicago, his distinguished career as a college professor and administrator and his 15 years of leadership at Shaw University.

Talbert gave a wonderful history of Shaw University from its founding in 1865 by Henry Martin Tupper. He noted the excellent medical school that until 1918 trained many African American physicians. **Talbert** talked about his tenure and the success of fundraising, increased enrollment and the return of football. He also reported that the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools had just reaffirmed Shaw University's accreditation for ten years.

Talbert left us with the encouragement to always have a sense of purpose in any endeavor in life. He concluded his remarks with a recitation of the "Four Way Test." **Talbert** received a standing ovation from the club.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL'S

2002/2003 THEME

"SOW THE SEEDS OF LOVE"

Rotary International's new President, Bhichai Rattakul, was installed in Barcelona, Spain in June. President Bhichai said "... to Sow the Seeds of Love is to find opportunities to serve every day, every moment of our lives ... to think of others first, and ourselves in terms of what we can do for others . . ."

President Jim Lofton thanked **Talbert**, wished everyone a Happy Holiday, and adjourned the meeting.

- Reported by **Brenda Mullins**

GUESTS

Mrs. Marlene W. Shaw—guest and Rotary-Anne of **Dr. Talbert Shaw**

Betsy Justus—guest of **Garrett Briggs**

Shelton Griggin—guest of **Emerson Teer**

Craig Este—guest of **Bill McLaurin**

Kevin Cecil—guest of **Wilson Hayman**

VISITING ROTARIANS

John Barbour - Clayton

Kenneth Carter - Capital City

RECENT MAKE UPS

Joe Moore - North Raleigh

Jim Ray - Cary Glen-Aire

BIRTHDAYS

Tony Habit - January 1

David Ammons - January 2

Will Meier Jr. - January 3

Carey Carlberg - January 6

John Campion - January 8

John O'Donnell Jr. - January 10

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mark Blake (Angie) - January 6 (7 yrs.)

CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

Tommy Rhodes - January 7 (1 year)

Joe Zaytoun - January 1 (23 years)

ADVENTURES IN RINGING BY KAREN GUZMAN -Raleigh N & O

The bells have stopped ringing now.

Donations have been totaled. But until the last minute, folks like Kevin Sommers were still chiming away, reminding everyone within earshot that the holidays are about giving.

Standing next to the red Salvation Army kettle outside Wal-Mart in North Raleigh last Thursday, Sommers, 41, and his ringing partner, Chuck DeSmet, 53, were in the final days of donations.

The two are among the roughly 170 volunteers from the Raleigh Rotary Club who have helped staff this kettle at the shopping center off New Hope Church Road.

Sommers says he has learned to spot “givers” at 20 paces. The secret is eye contact. “If they won’t even look at you, you know they’re going to walk right past you,” he says.

DeSmet and Sommers have looked into a lot of giving eyes this season. “We volunteer every week from the day after Thanksgiving through Christmas Eve at 2 p.m.,” says DeSmet.

Garbed in red aprons and Santa Hats, DeSmet and Sommers jingle insistently at the stream of shoppers. “People walk up here and say, ‘I’ll give you money if you stop,’” says Sommers.

De Smet nods. “I try to keep mine low profile and quiet,” he says, raising the golden bell in his left hand.

Quiet or not, the bell speaks and a cross section of givers hears what it's really saying. Tina Krycia, 34, drops a bill in the kettle. "I was able to go to summer camp because of them when I was a kid," she says. That was back in San Diego, the summer Krycia was 8 and her mother was battling cancer. The week at camp was a precious reprieve Krycia has not forgotten. She has been giving to the Salvation Army ever since.

"Many people say the Salvation Army helped me," says Sommers. Givers approach slowly, digging through purses and pockets.

"I had lost my job and they helped me out with his Christmas," says single mother Charlene Griffis, holding the hand of her 3-year-old son, Jackson. A local Methodist church actually helped Griffis, but she figures good begets good no matter who's doing the giving. "If I got something, I give it, cause they need help just like we did," she says.

On this day, totals from the Salvation Army's kettles in Wake County were running 18 percent behind last year's donations to date. Last year's total was \$104,000.

Ashley Delamar, business administrator for the organization, blames a season shortened by a late Thanksgiving and three days lost to the ice storm. "I heard they were behind," says Fred Jeffries, of Raleigh, tucking a bill into the kettle's slot.

They keep coming on this rainy afternoon, people who once received a helping hand now trying to repay the favor. It makes sense this time of year — even if it's just loose change they drop rattling into the kettle.

"There might be somebody dressed up real nice who looks like they have a lot of money in their pockets, and they'll walk right past you," Sommers Says. "Somebody else who looks like they have nothing, dump all they have."

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