

# The Nerve



A Weekly Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa  
P.O. Box 2403, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403 — [www.Rotarytuscaloosa.com](http://www.Rotarytuscaloosa.com)  
Volume 94 — Issue 24 — December 20, 2011

## Club Officers, 2011-12

Warner Johnson  
*President*

James Leitner  
*President-Elect*

Nancy Jones  
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## Directors, 2010-11

Clark Swail  
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Ralph Clements  
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Jim Shamblin  
*Past President*

Jerry Shepherd  
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## This Week, December 20 Tim Leopard Helps Build the Future at UA



Alumni and other visitors who have not been to the Capstone in many years could be forgiven for not knowing their way around. The University, of course, has been growing aggressively in recent years under the leadership of Robert Witt, and along with that growth has come fundamental change in the landscape of the campus.

On Tuesday, Rotarians will hear from one of the key players to have been involved in so much growth on the campus in recent years, **Tim Leopard**. He is the Assistant Vice President for Construction.

Leopard began working with the University as a consultant in 2004, and as an employee since 2006. He has worked in construction for 25 years and has supervised over \$2.5 billion dollars in construction projects, ranging from automobile plants and luxury condominiums to academic facilities, convention centers, and advanced treatment cancer centers. He has even constructed log cabins.

Currently, Mr. Leopard oversees the campus construction program. In that capacity he is responsible for a wide range of issues, from inception to completion of each project: alignment with the campus master plan, improving the living and learning environment for faculty and students, diminishing the impact of construction activities on the campus community, and providing projects that will provide the lowest overall lifecycle cost to the University.

## Last Week: December 13

### TSO Director Adam Flatt



Rotarians were treated to the sounds of the season once again last week, when members of the Capstone Quartet of the Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra played some holiday favorites during lunch. But there was more. Adam Flatt, the new Director of the TSO, then spoke to the Club about how he came to Tuscaloosa, and what the Orchestra means to the city. **Rotarian Bruce Burrows** introduced the speaker.

Flatt had an unusual introduction to the community. Out of an original 150 applicants, he was the last of four finalists chosen to visit the city. On the day he was to make his case, a tornado warning forced him to do so in the basement of the Moody Music Building. But Flatt impressed even in those circumstances, and was soon offered the job.

He was immediately impressed with Tuscaloosa, the University, the facilities at Moody and the TSO and its leadership. He described what he found to be “an extraordinary level of musicianship” in our University town, and a musical support community that is “extraordinarily strong.” So he has been able, from the beginning, to emphasize the highest level of quality and performance for the TSO.

And he has been able to do so with very modest resources. “I have never seen anywhere another nonprofit orchestra that is leaner,” Flatt said. In his estimation we have by far the “best bang for the buck” in the nation, the highest quality performances for the least expense. He underscored the point with a striking comparison. The salary for four musicians of the Chicago symphony is well over the annual budget of the entire TSO!

Flatt also insists that as a community organization the TSO should be just as strong in reaching out to and enriching the lives of Tuscaloosa’s citizens. The orchestra is “an instrument of the community,” as he put it, and he cited as one of the best examples of that spirit the TSO’s strong response to the trauma of the April 2011 storms. The TSO was not only part of the Bama Rising concert and the benefits held at the Tuscaloosa Amphitheater. They have also scheduled an upcoming concert for April, 2011, an original score that will serve as a fitting tribute to the heroes and a remembrance of the victims of last year.



## December Birthdays

John Cook (12/1), Jimmy Mixson (12/6), Brian Henry (12/6), John Dill (12/8), David Richardson (12/8), Andrew Hudson (12/8), Andy Graham (12/9), Helene Hibbard (12/10), Bill Lanford (12/10), Wayne Childress (12/11), John Carter (12/12), Ray Farabee (12/13), Mark Crews (12/13), J.G. Brazil (12/15), Kellee Reinhart (12/15), Frank Deaver (12/18), Alan Hartley (12/22), John Cade (12/23), Don Alverson (12/23), Dean Moretz (12/27), Bobby Hill (12/31), Frank Upchurch (12/31).



## Rotary Rings in 2011 Salvation Army Campaign



The Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa was out in full force last Saturday, its bell ringers hard at work at the Wal-Mart on Skyland ringing the bells for the Salvation Army. Rotarian John Snider and his team braved the cold all day and into the night, and by all accounts the event was a great success. Thanks to John, his committee, and all who volunteered!

If you missed a chance to ring the bell, not to worry. Rotary will also continue to collect checks and money of the next two weeks for the fund drive.

Also be sure to check out the Club website ([www.rotarytuscaloosa.com](http://www.rotarytuscaloosa.com)) for more images of our Bell Ringers!



## Guests, December 13

Guests at the December 13 meeting of the Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa included **Dusti Deaver**, wife of Frank Deaver; **Bruce Roche** (UA, retired), guest of

Frank Deaver; **Hallie Hull** (TSO Guild Board) and **Kirsten Hicks** (TSO Guild Board President), guests of Glenda Guyton; **Judy Shepherd** (Pastor, Jennings Chapel), guest of Tonya Cargile; **Anne Moman**, wife of Buddy Moman; **Gay Burrows** (TSO President-Elect), **Liz McGuire** (TSO Executive Director), and **Donna Boles** (TSO Guild President), guests of Bruce Burrows; and **Dr. Bruce Roach** (Advertising Executive) guest of the club.



## At the Head Table, December 13

**Rotarian Foote Hooper** moved to Tuscaloosa in 1986. He is originally from Mississippi, and a graduate of Mississippi State and Ole Miss medical school. He worked for the University of Alabama and the Alabama Department of Mental Health for 23 years. Foote has been a member of Rotary since 1978. He has served as chair of international service and of Rotaract. He is a Paul Harris fellow, as is his wife, Denise Perone, MD. Foote has also made up meetings in Greece, Egypt, England, Poland, Denmark and Mexico. He has two children, one stepchild, one grandson and another due in May. **Rotarian Lewis Carnes** is a native of Marietta Georgia. He came to Tuscaloosa in 1998 to attend the University of Alabama, After college he entered the Insurance business and currently works for Hull and Associates specializing in commercial insurance and bonds. **Rotarian Bruce Burrows** is graduate of The Citadel and has a Masters in History from the University of West Florida. He served both ground and air combat tours as a Marine officer in Vietnam. He flew 377 combat missions and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Vietnamese cross of gallantry, and sixteen air medals. He spent 32 years with United Airlines as a captain and manager of flight standards. He is rated as pilot in command in eleven transport aircraft. Bruce is president of the 600 member Osher Life Long Learning Institute at the University of Alabama. He received the 2009 Excellence in Teaching Award from the College of Continuing Studies. He has been married for 46 years to the former Gay Whetstone and has two daughters and two grandchildren. **Dr. Karen Meshad Baldwin** is the associate vice president for advancement at The University of Alabama. She is responsible for securing the financial and volunteer support needed to sustain and develop The University of Alabama. Prior to her appointment as associate vice president, Dr. Baldwin served as the director of external affairs and development for the UA College of Engineering for over 10 years. She has been a member of Rotary since 2001.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**December 27**

**No Meeting**

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**January 3**

**UA President  
Robert Witt**

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**January 9**

**No Meeting**

“If there is any one particular in which I would have Rotary distinguished from other organizations, it is in the quality of character which results in the doing of things.”

— Paul Harris

## ABSENT? MAKING UP ATTENDANCE IS EASY...

- Visit with the Morning Rotary Club every Thursday at 7 AM at Indian Hills Country Club.
- Attend another club’s meeting within two weeks before or after an absence.
- Participate in a Rotary event, such as a committee meeting, social function, Interact event, etc.
- Make up at E-club online: [www.rotaryclubone.org](http://www.rotaryclubone.org).

REPORT ALL MAKEUPS TO CLUB SECRETARY NANCY JONES AT  
[nancysjones@bellsouth.net](mailto:nancysjones@bellsouth.net)