

The Nerve



A Weekly Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa

P.O. Box 2403, Tuscaloosa, AL 35403 — www.Rotarytuscaloosa.com

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This Week, January 8, 2013 NO MEETING TOMORROW

Officers, 2012-13

James Leitner
President

Karen Baldwin
President-Elect

Nancy Jones
Secretary

Joe May
Treasurer

Frank Deaver
Executive Director

Bruce Burrows
Sergeant-At-Arms

Directors, 2012-13

Clark Swail
Membership

Lowell Davis
Programs

Ryan Stallings
Communications

Mitchell Loper
Vocational

Chuck Turner
Community Service

Margaret King
International

J. G. Brazil
Foundation

Warner Johnson
Past President

Jerry Shepherd
Assistant District Governor

There will be no meeting tomorrow January 8, 2013. We will resume our regular Tuesday meetings next week on January 15, 2013.

For everyone in Miami, have a great time and safe travels home.
ROLL TIDE!!!

University of Alabama President Dr. Judy Bonner is scheduled to speak at next weeks meeting.



Happy New Year . . . But When?

By Frank Deaver

What is a year? A simple question, but with no simple answer. Basically, a year is a time span measured by the orbit of the earth around the sun. But beginning when? And ending when? And how sub-divided?

Years are defined by calendars, all sorts of calendars. Calendars are defined by the sun, the moon, the seasons, the equinox, or by some historical event or person. There are solar calendars, lunar calendars, and lunisolar calendars; Roman, Gregorian and Julian calendars; Christian, Hebrew, Hindu, Islamic and Zoroastrian calendars.

Although about forty calendars are used in the world today, the Gregorian is the most familiar, the most widely recognized. It is a solar calendar, an adaptation of the Julian calendar, Christianized by its numbering from before and after the time of Jesus. It begins with January, ends with December.

But there are still other kinds of calendars, defining arbitrary "years." The academic year for education, the fiscal year for a business, and yes, the Rotary Year, bridging two calendar years. The Rotary Year, July 1 – June 30, was defined in 1913 at Buffalo, New York, by the fourth Rotary Convention.

Rotarians measure their year from the mid-point of the Gregorian calendar year.

Having recently exchanged New Years greetings, Rotarians should not overlook that this marks only the mid-point of the Rotary Year. It's a time for club presidents, other officers, and committees, to determine if their annual

goals are even half accomplished. Mid-year in Rotary is a time for evaluation, and for scheduling the completion of Rotary tasks in the half-year remaining – because time is rapidly ticking away. How much time? From January 1 to the end of June, the half-year (a bit more in Leap Year) consists of:

- 6 months
- 26 weeks
- 181 days
- 4,344 hours
- 260,640 minutes
- 15,638,400 seconds

The Rotary Year, July 1 – June 30, is defined by those two dates, but notice that they are separated by a dash. The dash is of special importance, for it's the accomplishment between the two dates, within the dash, that matters. And as of January 1, the dash is half-gone.

The Rotary Year has topped the hill. It's sometimes said that from that point on it's downhill to the end. Perhaps so, but on a downhill slope we gain speed. It's time to pick up speed. It's time to be sure we accomplish the Rotary Year goals!



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Perhaps you saw the brief article in The Tuscaloosa News on Wednesday, December 19, 2012, reporting that gunmen had shot dead five female health workers who were immunizing children against polio in Pakistan. Pakistan is one of three countries where polio is still present. The other two being

Afghanistan, and Nigeria. This tragic event was also covered on NBC News on Thursday evening of this week.

If you haven't visited the Rotary International site this week, the following is posted as Rotary's response; "*Rotary condemns attacks targeting polio vaccinators in Pakistan*," by Robert S. Scott, chair of the International PolioPlus Committee, "Rotary International joins the Government of Pakistan and our partners in the Global Polio Eradication Initiative in condemning the recent attacks that have killed and wounded health workers in Pakistan. The shooting victims are among the thousands of health workers and volunteers – including members of Pakistan's 151 Rotary clubs – who are committed to saving children by stopping the transmission of polio in Pakistan, one of three countries where the crippling virus remains endemic.

The attacks prompted the Government of Pakistan to temporarily suspend the vaccination campaign due to concerns over the safety of health workers.

Rotary is deeply concerned that such attacks deprive at-risk children of basic life-saving health care services, including polio vaccinations. I know that Pakistani Rotarians, supported by Rotary members worldwide, will continue to do their utmost to create a safe environment so that these dedicated health workers can reach the nation's most vulnerable children with vaccinations and other vital health interventions.

Polio eradication has been Rotary's highest priority since 1985, and we are on the brink of making history by beating polio once and for all.

On behalf of Rotary's 1.2 million members, representing 34,000 clubs in 200 countries and areas, I extend our deepest sympathy to the families of the victims. Their dedication and sacrifice further inspire us to continue moving forward toward our goal of a polio-free world."

“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.

REPORT ALL MAKEUPS TO CLUB SECRETARY NANCY JONES