

# 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 95 — Issue 48—July 2, 2013

Nerve Editor: Ryan Stallings

## This Week, July 2, 2013 Club Assembly

### 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*

This week President James Leitner will address the Club. He will reflect on his year as president, and ask the Board and others to discuss highlights of the year.

## Last Week, June 25th

### Nancy Buckner

Our Program was presented by Nancy Buckner the Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Human Resources. She spoke of the operations, programs and vision of DHR – which is "To do the right thing, within the law, to assist their clients."

The Statewide program has 4K employees and \$2 Billion in expenditures. All 67 Counties of Alabama have a DHR office. 88% of their budget is federally funded and they serve 1 million Alabamians through their programs. 85% of the budget goes to client services in 6 programs:

Food Assistance EBT (formally referred to as food stamps)- which is based on income and provides approximately \$1 Billion a year to 420,000 households annually.

AESAP - a food assistance program for the elderly, which can be applied for online at [www.myalabama.gov](http://www.myalabama.gov)

TANF - (formerly referred to as Aid to Dependent Children– a program of family assistance where cash is provided for low income families with children. Those families assisted are required to go for job training, and have a 60 month lifetime benefit ceiling. The average time on the program in Alabama is 3 years.

Child Support Program – Collection of child support due to families not only raises the standard of living for families, but reduces the amount of families in programs. Establishing paternity also gives the child two families for their future. 2/3 of those who begin to receive support are able to come off of TANF support. Over \$327 million was collected in 2012. 230,000 families benefitted.

Child Care Services – A program to provide assistance for child care expenses for working Mothers. The program spends \$29K in subsidized childcare. Currently there is 8K on the waiting list for this program. DHR also licenses childcare providers.

Adult Protective Services – Addresses abuse, neglect and exploitation of incapacitated adults such as those with mental disabilities, the elderly, etc. Most are abused by caretakers, family etc. There is now an Elderly Abuse Prevention Act which imposes criminal penalties for abuse, neglect and financial exploitation.

Child Welfare Services – Investigates reports of abuse and neglect of children. Medical personnel, teachers, law enforcement, day care, social workers and clergy are required to report any suspected abuse. In 2012 there were 28K reports regarding 45K children regarding physical, sexual and emotional abuse

– neglect. These children are placed with relatives, foster parents and child care centers. There are approximately 5,100 in foster care at this time. This is lower than years past meaning that DHR is able to find permanent solutions for care. The motto is "There are no unwanted children, only unfound homes". Emergency Welfare Services also accepts children from other states who have relatives in Alabama.

Changing lives of the people served is the #1 goal of the department.



## **Announcements**

- Lt. Colonel Benito made a special presentation to the Honor Flight Committee and a very special coin presentation to Jordan Plaster.
- Steve Katsinas reminded that we have declared June "Alabama Rotarians Remember" month. Please consider making a donation to the Bi-disaster relief fund created by Rotary Districts 5750 and 5550.
- Bruce Burroughs announced that there will be a sign-in change due to unreliable internet issues. We will go back to our original sign-in, retrieve badge/replace badge process beginning Tuesday July 2, 2013.
- We are reaching the end of our three year pledge cycle on the Caring Days pledge campaign. The Club would like to put out a reminder to everyone that we would like to get the remainder of the pledges in over the next few weeks. Soon we will be moving into campaign for a new project and we need to get the Caring Days campaign completed. If anyone has any questions about the balance on their pledge they can contact Allan Hartley at 349-2424 or via email at [ahartley@morrisonsmithcpa.com](mailto:ahartley@morrisonsmithcpa.com)
- Attached to the Nerve are some pictures Jerry Shepard sent from the RI Convention in Lisbon Portugal.



## **New From the Foundation:**

As the Rotary world begins a new year on July 1, it is especially important to note the July issue of THE ROTARIAN magazine. Ron Burton, Rotary International President, 2013-2014 outlines his theme for the year; Engage Rotary, Change Lives. He challenges each of us “to make sure that every member is active and contributing, and making a real difference – because when you’re doing meaningful work in Rotary, Rotary is meaningful to you.” Also, Past Rotary International President, D.K. Lee, begins his term as Foundation Trustee Chair and outlines the Goals of The Foundation in the current issue of THE ROTARIAN. “For 2013-14, we have four goals for The Rotary Foundation: eradicate polio, build ownership and pride in our Foundation, launch our new grant model, and engage in innovative programs.” He closes his message by saying, “Without our Foundation, many of the world’s children would be without hope. Your leadership over the next year will provide that hope. May your efforts Engage Rotary, Change Lives.” Let’s add one more goal for our own Tuscaloosa club this year; 100% of club members contributing to The Rotary Foundation and through that generosity making a real and lasting difference in the world. J. G. Brazil, Club Foundation Committee, Chairman



## **At the Head Table June 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Charles Nash** (speaker intro), **Brandt Montgomery** (Invocation), **Steve Katsinas** (guest intro), **Abby Millsaps** (Pledge).

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

July 9th  
Karen Baldwin

---

July 16<sup>th</sup>  
State  
Representative  
Bill Poole

---

July 23rd  
UA Athletics  
Director  
Bill Battle

---

“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