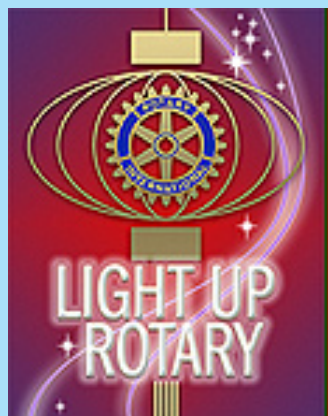


The Nerve

A Weekly Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa
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Nerve Editor: Michael James



Service above self



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This Week — March 3, 2015

Ron Abernathy

Tuscaloosa County Sheriff



Ron Abernathy was elected Tuscaloosa County sheriff in November and took office in January, but his career in law enforcement spans more than 25 years.

Abernathy, a lifelong Tuscaloosa County resident, joined the sheriff's department in 1988 as a jail detention officer. He became a civil service deputy in 1993, working in custody, detention, patrol and criminal investigations. Promoted to sergeant, Abernathy later headed the business office and communications division. He became chief deputy within a month

of being promoted to lieutenant in 1999 and held that position until his election as sheriff, except for a stint as interim sheriff from January 2008 to August 2009. As chief deputy, Abernathy was responsible for the daily operations of the sheriff's department, managing more than 200 employees and an annual operating budget of more than \$20 million.

He is a graduate of the University of Alabama, the Alabama Law Enforcement Academy and the FBI National Academy. He also served in the U.S. Army and was a member of the Army

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

MARCH 10

Dana Duckworth

Head gymnastics coach
University of Alabama

MARCH 17

Young Boozer

State treasurer

MARCH 24

Dr. Peter Millet

President
Stillman College

Reserve, 493rd Military Police Co., as a platoon leader from 1984 to 1993.

His awards include the 2006 Tuscaloosa County Officer of the Year Award, 2003 Mental Health Community Excellence Award and several Sheriff's Certificate of Merit Awards.



This Week in History

The 20-month-old son of Charles Lindbergh is kidnapped on March 1, 1932, and Bruno Hauptmann is later convicted of the crime; Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, is born on March 2, 1904; on March 3, 1887, Anne Sullivan begins teaching Helen Keller and is later dubbed "the miracle worker"; FDR is inaugurated as the 32nd president of the United States on March 4, 1933; the Hula-Hoop is patented on March 5, 1963; acetylsalicylic acid, better known as aspirin, is patented by Freidrich Bayer & Co. on March 6, 1899; Alexander Graham Bell receives a patent for the telephone on March 7, 1876.

Last Week — February 24, 2015

State Rep. Allen Farley, who represents District 15, which includes parts of Jefferson and Shelby counties, discussed prison overcrowding, saying he does not believe it results from a lack of infrastructure. Rather, he said, socio-economic factors such as poverty, illiteracy and drug abuse are the root cause and must be addressed before the problem of overcrowding can be solved. The prison population has more than doubled, from 13,900 inmates in 1990 to 32,341 in 2013, he said, and 80 percent of crimes in the state are associated with alcohol and drug use.

At the head table

Gary Fitts – Pledge of Allegiance – CEO of Fitts Insurance Agency

J.G. Brazil – Invocation – Retired from Alabama Power Co.

Brad Springer – Introduction of Guests – Cinram Operations Inc.

Larry O'Neal – Introduction of Guest Speaker – The University of Alabama

Guests

Charlie Cook was the guest of Diane Salls.



Announcements

- The Club will hold an off-site meeting on Tuesday, March 31, at Mercedes-Benz in Vance. Boxed lunches will be served followed by a short tour of the facility. Look for sign-up sheets for this event at upcoming Rotary meetings.
- The Club will host its next Honor Flight on May 6. For more information, please see Jordan Plaster.

ABSENT? MAKING UP ATTENDANCE IS EASY

- Visit with the Morning Rotary Club every Thursday at 7 a.m. 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, interactive event, etc.
- Make up at E-club online: www.rotaryclubone.org.

Report all makeups to club secretary Nancy Jones.



