

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, September 10, 2013 Tommy Bice

Officers, 2013-14

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*Tuscaloosa Memorial
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Dr. Tommy Bice was appointed Alabama's State Superintendent of Education on November 10, 2011, and assumed the position on January 1, 2012. Prior to his appointment, Dr. Bice was Alabama's Deputy State Superintendent of Education for Instructional Services; Superintendent of the Alexander City School System, high school principal, career tech director, alternative school teacher/director, special

education/residential school director, early childhood teacher/parent trainer; and began his career as a teacher at the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind. Dr. Bice also serves as an adjunct professor of Educational Leadership at Auburn University.

He received his B.S. and Ed.D. degrees from Auburn University and his M.S. degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Dr. Bice resides in Alexander City with his wife, Nancy, and their three sons, Andrew, Bennett, and Cambron.

Last Week, September 03, 2013

Lindsey Turner

Lindsey Turner the Executive Director of the Druid City Garden Project. DCGP is a new, young, non-profit organization that puts gardens in schools as a learning tool partnered with Math and Science.

An integrated curriculum was created to meet the needs of the classroom. This has resulted in improved test scores, as well as giving students a true hands on learning experience that helps them learn better. It offers a non-traditional learning experience with those students that just don't seem to get it in the traditional classroom environment.

The program operates with a "seed to table" approach. Students have a higher chance of eating food they grow themselves. In addition they learn the skills necessary to be an entrepreneur as they sell the fruits and vegetables once a week at their very own stand that operates as the parents come to pick up their children. They do all aspects of running the business themselves! Since no chemicals are used in tending the garden, buyers can be assured of safe, delicious foods to take home and prepare for their family.

A new initiative was started at the Juvenile Detention Center. These kids are learning the value of hard work and get to see the tangible results. Lindsey told the story of Dee, who is in detention there after running away with her brother, who is also there. She believes her life has been changed because of the experience with the garden.

DCGP is working on a "Garden in Every School" initiative. They are working to train teachers on the program so that it can be implemented and sustained in schools across Alabama, and the US.

The current garden yields over 200 lbs. of produce a year. The program aims to have an end result of more than just improved learning. It aims to prevent malnutrition and obesity at a young age and give lifelong skills.

The Druid City Garden Party is the annual fundraiser and is a fabulous evening of local chefs, preparing locally grown foods all with a live band and more! This year's event took place Sunday and was a great success. If anyone is interested in volunteer opportunities, please check out the DCGP website at www.druidcitygardenproject.org



Announcements

- If any Rotarian has had a change in their e-mail address please let Nancy Jones know. Her e-mail is nancysjones@bellsouth.net
- Rotarians! Change is good! Pick a new table each week to sit at and learn more about your fellow Rotarians!
- J.G. Brazil presented Paul Harris Fellow awards to Brandt Montgomery, who had been anonymously nominated and sponsored, and Steve Katsinas. Presentations in the "Plus One" category included Mike Chambers and Jim LaMoreaux. "Plus Two" was awarded to Charlie Durham.
- "ARE YOU INTERESTED IN EXPLORING AN INTERNATIONAL PROJECT FOR OUR CLUB? If so, please contact David Pass at 205-242-6822 or at dpass@sealyrealty.com. David is forming an exploratory committee to look at multiple possibilities and would like all interested Rotarians to have the opportunity to participate. Current committee members include Nancy Brown, Mike Chambers and Chuck Turner. We are exploring possibilities for an international project that will bring to life Rotary's international mission for our Club and its members."
- A new initiative with the Club is for one of our International Rotary House students to attend. We will look for one having a birthday within the month so that they can come and sit at our fun, new "Birthday Table" and be recognized by the group! We want to work closer with the students living at the house.



At the Head Table September 3rd

Alan Hartley (Invocation), **Margaret King** (Pledge), **Warner Johnson** (guest intro), **Stacey Kirkland** (speaker intro).

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

September 17th
Dean Karr UA
College of
Engineering

September 24th
Judge Mark Fuller

October 1st Tom
Greene District
Governor

“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



Guests at the September 3rd meeting:

Jonathan Guin (guest of Brandt Montgomery), Attorney with Tanner & Guin; **Casey Dellcer** (Rotary House); **Zihan Gong** (Rotary House); **Wayne Reed** (guest of Linda Wilson), Heritage Chapel.

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