

The Nerve



A Weekly Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Tuscaloosa

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Nerve Editor: Ryan Stallings

This Week, December 10, 2013 Dr. Charles “Skip” Snead

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Charles “Skip” Snead currently serves as the Director of the Music School and Professor of Horn at The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, where along with administrative duties, he teaches applied horn and brass pedagogy. Skip has performed internationally as a soloist and chamber musician, with appearances in Egypt, Romania, The United Kingdom, and Cuba, in addition to various regional horn workshops and multiple International Horn Society Summer Symposia. He has been a featured artist with many ensembles including The Alexandria Symphony in Alexandria, Egypt; The State Orchestra of Romania; The British Horn Society; The Monroe Symphony; The Macon Symphony; The Tuscaloosa Symphony; and Shreveport Summer Music Festival Orchestras.

In addition to the above named ensembles, Skip performs with the internationally recognized ensemble, The Transatlantic Horn Quartet, with colleagues, Michael Thompson, Richard Watkins, and Jeff Nelsen. The TAHQ has performed throughout the United States and Europe. The TAHQ has been a featured ensemble at many important events and venues including the Britten-Pears Festival in Aldeburgh, England, The Royal Wigmore Hall in London, England, The British Horn Society Festival, and the International Horn Society Summer Symposium.

He has recorded with the TransAtlantic Horn Quartet, the Classic Brass, the Kentuckiana Brass and Percussion Ensemble, and has solo recordings available on compact disc issued by Centaur Records, Albany Records and MSR Classics.

In addition to his work as a performer, he is internationally recognized as a teacher and clinician. He has given masterclasses throughout the United States and Europe and serves on the executive board of The International Horn Competition of America. In March 2004, he was invited to be a Housewright Eminent Scholar Endowed Chair Holder at Florida State University and has served a five year term on the Center for the International Exchange of Scholars, Fulbright Senior Specialists Peer Review Committee. The University of Alabama awarded him The Burnum Distinguished Faculty Award in March 2005.

His principal teachers have included Merwin Crisman, Karen Thornton, and John Dressler, with additional studies with Dale Clevenger, Philip Farkas, and William Capps.

Last Week, December 3, 2013

Drayton Nabers, Jr.

John Owens introduced former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Drayton Nabers. Drayton Nabers, Jr. is a former Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court. He was appointed to the court in 2003 by Governor Bob Riley following Justice Roy Moore's removal from office, an event that attracted national media attention

Justice Nabers's career spans 50 years and includes serving as the former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice. He began his career practicing law at a Birmingham firm for 12 years before joining Protective Life Corporation in 1979, where he served first as General Counsel and later as President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board until his retirement in 2002. Justice Nabers was subsequently appointed Finance Director for the State of Alabama by Governor Bob Riley. He served in this capacity until his appointment to the Supreme Court in 2004. Following his loss for reelection, Justice Nabers' returned to the practicing law for Maynard Cooper, P.C. Mr. Nabers' practices in multiple areas, including: alternative dispute resolution, appellate law, complex litigation, governmental and regulatory affairs and insurance and financial services litigation.

Justice Nabers was born in Birmingham, Alabama. He received his undergraduate degree from Princeton University in 1962 and a law degree from Yale School of Law in 1965. After graduating from Yale, Justice Nabers served as a Law Clerk for U. S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black. He joined the law firm of Cabaniss, Johnston, Gardner, Dumas, and O'Neal in 1967 as an associate before becoming a partner in the firm in 1971.

Justice Nabers is a member of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Mountain Brook, Alabama. He also serves as an Adjunct Instructor at Beeson Divinity School.

Justice Nabers is married to the former Fairfax Virginia Smathers. The Nabers are blessed with three children, Drayton Nabers, III, (Deak); Mary James Nabers Doyle (Mary); and Fairfax Virginia Nabers Blount (Sissy). The Nabers are also the proud grandparents of two granddaughters and four grandsons.

Justice Nabers is a member of the Alabama Academy of Honor and has served as chairman of Leadership Birmingham, United Way of Central Alabama, Prison Fellowship, Re-Entry Ministries and the American Council of Life Insurers. He also served as Director of Energen Corporation, Alabama National BanCorporation and National Bank of Commerce



Announcements:

- The Rotary 2014 slate of officers was presented at the December 3 meeting with a membership vote to follow December 10. Please make a special effort to attend to vote on our future Rotary leadership.
- Nomination Committee is working on presentation for 12/10 vote



The Source Of Happiness By Frank Deaver:

The bride insisted on a "story-book" wedding, far more than she and her family could afford. Her parents went into debt to give their daughter the "Cinderella Wedding" she wanted. Guests showered her with gifts. When the festivities ended and the partying guests were gone, she sat surrounded by all the "things" she had anticipated, and said to her mother, "But why am I not happy?"

The obvious reality, often overlooked, is that happiness is not found in things, nor can it be given by one person to another. The commercial world tries to convince us that we will be happy when we buy their beer, their clothes, their electronics, their car. If we buy, and even if we are pleased with the purchase, we soon discover that we have not bought happiness.

We are conditioned to expect future happiness. We say or think: "I will be happy when I get out of high school, when I get a college degree, when I get the job I want, when I get married, when I have children, when I retire" We are caught up in the constant pursuit of happiness, perhaps not ever feeling that we have "arrived." A song expresses it well: "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows."

But happiness is not something to be sought; instead, it is a by-product of the things we do. Happiness is not so much in getting as in giving. Winston

Churchill said "We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give."

December is a month of celebration and the anticipation of happiness. Rotarians in various societies of the world prepare for Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, or Winter Solstice. Each includes traditions of giving, but increasingly they have become dominated by expectations of getting.

A small child tears into a pile of Christmas presents, scattering wrapping paper everywhere, pushing aside one gift after another to look for more. Finally opening the last package, he may look around in puzzled expectation, and declare, "Is that all there is?"

In Rotary, that is not all there is. The motto "Service Above Self" takes on added meaning in the final month of the year. Not only is December designated "Family of Rotary" month, but it is a time when clubs and members emphasize sharing. Not only do we give to community needs, but as a Rotary family, we give to each other the gifts of friendship, fellowship, and shared encouragement in service to others.

That is the Rotary spirit. That is the seasonal spirit. That is the reward for giving. And that is the source of happiness. For happiness is not something we seek, it is the by-product of the things we do.



At the Head Table December 3, 2013

Ed Parker (Invocation), **Jim Drake** (Pledge), **Molly Ingram** (guest intro)
John Owens (Speaker Intro).



Guests at the December 3, 2013 meeting included:

Zach Frise, guest of Brandt Montgomery (student UA); **Nita Carr**, **Jeremy Knowles**, and **Jenny McCain**, guest of Drayton Nabers (Scholarships for Kids); **Justin Brasfield**, Tuscaloosa Morning Club.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

December 17th
Mayor Walt Maddox

December 24^h
Christmas Eve

December 31th
New Years Eve

“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