



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Dear Rotarians –*

As mentioned at our last meeting, the Holiday Lights Project is at a critical point in the recruitment of a chair and new committee members. A lot of things will need to be addressed in the next few months and Mark Dullea and his current team are looking for Rotarians to step up and become engaged in our signature fund raising event. Mark will be transitioning out of his current role and he has expressed a concern about getting things rolling for the 2007 event. While he will no longer chair this event, he will greatly assist in transitioning to the new leadership team.

We are aware of the impact this project has on the Greenville community and how important it is for our Club to support it. It would be a huge endeavor to try to replace the \$65,000 our Club receives from Holiday Lights and I hate thinking about life without that money! It would take a yearly assessment of about \$200.00 per member to be able to carry on without Holiday Lights and that does not cover the Roper Mountain Science Center Association's share of the proceeds. It's an important project and we need more Rotarians involved. While we are certainly not at the point of retiring Holiday Lights, it is a growing concern that we are having such a challenging time replacing Mark.

Please email me, Neil Rabon, or Mark if you feel a calling to serve as the chair of Holiday Lights. All three of us will be glad to discuss the opportunity over lunch with anyone that would consider such an important service to our Club. Neil will even pick up the tab! Thanks so much for everything you all do for Rotary. I look forward to your comments and questions about our signature project!

Yours in Rotary,

Matt

Volume 52 Number 17

Issue Date: March 8, 2007

Next Meeting: March 13, 2007, 12:30 p.m.

Westin Poinsett Hotel, Ballroom

### SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION WILL HEADLINE VOCATIONAL DAY

Jim Rex took the [oath of office](#) as South Carolina's 16th State Superintendent of Education on January 10, 2007. Jim has spent most of his adult life making a difference for the children, families, schools, and communities of South Carolina. As a high school English teacher, football coach, and higher education leader, he has



made public education his life's mission. Having served as Dean of Education at Winthrop University, as well as Coastal Carolina University, Jim knows what it takes to create a teaching force for South Carolina that is second to none. As the former President of Columbia College, he also knows the importance of preparing South Carolina's students, not just for higher education, but for the real world they face as working adults. He is a published author and has served as a top consultant to education advocacy organizations like the National Institute of Education and Governor Dick Riley's South Carolina Educator Improvement Task Force. Along with his list of work and accomplishments, Jim's family and his faith remain the cornerstones of his life.

The grandson of a Methodist minister, Jim has worked to instill the traditional values he learned from his upbringing in the four children he shares with his wife, Sue: Adam, Jeff, Nathan, and Siri. Jim and Sue live on Lake Wateree in Fairfield County, South Carolina.



## THE ROTARY JOINT DISTRICT CONFERENCE IS UPON US!



The Rotary Joint District Conference is upon us and we are hoping for a record attendance of District 7750 Rotarians. Don't miss this event! There is still time to register and to secure a hotel room, but you must act by Monday, March 12.

We have negotiated a very favorable discounted room rate with the Hilton Oceanfront Resort on Hilton Head Island, in close proximity to the Conference hotel. We are pleased to advise Rotarians who wish to be at the Conference and do not yet have a room reservation that rooms are now available at the Hilton.

All the available rooms at the Marriott Hotel have now been taken up.

To make reservations, Rotarians may call 1-866-625-2496 and ask for the group code RID at the Hilton Oceanfront Resort. You may also go online to [www.hiltonoceanfrontresort.com](http://www.hiltonoceanfrontresort.com) and use the group code RID to make a reservation. The cut off date for making reservations is Monday, March 12 at 5 PM. The cancellation period for guests needing to cancel their reservations will be fourteen (14) days prior to arrival.

The discounted rate is \$159 each night per room. The rooms can accommodate up to four persons. Note that there is a \$6 per night car park charge. A shuttle service will be available between the Hilton Oceanfront Resort and the Conference Centre.

Conference Registration Forms are available on the District 7750 website: [rotary7750.com/conf07.htm](http://rotary7750.com/conf07.htm). If you need further information, please contact me by telephone or email.



### Upcoming Programs

March 27th - Russell Stall, Greenville  
For ward/Vision 2025

April 24th - Andrew Sorenson, USC President  
**(Note: Meeting at Carolina First Expo Center!)**

May 8<sup>th</sup> - Palmetto Expo Center Renovation,  
John Wilusz, General Manager

### *The Greenville Rotarian*

Newsletter of The Rotary Club of Greenville, SC

Organized January 7, 1916

Volume 52, No. 17, March 8, 2007

William B. Boyd, RI President Rich Waugh, District Governor

Matt Shouse, President Neil Rabon, President-Elect

Elizabeth Lyons, Secretary Bob Atkinson, Treasurer

Kelle Corvin, Bulletin Editor

### **DON'T FORGET!**

Daylight Savings

Starts this Sunday,

March 11, 2007

Spring forward 1 hour

### **HEALTH AND HAPPINESS HOUR**

**MONDAY, MARCH 19, 2007**

**5:30 P.M. TO 7:00 P.M.**

**POINSETT CLUB**

### **NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 2007**

**11:15 A.M.**

**GREENVILLE SYMPHONY BUILDING**

**(2 doors down from the Poinsett Hotel)**

