



## FROM THE **PRESIDENT**

*Dear Rotarians,*

Our next meeting will be one of what I consider the "Big Two" meetings of the year- Law Day (our other is Teacher of the Year). As usual the committee, under the disciplined guidance of Nell Stewart, will be presenting officers for public recognition of their good work in and for our community.

It is important and right that we take this time to honor these community servants individually, for they have earned the honor. But in a larger way, it is every bit as important that we say thank you to the entire law enforcement community. This is not merely the fraternity of law enforcement picking an annual "most valuable player," but rather it is the community represented by our club celebrating the commitment and consistency displayed by these good folk.

Let's make a great day by having a super turnout of our membership to honor these dedicated public servants. Hope to see you there.

Thanks for your Service above Self!

*Neil*

### **NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION**

February 26, 2008

11:15 a.m.

Symphony Building Office

(two doors South from the Poinsett Hotel)

Volume 53 Issue 14

Issue Date: February 7, 2008

Next Meeting: February 12, 2008

**WESTIN POINSETT HOTEL, BALLROOM**

### **F.B.I. SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE DAVID A. THOMAS TO ADDRESS CLUB FOR LAW DAY**

David A. Thomas is the Special Agent In Charge of the FBI's Columbia, SC field office. A position he's held since October of 2007. Prior to assuming the field office duties in Columbia, SC, S.A. Thomas served as Deputy Assistant for the FBI's Science and Technology Branch which oversees that the Bureau has state of the art collection and analysis capabilities.

Thomas was born in Richmond, VA and raised in Dunlap, TN. He's a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. Before becoming a FBI agent in 1989, he served as Assistant Director of the 12th Judicial District Drug Task Force in Jasper, Tennessee. He's served throughout the midwest and southeast with career stops in Tampa, St. Louis, and South Carolina. He has a special expertise in counter cyber-terrorism efforts of the FBI.

He looks forward to speaking to the Greenville Rotary Club on Tuesday where he will update the club on current South Carolina operations and efforts in counter-terrorism and anti-crime efforts.



**WHY ROTARY HONORS  
LAW ENFORCEMENT  
OFFICERS ANNUALLY**

**PURPOSE OF THE AWARDS:** To honor law enforcement in Greenville County, and recognize the contributions made by these officers to the security and quality of life in Upstate South Carolina. Awards will recognize a Greenville City Police Officer, a County Sheriff's Deputy, and a Federal Agent as outstanding law enforcement officers of the year.

**HISTORY OF THE AWARDS:** It was 1976 when two Greenville Rotarians, Jack C. Ward, a Special Agent with the FBI, and Hank Simpson, District Manager of Southern Bell Telephone Company approached fellow Rotarian and Chief of Police, Harold Jennings with an idea. The idea was for the Rotary Club to honor an Officer of the Year from the ranks of the Greenville City Police Department. The concept was approved by the governing body of the Rotary Club, and the Rotary Award was born. It was decided that an officer would be selected annually on the basis of outstanding service, loyalty to the Police Department, and to the City of Greenville. One meeting date per year was designated for the award presentation, with the Rotary Club furnishing a plaque. It was further decided that the guest speaker each year would be an outstanding law enforcement official, and leaders of the other law enforcement agencies, solicitor, and judges, would be invited to attend as guests of the club.

In 1988, Greenville Rotarian Johnny Mack Brown, Sheriff of Greenville County, requested that a Greenville County Sheriff's Deputy also be honored each year. The club agreed, and so beginning in 1988, and continuing to the present two awards were given annually.

In 2000, Greenville Rotarian Carol D. Allison, Supervisory Senior Resident Agent of the FBI, requested that a Federal Law Enforcement Officer be honored as well. The Board of Directors of the club agreed and the category of Federal Law Enforcement Officer of the Year was added.

**THIS YEAR'S  
LAW ENFORCEMENT RECIPIENTS**

Greenville County Sheriff's Office:  
Sgt. Timothy Jones

Greenville City Police Department:  
Det. Collis Flavell

Law Enforcement Agency:  
Special Agent, DEA Fraid (Jay) Rajae

**WAY TO GO!**

Congratulations to our fellow Rotarian, Nancy Whitworth who was awarded the prestigious Buck Mickel Leadership Award for 2007. Her receipt of this award was announced at the 119th Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner.

“A House Divided Against Itself  
Cannot Stand”  
-President Abraham Lincoln  
Lincoln's Birthday is February 12th

***The Greenville Rotarian***

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