

January 12, 2010  
 Issue 4488



# The Keyway

President – Kyra Morris

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## Leventis stresses a more pragmatic view of politics

Jan. 5, 2010: State Sen. Phil Leventis (D-Sumter) urged Rotarians to pull the wool away from political issues to see that nothing is really black or white. Most issues come in shades of gray, he said.

If you listen to political rhetoric, “everything is in absolute terms,” he said. “Practical politics is not like that.” He noted that most issues don’t have simple answers because there are almost always unintended consequences that result from simple solutions.

Leventis, who has chaired the Senate Agriculture Committee and is a senior member of the Senate Finance Committee, outlined how state government was an exercise in providing quality services to its investors, the taxpayers.

“State government is not a political science experiment – a zero-sum game where Republicans win or Democrats lose. It should not be partisan in the sense of who wins or loses. Being a governor is about the practical – opening schools, staffing prisons, paving roads.”

State lawmakers, he chided, seemed to spend too much time on divisive issues that don’t matter. They seemed to forget that what’s important is educating children and protecting the citizenry.

He also said that many politicians wrap public policies in “good stories” so much that they focus only on the story and not the important public policy or facts behind the situation.

“I want you to be more skeptical about the sources” that politicians provide, Leventis said. “What we don’t need are more stories.”

He urged members to hold politicians accountable to making public policy more measurable.

“I think what we should be doing in government is setting measurable goals, observing them in appropriate time frames and then be held accountable. “

Leventis, a member of the Sumter Rotary Club for more than 30 years, told Charleston members that the word “tax” shouldn’t be a dirty word.

“We as a community can’t do without the government,” he said. “We should demand accountability. We should consider our taxes as investments and expect a return. When we put our public discourse on that level – the Rushes, Glens and Keiths will be out of a job, but the community will be better off.”

*Submitted by Andy Brack*



Senator Phil Leventis

### Rotary Calendar

**Jan. 12, 2010**

Otis Rawl, SC Chamber of Commerce

**Jan. 19, 2010**

Dr. Ann on Wellness

**Jan. 26, 2010**

Brad Reed & Mike Dickerman of WMI on our club’s Peru Project

### In other business. . .

**Mary Ann Kohli** gave the invocation and led us in the *Pledge of Allegiance*. **Johnny Stuhr** introduced *visiting Rotarians & guests*. **John Bleecker** introduced our World Peace Scholar, Keely Robinson. **Past President Andy Brack** introduced our guest, **Senator Phil Leventis**.

**President's Corner****President Kyra****From the President:**

During her last six months as President, Kyra plans to focus on how our club can create more of a focus and sharing in a good way of our members' vocations. If you have any suggestions of how this might be done, please let her know.

**Board Meeting:**

The board will meet this Tuesday, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> at 11am. All current and newly elected board members should plan to attend.

**Wine Tasting:**

Kyra Morris announced that RWF (Rotary Wine Fellowship) is having a fundraiser wine tasting for our Water Missions project on Jan 14<sup>th</sup> at Rick Moore's home. Please contact her to learn more about this fellowship and the event.

**The Keyway****Rotary Takes a Second Look at Boeing:**

The Rotary Club of Charleston has decided to take a second look at the Boeing-Air idea. You may recall seeing an article a few weeks back in the Charleston Mercury by local attorney, Robert "Bobby" Pearce, that hatched the Boeing, Aeronautical Institute of Research (Boeing-AIR) concept here in Charleston. The board believes this idea has merit and asked **Paul Welborn** to chair a group of club members interested in forming a grass roots task force to ultimately help stand up a real Boeing-AIR. If you are interested in joining with Paul in this endeavor, please contact him at 566.9884.

**Silver Spoon Award:**

**Trey Lucy, Jim Buxton and Brian Johnson** were recognized for their efforts in delivering refurbished desks over the holidays to the homes of students at Mitchell and Simmons Elementary Schools.



*Jim Buxton, Trey Lucy, Brian Johnson and President Kyra*

**Dues Invoices:**

January dues invoices will be distributed at this coming Tuesday's meeting. If you are not present, the invoice will be mailed to you. Please be sure that payment is made promptly (within 30 days).

**Mark your calendars:**

The District 7770 Conference will be held the weekend of March 25-March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Myrtle Beach Hilton. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about Rotary and meet fellow Rotarians from around the state. More details on registration, etc. to come.

**Education Committee:**

**Lorraine Perry** announced that at upcoming meetings the education committee will have a "clothes" receptacle to collect clothes for our parents from our two education partners. – Jane Simmons and Mitchell Elementary. Please support this project by bringing any gently worn adult clothing to Rotary. The new year is great time to declutter!

**In Memory:**

Honorary Member **James M. Culpepper** passed away prior to the holidays. Jim was a member of our club for 63 years. He served as our club's President in 1959-1960 and was a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow and a Rotary Club of Charleston Fellow. He was a big part of our club throughout the years and loved Rotary. His life truly exemplified the very best of what Rotary stands for in the lives of so many. He will be greatly missed by us all!

**AREA CLUB MEETING TIMES**

- Summerville - Oakbrook**  
Wescott County Club  
Monday 7:30 AM
- North Charleston**  
Airport Radisson  
Monday 12:30 PM
- East Cooper Breakfast**  
Zeus Grill & Seafood Restaurant  
Tuesday 7:30 AM
- Goose Creek**  
Old Goose Creek Recreation Center (Temporary)  
Tuesday 1:00 PM
- Charleston**  
Citadel Alumni House  
Tuesday 12:30 PM
- Mt. Pleasant**  
Holiday Inn  
Wednesday 12:30 PM
- Summerville**  
Sticky Fingers Restaurant  
Wednesday 1:00 PM
- North Charleston Breakfast**  
Embassy Suites  
Thursday 7:30 AM
- Daniel Island**  
Daniel Island Club  
600 Island Park Drive  
Wednesday 7:30 AM
- Moncks Corner**  
Western Sizzlin  
Highway 52  
Thursday 12:30 PM
- St. Andrews-Charleston**  
Bessinger's BBQ, Hwy. 17S  
Thursday 12:30 PM
- Charleston Breakfast**  
Harbour Club  
Friday 7:30 AM
- St. Johns Parish**  
Berkeley Electric Coop  
Maybank Hwy.  
Wednesday 7:30 AM

**Our First World Peace Scholar:**

Our club's first recipient of a Rotary Foundation World Peace Fellowship, Keely Robinson, spoke at Tuesday's meeting. She thanked us for sponsoring her application to the Rotary Foundation. Keely departs for Buenos Aires, Argentina on March 6<sup>th</sup>, where she will study for a master's degree in international studies and conflict resolution at the Universidad del Salvador. While in Argentina, Keely plans to study Argentina's Bolivian migrant workers problem. Also, Keely plans to keep our club posted on her blog.

Annually, the Rotary International Foundation presents approximately 60 World Peace Fellowships for pursuit of master's degree for international relations and conflict resolution. Recipients study at one of seven Rotary Study Centers at universities around the world.

Keely Robinson graduated from Porter Gaud and Yale University. She has worked in Thailand where she established programs to alert young people on the prevention of HIV / AIDS. She is fluent in Thai, Spanish and also understands and speaks Mandarin Chinese.



*Keely Robinson*

**Member Contact Information Reminder:**

Remember if you need contact information for any of our members, it is as easy as going to our club's website ([www.charleston-rotary.org](http://www.charleston-rotary.org)), click on "Member Sign-In" located in the blue box at the top left, and log in by using your e-mail address as your USER NAME and your Rotary Member number (found on the label of your Rotarian Magazine) as your PASSWORD. Once you are logged in, click on the "My Club" tab at the top to access contact information and pictures for all our members. If you have any questions, you can contact Carroll at [chasrot@comcast.net](mailto:chasrot@comcast.net) or Willis Cantey at [willis@canteystechnology.com](mailto:willis@canteystechnology.com)

**Birthdays**

- Jan. 6 – Jermaine Husser
- Jan. 10 – Cal Calcote
- Jan. 12 – John Bleecker
- Jan. 12 – Jim Livingston

**Attendance  
January 5, 2010**

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**Members Absent:**

- Anderson, T., Anderson, I., Baldwin, Berlin, Boyd, Brown, E., Bullard, Burwell, Coker, Condon, Crowe, Di-Maggio, Dopp, Dukes, G., Elsasser, England, Fimian, Fishburne, Forbes, Gaillard, Gasperson, Gilbert, Gill, Green, D., Greene, L., Greene, G., Groseclose, Hawkins, Holz, Husser, Johnson, A., Johnson, J., Kelley-Duncan, Kerrigan, Kramer, Krawcheck, Laurens, Lawrence, Leibowitz, Livingston, Mandell, McGinley, McKelvey, Medich, Mills, Moss, Murdy, Oswald, Outlaw, Postell, Ravenel, Rosa, Rosen, Schaefer, Seguer, Siegel, Smith, L., Sommer-Kresse, Standard, Stevens, Strickland, Sullivan, Sweeny, Taylor, Van Rysselberge, von Werssowetz, Weldon, Wertimer, Wish, Witte, Yarborough, Zucker

Out of Town Make-ups:

None

**Wellness Tip:**  
Annual Holiday Reading List:  
Yearly Best-Reads For A Healthier You.  
<http://best-reads.rotarywellness.info>

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**Remember the 4-Way Test  
in all you do.**

**WE'RE ON THE WEB:**

WWW.CHARLESTON-ROTARY.ORG

District Governor #7770: Alan Walters

Rotary International President: John Kenny

**2009-2010 Officers & Committee Chairs**

Kyra Morris, President  
Brian Johnson, President-Elect  
Tom Brown, Treasurer  
Tommy Taylor, Secretary  
Andy Brack, Past President  
Robin Freer, Administration  
Brian Johnson, Membership  
Valerie Morris, Public Relations  
Lorraine Perry, Education  
Don Oswald, Service  
Tom Clymer, Finance  
Andy Anderson, International  
Carroll Schweers, Executive Secretary

**Robin Freer, Administration**

David McCormack, Fellowship  
Rhett Dunaway, Visiting Rotarians/Guests  
Rob Dewey, Invocation  
Ricky Bailey, Emblem  
Herb McGuire, Sgt. At Arms  
Lisa Thomas/Abby Saunders, By-Laws

**Brian Johnson, Membership**

Andy Brack, Rotary Information  
Brian Johnson, New Members

Andy Brack/Brian Johnson, College of Knowledge  
Andy Brack, Membership Development  
Jermaine Husser, Nominating  
Dave Echols/Abby Saunders, Special Events/Social

**Valerie Morris, Public Relations**

Rich Dukes, Program  
Elizabeth Burwell, Keyway  
Darby Siegel, PR/Magazine  
Willis Cantey, Roster  
Fred Sales, Historian/Club Photographer

**Lorraine Perry, Education**

Joan Ustin, Excellence in Education  
Kathy Jones, Readers  
Stephanie Wilson, Job Fair  
, Buddy Sail  
, Teacher of the Month  
, Field Trips  
, Weight Watchers, Yoga, Karate

**Don Oswald, Service**

Erin England, Salvation Army  
Mary Peters, Senior Aging  
Cooper Coker/Andy Anderson, Environment

Mary Ann Kohli, Wellness  
Don Oswald, Vocational Service  
, Service Above Self Scholars

**Tom Clymer, Finance**

Tom Brown, Budget  
Mark Smith, RCCF  
Hilton Smith/Amy Riley, Rotary Wheels

**Andy Anderson, Foundation**

Robert Miller, Annual Giving/Spec. Funds  
John Bleecker, Ambassadorial Scholarships  
Bill Prewitt, Group Study Exchange  
John Tecklenburg, International Projects