

Tom Trout.....June 12
Nathaniel Jones.....June 13

Anniversaries

Will and Trish Smoot.....June 10
Bob and Linda Laughlin.....June 13
Hank and Sue Noble.....June 14
Dave and Kelly Ruckno.....June 14
Steve and Mary Jo Riley.....June 16

Club Anniversaries

Linda Fraser & Larry Sanders- 6 years - June 10
Ward Kirby & Mary Noonan-12 Years- June 11
Dave Crespan.....8 Years.....June 13
Hank Noble & Elliott Steadman-30 yrs-June 15
Joe Black & Bob Laughlin...31 Years...June 15
Charles Perry.....37 Years.....June 15

Upcoming Events

June 14.....Club Assembly
Officers and Board meet with ADG Sandee
Brooks to present plan for 2010-2011
June 27.....End of Year Party
Shipyard Beach House

END OF THE YEAR PARTY—JUNE 27

Our End of the Year Party will be held at the Shipyard Beach House on June 27, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Beer, wine, and soft drinks will be provided, but if you'd prefer something different, you are welcome to BYOB. Food service will start around 6:30. All this for the very low cost of \$15.00 per person. Dress is summer casual. President Hugh is planning for a fun, casual evening with great food, drink, and fellowship at a very affordable price. Sign up with Ward Kirby today.

A TRUE PASSION FOR FOSTER CARE

"Foundational to this larger notion of quality of life in South Carolina is this notion of a home for every child. If you want to talk about quality of life in South Carolina, I think you have to start there."
– Governor Mark Sanford [The Post and Courier, 5/26/2010]

On May 25, the chances for a better quality of life for many children in South Carolina just got better. A new law has been signed that is intended to shorten the time that children must wait to be adopted. This is important, since for a needy child or hopeful parents, every day spent waiting could mean a lifetime of hurt.

Last week we were joined by George Milner, a passionate advocate for foster care done right – and for the thousands of children that it affects every day. Milner is part of the Governor's Children in Foster Care and Adoption Services Task Force and makes no bones about where he stands on the issue. According to Milner, time and money are the two main issues and his goal is an increase in the latter with a decrease in the former. The current system has been bogged down, he says, in a system that

places too much on waiting for a judge to approve the release of a child to foster care. This coupled with a shortage of funding for DSS has made the process a painstaking nightmare of delay and disappointment for many.

Now, hopefully, all of this will begin to change. The new law allows for DSS to start the adoption process 60 days after a judge's decision, provides more funding and increases the rights of adoptive parents. All of these positive moves come as South Carolina is found to be ranked in bottom ranks of states when it comes to efficiency and prioritizing funds for DSS and foster care programs.

George had an informative, sobering program for us highlighting all of this and the desperate need of so many children in need of foster care – as many as 12,000 a year in South Carolina alone. And he knows what he is talking about, for he and his family have been foster parents for 14 years and for nearly 50 children. His own family has been blessed permanently as they are adoptive grandparents of five foster children as well. The Milners and many others hope that the new law and an increased effort through organizations like Rotary, will raise the awareness – and funds – needed to make a real difference in children's lives. *-Matt Richardson-*

ADVERTISING IN THE SOUNDINGS

As we near the beginning of a new Rotary year, it's time again to seek your support as an advertiser in the Soundings. The price remains at \$300 for the year, billed to you on your July 1 invoice. That fee places your ad in the Soundings for all members to see at our 48 meetings during the year.

This year there's another major benefit to you as an advertiser. Early in our new year, we will have a totally redesigned Web site, and your ad will be placed in a very prominent spot on the website, along with a direct link to your company's website if you have one. We may also have the space to allow you to put more info in the website version of your ad. It's our intention to make our website a much more interactive and informational tool that will be used by members and the general public alike as we promote Rotary, our Club, and you - our advertisers.

Thus, there's much more benefit to you and more exposure, for the same small investment. **Please call or e-mail to Linda in the Rotary office to reserve your ad space.** Please act quickly, and thank you in advance for your support.

Goal Corner

Member Goal...6/30/2010.....151

Current Active Members.....145

Memory Matters 2010 Goal...\$250,000

Current total.....81.1%.....\$202,686