

way to his table, he always made them feel comfortable & welcome.

Charlie & I became good friends I eventually began picking him up & taking him home after meetings. During our trips he always had a story:

How General George Custer had been stationed in Kentucky before his fateful trip out west & decision to take on the Sioux Nation with only 200 men;

How he took his new bride Jo Ann to a double header baseball game on their wedding day & she developed a severe sunburn; and how proud he was that they would be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 2007.

How the Battle of Blue Licks was fought after the Revolutionary War was officially over;

How he loved Jazz & Big Band Music & he would frequent the jazz clubs in downtown Lexington of the 50's and would often see the youngster & maestro Byron Romanowitz sitting in with the big boys on saxophone;

How the big bands would travel through Lexington and play the local clubs & the now defunct Joyland, where it was not unusual to see such greats as Duke Ellington, Dizzie Gillespie & the like.

How he met a young John F. Kennedy & noted physicist Dr. Edward Teller on the campaign trail in West Virginia.

Charlie talked of his girls: how Ann was so good with children, how Charlotte was such a talented artist, how his wife Jo Ann was such a talented teacher.

Charlie loved life, loved people, loved his family & friends and loved Rotary. I am honored to have known him and as he now travels into that part of history we all must venture, he will be missed.



February 14, 2009

**"the Sweetheart Soiree 2009"**

**A Rotary Event to Benefit "Surgery On Sunday" Lexington Downtown Hotel & Convention Center (formerly Radisson Hotel) Tickets \$100 per person, black tie optional Dinner, Live and Silent Auctions, Dancing**

# The ROTARY Club of Lexington

# WHEEL HORSE

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Vol. Q

January 29, 2009

No. 28

**— TODAY'S PROGRAM —**

PRESIDING: President David Fister

INVOCATION: Ray Gibson

SINGING & PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Bob Davis

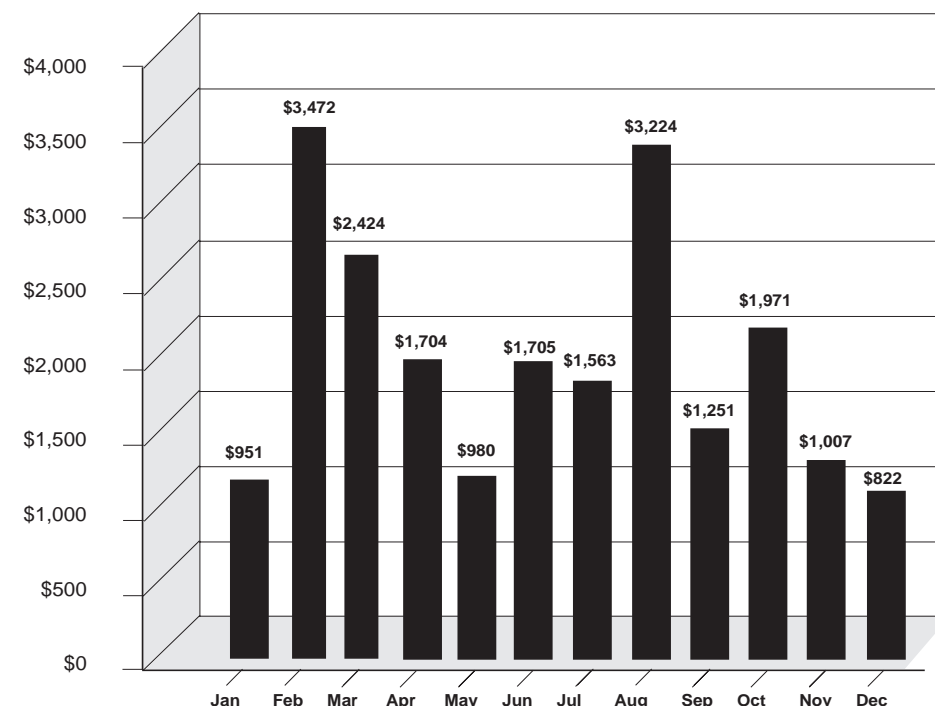
INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: Byron Romanowitz

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER: David Fister

SPEAKER: Jim Richardson, Endowment Board Chair

## ROTARY ENDOWMENT DAY

**2008 BIRTHDAY DONATIONS \$21,074**



### YOU AND THE ROTARY ENDOWMENT FUND

The Club's birthday program has been a huge success since its inception in 1997. Including the \$21,074 donated in 2008, \$222,112 has been contributed, ranging from \$10,810 in 1997 to 2006's \$23,671. This money goes into the Endowment Fund which supports the

Club's many charitable projects including scholarships, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, the Horse Park's Mustang Troop, Worldview, the Youth Exchange Program, Group Study Exchange, Cardinal Hill Hospital, Ronald McDonald House, the Hope Center, St. James

Place, Good Will Industries, YMCA, the Miracle League, and now, Surgery on Sunday.

The birthday program is just one of the ways to donate to the Endowment Fund. Go to the Sweetheart Soiree and bid on the auction items. Give to Surgery on Sunday or any of the Club's many other charities. Buy a lottery ticket at the weekly meetings. Donate directly to the scholarship fund. And, yes, put Rotary in your will.

In addition to giving money you can help by volunteering your time. Serve dinner at the Ronald McDonald House on the first Monday of each month or serve lunch at the Hope Center on the third Monday of each month. Volunteer to help distribute coats which you helped buy by playing Santa or an elf. Be a panelist on the Cardinal Hill telethon or help out at the monthly casino nights at the hospital. Volunteer your son or daughter to be a "buddy" during Miracle League games. Help the dance committee put on the winter fundraiser.

And . . . when you have done any or all of the above, congratulate yourself on being a member of the Lexington Rotary Club, the Club with a heart, the Club which has been serving its community since 1915 and continues to strive to make Lexington a better place for all its people.

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**UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

- Feb. 5 Brad Cowgill, "The Road Ahead"
- Feb. 12 Richard Taylor, KY Chamber of Commerce
- Feb. 19 Harding Dawahare, The Rotary Foundation
- Feb. 26 TBA

**FEBRUARY 2009**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

**THE FOUR-WAY TEST**

Of the things we think, say or do...

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

**OUR APOLOGIES...**

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the *Rotary in Review* for last week program, presented by Jim Hite on the topic of Identity Theft, will appear in the next edition of the *Wheel Horse*.

**The Rotary Club of Lexington**

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Bridgett Collier ..... Secretary  
Fred Brown ..... Treasurer  
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nmain@rotarylexky.org

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**WHEEL HORSE**

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**MEET A NEW ROTARIAN**



**Charlie B. Edgington**

Charlie B. Edgington, a native of Lancaster and a fifteen-year resident of Lexington, is the co-owner, with his wife Emily, of CBE Properties at 195 Lisle Industries Road. He was previously employed in the UK College of Agriculture Office for Advancement. He holds an undergraduate degree in agricultural education and a master's degree in animal nutrition, both from the University of Kentucky.

His involvements include Junior Achievement, Calvary Baptist Church, County Farm Bureau Young Farmer Chairman, Fayette County Farm Bureau Scholarship Committee, and a University of Kentucky College of Ag Fellow. Dairy farming, UK sports, antiques, rental properties, sales techniques, past-presidents, and history are some of his interests.

You can reach Charlie by email at [Charlie.edgington@yahoo.com](mailto:Charlie.edgington@yahoo.com)

**The ROTARY Club of Lexington**

**ROTARY RECEIVES THANKS**

Dear Lexington Rotary Club,

Thank you very much for your generous gift this year for Christmas. It was greatly appreciated by everyone. We look forward to serving you again this year.

Thank you,  
Debbie Silvey, J.D. Silvey,  
Kim Ramirez, Sherri Cruz,  
Bill Welch, and Manual Kirkland

**LAPTOPS NEEDED**

The dance committee needs a couple of you to loan us laptop computers to use for the Sweetheart Soiree from February 11th or 12th until after the dance on February 14th. If you have one you can do without for a few days, please call Gordon Patterson at 229-1792. He says he will bring it back to you that night after the dance or the next Monday morning if you need him to do so.

Thanks!  
Nell

**EULOGY FOR CHARLIE ATCHER  
ROTARY CLUB MEETING,  
JANUARY 22, 2009  
by Dan McLemore**

Today I am honored to address you in celebrating the life of Past President Charles Laymon Atcher. Please join me in welcoming his wife Jo Ann and daughter Ann. Their daughter Charlotte lives in Seattle and couldn't attend.

Charlie was a historian and he loved, lived, breathed and made history. He received his B.A. in American History from the University of Kentucky and Masters from the American University and National Archives Institute in Modern Archives Administration, both in Washington, DC.

Charlie, as he preferred to be called, was born in Louisville KY Jan 13 1935 and passed away November 8, 2008. As a two year old he was separated from his family for several days during the great Ohio River flood of 1937. As he told me, Louisville had flood walls but the flood gates were stored away and couldn't be located in time, rendering the flood walls useless.

A talented athlete and baseball player at Shawnee High School, he was drafted by the St. Louis Cardinals after graduation in 1953, where he played 3rd base for about two years.

Wanting to continue his education, Charlie attended the University of Kentucky. It was here he discovered his love

of history under the guidance of Dr. Thomas Clark. He was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, and served as Vice President of the Bluegrass Alumni Association of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. He met Jo Ann in their junior year and they married May 25, 1957.

After graduation they moved to Bardstown, where Charlie taught American History and was the guidance counselor at Old KY Home High School. Shortly thereafter they returned to Lexington where he taught at Jessamine County and then Bryan Station for 1 1/2 years.

In 1961 he went to Frankfort to serve as administrative assistant to Governor Bert Combs and Attorney General John B. Breckenridge, and later served as Executive Secretary of the Kentucky Historical Society. While in this position he served on many boards & was instrumental in the development of Kentucky Educational Television.

In 1964 he accepted a job as field representative at the UK Margaret King Library, collecting newspapers, rare books and manuscripts for the special collections department at the library. He succeeded in securing some very valuable collections, including John Sherman Cooper's papers, and even ran down some as yet undiscovered papers from Henry Clay. While in this position he started the Oral History program, traveling the state & interviewing many KY

natives about our rich tradition. Charlie was later promoted to the position of Archivist, a position he held until his retirement in 1987.

Charlie joined the Lexington Rotary Club in 1971 and served as President during the 1982-1983 Rotary Year. His tenure was marked by several historical accomplishments. He led the first Group Study Exchange from our club on a trip to England. As a result of their experience, 4 out of the 6 members of the team ended up joining Rotary in their respective hometowns. His tenure also was one of only three in our club's history that saw the induction of 50 or more members during the year. The most recent was during Past President Robert Ryan's term. Perhaps his most significant accomplishment as president was hiring Nell Main as Executive Director of the Lexington Rotary Club.

Now on a more personal note I will relay to you some of my time spent with Charlie. I first met him at a Rotary meeting as a guest of Joe Bark. After several meetings I had discovered he was a devout Democrat and had actually led the state campaign for the reelection of Lyndon B. Johnson. After some lengthy quizzing he learned Deborah Tatum, her father Ellis Taylor & myself were Republicans, but he graciously allowed us to remain without being banished from his table. As new guests and Rotarians would find their

(continued on pg. 4)

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