

WARNER ROBINS ROTARY CLUB

March 23, 2010

Greeters

Today Lou Klam, Wanda Lancaster, Carlo Lee
April 6 Gary Lee, Bill Lenderman, Mike Loden

Invocation..... Eric Jansson
Pledge of Allegiance..... Hatcher Graham
Four-Way Test Jay Walker

TODAY'S PROGRAM

**Jeff McAfee, cofounder,
Joanna McAfee Childhood Cancer Foundation**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

March 30	Emergency Response Services for Latin America
April 6	TBA
April 13	TBA
April 20	George McCanless, president and publisher, The Telegraph

PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS

If you have a suggestion for an upcoming program, contact Randy Randall by phone at 922-9234 (work) or 951-2178 (mobile), or by e-mail at glcm1@cox.net.

PROGRAM REPORT

March 9, 2010

**Carolyn Polakowski,
executive director,
Fragile Kids Foundation**

Veteran children's advocate Polakowski explained how the Fragile Kids Foundation provides durable medical goods for special needs children in Georgia who are underserved by the insurance industry.

"It is horrifically expensive to have a child with special medical needs," she said. "Fragile Kids exists to help families with critically needed equipment that is not covered (by insurance) and that they cannot afford to buy."

Polakowski said about half of the requests for health care grants that the Atlanta-based nonprofit organization receives are for wheelchair lifts and ramps. The balance is made up of requests for seating and positioning systems, communications devices and wheelchair accessories.

Fragile Kids also lends equipment - particularly things a child may outgrow, or need only until the child achieves a mobility goal.

Polakowski noted that no cash is awarded to applicants, and Fragile Kids stops short of providing consumables such as food and diapers (rather, they collaborate with other providers as needed). Office supplies and equipment are donated; the only administrative costs the Foundation carries are the salaries of 2.5 employees, and the Foundation letterhead, she said.

Three out of four families served by Fragile Kids have a household income of \$30,000 or less, and almost half are single-parent households. Polakowski said the recent economic downturn has hit client families hard.

"We have always served low-income kids, but now we're hearing from no-income kids," she said.

Still, Polakowski said the families are always grateful.

"Very rarely have I met a family who has a sense of entitlement," she said. "They just want what we want for our kids."

To learn more, visit Fragile Kids on the web:

<http://www.fragilekids.org/>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

PBS' "American Experience" program will air "The Polio Crusade" on April 12. The story of the polio crusade pays tribute to a time when Americans banded together to conquer a terrible disease. The medical breakthrough saved countless lives and had a pervasive impact on American philanthropy that continues to be felt today.

UPCOMING ROTARY DATES

- April 23-25 District Conference, Jekyll Island Convention Center, Jekyll Island
- June 20-23 Rotary International Convention -- Montreal, Canada

MAKE-UP SCHEDULE

- Monday.....noon, New Perry Hotel, Perry
- Monday.....1 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Macon
- Tuesday.....7:30 a.m., Piccadilly Cafeteria, Centerville
- Tuesday.....noon, Community House, Cochran
- Wednesday.....8 a.m., Country Cupboard, Byron
- Wednesday.....noon, The Steak House Restaurant, Hawkinsville
- Wednesday.....12:30 p.m., Macon Centreplex, Downtown Macon
- Thursday.....noon, Idle Hour Country Club, 251 Idle Hour Drive, Uptown Macon
- Thursday.....noon, Holiday Inn, Forsyth
- Thursday.....12:30 p.m., Country Club, Milledgeville
- Friday.....noon, Sidetrack Cafe, Eastman
- Friday.....12:30 p.m., Dublin Country Club, Dublin
- eClubOne (24/7).....www.rotaryclubone.org

OFFICERS

- President, Rotary International.....John Kenny
- District Governor.....Clyde A. Taylor
- Assistant District Governor.....Bill Pitts
- President.....Doug Hayes
- President Elect.....Lee Minor
- Secretary.....Justin Ritchie
- Treasurer.....Lynn Hudson
- Sergeant at Arms.....Brian Fern