



**THE ROTARY CLUB OF GREENVILLE EVENING**  
**33 Market Point Drive ▪ Greenville, SC 29607 ▪ 864-527-0430**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

*For immediate release*

Press contact: Pamela Lyda, 864-205-7316, email: [pamela\\_lyda@yahoo.com](mailto:pamela_lyda@yahoo.com)

### **Early Act First Knight Ethics Program has its kickoff assembly at Powdersville Middle School**

GREENVILLE, SC (January 2009) – Early Act First Knight (EAFK) had its kick-off assembly on January 8, 2010 at Powdersville Middle School. Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Greenville Evening, Early Act First Knight is a revolutionary character and ethics education program for schoolchildren in grades K-8 that puts Rotary into daily mainstream public education for the first time ever. EAFK is a program of The Knights of the Guild, a non-profit education services organization, led locally by Jefferson Pike. Developed by Dr. Randall Parr of San Antonio, TX, the EAFK program teaches business ethics based upon the historic theme of noble knights and the Rotary Motto of “service above self.” The daily curriculum, which is based on the “Rotary Four-Way Test” and teaches principles like Responsibility, Confidence, Perseverance, and Service, will be used in cooperation with monthly knighting ceremonies, where students will receive medals based upon their implementation of the curriculum

Because of inclement weather, the school made the decision to forgo the scheduled outdoor joust in favor of an indoor introduction and a question and answer period. Sir Jackson and Sir Timothy provided a provocative mix of humor and historical information to the students, faculty and guests. In addition to faculty, students and administrators, Joan Dickinson, the South Carolina Department of Education Coordinator of Character Education, Carol Burdette and Myles Golden, two Rotary Past District Governors, a few members of our local media, and members of the sponsoring Greenville Evening Rotary Club, were in attendance.

The chartering event is scheduled for Friday, January 29. The first Assembly of Champions is scheduled to begin at 8am on Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Deserving 8<sup>th</sup> graders will become honorary knights; 7<sup>th</sup> graders will become honorary squires; and, 6<sup>th</sup> graders will become honorary pages. Each of the three ceremonies will last approximately 45 minutes with an additional 15 minute ‘passing’ time. At 1 pm, the joust between Sir Jefferson and Sir Timothy (good guy versus bad guy) will commence on the school grounds. Knighting ceremonies will take place at regular intervals throughout the remainder of the school year with approximately 30 per cent of the student body receiving medals.

Students will begin each academic day with a recitation of the Rotary Four-Way test. The EAFK campus service club will meet the first Tuesday of each month throughout the school year from 3 to 4 pm in the school’s media center. Student members will perform specific tasks during the meeting and report back to their classes. The EAFK service club component is a school-wide opportunity for all students to apply the ethical principles being taught through The Code curriculum in the classroom. Student service club officers will attend the May evening meeting of the Greenville Evening Rotary Club to present the program’s progress to the club members.

###



Sir Jefferson (left) and Sir Timothy (left) give the jousting challenge in front of the student body



Sir Timothy (right) shows Justin (left) his sword



Annaka Lyda curiously examines a knight's helmet