

## Meeting of October 2, 2007

### Minutes of Meeting of Sept. 25, 2007

- President Freddy Walter presided over the meeting.
- Todd Bradley offered the invocation.
- Allen Anderson led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Kris King welcomed visiting Rotarians and guests:
  - Rex Gandy from the Sunrise Club
  - Pierce Stevens and Neil Gray from the Petal Club
  - Erik Hearon from the North Jackson Club
  - Rebecca Ratliff was a guest of Mike Ratliff.
  - Marcus Robinson was a guest of Joe Riley.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Thanks to Robert Cummings and Mary Cromartie for serving as our Greeters today.
2. Freddy then called on Todd Bradley to report on Rotary's golf tournament. The tournament is scheduled for Monday, October 22. Players and sponsors are now being sought. Todd asked that anyone needing a registration form to see him. Proceeds from the tournament will be used to offset the defibrillator project expenses.
3. Congratulations were extended to Tina Lowrimore and her family on the birth of Luke their new son. He was born last Thursday morning and weighed 8 pounds 9 ounces. Both mother and child are reportedly doing well. It was also reported that Kristi Gould is in delivery today.
4. Steve Ramp was then introduced and asked to induct the Club's newest member. Steve welcomed Bill Tolbert to the Club. Bill is transferring in from the Bay Springs Club. Steve reported that Bill is now officially a part of the 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide serving in 29,000 Rotary clubs found in 161 nations.
5. Freddy then introduced Mike Ratliff who introduced today's speakers.

### LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Mary Beth Davis and Caroline Ratliff, RYLA scholarship recipients this year presented today's program. Both are Hattiesburg High seniors and will

graduate this year. They attended this year's RYLA held in July. Mary Beth and Caroline thanked club members for sponsoring them and the counselors, making their participation possible.

The girls recapped the three-and-one-half day camp held in Louisiana. The program consisted of speakers and activities that were designed to teach leadership skills to the participants. Some of the programs included "The Power of Me", "The Power of One Vote", "Operation Smile", "The Power of Teamwork" and a handwriting analysis event. Delegates participated in demonstrations that showed how their power and abilities expanded when surrounded by a group of supporters. Caroline reported that her favorite activity was breaking a board with her bare hands while being cheered on by the group, a thing she was unable to do alone.

In addition to making new friends, the RYLA participants bonded even more closely with friends they already had. They also learned how important college planning is, especially the importance of getting paperwork completed early and scholarship applications submitted. Mary Beth reported that she learned the value of "planning the work and working the plan." Again, the girls thanked the club members for their support and reported that the event changed their lives forever.

Mike concluded the program by reminding members that RYLA is a program for children and relatives of Rotarians. Anyone who has a relative who is a junior in high school is encouraged to consider applying for a RYLA scholarship for next year's program.

### THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Dr. Raymond Thomas (Tommy) King, President of William Carey University, is our speaker.

Dr. King has served the Southern Baptist denomination on the local, state, and national level. In local churches, he has served on the staff, on significant committees, and as a teacher and a deacon. He is a former member of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board and was a member of the Gulfshore Baptist Assembly Restoration Committee following Hurricane Camille. His denominational service includes eight years as a member of the Southern Baptist convention Executive Committee.

In addition to formerly maintaining a private counseling practice, Dr. King has served in many leadership roles in the field of education. He

maintains membership in numerous professional organizations, also including serving as a diplomat of the American Psychotherapy Association. Among his many honors, Dr. King was named Columbia's Outstanding Citizen in 1989. He is also a Lion's Club International Foundation Melvin Jones Fellow. Fellow recipients are recognized for their outstanding humanitarian work.

A member of the Columbia Lions Club since 1983, Dr. King has held many offices within the association, including club president, zone chairman, region chairman and district governor. He was appointed to the Lions Club international board of directors. In addition, he established the Mississippi Lions Deaf camp and was inducted into the Mississippi Lions Hall of Fame in 2002. In recognition of his service to the Lion's Club, Dr. King has received numerous awards including the Ambassador of Goodwill Award, the highest honor the association bestows upon its members. He also received the 100% Club President Award, the 100% District Governor Award, an Extension Award, an International Leadership Award, two International President's Certificates of Appreciation, and four International President's Awards.

Named the WCU 1980 Alumnus of the Year, Dr. King has a solid record of active participation in civic affairs. He served on the Laurel Planning Commission; as president and member of the board of directors, Jones County Unit, American Cancer Society; as a board member of Laurel-Jones Count Library; and as president of the Marion County Unit, American Cancer Society.

Dr. King was unanimously chosen by the William Carey University board of trustees as the ninth president of the 100-year old institution. Dr. King, the first graduate of Carey to be named president, comes to the position with more than 30 years of experience in public education from elementary to university levels. At Carey he has served as dean of the school of psychology and counseling, vice president for graduate and off-campus programs, professor of psychology, and executive vice president. Dr. King was acting president since September 2006, following the death of Dr. Larry W. Kennedy.

Dr. King received a Bachelor of Arts degree from William Carey College, Masters' degrees from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and the University of Southern Mississippi, and a Doctorate in Education from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Dr. King is married to Sandra Simmons King of Mt. Herman, Louisiana, and together they have one son, Dave, and two grandsons, Chris and Andrew.

**Editor: Gary Garner**