



SPOKES

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

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Rotary Club of

Hattiesburg

629 N. Main St.

Hattiesburg, MS 39402

Mike Dixon, Stacy Ahua, Jennifer Payne and Sean Priebe.



MINUTES: MARCH 8, 2016

President Sean Priebe presided over the meeting. Thanks to Mike Ratliff who gave the invocation and to Wes Brooks who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Thanks to Lucy Parkman who served as our greeters today.

Today's Mystery Rotarian was born in Tennessee where he remained until he graduated from high school. He attended a number of universities including Samford in Birmingham, Carson-Newman in Jefferson City, TN, and Oxford University. While at Carson-Newman he met the daughter of a dairy farmer and his future wife. After they were married they moved to Waco, TX where he attended graduate school at Baylor University. While there he worked for Baylor University Press and took the Press from a puny publishing house with three bad books to the fastest growing university press in the nation. After Baylor he moved across the country and enrolled at Duke University. From there he moved back to Baylor where he earned his doctorate in homiletics. His daughter was born there on their eight anniversary. About a year later he saw a job opening in Hattiesburg and serves as today as the pastor of the University Baptist Church. Today's Mystery Rotarian is Rusty Edwards.

Jaclyn then reported that she attended the PETS conference this past weekend in Natchez. Rotary is planning 100 days of service during the coming year and she is looking forward to leading the club in many of these projects.

Sean reminded members that the Night in Italy event has been moved to May 3. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be available in the near future. The district conference is scheduled in Biloxi April 7 – 10. Our club will join with the Sunrise club for a Food Festival event on Friday night during the conference. Additionally, members will be asked to RSVP for the March 29 meeting. We will be hosted by the Children's Center for Communication and Development and members will get a tour of the facility in advance of our Night in Italy event.

Jennifer Payne then introduced today's guest speakers Mike Dixon and Stacy Ahua representing Extra Table. Mike noted that the Extra Table is a non-profit organization founded right here in Hattiesburg but now reaches the entire state of Mississippi. The organization provides healthy meals for some of the estimated 679,000 food

insecure Mississippians. Money collected in a community comes back to that same community through their program. They've teamed up with local food banks and Cisco to provide these healthy meals. There are an estimated 200,000 children in the state who are food insecure. Mississippi holds the record for having the most hunger as well as the record for being the heaviest population. Not having ready access to healthy food causes one to eat processed food and foods that are easily obtained, often not the healthiest. Obesity causes medical problems that could be avoided.

The Extra Table is working on three major partnerships and hopefully will have announcements in the near future. The Kellogg Foundation has committed to spending \$21 million each year for the next 25 years. A percentage of that money will be spent on making healthy food available to the food insecure. Next month a group from AARP will visit the Extra Table as they try to find improved ways to provide their services in Mississippi. Additionally there are talks underway with a group that provides home ownership assistance to our residents. The Extra Table hopes to offer a way to provide healthy cooking and healthy eating programs through their system as well as establish food pantries in areas that are in need.

Stacy then provided information about the Over the Edge program that will take place on Saturday, April 2 in downtown Hattiesburg. If you sign up and raise \$1,000 you can repel down the walls of the Carter Building. Our very own Sean Priebe has agreed to participate. All of the money raised from this event will be used to offset administrative costs for the Extra Table. There are a variety of other ways you can participate so if you or your company are interested visit www.hattiesburgovertheedge.com and get involved.

Stacy noted that the event is being managed by the Over the Edge organization out of Canada so participants should not be too concerned about their safety during the daylong event.

For more information about the Over the Edge event or about the Extra Table visit www.extratable.org.

Minutes recorded by:
Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary

Our Speaker

Johnny Stevens Stevens Pest Control

Today's speaker is none other than our very own Johnny Stevens. A Rotarian for 42 years, Johnny is going to speak to us on his profession as well as his time in the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg.



2016 District Conference

The District 6840 conference is almost upon us! This year's conference will be held at the Island View Casino Resort in Gulfport. It's going to be a fantastic weekend with great fun, great food, and great friendship. Come experience Rotary outside of your club's four walls. It promises to be a fantastic weekend.

Attend Rotary Leadership Institute!

Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a fantastic day of meeting great people and learning about Rotary. If you want to learn more about the Rotary Foundation, how to make your club stronger, or what's happening in the larger Rotary world then this is a day for you. RLI sessions I and III will be held April 23rd at First Pentecostal Church in Slidell. Registration and light breakfast will start at 8:30 with the sessions starting at 9:00. We'll provide lunch and we'll be done at 2:30. The cost is \$70 per person per session. Come join us and bring your club members. You'll be glad you did.

a Night in Italy



The Children's Center
FOR COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT

May 3, 2016

UPCOMING

MARCH 29: TOUR OF THE CHILDREN'S CENTER

JULY 7-19: ROTARY TRIP TO DISTRICT 5360, CALGARY STAMPEDE

APRIL 7-10: DISTRICT CONFERENCE

MAY 28—JUNE 1: ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION (SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA)

SOUTHERN BEVERAGE PRESENTS

HATTIESBURG OVER THE EDGE

A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME RAPPELING EVENT IN DOWNTOWN HATTIESBURG BENEFITTING EXTRA TABLE

APRIL 2
THE CARTER BUILDING / DOWNTOWN HATTIESBURG

EXTRA TABLE | over the edge | WWW.HATTIESBURGOVERTHEEDGE.COM

ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

BIKE-A-THON

SEPT 24
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