

MEETING OF APRIL 10, 2007

Meeting of April 3, 2007

- Conrad Welker presided.
- David Thoms offered the invitation.
- Wesley Griffin led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Robert Cornett and Bill Pace served as greeters.
- Kristi Gould introduced one visiting Rotarian, Jack Gay. There were no visitors. Kristi took this opportunity to announce that she and her husband are expecting a child. She also asked other Rotarians who are expecting to stand. She was joined by Tina Lowrimore and Felicia Warren. Congratulations to these three Rotarians and their families.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Conrad reported speaking to Tom Rhea Phillips last evening and that Tom Rhea is doing quite well in his recovery. He is expected to be back with the club very shortly. It was also noted that Gary Garner was hospitalized over the weekend with a kidney/urinary tract infection but is greatly improved.
- 2) Conrad also reported receiving a letter from Dr. King, William Carey President, thanking the Club for the \$500 donation to the university's Young Author's Celebration project. This is the Club's second year to participate.
- 3) He also reported receiving a letter of thanks from Mark Duncan, the recipient of this

year's Grover Anderson Scholarship. He also reported that the Club must seek nominations for this scholarship earlier in coming years. The children, great and great-great grandchildren of club members are eligible for the scholarship.

- 4) He encouraged anyone with a potential member to get that paperwork begun soon as the fiscal year is coming to a close.
- 5) RYLA has been scheduled for a later date this summer however, nominations need to be sought before schools close for the summer.
- 6) Those interested in attending the District Conference in May need to register with Lamar soon. There is no registration fee; however, if you're planning on attending meal functions, you must pay for those functions.
- 7) Freddy Walker reported that five Club members attended this year's PETS meeting. It was reported to be a success and hopefully will get the Club's new-year off to a great start.
- 8) Night in Italy tickets will be mailed out of the office tomorrow. The event is coming up on April 17.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Dan Kibodeaux introduced the speaker, Dr. Michael Garret, Executive Director of the Homes of Hope for Children.

Dr. Garret informed the club it is his organization's plans to build and manage

a Christian foster home for hurting children in the Hattiesburg area. He says this is a service that is not now available in our area. Dr. Garret is a product of a home similar to the one he has a vision for.

The organization has taken an option on a parcel of land in the Purvis area but now must raise the money within the next few weeks to make the purchase. Phase one of the project will include the construction of two cottages that will house seven children each. Each cottage will be managed by a Christian couple in an effort to provide a stable, family atmosphere for the children.

Garret reported that approximately 75% of the anticipated residents will transition back into a home. The remainder will become long-term residents. Future plans call for the expansion of two more cottages as well as two apartments that will house the long-term residents even after high school graduation.

Homes of Hope for Children plans to partner with other agencies throughout the area, such as the Battered Women's Shelter, Christian Services and others who see children with needs. He also reports that the organization is non-denominational and hopes to recruit live-in couples from area churches.

The organization has a need to expand its donor base as well as to generate additional funds for the capital campaign. The goal is to be operational by the fall of 2009. Members interested in assisting are encouraged to call (601) 450-1188.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Our speaker this week is our own executive secretary, Lamar Evans.

Lamar is a Graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi

Former broadcast journalist in the Jackson, MS market

Former city administrator for the City of Jackson

Founder and president of Association Management Systems, Inc., a Hattiesburg firm that provides management services to eleven national, state and local non-profit and/or professional membership associations.

Locally manages the Bent Creek Homeowners Association and the Greater Hattiesburg Home Builders Association.

Member of Hattiesburg Rotary

Member of the Board of Directors for the United Way of Southeast Mississippi

Board member of the Carpenter's Helper

Chairman of the Hattiesburg Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Member of the Hattiesburg Construction Board of Adjustment and Appeals

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ABOUT THE ROTARIAN MAGAZINE

The Rotarian addresses the personal and business interests of a selected audience involved in business or one of the professions. The chief purpose of *The Rotarian* is to report Rotary news and general subjects directed to the interests,

loyalty, and involvement of its member audience. General articles cover such topics as business, travel, health, education, environment, management and ethics, sciences, sports and adventure.

Rotary's [Four Avenues of Service](#) are stressed:

- Club Service focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the club.
- Vocational Service encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards.
- Community Service covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve life in its community.
- International Service encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace.

History

The first issue of *The National Rotarian* was published in January 1911. This 12-page tabloid was considered the best way to distribute an essay written by Rotary founder Paul Harris. The essay was titled, "Rational Rotarianism." There was also club news and advertisements. About 2,000 copies were produced by printer Harry Ruggles, one of the first members of the Rotary Club of Chicago. Soon the issue went back to press for another 2,000 copies. Seventeen Nobel Prize winners and 19 Pulitzer Prize winners have written for the magazine. A partial list of eminent contributors includes: Thomas Mann, Edith Wharton, Knute Rockne, Frank Lloyd Wright, Mahatma Gandhi, Winston Churchill, Helen Keller, Eleanor Roosevelt, Norman Vincent Peale, Pearl S. Buck, Lowell Thomas, Betty Friedan, Willy Brandt, Javier Perez de Cuellar, Arthur C. Clarke, Richard Armour, Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., Rabbi Harold Kushner, Isaac Asimov, Cleveland Amory, Octavio Paz, and Jimmy Carter.

Subscribers

There are about 410,000 subscribers in the United States. Canada comes in second, with more than 30,000 subscribers. India is third, with about 10,000 subscribers. There are more than 4,800 subscribers in the Philippines, and 3,800 in Japan. In Nigeria, more than 3,000 club members subscribe to *The Rotarian*. In Australia, there are 1,900 subscribers and almost 1,300 in New Zealand. In Finland, there are 1,000 subscribers, as well as 1,500 in Hong Kong and 700 in Indonesia. Of the total number of subscriptions, about 20,000 are to non-Rotarians. Most of these are gift subscriptions to schools, libraries, and individuals. The Rotary Club of Rockford, Illinois, USA, has been the world's gift-subscription champion for many years. The club annually sponsors about 250 gift subscriptions to *The Rotarian*. Annual [subscription](#) price of the magazine is US\$12.

Editor: Gary Garner [Thanks for the thoughts & prayers; I'm getting better but I'm not out of the woods yet!]