



# SPOKES



NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG • DISTRICT 6840 • CLUB 04003

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Rotary Club of Hattiesburg  
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Hattiesburg, MS 39401

[www.rotaryofhattiesburg.com](http://www.rotaryofhattiesburg.com)



Wes Brooks; Roland Johnson, REACH Coordinator at Pine Grove Behavioral Health & Addiction Services, and Audra Cummings

## MINUTES: August 12, 2014

President Wes Brooks presided over the meeting. Thanks to Lynn Walton who gave the invocation and to Lamar Evans who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks to Lucy Parkman for serving as our greeter today.

Sean Priebe filled in for Aaron Ladner and welcomed guests. Dean Wade is a guest of Wes Brooks and has applied for membership. Sean also asked that club members remember Aaron's family along with Gene and David Owens. Both families have lost loved ones in the recent past.

Sean noted that Wes Brooks recently celebrated a birthday. The club sang Happy Birthday.

Wes reminded members of the BIKE-A-THON which is coming up on November 1. The Greater Pine Belt Foundation has set up a fund for the BIKE-A-THON therefore any donations made to the Foundation on behalf of the event are now completely tax deductible. He also noted that sponsorship forms are now available on the club's website.

Tracey Fowler reminded club members that Sunday is the last day to purchase a chance to win the home being given away by the United Way of Southeast Mississippi.

Wes reminded members that the GSE Team interview deadline is September 13. If you know someone who is interested in participating in the Melbourne, Australia GSE event next year, please have them contact the District prior to this deadline. He also noted that the next District 6840 workshop will be held at Pearl River Community College on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Anyone interested in attending should contact Wes.

Audra Cummings then introduced today's guest speaker, Roland Johnson. Mr. Johnson is the Outreach coordinator for the REACH Program at Pine Grove Behavioral Health & Addiction Services.

The REACH program is an expressive therapy ropes course used primarily in the treatment of residential and outpatients at Pine Grove. However, according to Mr. Johnson the ropes course

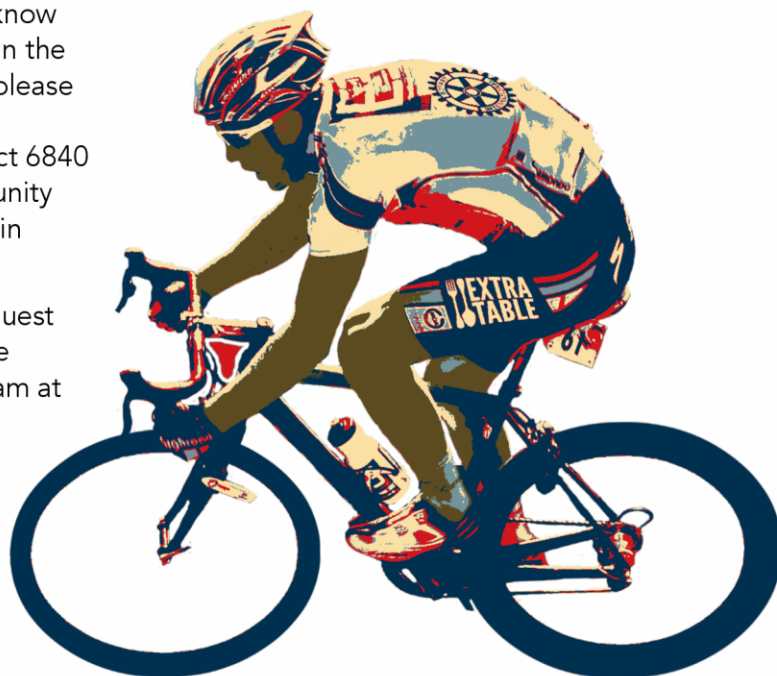
is open to the public and he will also make arrangements to bring his unique training techniques into your place of business. The course is designed to build self-confidence, communication skills, self-esteem and trust building skills. A portion of the course is used in the Area Development Partnership's Leadership Pinebelt training.

Roland reports that REACH is used weekly for the 60 to 90 residents of Pine Grove. The course brings realistic experience challenges and horizons to the participants. In the end he ties all of their experiences into real life issues.

Roland concluded his presentation by sharing an exercise used in the training program with every member. Using ropes, teams of two were challenged to untie themselves using their skills of communication and leadership. He noted that members smiled, communicated and most importantly asked for help when they needed it. Knowing you need help and seeking that help is a major component of the recovery process used at Pine Grove.

For more information about the REACH program or to reach Roland, call 601-288-2273.

**Minutes courtesy of:  
Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary  
Rotary Club of Hattiesburg**



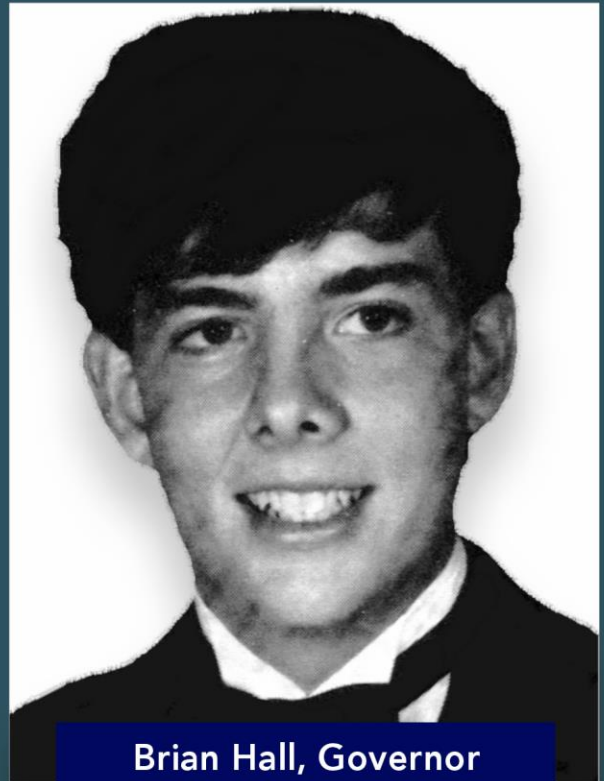


## Our Guest

Brian Hall is a member of the Rotary Club of Covington, LA. He has served his club in many positions and has also served District 6840 as Membership Chair, Assistant District Governor, and Annual Fund Co-Chair. He was active with the Host Organizing Committee of the 2011 Rotary International Convention, where he served as the chair of the Technology Committee, chair of the Visa Committee and as a member of other additional committees. He has served Rotary Zone 31 as Assistant Regional Rotary Public Image Coordinator and is a Major Donor to the Rotary Foundation as well as a Bequest Society member. He will be serving as District 6840 Governor in the 2014-2015 Rotary year.

Brian has been married to his wife, Lynn, for 21 years. They currently reside in Madisonville, along with their two children. Keely, their daughter, is 13 and attends Madisonville Junior High. Patrick, their son, is 10 and attends Lancaster Elementary.

Brian was born and raised in Jackson, MS. Brian received a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from Mississippi College in Clinton, MS. He worked as a CPA for several years before changing careers to become a computer programmer. In 1998 he and Lynn relocated to New Orleans, where Brian decided to merge his backgrounds and begin consulting with companies regarding business and financial systems. In 2000, he and three others formed AIM Technologies, his current business. Brian serves as the founder and president of Lone Sheep Ministries, a not-for-profit founded to assist ministries around the globe. Brian and his family attend First Baptist Church of Covington, LA.



Brian Hall, Governor  
District 6840



The  
**Rotary**  
Foundation







## UPCOMING

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| AUG 26  | Caroline Smith, Pine Grove Intensive Workshops               |
| SEPT 2  | Steve McAlister, Versus Strength & Conditioning              |
| SEPT 9  | Andy Impastato, VP Client Compliance, BancorpSouth Ins. Svc. |
| SEPT 16 | Sara Case-Price, Dir., The Children's Center                 |
| SEPT 23 | Helena Lasseter, RN, MPH, Work Well/Wesley Medical Center    |
| SEPT 30 | Lloyd Munn, Dir. of Loss Control, BancorpSouth Ins. Svc.     |

### Guest and visitors,

Thank you for coming to visit with us today! Are you interested in finding out more about the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg? Are you interested in how you might become a member? Would you like to be contacted by one of our members to discuss this? If so, please fill in the blanks below and we will be sure to contact you. Again, thank you! We hope you enjoyed your time with us.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions/Comments \_\_\_\_\_