



THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

formally invites you to attend

**THE OGLETREE HOUSE
RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY**

Friday, September 11, 2009
9:30 a.m.

Front Lawn of the Ogletree House
102 Alumni Drive
Hattiesburg, Mississippi



For questions or more information,
contact the Alumni Association office at 601.266.5013.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held
in the Thad Cochran Center, Ballroom I.

Dress: Business Casual

Spokes

August 25, 2009
www.hattiesburgrotary.com

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

ROTARY YEAR
2009-2010

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Mike Ratliff
Aime Spears

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Official Newsletter of the

ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

P.O. Box 15185
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39404



“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”

MINUTES FROM 8/18/2009

President Mary Cromartie presided over the meeting.

Robert Cornett gave the invocation. Terry Miller led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mary then led members in the Rotary Four Way Test.

Gene Owens recognized today's visitors. Virginia Morris was a guest of Toxey Morris. Vickie Shaw was a guest of Maura McLaughlin. Amanda Coll was a guest of Aime Spears. Sean Peters was a guest of Lance Nail. Margaret Lochhead was a guest of Bob Lochhead and Charles Greer was a guest of Charles Greer. Ken West was a visiting Rotarian from the Petal Club.

Thanks also for today's Greeters, Patrick Ward, David Owens, and Kris King.

Tom Potter introduced and inducted the Club's newest member, Jerome Brown.

Scott Hummel provided us with a classification talk. He is a 1987 graduate of William Carey University and a former Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship recipient. He taught school in Texas for ten years and served as the president of a Texas Rotary Club. He is now employed at William Carey University where he says he stays very busy with the new projects and programs being developed at WCU.

Bill Tolbert then presented his classification talk. Bill is a graduate of Delta State University. After graduation from dental school he practiced for fourteen years in Bay St. Louis. He recently relocated his practice to the Hattiesburg area and his 14 year Rotarian membership as well.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Mike Ratliff introduced today's guest speaker, Ben Morris. Ben is a Rotary Ambassadorial scholarship recipient and was sponsored by the Hattiesburg Rotary Club. He is finishing up his Ph.D. from Cambridge University where he is a student of cultural heritage and environmental impact. Ben spent part of the past four years researching the cultural changes in the City of New Orleans that came as a result of

the devastation to the area caused by Hurricane Katrina.

Ben acknowledges that the human environment is changing. Whether it is being caused by global warming or it's just the earth going through a change is not a part of his study. He merely accepts the fact that our environment is changing and with those changes we will likely be called on to make many adjustments in our lives.

He calls to our attention the 2005 hurricane season where, for the first time, we ran out of letters in the alphabet and had to use Greek letters to name all the storms that year. Eight of the past ten years have been the hottest in recent recorded history. With the polar caps melting at unprecedented rates and thirteen of the world's fifteen largest cities being located on the oceans, real changes are predicted for our future.

The Katrina event gave Ben a ready-made research project for cultural and environmental relationship studies. Disasters take people back to their fundamentals, including their art, their culture and their heritage. According to Ben, our heritage is also representative of our ecology. Our culture provides us with the things we all share in common as well as those things that represent our differences. Ben reports that 88 percent of the New Orleans metro Parish is back to normal. There has been substantial property consolidation in the Central Business District. Some of the art and cultural treasures of the city are returning, but much work is left in this area.

In December Ben plans to be a part of a group that will be producing a documentary from Copenhagen where the Kyoto Protocols are to be re-drafted. Artists from all over the world are making the journey and plan to demonstrate their works on the periphery of the negotiations. The group hopes to document the changes in the world's art and culture that are being influenced by the environment. The group is seeking financial support for their logistical needs. Members are encouraged to contact Ben for more information.

To read more about Ben's research visit: www.crassh.cam.ac.uk/page/34/climate-change.htm

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Benjamin A. Watson
Acting Director – Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office

Benjamin Watson joined FEMA in May 2006, serving as the Chief of Staff for the Mississippi Transitional Recovery Office.

Prior to joining FEMA, Mr. Watson served as an officer in the U.S. Coast Guard. He received his commission as an Ensign from the U.S. Coast Guard Officer Candidate School in Yorktown, Virginia in December 1977. He served in a variety of operational and staff positions, culminating in command of Coast Guard Sector Detroit, Michigan from 2002 to 2005. He served in positions with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Office of the Vice President and as the Senior Coast Guard Advisor to the Joint Staff in the Pentagon.

Mr. Watson is a native of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. He graduated from the University of North Florida with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration and attended the U.S. Naval War College where he earned a Master of Arts Degree in National Strategy and Strategic Studies in 1993.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE....Sponsors, Jaclyn Adams and Lance Nail have proposed Shannon Woodard for membership into the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg. Shannon is Director of Development for the University of Southern Mississippi College of Business

Please be sure to welcome our newest member, Jerome Brown, who was inducted last week!

IMPORTANT DATES

Aug 25	FEMA Program
Aug 31	Rotary Board Meeting at Mary's house
Sept 11	9:30 am Olgree House Ribbon Cutting
Oct 16	Wine Tasting Event
Oct 30	Rotary Golf Tournament

Meeting Dates for Area Clubs

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
Bay Springs - 12:00	Columbia - 12:00	Clinton - 12:00	Madison-Ridgeland - 12:00
City Hall	The Backdoor Restaurant	Baptist Health Plex	Steam Room Grill 155 N
Bolton - 7:30	Flowood - 12:00	Gluckstadt - 12:00	Jackson
Methodist Church	River Oaks Hospital	Parker House Restaurant	Taylorville - 12:00
Collins - 12:00	Laurel - 12:00	Hattiesburg Sunrise - 7:00	MS Power Co. Building
Cedars Restaurant	Laurel Country Club	Wesley Medical Center Cafeteria	Wiggins - 12:00
Ellisville - 12:00	North Jackson - 12:00	Heidelberg - 12:00	Gulf Coast C.C. Cafeteria
J.C.J.C. Cafeteria	St. James	Library	
Jackson - 12:00	Episcopal Church	Poplarville - 12:00	<i>Friday</i>
MS Museum of Art		Pearl River C.C. Cafeteria	Rankin County - 12:00
Lucedale - 12:00		Richton - 12:00	Rankin Co. Med. Ctr. Annex
MS Gulf Coast Community		Magnolia Restaurant	Slidell, LA - 12:00
College Cafeteria		Waynesboro - 12:00	Pinewood Country Club
Petal - 12:00		Western Sizzlin	
Civic Center		Prentiss - 12:00	
South Hinds County - 12:00		Country Fisherman	
BoDons Catfish & Seafood			