

# GOVERNOR'S NOTES

DG Dick McCarthy  
District 6840

DISTRICT CONFERENCE OCTOBER 15TH AND 16TH

Dear District Rotarians,

Have we got great news for you, or what!

We promise you that our October 15-16<sup>th</sup> district Conference will knock your socks off. Conference Chairman Sheriff Greg Champagne of the Rotary Club of St. Charles Parish ([gchamp@stcharlessheriff.org](mailto:gchamp@stcharlessheriff.org)) with his energized team are planning something really special. We have invited members of the HOC (Host Organization Chairs) from the 6 participating Rotary Districts for the 2011 New Orleans Convention to join our festivities. It is our moment to network with other district leaders who are so involved with planning the 2011 Convention.

Shortly, we will contact each Club President and ask them to cancel the weekly club meeting during the week of the District Conference. We will ask them to contribute to the Conference fund the money normally paid for the Rotary Meal that week. Here's why...

**FREE Friday, Gourmet Buffet Luncheon** surrounded by Rotary Service and 2011 Convention events tables to give you a sneak preview of the House of Friendship, Sounds of the South Musical Jazz Concert, Fun, Food, fellowship & Fins at the Aquarium of the Americas, Host Hospitality Night, and French Quarter Dining Experience. You can sign up to volunteer

**FREE, Friday night Food Festival and party to a world class New Orleans performer - Luther Kent and Trick Bag, a truly great Rhythm and Blues Band.** NOW with more space, larger Serving tables and large tents in case it rains on our parade. Tables will be arranged in a semi-circle around the water fountain (to left of photo). Electricity and

water available, with plenty of parking for easy off-load the food, and plenty of space designated for food preparation.

**We are changing the format Saturday night to a dressy casual Gourmet Buffet Dinner Dance featuring The Hot Foxtrot Orchestra which will perform classic big band hits.**

Many will recall they played for the New Orleans Club 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary bash. We will recognize the club Presidents from the newest club to the oldest club. And no, there will not be any long speeches or Club awards presented so early in the year.

The Loews Hotel is not the most inexpensive, but honestly it has the largest guest rooms and wonderful facilities for our larger events this year. Be sure to go to the following link to book your reservations now before they sell them to someone else outside of Rotary.

<http://www.loewshotels.com/en/Hotels/New-Orleans-Hotel/GroupOffers/Rotary.aspx>

Your attendance is so important to demonstrate to our participating Districts and to the VIPS from Rotary International attending the HOC/District Conference, so please make every effort to come for the whole weekend event. Guys, this is our moment to shine, so please won't you help make this a success? Thank you!



See Robert Cummings for registration forms  
and see Lucy Parkman to help with the Food Fest.  
Register Now, It's not too early!

# Spokes

August 31, 2010  
[www.hattiesburgrotary.com](http://www.hattiesburgrotary.com)

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

**ROTARY YEAR  
2010-2011**

**OFFICERS**

BILL MCLEOD  
*President*

ROBERT CUMMINGS  
*President-Elect*

MAURA MCLAUGHLIN  
*Vice-President*

PATRICK WARD  
*Secretary - Treasurer*

LAMAR EVANS  
*Executive Secretary*

WES BROOKS  
*Sergeant-at-arms*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Term Expiring - June 30, 2011**  
Janice Touchstone  
Gene Owens  
Mike Ratliff  
Aime Spears

*Past President:*  
Mary Cromartie

**Term Expiring - June 30, 2012**  
Jaclyn Adams  
Greg Buie  
Scott Hummell  
Dan Kibodeaux

**SPOKES Editor**  
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 8/24/2010**

Club President, Bill McLeod, presided over the meeting.

Thanks to Scott Hummel, who gave the invocation and to Jeri Buti, who led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill then led members in the Four Way Test.

Wes Brooks welcomed today's guests and visitors. Former member Tina Lowrimore was a guest of Robert Cummings and has requested to be reinstated in our club in the near future. Tom Light visited from the Sunrise Club, while Demaris Lee visited from the Petal Club. Todd Bradley brought guest, Allen Smithers. Tony Gier came with Christina Ghents, and Justin Rourke was a guest of Tom Light. Scott Hummel brought three guests from China – Mr. Wang, Mr. Xu, and Mr. He.

Special thanks to our greeters for today, who were Jared Eastlack and Christina Ghents.

**LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM**

Bill introduced the first of two guest speakers today. Dr. Michael Lopinto is the marketing manager for USM's College of the Arts, and he came to speak on behalf of their organization, Partners for the Arts. Dr. Lopinto said that Hattiesburg has so much culture and offers many quality events, especially in the area of music and arts. "Partners for the Arts" was established in 1997 as a collaborative effort to enhance community advocacy for the College of the Arts. This effort has helped generate almost \$700,000 since that time. Today's hard economy is reducing the amount of support that this department has always relied on to be able to continue. Attendance at performances and monetary donations are both down. The college needs your support now more than ever. You can become a member of the Partner for the Arts by signing up online at [www.usm.edu/pfta](http://www.usm.edu/pfta). You may contribute as little as \$50 or up to thousands of dollars. You

may offer a one-time gift, or you may contribute monthly or annually. For any donation of \$500 or more, your name will be included on a special centennial wall that will be permanently displayed on the USM campus. You may designate 75% of your gift to the program of your choice: Art & Design, School of Music, or Theatre & Dance. Of course, all donations are tax deductible. If you love symphony music, Dr. Lopinto also recommended purchasing season tickets through the School of Music for the 2010/2011 season. Seven events are scheduled between September and May, including a beautiful Winter Wonderland show that even children will love. You may order season packets or individual tickets online at [www.southernmisstickets.com](http://www.southernmisstickets.com) or you may call 601.266.5418.

Robert Cummings thanked all Club members by saying that everyone is awesome and he was proud of the way people responded to his request to step up attendance records. Also, Robert mentioned that our Club will be including several new members: Tina Lowrimore is returning as a former member, Tom Light is transferring over from the Sunrise Club, and Dr. Brantley Nichols was proposed by Erik Graham.

Robert reminded members about the District Conference scheduled for October 15th & 16th in New Orleans. Please see Robert to sign up to attend. He said that to raise more funds, he will begin selling raffle tickets each week for the next six weeks. The winner of the raffle will receive a Blue Dog screen print.

Johnny Stevens was the winner of this week's Foundation and Polio Plus raffle. Thanks to Scott Hummel for donating today's prize. Next week's prize will be two (2) season tickets to the USM Symphony, valued at over \$200. Be ready to purchase those raffle tickets next week!

Bill said that the next Board meeting is set for next Monday, August 30th at his home.

**TODAY'S PROGRAM**

**Biography of Christine L. Brown**

Christine L. Brown is the Division Manager of the Hattiesburg-Petal-Forrest-Lamar Metropolitan Planning Organization at the City of Hattiesburg in the Department of Federal and State Programs. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Paralegal Studies from the University of Southern Mississippi and has done post graduate studies at William Carey University. She has been active in the area of transportation planning and planning for over 17 years working with the MPO members to ensure the area achieves its transportation planning objects. Instrumental in the development of one of the most noted projects in the area as the grant writer and administrator for the Hattiesburg Train Depot project. Her experience has allowed her to serve on the state of Mississippi's Year 2000 MULTIPLAN planning board which received the "President's Award for Planning" from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. Christine was born in Balboa, Canal Zone, Republic of Panama. High School graduate of C.E. Ellison High School, Killeen, Texas. She is married to John Brown and has 2 children, Harrison (19) and Courtney (14).

**FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.....**

We have several new nominations for membership. Allen Smithers is proposed by Toxey Morris, Erik Graham has proposed Dr. Brantley Nichols for membership and Tina Lowrimore has been proposed as an active member by Mike Ratliff. Tom Light has asked to transfer from the Sunrise Club to our club. If anyone has any questions or concerns about those proposed for membership please speak to a member of the Membership Committee or Robert Cummings. If there are no concerns those proposed will be inducted in a few weeks.

**READING BETWEEN THE LIONS LITERACY PROGRAM**

Volunteers needed each week on Tuesday or Friday mornings to read children's books.

The Gandy Child Development Center is located at:

The Family Y - Veterans Memorial Blvd.  
601-268-0808



Sign up to read on Tuesdays & Fridays at 9:30am.

Read to the children about 20-30 minutes

email Dan Kibodeaux to sign up  
[dan@Unitedwaysems.org](mailto:dan@Unitedwaysems.org)  
or call **601-545-7141**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**August is Membership Month - Recruit a new Member in August!**

- Aug 31** Christine Brown- MPO Manager Hattiesburg Intermodal Facility
- Sept 7** TBA
- Sept 14** District Gov. Dick McCarthy Visit
- Sept 21** 10:30am Strategic Planning for Board
- Sept 27** Board Meeting
- Sept 28** TBA
- Oct 15th-16th** District Conference, New Orleans
- Oct 19-21** GSE Team Visit
- Oct 23** Rotary Officer & Leadership Academy

**WEEKLY FOUNDATION RAFFLE**

Our new Foundation Chair, Scott Hummel is coordinating a raffle each week to help raise funds for the Foundation and also Polio Plus. If you would like to donate an item to the auction, please see Scott.

Date	Volunteer	Volunteer
Friday, 8/20 9:30am	David Johnson Lucy Parkman	Mary Cromartie
Tuesday, 8/24 9:30am	Chris Strebeck	David Johnson
Friday, 8/27 9:30am	Aaron Ladner	Wally Weakley
Tuesday, 8/31 9:30am	Scott Hummel	David Johnson
Friday, 9/3 9:30am	Sean Priebe Patrick Ward	Llana Wallace
Tuesday, 9/7 9:30am	Sted McCollough	Chris Price
Friday 9/10 9:30am	Jaclyn Adams Angela Herzog	Bill McLeod
Tuesday, 9/14 9:30am		
Friday, 9/17 9:30am	Christina Ghents	Brian Moore
Tuesday, 9/21 9:30am	Jaclyn Adams Janice Touchstone	Mike Ratliff

If you would like to submit an application for the GSE team member for next year, please see Bill McLeod or visit our district web site at [www.rotary6840.org](http://www.rotary6840.org) for the forms and complete information about the process. Deadline to submit application is Sept. 11.