



# SPOKES

**NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG**

**629 NORTH MAIN STREET • HATTIESBURG, MS 39401**



**OUR GUEST LAST TUESDAY, PROJECT THRIVE: GERALD CARLSON, AMBER CHANCELLOR, AMBER HARTFIELD, LACEY MILLER; ROTARY CLUB PRESIDENT, SEAN PRIEBE, DONOVAN JOHNSON, SETH MILES AND BOBBY MOORE.**

**MINUTES: JULY 28, 2015**

President Sean Priebe presided over the meeting. The thanked Wes Brooks for sitting in for him and presiding over last week's meeting Thanks to Allen Anderson who gave the invocation and to Tracie Fowler who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks to Wes Brooks and Scott Hummel who served as our greeters today.

Jaclyn Adams thanked those who participated in today's meeting and welcomed our guests. Our guests are a part of today's program and will be introduced separately later in the program.

This week's Mystery Rotarian has flown in hot air balloons all over the southern states and in Albuquerque, New Mexico. This Rotarians also spent one summer volunteering as a crew member and flying in the Donald Duck and Mickey Mouse hot air balloons. He/She also met their spouse at a hot air balloon race in Baton Rouge, LA. This high flying Rotarian is Tracie Fowler.

Sean reminded members of District 6840 one-half day workshop that will be held on Saturday August 29 at PRCC. The meeting is cover club public relations and Foundation issues. Board members are encouraged to attend.

Jonathan Shemper reminded members of the October 10 Bike-a-Thon. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Extra Table again this year. There were 143 riders last year and the goal is for 200 this year. Club members interested in sponsorships should see Jonathan in the very near future.

Sean reminded members that District Governor John Cornwell will be our featured speaker on September 8<sup>th</sup>. All members are encouraged to be in attendance.

Sean also recognized club member Jerome Brown who was recently elected to the Executive Council for the Mississippi Young Bankers Association.

Ashley Reed sat in for Brett Phillips and introduced today's guest speakers. Today's program is about a Leadership Pinebelt project

called THRIVE. Those involved in the project include Jared Carlson Amber Chancellor, Amber Hartfield, Donovan Johnson, Seth Miles, Lacey Miller and Bobby Moore.

THRIVE is a program that is being developed as a project of Christian Services. The goal is to set up monthly training programs for who need budgeting assistance, help making improvements on credit scores and legal advice and assistance. Volunteers are needed to coordinate and present the educational programs, contributions to help defray the costs of the program and to ensure that it will continue to be a neighborhood resources for those who need the services. Area attorneys are also being asked to provide free legal assistance to those have been shut out of the justice system and cannot make effective changes in their lives without these legal matters being cleaned up.

Vanessa Henson, the Community Relations Director at Christian Services, will head the project up on a fulltime basis. She says the program's goal is to help change a life for those who need immediate assistance in these three areas but also for their children and their families. Cookie Prout with Christian Services says their goal is to teach life skills to help those who need not only survive but to succeed.

Judge Deborah Grambell a volunteer in the program says the state's Supreme Court established an Access to Justice Commission in 2006 and mandated that everyone in the state have a right of access to the judicial system regardless of their ability to pay. You can learn more about the Commission by visiting their website at <http://www.msatjc.org>.

If you are interested in contributing or working as a volunteer, you are encouraged to contact the THRIVE program through their website at <http://www.thrivehattiesburg.org>.

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



**AUGUST 11**

Dr. Randy Henderson &  
Justice Duhon  
March of Dimes

**AUGUST 18**

Christy Brady  
TIDE School

**AUGUST 29**

District Foundation, P.R. &  
Membership Seminars

**SEPTEMBER 1**

Civil Air Patrol

**SEPTEMBER 8**

John Cornwell  
District Governor

**SEPTEMBER 15**

James Wilcox, Director  
Center for Economic  
Entrepreneurship Education

**SEPTEMBER 22**

Robert Hopkins  
USM Chief of Police

**SEPTEMBER 29**

Cameron Griffith  
Southern Eye Center

**OCTOBER 6**

Brady Raanes  
C3 Wine Company

**OCTOBER 10**

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
BIKE-A-THON



## KIDS HUB CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER DIDI ELLIS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DiDi was born and raised in Columbia, MS. After high school, she attended the University of Southern Mississippi where she completed her Bachelor's of Science degree in Psychology in 2010. DiDi then attended William Carey University where she obtained her Masters of Science degree in Counseling in 2012.

After graduating from William Carey University, DiDi began working at Southwest Mississippi Children's Advocacy Center in McComb, MS, as a therapist. She conducted Trauma-Focused Therapy with children that were victims of physical and/or sexual abuse. While working at the CAC, she became quickly consumed by the work that Children's Advocacy Centers do. With encouragement from the Director of that CAC and a passion to help children in her own community, DiDi began building relationships with agencies in Petal/Hattiesburg to begin the process of starting a CAC to service that area.

In October of 2013, DiDi began working with local agencies in Lamar and Forrest Counties to establish Multidisciplinary Teams for each of those counties. DiDi was then contacted by the Family Resource Center located in Tupelo, MS and asked to join their staff, working under a Children's Justice Act grant to develop and facilitate MDT teams in 12 counties. Currently she facilitates MDT teams in 9 counties around the Pine Belt Community.

At the end of July 2014, DiDi resigned her position as a therapist at the CAC in McComb so that she could focus more on the development of Kids Hub and the maintaining of the current MDTs. In August of 2014, DiDi was named Executive Director of Kids Hub and is excited about this opportunity to help children in her own community.

**ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG**  
**BIKE-A-THON**  
 OCTOBER 10, 2015 - LONGLEAF TRACE  
 30-60-100 MILE RIDES



BENEFITTING  
**EXTRA TABLE**



POST RACE  
 CELEBRATION AT  


REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[WWW.ROTARYOFHATTIESBURG.COM](http://WWW.ROTARYOFHATTIESBURG.COM)



**629 NORTH MAIN STREET  
 HATTIESBURG, MS 39401**

**2015-2016 ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG  
 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

					
<b>SEAN PRIEBE</b> <i>President</i>	<b>AMANDA LEE</b> <i>Vice President</i>	<b>BRETT PHILLIPS</b> <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	<b>LAMAR EVANS</b> <i>Executive Secretary</i>	<b>JACLYN ADAMS</b> <i>Sergeant-At-Arms</i>	<b>WES BROOKS</b> <i>Past President</i>

					
<b>RYAN KELLY</b>	<b>TRACIE FOWLER</b>	<b>FAYE GILBERT</b>	<b>MIKE RATLIFF</b>	<b>BILL MACLAUCLAN</b>	<b>DAN DAVIS</b>