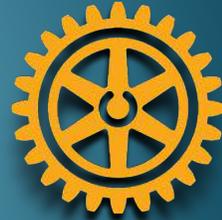




SPOKES



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

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- Wes Brooks, *President*
- Sean Priebe, *President-Elect*
- Erik Graham, *Vice President*
- Amanda Lee, *Secretary-Treasurer*
- Lamar Evans, *Executive Secretary*
- Scott Hummel, *Past President*

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- Allen Anderson
- Dan Davis
- Tracie Fowler
- Chase Munro
- David Owens
- Lucy Parkman
- Curtis Smith
- Valencia Williamson

Rotary Club of Hattiesburg
 629 North Main Street
 Hattiesburg, MS 39401

www.rotaryofhattiesburg.com



Sharon Miles, our Bill Gwyn "Non-Rotarian of the Year" Service Award Winner, and Club President, Wes Brooks

MINUTES: JULY 29, 2014

President Wes Brooks presided over the meeting. Thanks to Kristy Gould who gave the invocation and to Sean Priebe who led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks to Kemi Simmons for serving as our greeter today.

Aaron Ladner welcomed guests. Paula Brahan is a guest of Erin Granberry. Lucy Parkman's guests were, Sharon Miles, Mike Dixon, Toby Barker and Sharon Willis. Lamar Evans's guest is Toni Lee, his secretary. Faye Gilbert is a returning guest and is transferring her membership to our club. Wes Brooks welcomed back Larry LaBlanc, who has been away due to health issues.

Tracy Fowler reminded everyone that we have three weeks left to purchase tickets for the Home Sweet Home raffle. Anyone who purchased tickets today, gets their name added into the drawing for a fishing excursion.

Paula Brahan received her red badge and new membership packet, announcing that Milam Cotton was her inspiration to join the Rotary Club.

Sharon Miles was presented the Bill Gwen Non-Rotarian of the year award for her service to the community. She runs the Neighbors at Hawkins Elementary and encouraged Rotarians to continue their service to the community and to encourage others to get more involved in their public school system.

Wes Brooks then introduced today's guest speaker, Honorable Robert S. Helfrich, J.D., a Circuit Court Judge for Forrest and Perry Counties. Judge Helfrich presides over the drug court program every Monday and Thursday. There are currently around 275 people in the drug court program, and it is very rewarding to see the transformation of so many lives.

In addition to the drug court program, Judge Helfrich is involved in the Veteran Treatment Court Program. Troops returning from the war

fronts today find themselves on the front lines today and back home the next day with little or no time to decompress. With PTSD on the rise, we are seeing more of our service men and women committing suicide than are killed in battle. We are seeing more and more of our service men in the court systems. Every Monday, there will be somebody to sit down and help with the needs of our service men and women in this new program.

In April, the Justice Summit- Department of Justice Drug Court, partnered with the University of Mississippi's Psychology department. Only the non-violent individuals will be evaluated before their first appearance, so the judge will have a better understanding of what program if any, would help them the best. The goal is to rehabilitate, train, teach skills and slowly reintegrate back into society. The Forrest/Perry county drug court is one of three locations chosen for this pilot program in America.

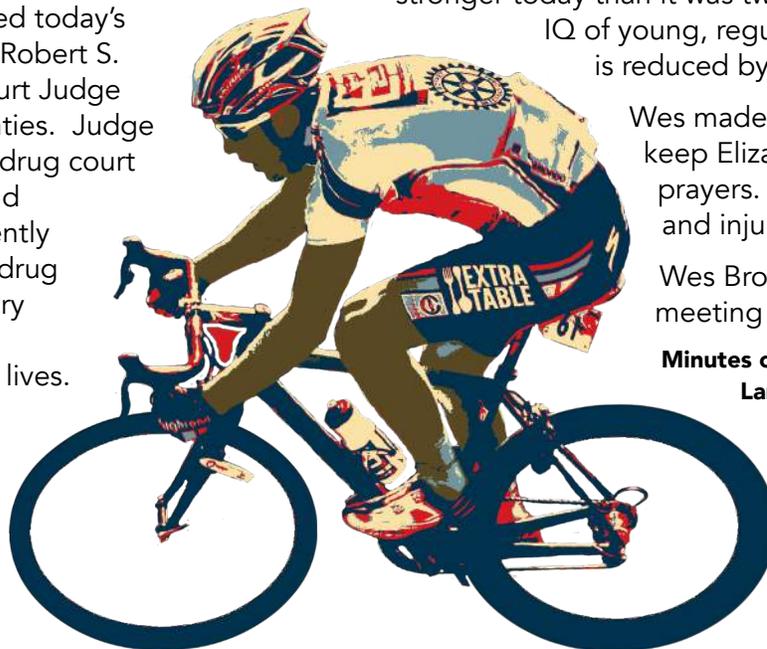
According to the Analysis of Research and Knowledge, the average cost per person to attend the drug court program is \$1,200/ year. The cost per person is \$17,000/year in prison. Thirty percent of the individuals who attend the drug court program will graduate and reenter society. The national prison recidivism rate is 67-72 percent.

And here is a little tidbit of information; Marijuana is considered a gateway drug and is 30 percent stronger today than it was twenty years ago. The IQ of young, regular users of marijuana is reduced by 8 points.

Wes made the announcement to keep Elizabeth Gillentine in our prayers. She fell from a horse and injured her back.

Wes Brooks adjourned the meeting at 12:59 pm.

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



MIA HALL, MISS HATTIESBURG

Education:

Meridian High School

Platform Issue:

"Inspiring Volunteerism"

Scholastic/ Career Ambition:

*To obtain a Doctorate degree in Vocal Performance
I wish to pursue a career in the Performing Arts industry.*

*Scholastic Honors: Girls' State Delegate; chosen as
Girls' Nation Senator of Mississippi; Distinguished Young
Woman of Meridian; First Alternate Distinguished Young
Woman of MS; Honor Roll at Meridian High School;
Honors College member at the University of Southern
Mississippi; Lucky Day Scholar at the University of
Southern Mississippi*

*Leadership Roles: Vice President of Junior Civitan;
Pledge Mentor in the Dusty Social Service Club;
Challenger League Assistant*

*Accomplishments: RAT Pack Performer; 3rd round
auditions for "Mary Poppins" on Broadway; Finalist for
Broadway's "Whistle Down the Wind"; Leading roles in various performances at Oklahoma City
University's summer musical theatre camps; Holocaust museum exhibit artist in Dallas, Texas; Lead
Roles in community theater at the Meridian Little Theater*

*Interesting Facts: spent a year auditioning on Broadway in New York City; studied under the
composer who wrote my talent piece.*

Employment: Chiropractic Assistant at Hall Chiropractic Clinic

How has the world you come from shaped your dreams and aspirations?

With the support of my parents and the world they have created for me, I have been able to set goals and chase dreams because of the stability and love they provide me with. With their guidance, I was able to carve a path for myself in the Performing Arts Industry. My parents came from humble beginnings with little knowledge of Fine Arts. Recognizing at an early age that I had a passion for the arts, they left no stone unturned in figuring out what was necessary to helping me achieve my dreams. I want to be a performer on Broadway but my ultimate goal is to be the parent to my children that my parents were to me.

Of all the ways you could succeed in your life, why have you chosen to succeed in the Miss America Pageant? What better organization is there than one that shapes girls into the best and brightest women of America? Physically fit, Intelligent, Graceful, Humble, Charismatic, Talented, and Powerful are all attributes associated with a Miss America. As a child, I remember watching the Miss America Pageant for the first time and seeing the women possess these attributes. In my mind I vowed "I am going to be one of them someday."

What Social Issue, other than your platform, will have the greatest impact on your generation and why?

My biggest concern for my generation is seeing children growing up without parents. Knowing that I came from such a loving home, I often wonder why some children are denied that right. With an increase in the teen pregnancy rate there has been an epidemic of children without any stability or shot at a normal home life. I believe that schools should implement better education of preventing pregnancy and offering aid to those who have babies and infants. Every child deserves a chance.



Welcome to our two newest members!
Paula Brahan and Faye Gilbert



UPCOMING

AUG 12	Roland Johnson, Pine Grove REACH Program
AUG 19	District 6840 Governor, Brian Hall
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 _____