

ROTARY DAY AT CITY PARK, NEW ORLEANS

The Rotary Club of Algiers will be hosting "Rotary Day at City Park" on February 20th. Rotarians from District 6840 will work hand in hand with Rotarians from Venezuela, Denmark, California, New York, and Georgia to further the repair of soccer fields and baseball diamonds at City Park. Advance registration is preferred. Registration will begin at 8:30 am on Harrison Ave. Look for the Rotary banner on Harrison Ave between Marconi and Diagonal Dr. The work day will start at 9:00 am and end at 12:30pm (lunch will be provided). Contact Jerry Fotino at jfortino@cox.net to register & for more info.

R3SM UPDATE FROM PATRICK WARD....

The next work day will be announced soon. Workers were installing the heating and cooling systems. R3SM House located at 701 Katie, Hattiesburg. Directions: Located behind the Hattiesburg Police Station. Edwards Street ends at Police Station and Katie begins.

PENNIES FOR POLIO

Pennies For Polio Campaign has started Save your change and bring it with you to the meeting every Tuesday. Feel free to take on of the containers back to your work and leave it out for a week to allow your co-workers to participate. What a great way to introduce others to what Rotary is doing in the fight against Polio.

RECENTLY APPLIED FOR ROTARY MEMBERSHIP

Debbie Adamson
Priscilla Hebert

NIGHT IN ITALY

Committee meeting immediately after our lunch today.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

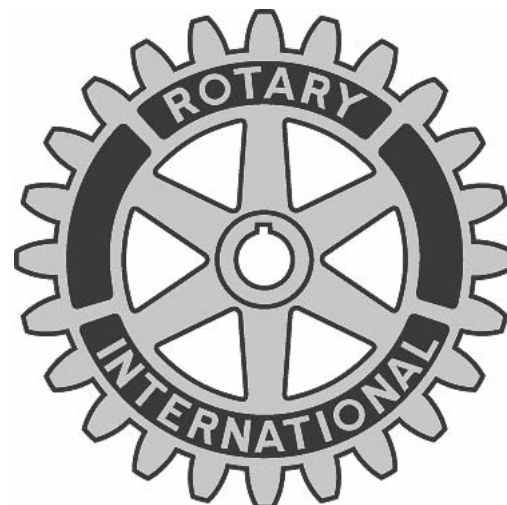
Register now to attend the District Conference, May 7th through 9th at The Hollywood Hotel and Casino in Bay St. Louis

Our theme for our skit is "Court TV". Sign up now to be part of the food, fun, and entertainment. We need help with creating the skit and with people to help participate in the skit. Registration forms are available now to sign up to help represent our club at the District Conference.

Visit the District web site for more information. www.rotary6840.org

ROTARY 4 WAY TEST

Is it the TRUTH?
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



Spokes

February 10, 2009
www.hattiesburgrotary.com

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

ROTARY YEAR
2008-2009

OFFICERS

RICHARD TOPP
President

MARY CROMARTIE
President-Elect

A.D. HUNT
Vice-President

KRIS KING
Secretary - Treasurer

LAMAR EVANS
Executive Secretary

HEATH HILLMAN
Sergeant-At-Arms

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Term Expiring - June 30, 2009
Todd Bradley
Kristy Gould
Perrin Lowrey
Bill McLeod

Past President:
Freddy Walter

Term Expiring - June 30, 2010
Robert Cummings
Maura McLaughlin
Steve Ramp
Erik Graham

SPOKES Editor
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Official Newsletter of the

ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

P.O. Box 15185
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39404



"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

MINUTES FROM 2/3/2009

President Richard Topp presided over the meeting. Freddy Walter gave the invocation. Bill McLaughlin then led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Richard Topp led the Club in the 4 way test.

Special thanks to Mark Satterlee and Richard Jones for serving as our Greeters today.

Gene Owens, sitting in for Heath Hillman, introduced today's visitors:

Arrington Rhett was a guest of Toxie Morris.

Cario Armstrong was a guest of Valerie Sartin.

Priscilla Herbert was guest of Hayden Mitchell.

Bo Pennebaker was a guest of Patrick Ward.

Topp invited all Rotary members to a reception honoring Skippy Hiak. Skippy is leaving the Hattiesburg American. The reception will honor her service to the American and to the greater Hattiesburg community through her public service. The reception will be held at Southern Oaks next Tuesday from 4 until 6 p.m.

Topp also reported receiving a thank you from the family of Tom Rhea Phillips. The family thanked Club members for the plant sent upon the death of Tom Rhea's brother.

Maura McLaughlin reported to the Club that the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has contributed another \$255 million dollars to the Rotary Foundation. The money is to be used to fight polio worldwide. Rotary International must match the first \$100 million dollars of the contribution by 2010. Each member is encouraged to make a contribution and each club is encouraged to support the effort each year for the next three years by holding a special fundraising event.

Aime Spears then reported that the Club's Pennies for Polio campaign is beginning today. Jugs are available on each table for your spare change. Members are encouraged to bring their spare change and deposit it into the jug each week during the campaign. Members are also encouraged to take a jug to their place of business, if appropriate, to encourage other

donations.

Patrick Ward gave a progress report on the R3SM house building project. The next date for members to volunteer will be coming up in about three weeks.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Todd Mixon was then introduced and presented today's speaker, Dr. Michael Garrett, Executive Director for the Homes of Hope for Children. Dr. Garrett has served as the project's executive director since 2006 when he became their first Executive Director. He moved to the Hattiesburg area from Oklahoma, noting that he felt called to build a children's home from the ground up. He also noted that this area and the remainder of South Mississippi has the greatest need for a children's home than any other part of the country.

Homes of Hope for Children purchased land for the center back in early 2007. Since then they have generated an additional \$460,000. The land has now been developed and is awaiting government approval. At that time, construction on the first two homes will begin.

Each home will serve seven children who will live in the home with a Christian couple. After high school graduation the residents may qualify for the transitional program, consisting of a duplex to live in and financial and counseling support through a college program.

If you're interested in assisting in this project, another \$24,000 is needed before construction can begin. Additionally, fund raising events are scheduled throughout the year offering sponsorship opportunities. Each child will require \$34,000 per year, which is less than the state pays to house criminals. The project has a goal of serving 42 children who have no other place to go. Dr. Garrett repeated that the need is great in this area and that children under the care of DHS will see three different foster homes in the next 14 months. Residents of Homes of Hope for Children will attend Purvis public schools.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Capt. Phil Norris is Civil Air Patrol's (CAP) Mississippi Wing Public Affairs Officer. Phil has been in his current position since May 2007. Phil has been a CAP Officer since 2005 and was previously a CAP Cadet during the 1970's where he received the General Billy Mitchell Award. He has held previous CAP positions as the Inaugural Squadron Commander of Central Fellowship Christian Academy Cadet Squadron and as Public Affairs Officer of the Middle Georgia Composite Squadron. He has appeared on many local TV and Radio broadcasts and was recently published in the CAP National magazine *Volunteer*. He also contributed to a recent article for the Smithsonian Air and Space Magazine entitled "Anatomy of a Search," which described the Civil Air Patrol's involvement in the search for famed aviator Steve Fossett.

Professionally, Phil is retired from the U.S. Navy Submarine Service where he served as a Reactor Plant Supervisor on 5 different nuclear submarines during the Cold War. His civilian employment has included a stint with the Oak Ridge Research Institute in Oak Ridge, Tennessee and as a Plant Manager with UniTech Services Group, Inc., a nuclear services company in Macon, GA. Currently, Phil serves as the Operations Manager of Smith Barney Investments in Hattiesburg, MS.

In addition to aviation, his other interests include performing music, playing team sports, coaching Upward Basketball and being active in his community. Phil is the 2007 and 2008 recipient of the Major Howell Balsem Public Affairs Award, presented annually to the top public affairs officers in the Civil Air Patrol. In 2008, Phil was recognized by CNN's Miles O'Brien and CAP National Commander, Major General Amy Courter as the best CAP Public Affairs Officer at the annual Public Affairs Academy in Orlando, Florida. Phil's tireless efforts in community involvement have also earned him a Bronze President's Volunteer Service award for 2006 and a Silver award for 2007. Phil is currently collaborating with Dennis Steinbock, a pilot that the Mississippi Wing of Civil Air Patrol rescued in 2007, to publish a book on his experience entitled "Miracle in Mississippi."

IMPORTANT DATES

Tues	2/17	Les Hatcher, Lt. Col. Retired
Fri	2/20	Rotary Day at City Park, New Orleans
Mon	2/23	Rotary's 104th Birthday
Tues	2/24	Earnest G. Shows, Jr. U.S. Army National Guard
May	7-9	District Conference - Bay St. Louis
June	21-24	International Convention Birmingham, England

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 I55 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	
MS Museum of Art		Pearl River C.C. Cafeteria	<i>Friday</i>
Lucedale - 12:00		Richton - 12:00	Rankin County - 12:00
MS Gulf Coast Community		Magnolia Restaurant	Rankin Co. Med. Ctr. Annex
College Cafeteria		Waynesboro - 12:00	Slidell, LA - 12:00
Petal - 12:00		Western Sizzlin	Pinewood Country Club
Civic Center		Prentiss - 12:00	
South Hinds County - 12:00		Country Fisherman	
BoDons Catfish & Seafood			