

Spokes

February 22, 2011
www.hattiesburgrotary.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Feb 22nd Willie Sims, CPA
Feb 26-27th P.E.T.S. Training, Vicksburg
Feb 28th Board Meeting at Brown Bottling 6pm
Mar 8 Mardi Gras Theme Lunch in honor of RIC
Mar 26 HubFest Rotary Water Project
June 4th Rotary Golf Tournament - Hatt Country Club



WEEKLY FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Our Foundation Chair, Scott Hummel, is coordinating a raffle each week to help raise funds for the Foundation and also Polio Plus. Thanks to Lucy Parkman who provided today's Rotary Foundation raffle items. Congratulations to Steve Ramp, David Owens, Dr. Frances Karnes and Bill McLeod who were today's winners of King Cakes. If you would like to donate an item for the raffle, please contact Scott. 601-318-6497 (work) or 601-466-6156 (cell)

READING BETWEEN THE LIONS LITERACY PROGRAM

Volunteers needed each week on Tuesday or Friday mornings at 9:30 to read children's books to Pre-Schoolers. Read for about 20-30 minutes. The Gandy Child Development Center is located at:



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

Call Dan Kibodeaux or
sign up at lunch meetings
dan@Unitedwaysems.org
call 601-545-7141

February Reading Volunteers Needed

Date	Volunteer	Volunteer
Tuesday, 2/1 9:30am	Lucy Parkman Mary Cromartie	Conrad Weiker
Friday, 2/4 9:30am	Jaclyn Adams	
Tuesday, 2/8 9:30am	Janice Touchstone	
Friday, 2/11 9:30am		
Tuesday, 2/15 9:30am		
Friday, 2/18 9:30am	Chris Price	
Tuesday, 2/22 9:30am		
Friday, 2/25 9:30am	Jaclyn Adams	Sean Priebe

ONE DAY PASS FOR HOUSE OF FRIENDSHIP ON SATURDAY MAY 21 ONLY \$40

FULL CONVENTION EARLY REGISTRATION IS \$340 FROM DEC 15 - MARCH 30TH; AFTER MARCH 31 THE PRICE INCREASES TO \$380.

NOW IS THE TIME TO MAKE YOUR PLANS FOR THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION NEW ORLEANS, MAY 21-25, 2011

GO ONLINE TO ROTARY.ORG, SET UP YOUR USER LOGIN THROUGH MEMBER ACCESS, CHECK OUT THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS, REGISTER FOR CONVENTION. OR FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE MEETING TODAY

EMAIL SUZY STEEN AT S.L.STEEN@USM.EDU AND LET HER KNOW IF YOU SIGN UP AND/OR IF YOU VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT THE CONVENTION



LOOK FOR THE STEAMBOAT LOGO, THEN CLICK, TO ACCESS THE CONVENTION FORMS, AND EVENTS, NOTIFY SUZY AFTER YOU REGISTER.

ROTARY LICENSE PLATES IN MISSISSIPPI



Senate Bill No. 2167 has recently been introduced by Senator Dean Kirby. The bill should pass without issue. We are currently working on a design that will be unveiled at PETS in Vicksburg.

We must pre-sell 300 MS plates in order to get them produced. If we get this done by May 15, we can have the plates by July 1. The additional cost for a tag will be \$31. Of that \$31, \$24 comes back to the District in which it was purchased. This will be positive exposure for us, as well as a revenue stream for many years to come.

Special thanks to AG, Rob Smith who has worked tirelessly at the legislature to get this introduced and to get our design underway. PDG, Kay Steed is actually the person that had this idea some years ago. Thanks to both for their contributions to this program.

Bill McLeod has forms for those who would like to commit to apply for the plates when they become available.

Project Coordinator- Roscoe Greene DG - District 6820
email roscoegreen@bellsouth.net

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
aspears@whlt.com

Official Newsletter of the

ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

P.O. Box 15185
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39404



“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”



Looking for Rotary International 2011 Convention Information?

District Website www.rotary6840.org - Rotary International www.rotary.org

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Bio of Willie Sims, CPA

Education: B.S. Degree in Business Administration and Accounting from Jackson State University

Certified Public Accountant, State of Mississippi, Youth Football Coach, National Youth Sports Coach's Association.

Licensed Insurance Agent, Licensed Security Agent in the State of Mississippi.

Owner of WILLIE B. SIMS, JR., CPA, PLLC. As Managing partner since the firm was founded in 1988, Willie has played a key role in the growth and development of the firm.

Member of American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Member of NASBA CPE Committee, Member of Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants, Serves on CPE Committee and Legislative Committee of MSCPA, Member of Hattiesburg Lions Club, Member of Board of Directors PACE Headstart,

Member of the Board of Directors Area Development Partnership, Member of the Board of Directors, Wesley Manor Retirement Community, Member of the Advisory Board of Directors, The First Bank, Member of Advisory Board of Directors, Salvation Army, County Commissioner-Forrest County-SWCD

MINUTES FROM 02/22/11

Club President, Bill McLeod, presided over the meeting.

Thanks to Jaclyn Adams, who gave the invocation and to Johnny Stevens, who led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill then led members in the Four Way Test.

Special thanks to our greeter today, Brian Moore.

Wes Brooks welcomed today's visitors and guests. Kim Bradley was Todd Bradley's guest. Scott Spell was Joe Spell's guest. Lindsey Tobin was Jaclyn Adams' guest. Dan Atkins was a guest of Brian Moore.

It was noted that Toxey Morris is back after his illness. Larry LeBlanc continues to recover from his surgery at home. Bill Ray is now back home and is recovering from his recent injury and surgery. Congratulations to Chris Price on the birth of his daughter.

RYLA and Grover Anderson candidates need to see Mike Bonnette and complete the application before April 1.

The Night in Italy event is scheduled for April 19. All members will be asked to participate. Funds support the Children's Center for Learning and Development at USM.

David Owens is seeking volunteers to help with the Hub Fest Rotary water project on March 26th. We will need a few more volunteers this year, as we are adding food to the offering.

The Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, June 4th at Timberton Golf Course. Erik Graham is chairing this event and will need lots of help.

Thanks to Lucy Parkman who provided today's Rotary Foundation raffle items. Congratulations to Steve Ramp, David Owens, Dr. Frances Karnes and Bill McLeod who were today's winners.

Bill reminded members of the Rotary International MasterCard program that is available. If you sign up for the card and charge a certain amount within 90 days the local club will receive a rebate.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM SUMMARY

Jerome Brown then introduced Chad Newell, President of the Area Development Partnership.

Chad, who has been on the job less than two years reported on many changes that are being made in the ADP team. A number of staff positions have been consolidated and a number of new faces have been hired or promoted to these positions. A new ADP website is being created and a new newsletter will debut with the March and April issue.

The ADP's next Pastries and Politics speaker will be Congressman Percy Watson who helped drive the recent legislation that made the Stion plant relocation possible. U.S. Congressman Stephen Plazzo will be the guest speaker at the First Friday event scheduled for March 4th. The new Leadership Pinebelt class will be announced in the coming few days. This is the 23rd year for the Leadership program. Newell also reported that the Pine Belt Youth Partners have teamed up with the United Way of Southeast Mississippi. An agency representative from one of the United Way Agencies speaks to the group during their monthly meetings. Chad also noted that the ADP is teaming up with the United Way's Excel by Five educational efforts.

According to Chad, the ADP tracked 35 projects in this market last year. Those projects generated \$288 million in capital investments and created 950 new jobs. The Greater Hattiesburg market generated 1,900 net new jobs during the year. The entire state of Mississippi only generated about 3,500 new jobs. The Hub City unemployment rate is now at 8%, lower than the state and national rates.

The Stion plant relocation recently announced will generate approximately \$100 million in new spending and will create 200 new jobs in the coming year. Start-up production is scheduled in 2012.

The ADP's Competitive Edge project is a five-year fund-raising effort. The goal is to generate \$2 million in contributions to be used to promote the area. Chad noted that 90 local companies and entities have already pledged their support to the project.

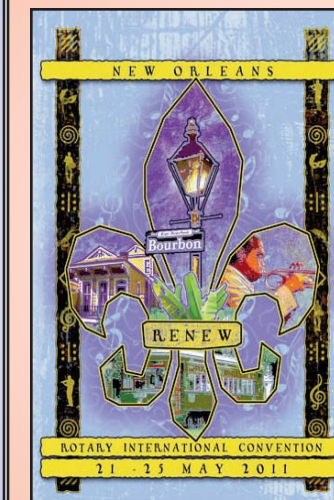
MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Last week we inducted two new members. Sara K. Liles, proposed by Steve Ramp. Sara is an attorney with Robin Roberts and has recently relocated to Hattiesburg from Jackson, TN.

Dr. James "Jay" Henderson IV, proposed by Erin Granberry. Jay is from Hattiesburg and practices dentistry. If you have not met them, please take a moment and welcome them to the club.

MEMBERS IN OUR PRAYERS

Bill Ray had a serious snow skiing accident. He suffered a neck injury requiring surgery in Colorado before returning home. We understand that the surgery went very well and he should be home recovering. Please keep Bill and his caregivers in your prayers. Larry LeBlanc continues to improve daily.



Order your 2011 Rotary International Convention Commemorative Poster

By artist Mark Rosenbohm

Prices \$30-\$100

Order by mail or online at rotarycon2011.com.

Forms can be downloaded from the rotarycon2011.com website then mailed or faxed, or fill in the form and pay online.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

ROTARY GROVER ANDERSON & RYLA SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available to incoming Freshman planning to attend the University of Southern Miss. And rising High School Seniors for RYLA Scholarships. Preference given to children and grandchildren of members of The Hattiesburg Rotary Club. Student must maintain a 2.5 GPA. Contact Mike Bonnette, mike.bonnette@usm.edu, 601-266-6020 for more information and application forms.

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Mark your calendar for the annual Rotary Golf Tournament. Location will be Timberton Golf Course on June 4th. Teams, Sponsors and volunteers to help the golfers on the day of the tournament will also be needed. Erik Graham will be chairing this event. If you can help in any way please contact Erik.

HUB FEST CLEAN WATER PROJECT

Volunteers will be needed to assist Rotary's booth at Hub Fest. David Owens is chairing this project that will support our Clean Water project. Last year was a big success with water donations so this year we will expand to include grilled burgers. All proceeds will go toward Rotary's goal of helping to supply clean drinking water to underdeveloped areas. Save the Date!