

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. Participants will transport mulch from the soccer fields to flower beds and walkways. 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). Volunteers will have the opportunity to visit the Bronze Sculpture Garden free of charge in the afternoon. 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 will start today. Save your change and bring it with you to the meeting every Tuesday.

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 3, 2009
www.hattiesburgrotary.com

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

ROTARY YEAR
2008-2009

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Official Newsletter of the

ROTARY CLUB OF
HATTIESBURG

P.O. Box 15185
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39404



"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

MINUTES FROM 1/27/2009

President Richard Topp presided over the meeting. Allen Anderson gave the invocation. Wallace Weakley then led members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Lastly, Richard Topp led us all in the 4 way test. He emphasized this is more than just words; it has meaning and is at the very heart of what Rotary is all about.

Special thanks to Wallace Weakley and Heath Hillman for filling in as our Greeters today.

Topp went over some of the highlights from the Mid-Year district review and recognized all of our new members since July.

Topp also went over the benefits and requirements for the Grover Anderson Scholarship Program and the RALA Leadership Training program.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Members broke up in their designated committees; Water Project, Night in Italy, and the Literacy Project, and spent the remainder of the meeting time discussing the specific details of each project.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Our speaker today is Dr. Michael Garrett

Resume of Dr. Michael S. Garrett:

Academic Background:

University of Louisiana Monroe, Louisiana, Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, May 1999

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, New Orleans, LA, Masters of Divinity in Christian Education with Specialization in Youth, May 2002

Samford University, Birmingham, AL, Doctorate of Education, May 2006

Executive Director for Homes of Hope for Children

Dr. Garrett has been married to his wife Julie for six years and they have a three year old little boy named Caleb.

NEW \$255 MILLION GRANT

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has awarded US\$255 million to Rotary International in the global effort to eradicate polio, bringing the total committed by Rotary and the Gates Foundation to \$555 million.

Shortly after meeting with incoming district governors from the four countries where the wild poliovirus is endemic -- Afghanistan, India, Nigeria, and Pakistan -- Bill Gates announced the new grant on Wednesday morning at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

"Rotarians, government leaders, and health professionals have made a phenomenal commitment to get us to a point at which polio afflicts only a small number of the world's children," Gates said. "However, complete elimination of the poliovirus is difficult and will continue to be difficult for a number of years. Rotary in particular has inspired my own personal commitment to get deeply involved in achieving eradication."

In response to the new \$255 million Gates Foundation grant, Rotary will raise \$100 million in matching funds. In November 2007, RI received a \$100 million Gates Foundation grant, which Rotary committed to match by raising \$100 million.

The two Gates Foundation challenge grants now total \$355 million. Rotary International's matching effort in response is called Rotary's US\$200 Million Challenge, which must be completed by 30 June 2012.

The \$255 million grant is one of the largest challenge grants ever given by the Gates Foundation and the largest received by Rotary in its 104-year history. Rotary will distribute the funds through grants to WHO and UNICEF.

Rotary has raised nearly \$73 million toward this amount: \$62 million in contributions and \$11 million in commitments. Each club is being challenged to organize a public fundraiser annually for the next three years. In October, The Rotary Foundation Trustees approved special Paul Harris Fellow Recognition, which begins 1 July, featuring a certificate with the End Polio Now logo.

Polio eradication has been Rotary's top priority since 1985, with more than \$1.2 billion contributed to the effort. Gates praised Rotary for providing the volunteers, advocates, and donors who have helped bring about a 99 percent decline in the number of polio cases. "The world would not be where it is without Rotary, and it won't get where it needs to go without Rotary," he said.

DOCUMENTARY ON POLIO ERADICATION RECEIVES OSCAR NOD

By Ryan Hyland

Reprinted from Rotary International News -- 26 January 2009

In a week when Rotary International and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation announced millions more in funding toward polio eradication, a short documentary film, *The Final Inch*, received an Academy Award nomination on 22 January for its intimate look at the massive mission to rid the world of the crippling disease.

Nominated in the documentary short subject category, *The Final Inch*, a 38-minute film commissioned by the philanthropic division of Google, chronicles the challenges health organizations and governments face during the final stages of polio eradication.

Director and producer Irene Taylor Brodsky captured workers immunizing children in the poorest slums of India and Pakistan in 2007. In several scenes Rotarians were filmed working during a National Immunization Day on 22 April. Led by M.S. Jain, past governor of District 3100, NID volunteers administer polio vaccination drops to children in Meerut Samrat, Uttar Pradesh, India.

The *Final Inch* will air on HBO in early April.

Go to Rotary.org for more information on this and other news about Rotary International.

IMPORTANT DATES

Tues 2/10	Capt. Phil Norris
Tues 2/17	Les Hatcher, Lt. Col. Retired
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	Talorsville - 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			