

Rotary clubs worldwide meet US\$200 million fundraising challenge

Rotary International News -- 17 January 2012

Rotary International has succeeded in meeting the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's US\$200 million match in funding for polio eradication, raising more than \$202.6 million as of 17 January.



Jeff Raikes, chief executive officer of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (left), shakes hands with Rotary Foundation Trustee John Germ during the fourth plenary session of the International Assembly. *Rotary Images/Alyce Henson*

"We'll celebrate this milestone, but it doesn't mean that we'll stop raising money or spreading the word about polio eradication," Rotary Foundation Trustee John F. Germ told Rotary leaders at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA. "We can't stop until our entire world is certified as polio-free."

The fundraising milestone was reached in response to \$355 million in challenge grants awarded to The Rotary Foundation by the Gates Foundation. All funds have been earmarked to support polio immunization activities in affected countries where the vaccine-preventable disease continues to paralyze children.

"In recognition of Rotary's great work, and to inspire Rotarians in the future, the [Gates] foundation is committing an additional \$50 million to extend our partnership," said Jeff Raikes, chief executive officer of the Gates Foundation. "Rotary started the global fight against polio, and continues to set the tone for private fundraising, grassroots engagement, and maintaining polio at the top of the agenda with key policymakers." Raikes also addressed Rotary leaders at the International Assembly.

The new \$50 million grant from the Gates Foundation is not a challenge grant.

Read this entire article at Rotary.org....



Spokes

January 24, 2012
www.hattiesburgrotary.com

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

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 2011-2012**

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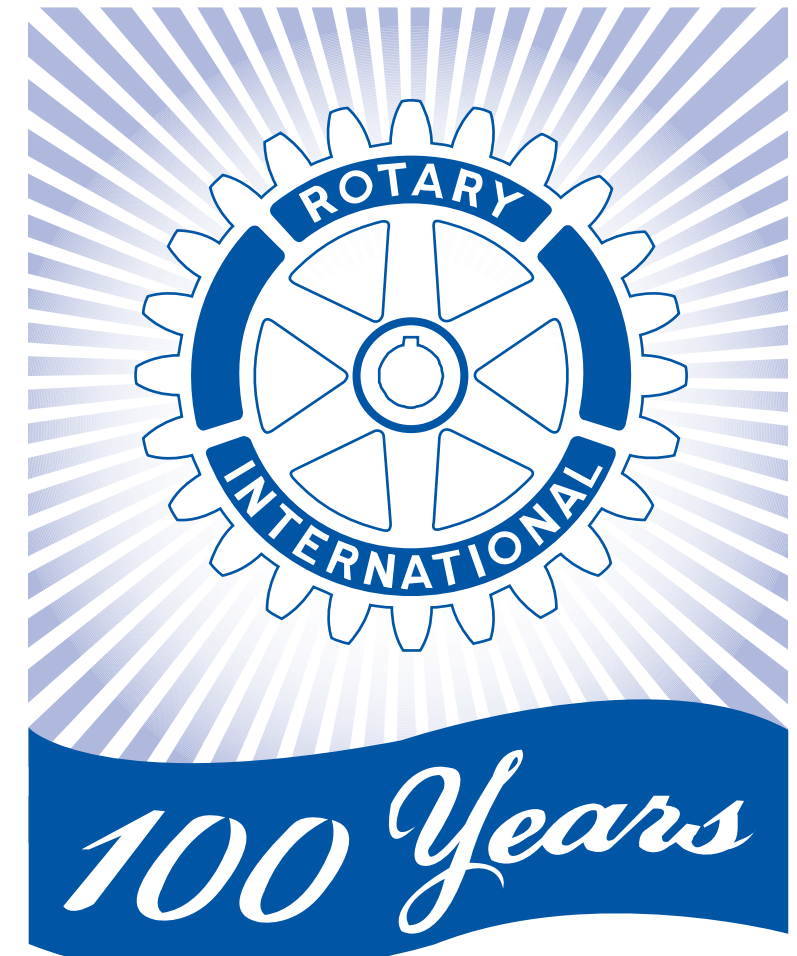
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ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

A CENTURY OF SERVICE



A NEW CENTURY OF SUCCESS

“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”

MINUTES FROM 1/17/12

President Robert Cummings, Jr. presided over the meeting.

Thanks to Scott Hummel, who gave the invocation, and to Gene Owens who led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Robert then led members in the Four Way Test. Thanks to today's greeter, Jaclyn Adams.

Sean Priebe introduced today's guests and visiting Rotarians. Wally Babbidge visited as a guest of Aime Spears, Rusty Edwards was a guest of Lucy Parkman, Chase Munro and Gordon Broom were the guests of Bill McLeod, and Mike Ratliff had as his guest Katherine Nugent.

Robert reported on the recent Mid-Year Meeting held at PRCC on 1/14/12, noting that the Hattiesburg Club was well represented. They heard reports from various clubs from around Mississippi and Southeast Louisiana, revealing a lot of talent from within the membership. Hattiesburg won the International Club Achievement Award.

Steve Ramp then introduced today's guest speaker, Ellen Bourdeaux, Director of the Friends of Mississippi Public Broadcasting. A native of Meridian, Bourdeaux assumed her position with MPB in May 2011, but she has been a dedicated fan and viewer of the network for the past 33 years.

Bourdeaux said when it comes to Mississippi Public Broadcasting, people often think only of a limited selection of programs but she said the network has grown and evolved into much more than that today. She handed-out information pamphlets to illustrate much of the current programming offered by the network.

There are three main facets of MPB: television, radio, and education. Among the focus points of MPB's mission are economic development and emergency management. MPB serves as the communication arm for the Mississippi Emergency Management Association (MEMA), including invaluable assistance following the catastrophe resulting from Hurricane Katrina.

In addition to emergency notifications, MPB is also well known for its news, music, and educational

broadcasting. The news programming alone recently won three distinguished Edward R. Murrow Awards. Other unique features offered by MPB include Masterpiece Theater, Prairie Home Companion, Downtown Abbey, and of course the well known children's programs such as Sesame Street, The Electric Company, etc.

Think Radio and Music Radio have developed quite a large following, with four hours of classical music per weekday and a variety of talk shows with interesting and engaging topics such as health and medical, financial, inter-personal relationships, pets, children, nature, cars, and comedy, plus many others. Pertinent documentary subjects are also covered, including obesity and weight management, healthy eating habits, and the importance of continuing education.

Currently staffed with 123 employees, MPB relies heavily on public support to function. Fundraising events are typically held every spring and fall to generate the much needed funding to stay on the air. Some examples of the cost to air programs are \$252,000 per/year for The Morning Edition, \$16,000 per/year for The Prairie Home Companion, and \$20,000 per/year for local weather, which is currently sponsored by Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

Bourdeaux said research has shown that MPB continues to be very well received in the Hattiesburg market and recent surveys indicate that 65% of MPB viewers and listeners have college degrees. She said MPB is not just relevant, but essential to Mississippians. "We are YOUR public broadcasting network."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Jan 24	Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Jan 31	Randy Price & Co - History of Hattiesburg Retail
April 17	Night In Italy - Southern Oaks

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS

Human Rights worker and former Rotary Peace Fellow to speak at 2012 convention

Rotary International News -- 13 January 2012

Former Rotary Peace Fellow Amanda Martin, who is working as a public health curriculum coordinator and teacher in a refugee camp on the border of Thailand and Myanmar, will be a speaker at the 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok, Thailand, 6-9 May.

Martin joins two other keynote speakers, who have spent their lives promoting economic and community development, one of Rotary's areas of focus. Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus and Hugh Evans, cofounder and CEO of the Global Poverty Project, will both speak on Monday, 7 May.

[Register](#) for the Bangkok convention by 1 March and you and your spouse or partner will pay just US\$195 each to attend. Children ages 5-18 are only \$10 each. Rotaractors and Rotary Foundation alumni can attend for \$75, while Interactors and Rotary Youth Exchange students pay just \$10.

Background

Prior to her work with the Global Health Access Program, Martin served as a director of the Guatemala Human Rights Commission in Washington D.C. for three years, leading international advocacy campaigns for improved human rights in Guatemala. Martin's background in the country began as a Peace Corps volunteer in the mid 1990s, during which she worked with Mayan women's cooperatives while traveling extensively through the country. She has also worked in Bolivia and Colombia, doing human rights monitoring and community development.

[Read more about this story at rotary.org](#)

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 Family Y -
Veterans Memorial Blvd.
601-268-0808
Call Dan Kibodeaux or
sign up at lunch meetings
or email
dan@unitedwaysems.org
call **601-545-7141**

January Reading Volunteers Needed!

Date	Volunteer	Volunteer
Tuesday, 1/3 9:30am	Conrad Welker	
Friday, 1/6 9:30am		
Tuesday, 1/10 9:30am		
Friday, 1/13 9:30am	Richard Topp	Lucy Parkman
Tuesday, 1/17 9:30am	Chris Price	
Friday, 1/20 9:30am		
Tuesday, 1/24 9:30am		
Friday, 1/27 9:30am		
Tuesday, 1/31 9:30am		