

# Spokes

July 13, 2010  
www.hattiesburgrotary.com



The devastation of the 12 January earthquake in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, was captured by ShelterBox response team member Mark Pearson just four days after the disaster, when ShelterBox, a Rotarian-led project, arrived in Haiti to distribute temporary shelters to house thousands of survivors (see below).

## ShelterBox in Haiti

After 10 years of bringing aid to thousands of disaster victims, ShelterBox faced its most daunting challenge yet after a powerful earthquake rocked Haiti on 12 January, plunging the struggling nation into one of the worst humanitarian crises on record.

The quake, the nation's strongest in more than 200 years, killed at least 200,000 people and left more than one million homeless and in desperate need of food and shelter. The ground support that ShelterBox deployed days after the quake struck was unmatched by anything the organization had done before.

"This is the largest, quickest, and most complex deployment in our history. We organized across four countries to get ShelterBoxes to the people of Haiti quickly," says John Leach, head of operations.

With most of the capital, Port-au-Prince, flattened, hospitals were in dire need of shelter for victims. Hundreds of tents were used as emergency shelter for postoperative patients.

Founded by Tom Henderson, of the Rotary Club of Cober Valley Helston, England, in 1999, ShelterBox is a Rotarian- and Rotary club-supported nonprofit that brings shelter, water, and comfort to victims of disaster and conflict. Each 49-gallon box is packed with necessities such as tents big enough for 10 people, blankets, water purification tablets, cooking supplies, and tools.

At press time, more than 10,000 containers had been distributed in Haiti. In the last decade, ShelterBox has responded to more than 100 crises in over 60 countries, with support from Rotary clubs around the world.

— Ryan Hyland and M. Kathleen Pratt

In addition to immediate and obvious consequences such as property damage and death, disasters contribute to serious long-term economic losses. Over the past few decades, those losses have multiplied because of population increases and a rise in weather-related crises.

Because the majority of the people devastated by natural catastrophes live in the developing world, the poor are disproportionately affected. Data from the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters indicate that from 1991 to 2005, the greatest number of people affected by disaster lived in Asia and Oceania, regions that encompass more than 30 percent of the world's least-developed countries.

The 12 January catastrophe in Haiti reminds us that, in the developing world, disasters worsen already diminished living conditions and exacerbate poverty. The aftermath can take years, even decades, to reverse.

"A number of effects are felt very early on that linger for many years,"

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

**ROTARY YEAR**  
2010-2011

### OFFICERS

BILL MCLEOD  
*President*

ROBERT CUMMINGS  
*President-Elect*

MAURA MCLAUGHLIN  
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PATRICK WARD  
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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Term Expiring – June 30, 2011

Janice Touchstone  
Gene Owens  
Mike Ratliff  
Aime Spear

*Past President:*  
Mary Cromartie

#### Term Expiring – June 30, 2012

Jaclyn Adams  
Greg Buie  
Scott Hummell  
Dan Kibodeaux

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*Official Newsletter of the*

## ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

P.O. Box 15185  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39404



## “SERVICE ABOVE SELF”

## MINUTES FROM 7/06/2010

Our new Club President, Bill McLeod, presided over the meeting.

Thank you to Scott Hummel, who gave the invocation and to Wes Brooks who led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill then led members in the Four Way Test.

Wes Brooks, our club's new Sergeant-at-Arms, introduced today's visitors and guests. Ken West and Milton Wheeler visited from the Petal Rotary Club. Brian Cleveland was a guest of Scott Hummel.

Special thanks to our greeters for today, who were Brian Moore and Jaclyn Adams.

Aime Spears let members know that our club's project has rolled over into the month of July in the Pepsi 25k Voting Challenge. We are currently in 50th place. Aime feels that if our club can reach the Top 10 spot early in the month, the momentum should carry us through to the end of the month and hopefully we can win the much needed grant for the Reading Between the Lions program. Please vote DAILY and please ask family members and co-workers to vote as well.

Aime mentioned that she, Suzy, and other committee members are meeting soon to discuss the 2011 Rotary International Convention. The order for the banners has been placed. They will have the registration process complete in the next couple of weeks, and each member may then begin registering. Aime also reminded club members that Hattiesburg Rotary polo shirts are still available for sale. You can wear them anywhere around town and for any occasion.

Bill McLeod announced the names of our new Committee Chairs for the 2010/2011 season: Maura McLaughlin – Projects; Scott Hummel – Foundation; Aime Spears – Public Relations; Patrick Ward – Programs; Robert Cummings – Membership; Steve Ramp – Kollege of Knowledge; Mary Cromartie – Awards; Jennifer Payne – Social Committee; Dan Kibodeaux – Reading Between the Lions; John McDaniel – Scholarship; Suzy Steen – 2011 Convention; and Janice Touchstone – Polio Plus Project.

Erik Graham reminded members that the Golf Tournament at Timberton on July 31st is still in need of a few sponsors and golf teams. Only two more \$40 donations are needed to purchase tournament towels. One \$600 sponsor is needed for the putting green and one \$300 sponsor is needed for the driving range. We need a few more people to help the day of the tournament, so please contact Erik for the sign-up sheet. Another way you can help is to assist with assembling goodie bags or asking area businesses to donate door prizes. Remember that all proceeds will go to benefit the ARC.

Jaclyn Adams reminded everyone that BBQ-plate tickets are still available for purchase at \$10 each, and will be available for the next two weeks. Ticket-holders will pick up these delicious meals at the Timberton Golf Course Clubhouse between 5:30-7:00pm on July 31st (the day of the golf tournament). These proceeds will also benefit the ARC.

Richard Topp and Mary Cromartie stepped forward to present an award that could not be presented last week due to an absence. Richard said the Young-Rotarian-of-the-Year Award was initiated last year, but will not be a yearly award. It will

only be presented if they see a candidate who is deserving of it. This year they presented the award to Jaclyn Adams, who has been involved in every single club project and attends every meeting. Jaclyn felt honored and said that she is thankful to be able to participate and to help her community.

Kathy Winstead sent a note (read aloud by Bill) to the club thanking everyone for their support and the flower arrangement sent in memorial of her husband James (Buddy) Winstead.

Bill announced that several dates are available for guest speakers at our luncheon meetings in the months of September, November, January, March, and June. Please contact Bill if you have any guest speakers in mind.

Then Bill MacLauchlan warned everyone that telemarketers will have access to your cell phone numbers beginning next month. If you want to add your cell number to a "Do Not Call List", please call 1.888.382.1222. This should keep your cell number on this list for a period of five years at a time.

## LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Mike Ratliff introduced today's guest speaker – Chester (Bo) Morgan. Dr. Morgan is a Professor of History at the University of Southern MS. Born and raised in Hattiesburg, Bo received his B.S. in history from USM in 1971 and his M.S. in history in 1974. He then earned his Ph.D in history from Memphis State University in 1982. Bo has written, and had published, several books, including Redneck Liberal: Theodore G. Bilbo and the New Deal, 1985, Dearly Bought, Deeply Treasured: The University of Southern Mississippi, 1987, and Treasured Past, Golden Future: The Centennial History of USM, 2010. He also has another manuscript in progress for the Mississippi Historical Society.

Bo's writings present the very humorous side of politics and oratory (the art of public speaking). He uses the quotes and the written letters of many famous political figures and authors. For example, W.J. Cash wrote in a book published in 1941 entitled The Mind of the South - "Mississippi – too small to be a country, but too big to be an insane asylum".

Bo's first book, Redneck Liberal, included many funny quotes and letters from the era of the New Deal, involving President Franklin Roosevelt and Theodore Bilbo, who served twice as a Mississippi governor, and also as a Mississippi U.S. Senator from 1935-1947. Bo shared with our club members many of the humorous writings and quotations from that time period that were included in his book. Club members were enjoying Bo's quips, which included a newspaper quote from the editor of the Jackson Daily News "that with Bilbo as governor, the eagle on the dome of the state capitol should be replaced with a 'puking buzzard'."

Bill thanked Dr. Morgan for his very entertaining presentation which gave members a different view into the world of politics. He then adjourned the meeting with our motto: Service above Self.

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

### Bio of Ken Thompson

Ken is the area representative of ShelterBox, USA. Ken received a BS degree from the University of Texas in electrical engineering and an MBA from the University of Michigan. He is a retired petroleum engineer and stockbroker, the former assistant Director of Community Christian Concern, Chairman of the Slidell Heritage Festival, and 2012 Retreat Leader for Kairos Prison Ministries. Ken is active in Rotary as the past President of the Rotary Club of Slidell Northshore, and currently District 6840 Web Coordinator.

His program will discuss ShelterBox, USA's role in assisting the people of Haiti following the January earthquake and the ten-year history of ShelterBox, a program started by Tom Henderson, a Rotarian and former Royal Navy search and rescue diver. He saw that the aid response to most disasters was in the form of food and medicine to help people survive the immediate aftermath.

Little or no assistance was given in terms of proper shelter to help them through the first few days, weeks and months as they tried to rebuild their lives. ShelterBox was launched to fill that void.

ShelterBox has become the largest Rotary club project in the world, with affiliates in eight countries. The first consignment of 143 boxes went to earthquake victims in the Indian state of Gujarat in January 2001. Over the next three years the project matured and by the end of 2004 nearly 2,600 boxes had been dispatched, following 16 major disasters. Since then, ShelterBox has responded to earthquakes, volcanoes, floods, typhoons, and conflicts, including the devastating Indian Ocean Tsunami, Hurricane Katrina, the massive earthquake in the Kashmir region of Pakistan, as well as the Haitian disaster.

### FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.....

Please continue to invite people who you feel are leaders in their profession and our community to become Rotary Members. Robert Cummings has the membership application and can email it to you. Applications for membership should be submitted to Robert then the Membership Committee will approve the application. The prospective member's name will then be published in the Spokes for 2 weeks. If anyone in the club have questions about the proposed member they can see a board member. Current Membership 118.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**July 13** Ken Thompson - Shelter Box  
**July 20** Dr. William Gullung  
**July 27** Bill McLeod and Robert Cummings  
**July 31** Rotary Golf Tournament at Timberton



### READING BETWEEN THE LIONS LITERACY PROGRAM

We are looking for reading volunteers every week on Tuesday or Friday mornings.



The Gandy Child Development Center  
 2201 South 28th Avenue Extension  
 601-268-0808

email Dan Kibodeaux to sign up  
 unitedwaydj@megagate.com

Usually takes 30 minutes or less  
 to read a book or two.

The kids really enjoy being read to! Don't miss out.  
 This program supports our campaign for Literacy.

Date	Volunteer	Volunteer
Friday, 6/11 9:30am	Wes Brooks, Audra Cummings	
Tuesday, 6/15 9:30am		
Friday, 6/18 9:30am	Wes Brooks, Kristy Gould	Bill Mac Lauchlan, Bill Hughes
Tuesday, 6/22 9:30am	Shawn Jones	
Thursday, 6/24 9:30am		
Tuesday, 6/29 9:30am	Sean Priebe, Mike Ratliff, Scott Hummell	
Thursday 7/1 9:30am		
Tuesday, 7/6 9:30am	Janice Touchstone	
Thursday, 7/8 9:30am		Bill Mac Lauchlan, Bill Hughes
Tuesday, 7/13 9:30am	Chris Price, Jaclyn Adams	