



SPOKES



NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG • DISTRICT 6840 • CLUB 04003

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Rotary Club of Hattiesburg
629 North Main Street
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

www.rotaryofhattiesburg.com



Pictured L-R: Elizabeth Gillentine, Sheriff Danny Rigel, and Wes Brooks.

MINUTES: JULY 15, 2014

President Wes Brooks presided over the meeting. Thanks to Scott Hummel who gave the invocation and to Jennifer Payne who led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Thanks to Curtis Smith and Sean Priebe for serving as our greeter today.

Aaron Ladner then welcomed guests. Greg Lowery is a guest of Gene Owens. Jerome Brown has as his guest Maurice Evans who will soon be applying for membership. Mill McLeod has Curtis Bishop as his guest.

Wes asked board members to remain for just a few minutes after today's meeting to take care of a few house cleaning chores.

Elizabeth Gillentine then introduced today's guest speaker, Danny Rigel, Sheriff of Lamar County. Mr. Rigel is a native of Biloxi but moved to the Hattiesburg area to complete his education at the University of Southern Mississippi. He was elected as Sheriff of Lamar County in 2003 and has served in that capacity since 2004.

Sheriff Rigel's presentation today focused on House Bill 2 that was passed by the Mississippi Legislature and signed into law by the Governor. The legislation gives Mississippians the right to "bear arms". Sheriff Rigel says he believes the legislation's intent was to redefine Mississippi's concealed weapon legislation. The law gives Mississippi residents the right to wear or carry their guns openly. If you carry a weapon concealed then you must have one of two concealed weapon permits issued by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety. Rigel says it is the lawful right of any Mississippian to carry a legal weapon if they can legally do so. A legal weapon is defined by state law and there are certain limitations on your ability to carry a weapon if you've been convicted of a number of crimes.

Sheriff Rigel says one of the issues he has with the new law is the restrictions it places on law enforcement officers. He says if a person is seen carrying their weapon down a public street in their hand, those persons are not required to tell

law enforcement what his or her plans are or to show any identification.

As mentioned earlier, there are two concealed weapon permits in Mississippi. One is issued with registration, payment of a fee and a background check. This permit limits where you can carry your concealed weapon. The second permit is known as the enhanced carry permit. It requires certification in gun safety and involves firing range requirements. The places where you can carry a concealed weapon in the state are expanded and the enhanced permit allows you to carry your weapon in your car in all 50 states without fear of violating concealed weapon legislation that varies from state to state.

According to Rigel, business owners are the people with the most power under House Bill 2. A business owner can post a sign and now allow you to carry a weapon on their property, regardless of the license you may have under state law. The property owner must enforce the law or call on law enforcement to assist. If a person carries a weapon into a business establishment that has prohibited such a weapon and refuses to take the weapon off of the property they can be charged with trespassing. In order for law enforcement to charge the person, the violation must occur in their presence.

As a friendly suggestion, Sheriff Rigel discourages residents from openly carrying their weapons. He says if you do, you are asking for trouble. In the event you are at a location where someone is committing a crime and that person sees that you have a weapon, you then become a target.

Lamar County offers three citizen shooting days each year. Anyone who registers is welcomed to the event, space allowing. It is a day-long event that involves gun safety, gun cleaning and range-time. Anyone interested should contact the Lamar County Sheriff's Department at 601-544-2412.

**Minutes courtesy of:
Jerome Siegel on behalf of
Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary
Rotary Club of Hattiesburg**

First Sergeant Roger M. Gillentine

Lamar County, Mississippi First Sergeant Roger M Gillentine currently serves as the Chief Instructor of Armor for the Armor Training Battalion, 154th Regiment, RTI, Camp Shelby Mississippi. He joined the Mississippi Army National Guard in November 1989. He graduated OCS from the Mississippi Military Academy in August 1993 and was commissioned as an Armor Officer at Fort Knox KY in January 1994. He was assigned to Co C, 1st BN 198th Armor in Iuka, MS. There, he served as Platoon Leader and Executive Officer from 1993 until 2000. He also served as Executive Officer for HHC 1-155th Infantry from 2000 to 2002.

He resigned his commission and became a Non Commissioned Officer in 2002 and served as a Mortar Gunner and supply sergeant, Scout Section Sergeant, Master Gunner. In 2006, he transferred to the 1st Armor Training Battalion, 154th Regiment (RTI) where he served as an Instructor/Writer and Course Manager for Armor training courses. He has trained over 1000 Infantry and Armor Soldiers.

His deployments include Bosnia and Iraq. His awards include Meritorious Service Medal (w/bronze oak leaf cluster), Army commendation Medal (w/silver oak leaf cluster), Army Achievement Medal (w/bronze oak leaf cluster), National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (w/silver hourglass, M device w/numeral 3), Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (numeral 3), Armed Forces Reserve Medal W/ M Device (2 bronze oak leaf clusters).

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, NATO Medal - NATO Service Former Republic of Yugoslavia, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, National Infantry Assoc. Order of Saint Maurice (Legionnaire), National Cavalry and Armor Assoc. Order of Saint George (bronze).

His schools include Cavalry Scout ANCOC, Cavalry Scout BNCOC, Armor Crewman ANCOC, Armor Crewman BNCOC, M3A3 SA ODS Bradley, Scout Commander Course, Cavalry Scout School, Total Army Instructor Training Course, Small Group Instructor Training Course, Indirect Fire Infantryman School, Armor Officer Basic Course.



JULY

JULY 29	TBD
AUG 19	District 6840 Governor, Brian Hall
SEPT 2	Steve McAlister, Versus Strength & Conditioning
SEPT 9	Andy Impastato, VP Client Compliance, BancorpSouth Ins. Svc.
SEPT 16	Sara Case-Price, Dir., The Children's Center
SEPT 23	Helena Lasseter, RN, MPH, Work Well/Wesley Medical Center
SEPT 30	Lloyd Munn, Dir. of Loss Control, BancorpSouth Ins. Svc.

ROTARY CLUB of HATTIESBURG **BIKE - A - THON**

NOVEMBER 1, 2014



Benefitting
**EXTRA
TABLE**



LONGLEAF TRACE

Guest and visitors,

Are you interested in finding out more about the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg? Are you interested in how you might become a member? Would you like to be contacted by one of our members to discuss this? If so, please fill in the blanks below and we will be sure to contact you.

Thank you for joining us today and we hope you will consider returning!

Your Name: _____

Preferred method of contact: _____

Questions/comments: _____

