

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- June 14th **Club Assembly**
- June 21st **Awards Program- Speaker TBA**
- June 27th **6pm Board Meeting, Bill McLeod's Mother's House 108 Bedford Road**
- June 28th **11:30 New Board Installation - Lunch in Honor of Milam Cotton**

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. Last week Holt McMullan won an autographed Tom Brokaw book, generously donated by Anthony Harris. Tom Light was the winner of a picture frame set, donated by McKenzie's on Main. To donate items call Scott 601-318-6497 or 601-466-61.56 (cell). Thanks for your participation!

MEMBER NEWS

Congratulations to Jennifer and Abe Payne who welcomed a son, Wilford Albert Payne, Saturday June Weighing in at 6 pounds 14 ounces, 20 1/2 inches long. Jennifer and Ford are reported to be doing great!

Continue to keep Sonny Cotten in your prayers as he undergoes treatment for cancer.

READING BETWEEN THE LIONS LITERACY PROGRAM

Volunteers needed each week on Monday or Wednesday 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
dan@Unitedwaysems.org
call **601-545-714**

June Reading Volunteers Needed!

Date	Volunteer	Volunteer
Wed, 6/1 9:30am	Jerome Brown	
Monday, 6/6 9:30am	Mike Ratliff	
Wed, 6/8 9:30am	Robert Cummings	
Monday, 6/13 9:30am	Richard Jones	
Wed, 6/15 9:30am		
Monday, 6/20 9:30am		
Wed, 6/22 9:30am	Mary Cromartie	
Monday, 6/27 9:30am		
Wed, 6/29 9:30am	Jerome Brown	

Looking for Rotary District Information or International Information?

Letter to the Editor
Hattiesburg American
Submitted by Margaret Buttross Brinegar, Director
The Children's Center for Communication and Development
The University of Southern Mississippi
Margaret.Brinegar@usm.edu
601-266-5565

When we hear about a Rotary Club event in the Hub City area we might think of a delicious plate of spaghetti, an early morning fun-run, a cook-out or a golf tournament. But Rotary Club events are so much more. Every Rotary Club event demonstrates the Club's often recited motto, "Service Above Self." Rotary Clubs change lives in our community, our state and throughout the world.

For seven years, Rotary Club of Hattiesburg has dedicated its "A Night in Italy" spaghetti dinner to The Children's Center for Communication and Development at Southern Miss, helping The Children's Center make real, life altering changes in the lives of young children with disabilities. This year, the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg Sunrise made The Children's Center the beneficiary of its annual 5K Run/Walk. Both events were very successful, thanks to the tremendous effort of Rotary volunteers.

The Rotary Clubs' positive impacts are felt throughout our community. Rotary supports "Between the Lions," a literacy program for preschoolers; the Hattiesburg ARC, helping people with developmental disabilities; Polio Plus, fighting polio in the few places in the world where it still exists; and clean water projects, bringing clean drinking water to communities at home or as far away as Haiti and Honduras.

The entire Children's Center family at Southern Miss is deeply grateful for the support we have received from our local Rotary Clubs. Their contributions are an integral part of our mission to help each child reach his or her full potential.

So, when you see a flyer or an ad for a Rotary Club event, what you are really looking at is the work of a lot of generous people donating their time, their money and their talent to live out Rotary Club's motto, "Service Above Self," and all of us in the Hattiesburg area are the better for it.



Spokes

June 14, 2011
www.hattiesburgrotary.com

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

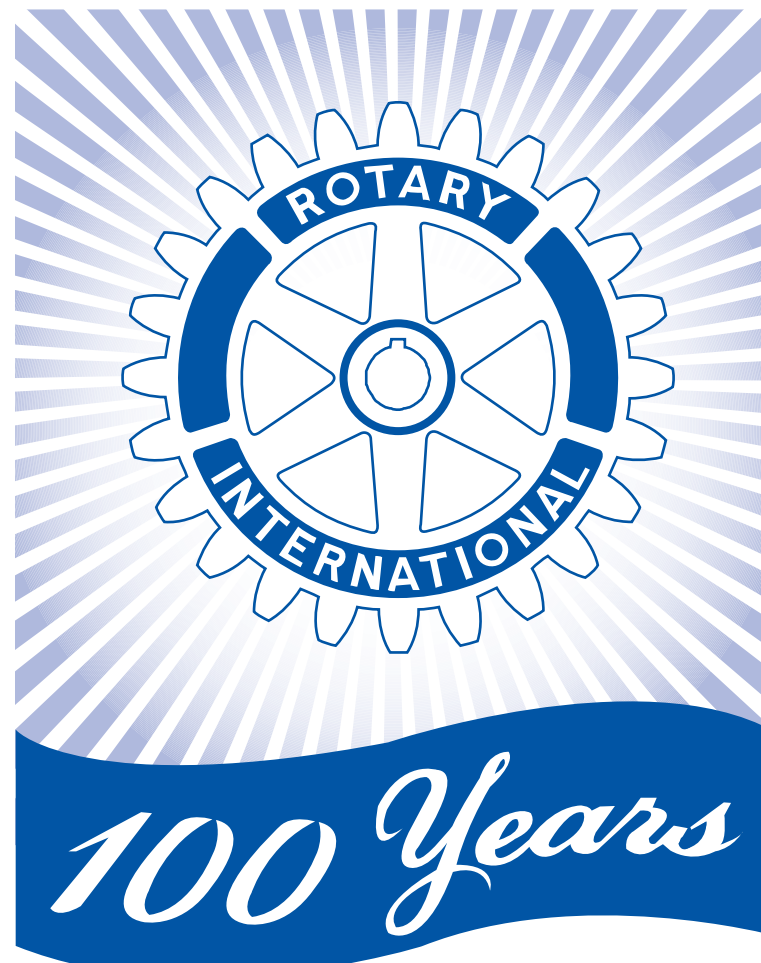
SPOKES Editor
Aime Spears
aspears@whlt.com

Official Newsletter of the

ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

A CENTURY OF SERVICE

A NEW CENTURY OF SUCCESS



"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

MINUTES FROM 05/31/11

President Bill McLeod presided over today's meeting.

Scott Hummel provided the invocation and Wes Brooks led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill then led members in the Four Way Test.

Special thanks to our greeters today who were Chris Price and Jared Eastlack.

Wes Brooks thanked those who participate in today's opening ceremonies and asked that others volunteer to assist in the coming weeks. He then introduced today's visiting Rotarian, Dr. Milton Wheeler. Allen Anderson introduced his guest today, Ken Forester.

Scott Hummel then conducted the drawing for today's Rotary Foundation raffle prize. The prize was contributed by Steve Ramp and won by Mike Bonnette.

Robert Cummings gave members a brief membership update. Our club now has 112 members. A new member will soon be proposed and Tom Potter has announced his resignation as of June 1. Thirty-three members had perfect attendance in April. Robert noted that Reading Between the Lions counts as a meeting make up. He also noted that you can make up meetings on-line through the District's website.

The June 28 meeting is the date set aside for the installation of new officers and directors. Rotary award winners will also be recognized at that meeting.

The June board meeting will be held on June 27th at 6 p.m.

Janice Touchstone reminded members who have not yet made their annual \$33 Polio Plus contribution that the contribution should be made before the end of the year. It was noted that if everyone paid their fair share for this campaign that the club could also make a Paul Harris Fellowship contribution in the name of Sonny Cotton.

Walley Weakley gave a recap of the recently concluded Rotary International convention. He thanked those who were involved as volunteers and for those who attended.

5/31/11 PROGRAM SUMMARY

Janice Touchstone came forward and introduced today's speaker, Rotary District 6840's membership committee chair Brian Hall. Brian is a member of the Covington, LA Rotary club.

Brian reported that the official attendance count for the New Orleans Rotary International Convention is now 19,200. He anticipates that number will rise to about 19,800 when all the paperwork is finalized.

Brian spoke to club members about the need for Rotary focus on membership retention as a priority. He noted that Rotary had 1.2 million members some ten years ago. Today that number still stands at 1.2 million however there has been a 1.2 million turnover in members during that same ten year period. Rotary has clubs in 200 nations worldwide.

Brian noted that Rotary was founded to provide fellowship for members. Fellowship remains as a primary reason for belonging to a club. Secondly, the club's founders perceived that Rotary would be a way to build your business. Again, business building continues to be a primary reason for belonging. Service is also another reason Rotary was founded and service remains as a primary function of Rotary membership.

Noting that every project is local, Brian pointed out that the contributions made by Rotary are worldwide. He gave Katrina relief as an example. Although Katrina recovery was a local issue, money from around the world was focused on this project through the Rotary Foundation and individual club contributions. The Foundation provided \$180 million in donations throughout the world last year for local projects.

With a membership of 1.2 million, Rotary is as large as the number of WalMart employees worldwide. The club is also the size of the population of Dallas. Brian noted that if 1.2 million club members contributed just 40 hours of service each year the value would be 48 million hours at \$350 million using minimum wage standards.

Brian concluded his comments by asking each member to identify the reason they joined Rotary and then to plug in and get involved. He stated, "You have an amazing opportunity". He also noted that if a club is involved in local service projects, the club will attract new members.

MINUTES FROM 06/07/11

Club President, Bill McLeod, presided over the meeting.

Thanks to Kristy Gould, who gave the invocation and to Mike Ratliff, who led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill then led members in the Four Way Test.

Special thanks to our greeters today, who were Jerome Brown and Wes Brooks.

Wes Brooks welcomed today's visitors and guests. Mary Cromartie brought her husband, Dean Cromartie and Milam Cotten brought his wife, Bettye. Jeff Stewart was a guest of Mike Ratliff and Sarah Price was a guest of Chris Price.

Milam Cotten spoke before the members. He said he was born in 1934 and has led a wonderful life. He has been a Rotarian for 40 years and has served as District Governor. In 1992, he had an out-of-body experience, which granted him the ability for the last 19-1/2 years to lead a life that has been even more fulfilling. He hasn't taken one day for granted. He has been diagnosed with pancreatic and liver cancer and he knows he has limited time left, but feels complete peace about that. He would like for everyone to prayerfully remember him and his entire family. Milam continues to live with strength, courage, conviction, and character.

Jennifer Payne and her husband, Ab, welcomed a beautiful baby boy into their family on June 2nd. Their healthy 6 lb., 14 oz. son has been named Wilford (Ford) Albert Payne. Congratulations to the new parents! Bill announced that Joe Spell recently fell at his home, so please keep him in your prayers. Larry LeBlanc said that he has visited Bill MacLauchlan at Wesley Medical Center. Bill is doing fine after having his right knee replaced. He is in room 364 if you would like to call or visit. Bill McLeod said that get-well cards for both of these gentlemen are being passed around for signatures.

The raffle ticket sales brought in another \$62 for the Rotary Foundation. Brian Moore drew two winning tickets: Holt McMullan won an autographed Tom Brokaw book, generously donated by Anthony Harris. Tom Light was the winner of a picture frame set, donated by McKenzie's on Main.

Erik Graham thanked everyone who helped make the June 4th Golf Tournament (before, during, and after) a great success! The event had nine less teams than last year, but there was great participation and we were able to still make a nice profit for the ARC. A putting contest was added at the last minute that helped draw revenue. The silent auction made money and also a raffle drawing for a nice piece of jewelry donated by Carroll Jewelers brought in extra revenue. Erik thanked Forrest General Hospital for their title sponsorship and also thanked Brown Bottling Group, Stokes Distributors, and Play It Again Sports, who donated about \$500 of golf equipment. Erik said he had some leftover tournament hats that he would like to sell and have the proceeds count for raised revenue. He will pass around a sign-up sheet...if you want to buy one hat for \$20 or buy two hats for \$30.

06/07/11 PROGRAM SUMMARY

Greg Buie, who was the Night-in-Italy Chairperson, introduced today's guest speaker, Margaret Buttross Brinegar. Margaret serves as Director for The Children's Center for Communication & Development at USM. She has worked as a speech-language pathologist in early intervention for the last 30 years. She is currently an active member of the Early Intervention Group with the MS Dept. of Education and serves on the MS Early Intervention Coordinating Council.

Margaret provided a video for the members to watch. The video showed the children and the teachers interacting during their time at the center and also interviewed several of the parents and the teachers. The center provides care, support, and services to children throughout the entire state of Mississippi, from infancy through age 5, and who have communication and developmental disabilities.

This Center pioneered the way for the state of Mississippi to be able to provide intervention for the families of these children. A team of different training-specialists, such as physical therapists, behavioral therapists, communication therapists, and special education teachers, all combine as one unit to serve the children in so many different ways and to help each child reach their optimal potential. All of the teachers are USM students who are in actual training to become future teachers and therapists.

The Center has a nice set-up with USM that works nicely because they are allocated the space without having to pay rent or utilities, and in exchange they train the student teachers for free. But there are many other expenses, and sadly, state funding by the Department of Education has been dramatically cut lately, so every donation made by people and organizations of the community are especially appreciated. Without the extra funds, the center could not go on. Margaret wants everyone to know how much difference the Rotary Club has made with all of its donations over the last seven years!

Christy Raiford and her son Bentley have been with the center for several years and were at today's luncheon. Christy said that when her son was born, she had no hope that Bentley would be able to communicate or learn anything. The Center has made such a huge difference in their lives because Bentley has learned so much and can communicate quite nicely now. Christy thanked the Club for its generosity and support and she knows that the members all realize the importance of helping others out. After all, she says, these children will grow up to be pro-active members of society as well.

Bill thanked Margaret for her presentation and thanked Christy and Bentley for coming. He then announced that the Reading Between the Lions program is still in great need of volunteers. Remember that your attendance at any of these sessions will count as a make-up meeting. He also noted that volunteers are getting harder to find for our weekly luncheons to fill the slots of Invocation, Pledge, and Door Greeters. If people don't step up more, they may have to resort to appointing people weekly.

Bill adjourned the meeting with our motto: Service Above Self.