

## Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg

#### **Officers**

Wes Brooks, President
Sean Priebe, President-Elect
Erik Graham, Vice President
Amanda Lee, Secretary-Treasurer
Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary
Scott Hummel, Past President

## **Directors**

Allen Anderson
Dan Davis
Tracie Fowler
Chase Munro
David Owens
Lucy Parkman
Valencia Williamson

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

Thank you to our guest from the Leadership Pinebelt group, Kids Hub. L-R: Stacy Ahua, Jaclyn Adams, Chad Young, Tasha May, and Wes Brooks



## **MINUTES: JUNE 9, 2015**

President Wes Brooks presided over the meeting. Thanks to Scott Hummel who gave the invocation and to Paul Presley who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Thanks to Tracie Fowler and Kristy Gould for serving as our greeters today.

Aaron Ladner thanked those who participated in today's meeting and introduced our visiting Rotarians and guests. Former club president David Thoms was a guest of Gene Owens. David is a Rotarian in the Laurel club. Jaclyn Adams had as her guest Travis Cox.

Wes thanked Lucy Parkman, Mary Cromartie and Holt McMullan for the excellent club social last week. He also reported that the board has agreed to purchase a one-half page advertisement in the ADP Leadership Directory noting that the Pine Belt Leadership Class is a very large recruitment pool for our club.

Wes reported that a new member will be inducted next week and that the Awards Program and Officer Installation program will occur on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. He encouraged all former club president's be in attendance for the passing of the gavel.

Jaclyn Adams the provided information about the Kids Hub Child Advocacy Center which is a newly founded organization in our area. The non-profit was formed to serve as a resource to reduce trauma for child abuse victims and their non-offending caregivers. The organization will serve Lamar, Forrest, Marion, Pearl River, Lawrence, Jefferson Davis and Covington counties. Jaclyn notes that one in ten children will suffer some form of abuse before they turn 18 years of age. There are 63,000 children in the area served by Kids Hub. There were 968 reported cases of child abuse in our state during 2013.

The Kids Hub Child Advocacy Center will provide forensic interviews. The interviews will take place

at the Kids Hub center which will allow the child an opportunity to share their experiences in a safe environment. The Center will also provide family and victim advocacy with education, general support, follow-ups and referrals. Child Abuse Prevention Education will also be a part of their services along with a multidisciplinary Team Case Review for each case.

Brian Bledsoe, a member of the Pine Belt Leadership Class that has adopted Kids Hub then shared his group's plans. They will host a Kids Hub Carnival Day on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. The event will be held at Town Square Park and is being planned as a family day benefitting the Center and bringing awareness about child abuse and neglect to those in attendance.

The Carnival Day will feature interactive activities for young children to enjoy such as inflatables, music, food, drinks, face painting and other fun things. First responders will be present to meet and talk to the children and the parents. The children will have the opportunity to climb through a squad car and a fire truck.

A variety of sponsorship opportunities are available. All of the funds raised through the Carnival will go directly to the services provided to the children.

If you are interested in helping through a sponsorship, volunteering the day of the Carnival or working with the Kids Hub Child Advocacy Center, contact one of the team members. Your checks can be made out to Kids Hub Carnival and mailed to the attention of Tasha May, 118 College Drive #5191, Hattiesburg, MS 39406.

Call Stacy Ahua at 601-434-1680, Dana Berry at 601-964-0392, Brian Bledsoe at 601-573-8597, Jamie Fuqua at 601-466-2525, Tasha May at 601-270-7176 or Chad Young at 601-467-6369 and get involved.

Minutes courtesy of: Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary Rotary Club of Hattiesburg



# OUR GUEST

## Jon Williams

Jon Williams started umpiring baseball in 1975 at the age of 19 and continued to umpire for twenty years – the last 12 years on the NCAA level.

Jon was a 25 year member and past President of the Poplarville Rotary Club.

He is a C.F.P. specializing in retirement planning. Jon holds a Bachelor of Science in Marketing and an MBA, both from The University of Southern Mississippi.

## **JUNE 23**

AWARDS &
OFFICER
INSTALLATION

JUNE 30 NO MEETING

**JULY 7<sup>TH</sup>**CHRIS BUCKHALTER

JULY 14TH

CHRIS WOOTEN- SAENGER THEATRE

## JULY 21<sup>ST</sup>

JOHN MCFARLAND AMERICAN RED CROSS

## **AUGUST 11TH**

DR. RANDY HENDERSON &
JUSTICE DUHON
MARCH OF DIMES

## SEPTEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>

JOHN CORNWELL DISTRICT GOVERNOR

