

MEETING OF JUNE 5, 2007

Minutes of Meeting of May 29, 2007

- Conrad Welker presided over the meeting.
- The invocation was offered by Kris King.
- Kristy Gould led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Thanks to Holt McMullan and Chris Strebeck for serving as greeters today.
- Kristy Gould introduced today's guests:
 - ✓ Lindsay Wilson was a guest of Kristy Gould.
 - ✓ Rachel Lowrey was a guest of Shawn Lowrey.
 - ✓ Michelle Garraway was a guest of Dan Kibodeaux.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Kristy informed members that a drawing will be held next week for four tickets to the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame. Rotarians interested in participating in the drawing will be asked to drop their business card for their names into a box next week as they arrive for the club meeting.
- 2) Conrad reminded members that the June 26, 2007 meeting is the date set aside for the Installation and Awards Ceremony. He invited all Paul Harris Fellows to wear their medallions at that meeting.
- 3) Club members were asked to make sure they clear up their Night in Italy account in the very near future. The Club wants to make the check presentation to the Children's Center for Communication and Development before the end of this fiscal year, June 30.

- 4) Conrad also reported to the club that Bill Hughes is improving and is expected to return to the Club meetings in the very near future.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

David Senne introduced the guest speaker Rob Schultz, Director of Human Resources at Forrest General Hospital.

Rob began his presentation by showing members photos of the new Forrest General Hospital. The facility was constructed in the early 1950s and just recently underwent phase 9 of a construction project. Phase 9 included a new Emergency Room facility, new beds in the Intensive Care Unit, and a new labor and delivery facility.

Forrest General Hospital is the largest employer in the area. Including the almost 400 employees at the newly acquired Picayune hospital, Forrest General now employs 3,800 people. It is estimated that Forrest General gives back to the local economy \$356,400,000 annually. That includes \$86,400,000 that is written off or uncollected, payroll, and the capital campaign. The hospital serves one-half million people in a 17 county area.

Some of the new improvements at Forrest General include the relocation of the heliport pad. The helicopter is now stationed at the airport but uses the helipad for emergency deliveries. During Katrina the hospital was without normal water and electricity service for four days. Since that disaster, the hospital has installed four generators that will provide full electrical service to the hospital in the event of a power outage. Additionally, a 1,000 foot water well has been placed into service on the property. A new water tank will accompany the well within the next year.

The hospital has also totally renovated the 4th floor and turned it into a Family Birth Place. The facility has state-of-the-art equipment and is a result of the many

recommendations and requests made by mothers over the years.

Additionally, the hospital has added a new scanning device, a picture archiving system that allows your physician to view x-rays and other scans from his personal computer at home or in his or her office. The hospital has also instituted a robotic pharmacy. The robot is supplied with prescriptions and then dispenses those medications by reading bar-codes on the prescriptions. The object is to reduce the human error factor in medications. Also, satellite pharmacies have been added on each unit, making the availability of medications faster for patients. Another improvement in prescription safety is the institution of a computerized physician order entry system. This allows the doctors to enter medication prescriptions and orders directly into the system, eliminating the time and possible error of misreading orders.

A major improvement that is in the works at Forrest General is the development of a new neo-natal unit. Currently the hospital can handle only 8 neo-natal cases. The improvements will allow the treatment of up

to 20 neo-natal patients and will also include a transport vehicle. If you're interested in participating in the capital campaign for this facility, contact the Forrest General Hospital Foundation.

Finally, Rob shared the hospital's plans to team up with the University of Southern Mississippi in a major study and prevention plan for diabetics. Mississippi's death rate is 11% higher than average. You are 30% more likely to have a heart condition in Mississippi than any other state in the union. Our state's stroke rate is 19% higher than the national average and adult diabetic cases are 36% more likely in Mississippi than the national average. Rob admonishes, We must do something about this growing problem, which is already having adverse financial impacts on state.

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Olivia Pritchard is our speaker.



Editor: Gary Garner