# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Mar 1	Gene Dattel, Scholar
Mar 8	Barbara Lofton, Wilson Elder Law Center
Mar 8	Mardi Gras Theme Lunch in honor of RIC
Mar 26	HubFest Rotary Water Project
Mar 30	<b>RIC Registration Discount Ends</b>
April 19	Night In Italy Fundraiser - So. Oaks
May 16-27	<b>RIC Hospitality Tours and Events</b>
May 21-25	Rotary International Convention
June 4th	Rotary Golf Tournament

# 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. Thanks to members who provide the raffle items and those who purchase the tickets. We are making progress toward our club's contribution to our Polio Plus commitment.

If you would like to donate an item for the raffle, please contact Scott. 601-318-6497 (work) or 601-466-6156 (cell)

# **READING BETWEEN THE LIONS LITERACY PROGRAM**

Volunteers needed each week on Tuesday or Friday mornings at 9:30 to read children's books to Pre-Schoolers. Read for about 20-30 minutes. The Gandy Child Development Center is located at:



## The Family Y -Veterans Memorial Blvd. 601-268-0808

Call Dan Kibodeaux or sign up at lunch meetings dan@Unitedwaysems.orgy call 601-545-7141

# **March Reading Volunteers Needed**

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Date	Volunteer	Volunteer		
Tuesday, 3/1				
9:30am				
Friday, 3/4	Jennifer Payne			
9:30am				
Tuesday, 3/8	Patrick Ward			
9:30am				
Friday, 3/11	Sted McCollough			
9:30am				
Tuesday, 3/15				
9:30am				
Friday, 3/18				
9:30am				
Tuesday, 3/22				
9:30am				
Friday, 3/25	Sted McCollough			
9:30am				
Tuesday, 3/29				
9.30am				

# **ONE DAY PASS FOR HOUSE OF FRIENDSHIP ON** SATURDAY MAY 21 ONLY \$40

FULL CONVENTION EARLY REGISTRATION IS \$340 UNTIL MARCH 30TH - AFTER MARCH 31 THE PRICE INCREASES TO \$380

GO ONLINE TO ROTARY.ORG, SET UP YOUR USER LOGIN W/MEMBER ACCESS. CHECK OUT THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS. REGISTER. OR FAX FORMS TO 847-866-3064

EMAIL SUZY STEEN AT S.L.STEEN@USM.EDU IF YOU SIGN UP AND/OR IF YOU VOLUNTEER TO HELP AT THE CONVENTION



FILL OUT ONE DAY PASS ONLINE then email to registration@rotary.org only avail. until March 31

# Some RIC Event Highlights:

hurs	May 19 12p	Host Districts Golf Tournament Registration \$100 per golfer
		Lakewood Country Club
at	May 21 8a-6p	House Of Friendship Opens
		Volunteer needed - \$40 Day Pass
at	May 21 2:30p	Sounds Of The South Concert
		Convention Center \$40pp
at	May 21 6:30p	Food, Fun, Fellowship & Fins
		Aquarium of Americas \$80pp
lon	May 23 4:00p	Host Hospitality Night
		Night out tour \$20pp-sold out
ues	May 24 7:00p	French Quarter Dining
		Choices of Restaurant \$85pp

May 15-27 Host Hospitality Events and tours, pre-register to attend. Swamp tours, antiquing tours, plantation tours, cooking classes and more! Costs start at \$30 and go up. For details and registration visit www.rotarvcon2011.com. click on Host Event and Tours. Space is limited. Some events are already sold out - register NOW.

# **ROTARY LICENSE PLATES IN MISSISSIPPI**

Bill McLeod has forms for those who would like to apply for the plates when they become available. We need 300 pre-ordered by May 15. Plates will be available in July. Cost \$31; \$24 of that comes back to the district in which it was purchased



# Spokes

District 6840

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# **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



Looking for Rotary International 2011 Convention Forms/Information? District www.rotary6840.org - Rotary International www.rotarycon2011.org



March 1, 2011 www.hattiesburgrotary.com

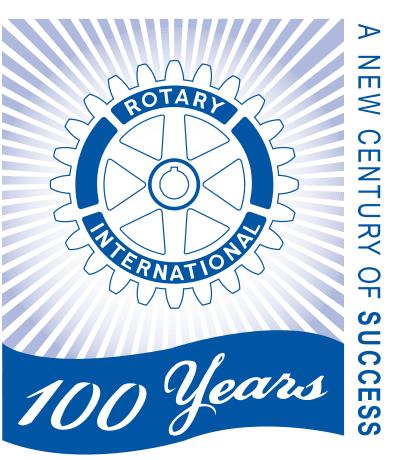
Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

# Official Newsletter of the

# **ROTARY CLUB OF** HATTIESBURG

P.O. Box 15185 Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39404



# **"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"**

# MINUTES FROM 02/22/11

Club President, Bill McLeod, presided over the meeting.

Thanks to Audra Cummings, who gave the invocation and to Chris Price, who led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill then led members in the Four Way Test.

Special thanks to our greeters today, Conrad Welker and Aaron Ladner.

Wes Brooks welcomed today's guest. Russ Franstead was a guest of Shawn Jones.

Bill asked members to keep the Robert Cummings' family in prayerful mention in the loss of Robert's uncle.

RYLA candidates need to see Mike Bonnette and complete the application before April 1. The Night in Italy event is scheduled for April 19. All members will be asked to participate. David Owens is seeking volunteers to help with the Hub Fest Rotary water project on March 26th. Readers are also needed for the Reading Between the Lions project.

The Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, June 4th at Timberton Golf Course.

As part of the Rotary International Conference, our club, the Sunrise Club and the Petal Club are teaming up to assist by preparing the deserts. Volunteers are requested to assist Mary Cromartie and Lucy Parker as they represent our club in this project.

Bill also mentioned that the District Clubs are being asked to contribute \$100 each to assist with a food function during the Rotary Conference.

Kris King was featured today with his Classification Talk. Kris thanked the members of the club who have had an influence and impact on his life from Boy Scouts, through high school, college and then his career. He singled out several Rotarians who were in the room who were instrumental in guiding him. He noted that service to the community is a very valuable gift that everyone should consider giving.

# LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM SUMMARY

Jerome Brown then introduced Willie Sims, CPA for today's program.

Willie reported that he struggled with the message that he could provide that would be beneficial to the community and business leaders represented in Rotary. He landed on one word with three letters; IRS.

He reported that the IRS has a goal to have 80% of all tax returns filed electronically. Electronic filing cuts down on paperwork, storage space requirements, and personnel to enter data from paper files. He reported that E-filing is easier, secure, more accurate and information obtained from the e-filed tax returns remains confidential. Mr. Sims noted that filing an electronic tax return does not impact the IRS's decision to audit or not to audit a return. Electronic returns are more accurate because any mistakes that are made will be detected and the return rejected until the error(s) are resolved.

If a person makes less than \$58,000 annually, they can obtain a free electronic tax filing service through the IRS website. Tax filers have increased their use in recent years for filing services such as Tubro-Tax.

During this year if a tax preparer is paid to file more than 100 1040A's or 1040'S, they are required to efile. Tax preparers are also now required to register with the Internal Revenue Service and they must pass a test provided by the IRS. CPA's are not required to take a test but they are required to obtain a certain amount of continuing education credits throughout the year.



# **TODAY'S PROGRAM**

## A Note about our Speaker, Gene Dattel

Gene Dattel grew up in the cotton country of the Mississippi Delta and studied history at Yale and law at Vanderbilt. He then embarked on a twenty-year career in financial capital markets as a managing director at Salomon Brothers and at Morgan Stanley. A consultant to major financial institutions and to the Pentagon, e setablished a reputation as a foremost authority on Asian economies. His *The Sun That Never Rose* (1994) remains the definitive work on Japanese financial institutions in eh 1980s. Mr. Dattel is now an independent scholar who lectures widely. He lives in New York City with his wife Licia and two Parson Russell terriors, Winks and Rosie.

# **ROTARY GROVER ANDERSON & RYLA SCHOLARSHIPS**

Scholarships are available to incoming Freshman planning to attend the University of Southern Miss. And rising High School Seniors for RYLA Scholarships. Preference given to children and grandchildren of members of The Hattiesburg Rotary Club.

Student must maintain a 2.5 GPA. Contact Mike Bonnette, mike.bonnette@usm.edu, 601-266-6020 for more information and application forms.

Deadline for applications to be considered, April 1.

# **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

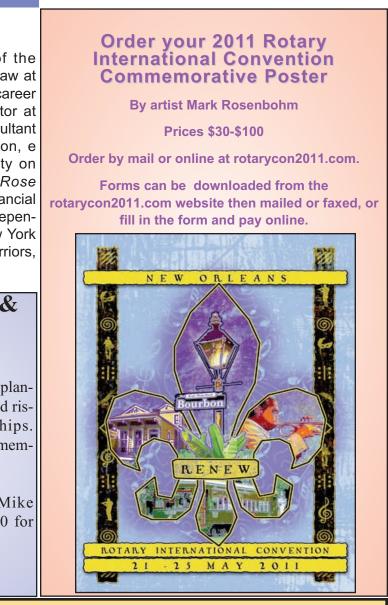
NIGHT IN ITALY April 19th At Southern Oaks

# BENEFITTING THE CHILDREN'S CENTER AT USM

# ALL MEMBERS WILL BE EXPECTED TO HELP THAT NIGHT SIGN UP SHEET TO COME CHAIR - GREG BUIE

# Annual Golf Tournament

Ark your calendar for the annual Rotary Golf Tournament. Location will be Timberton Golf Course on June 4th. Teams, Sponsors and volunteers to help the golfers on the day of the tournament will also be needed. Erik Graham will be chairing this event. If you can help in any way please contact Erik.



# HUB FEST Clean Water Project