

See a gallery of Rotary projects promoting basic education and literacy

Rotary International News -- 7 March 2012



A student looks on as her teacher checks an assignment in a temporary classroom in Sri Lanka, which served 200 students during construction of Randombe Kanishta Vidyalaya, a school in Ambalangoda. The effort was part of the Schools Reawaken project, which helped rebuild 22 coastal schools damaged or destroyed by the 2004 tsunami. *Rotary Images/Alyce Henson*

Read more at [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chase Munro and Curtis Smith have been proposed for membership. Curtis is a lawyer and Chase works for the Red Cross. They were both sponsored by Bill McLeod.

Also, we are pleased to announce that Francis Farmer has rejoined the club.



# Spokes

March 20, 2012  
[www.hattiesburgrotary.com](http://www.hattiesburgrotary.com)

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

**ROTARY YEAR**  
 2011-2012

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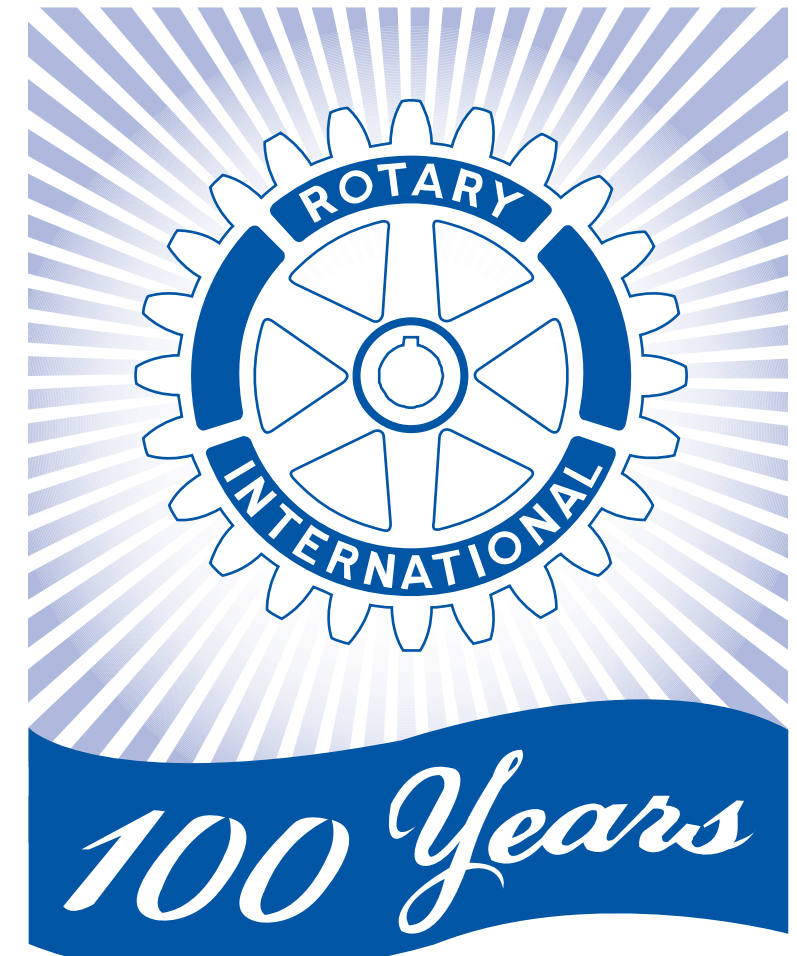
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*Official Newsletter of the*

## ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

A CENTURY OF SERVICE



A NEW CENTURY OF SUCCESS

**“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”**

**MINUTES FROM 03/13/12**

President Robert Cummings, Jr. presided over the meeting.

Thanks to Tom Montgomery, who gave today's invocation. Also, thanks to David Owens who led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Robert then led members in the Four Way Test.

Gene Owens sat in for Sean Priebe and welcomed today's guests. Mary Cromartie had Dean Cromartie as her guest. Margaret Lochhead was a guest of Bob Lochhead. Ben Morris was a guest of Toxey Morris.

Robert recognized Chris Price, chairman of this year's Night in Italy, to give an update on the event scheduled for April 17th. Chris reported that Jaclyn Adams will be coordinating volunteers for the event. He also reported that tickets will be distributed beginning next week. Robert thanked Chris for his efforts and reported that Chris has secured a sponsor for ticket printing and has effectively already but \$350 in the bank for the project. Robert also noted that Rotary members are being billed for their 15 tickets.

Robert reported that the District Conference is coming up on April 19-21. If you plan to attend and have not yet registered, you must do that before April 1. Maura McLaughlin is handling registration.

Next week members will install two new members and get a PETS report from Maura McLaughlin. Robert also noted that Patrick Ward will give us an update on the club's projects.

Robert then recognized Benjamin Morris and invited him to address the club. Ben thanked club members for supporting him as an Ambassadorial Scholarship. He also noted that Milam Cotton encouraged him to pursue the Scholarship application several years ago and continued to encourage him. He noted that Milam will be missed by his many Rotary friends. Ben also noted that when the time is right he plans to become a Rotarian.

Scott Hummel filled in for Tracie Fowler, March's program chair and introduced today's guest speaker. Mitchell Williams is the Area Director of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Mitch encouraged members to pick up some of the literature he has made available about several of the Fellowship's upcoming events and activities, including a March golf tournament.

Mitch reported that the Fellowship of Christian Athletes now has 3,000 coaches, players and volunteers involved throughout the state of Mississippi and is represented on 28 campuses. The primary mission of FCA is to use youth sports as a way to reach children, both athletes and those they know. By having a positive influence on these young people, FCA believes they have the potential to change the world.

Throughout the state of Mississippi in 2008 there were 24,000 babies born to single moms. About 70% of the athletics throughout the state are being raised by a single mom. Mitch also reported that 60% of all of the Mississippi athletics come from a fatherless family. He went on to report that 80% of all kinds involved in organized sports are not members of a church. And finally, he noted that, in Mississippi, 40% of all the girls who participate in organized sports don't make it past the 8th grade and that 50% of them drop out of the program when they become pregnant. In 2010 more girls than boys participated in organized youth sports for the first time in history.

Mitch maintains that FCA is one way that community involvement can make a difference in the lives of our state's children. He challenged Rotary members to give of their time and substance to a mission, noting that today's world is not the same one that most of us grew up in. He challenged Rotarians to use their gifts to change the world.

If you're interested in more information you can contact Mitch on his cell number at (601) 270-4601.

**MEET TODAY'S SPEAKER**

Claire Whittington -Office of MS State Treasurer

Claire is a native of Lee County and a Tupelo High School graduate. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Mississippi College and holds a bachelor's degree in Psychology

After graduating from MC she served as Intake Coordinator for The Baptist Children's Village. She is currently working for State Treasurer, Lynn Fitch, in the Mississippi State Treasury where she holds the position of Director of College Savings Mississippi. Claire and her husband Jason have been married for four years and currently reside in Brandon, MS.

**REMINDERS**

5th Annual Rotary Club of Hattiesburg-Sunrise 5K Run/Walk Lingleaf Trace, April 21, 2012, 8:00 am. Contact Nadine Archuleta 601-268-5035.

Night in Italy tickets are being distributed. Sign up for as a volunteer. Now pre-ordering for T-Shirts \$15. See Chris Price or David Owens for details.

Maura McLaughlin is leading our club's sign up for District Conference April 19-21. See Maura to purchase district raffle tickets.

Our club will sponsor an ARC Respite Night April 27 and have a member social at the Parkman's following. Activities will include serving the kids dinner and play time following.

We are accepting RYLA applications. See Wes Brooks.

**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 Family Y -  
Veterans Memorial Blvd.  
601-268-0808  
Call Dan Kibodeaux or  
sign up at lunch meetings  
or email  
dan@Unitedwaysems.org  
call **601-545-7141**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

- March 20** Claire Whittington
- March 27** Chad Newell
- Apr 17** Night In Italy - (All members sign-up to help with this event)
- Apr 19-21** District Conference - Metairie
- Apr 27** ARC Respite Night - Member Social to follow at the Parkman's
- Apr 30-May 2** Group Study Exchange Team visits



**March Reading Volunteers Needed!**

| Date                    | Volunteer    | Volunteer |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Friday, 3/2<br>9:30am   |              |           |
| Tuesday, 3/6<br>9:30am  |              |           |
| Friday, 3/9<br>9:30am   | Jaclyn Adams |           |
| Tuesday, 3/13<br>9:30am |              |           |
| Friday, 3/16<br>9:30am  |              |           |
| Tuesday, 3/20<br>9:30am |              |           |
| Friday, 3/23<br>9:30am  |              |           |
| Tuesday, 3/27<br>9:30am |              |           |
| Friday, 3/30<br>9:30am  |              |           |