

# SPOKES



## Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg

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



## Minutes: March 24, 2015

President Wes Brooks presided over the meeting. Thanks to Jaclyn Adams who gave the invocation and to Ashley Read who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks to Dean Wade for serving as our greeter today.

Sean Priebe stood in for Aaron Ladner and introduced today's guests and thanked those who participated in today's meeting. Stewart Dern is a guest of Jaclyn Adams at today's meeting. There were no visiting Rotarians.

Erin Granberry reminded members about making their Rotary Foundation contributions before the end of the fiscal year, June 30. She noted that approximately 10 Rotarians are taking advantage of the double match points and will be making their contribution before the end of March.

Wes reminded members of the need to register for the District Conference. Registration is available through either the club's website or the District's website.

The Night in Italy event is scheduled for April 21. Anyone who has Rotary aprons is encouraged to bring those to Bill MacLauchlan so he can get them ready for the event. Jerome Brown then introduced today's guest speaker, Jermaine Brown who is the principal at Hattiesburg High School.

Jermaine accepted his new position within the past two years. He says the first year he spent in the realm of management. This year his focus is on the leadership phase. He encourages all of Hattiesburg High students to strive to be great, not just good. If they miss the mark they at least succeed at the good level.

There are a total of 90 teachers at Hattiesburg High. Of those, 88 are listed as highly qualified. That means they have the necessary degrees in their field and are certified to teach in that field by the state of Mississippi. The other two have the necessary degrees or are pursuing their degrees and licensure.

Jermaine maintains that everyone in the Hattiesburg area has a vested interest in the school and its students. A strong high school will mean a stronger and more competitive economy and society. He also maintains that there are many unmet needs of Hattiesburg High students that must be met before the teaching and learning process can be successful. If the children are hungry or unhealthy the teachers face even bigger challenges in the educational process. Work continues

to try and meet as many of these unmet needs as possible.

The Hattiesburg High students are focused on the "right now", according to Jermaine. The challenge for school administrators, staff and instructors is to get them focused on the "tomorrow." What does tomorrow look like for the students if they don't graduate high school? The teachers are challenged to make their instructions relevant to the students.

Jermaine says he has two primary areas of focus. The first is to get the students to graduate. The second focus is to get them career ready.

In the focus for career ready he has created five academies. The first is the Freshmen Academy. There are also academies in Engineering and Management, Arts and Humanities, Business and Health and Human Services. The academies are like schools within the school where the students can focus on their specific interest area.

Volunteers are needed to make the academies successful according to Brown. Students learn about becoming a CPA or an attorney or a doctor or some other profession but many of them never encounter a real, life experience of being around a professional. Brown encouraged all Rotarians and especially all of them who graduated from Hattiesburg High to consider becoming a volunteer in one of these academies. If you're interested, give him a call at 601-450-0310.

The extra curricula programs at Hattiesburg High continue to be successful, including the band which participated in a recent Mardi Gras parade. The orchestra will leave in a few days for the Caribbean where they will be the featured entertainment on a cruise ship. The speech and debate program continues to be recognized at the state and national level. The basketball team recently made it to the elite eight.

The new Smokey Harrington stadium is slated to be open in the next few weeks. The facility was heavily damaged in the recent tornado and has undergone a 2.6 million dollar renovation. Jermaine says it will be an exciting experience for the baseball team to finally have a home field to practice and play on.

If you are interested in attending any of the Hattiesburg High athletic events, Jermaine encourages you to call him for free passes.

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



# OUR GUEST

## DR. CYNTHIA SCOTT



Dr. Scott has been a therapist for 35 years. She practiced in the hospital setting as therapist and administrator for 10. Most recently she completed a 25 year career as academic faculty and administration at University of Mississippi Medical Center. Her Physical Therapy degree was awarded by Texas Woman's University in 1978. The Master of Business Administration was achieved in 1983 at University of Dallas, and a PhD in outcomes research at University of Mississippi Medical Center at in 2003. She is an active participant in the American Physical Therapy Association and Mississippi Physical Therapy Association. She currently chairs the Mississippi Board of Physical Therapy, the licensing agency for the State of Mississippi. Her husband, Bill, is a semi-retired civil engineer and commercial contractor. She has twin daughters who are 25, and have successfully flown the nest. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, music, gardening, and participating in local mission opportunities.

# NEXT WEEK



Ken Thompson - Shelter Box

## UPCOMING

APRIL 7	Ken Thompson - Shelter Box
APRIL 14	Katie Sims - Miss W.C.U.
APR 10-12	2015 Rotary District Conference - "Rotary Rivage"
APRIL 21	"NIGHT IN ITALY"
APRIL 28	Karen Sims - Pregnancy Choices of Hattiesburg
MAY 2	Rotary 6840 District Assembly
MAY 5	Dr. Hayhurst - Dog Showing
MAY 12	Andrew Gilliam - Salvation Army
MAY 19	Africa University Choir
MAY 26	Dwayne Higgason - Krav Maga
JUN 6-9	Rotary International Convention - Sao Paulo, Brazil
JUN 20	District 6840 Awards & Installation Ceremony

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**APRIL 21**



**The Children's Center**  
FOR COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI