

## Register online by 1 May for the 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok

Rotary International News -- 26 April 2012

More than 35,000 Rotarians have registered for the 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok, Thailand, 6-9 May. And you can still join them by [registering online](#) through 1 May.

For the first time ever, a convention plenary session will be available live online. The third plenary session, celebrating milestones in Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio, will be available through a [live webcast](#) at 09:15 on 8 May (in Thailand; [find the time for your location](#) ). A recording of the webcast will be available later that day.

The convention will feature several keynote speakers: microfinance pioneer Muhammad Yunus ([read the interview in The Rotarian](#)); Hugh Evans, cofounder and CEO of the Global Poverty Project; Gillian Sorensen, senior adviser at the United Nations Foundation; Angelique Kidjo, a Grammy award-winning entertainer and humanitarian; and Amanda Martin, curriculum coordinator and teacher at the Global Health Access Program.

Jose Ramos Horta, president of the Republic of Timor-Leste and a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, will also give a presentation during the fourth plenary session. See [more information about speakers](#).



Gillian Sorensen, (top) senior adviser at the United Nations Foundation, and microfinance pioneer Muhammad Yunus, will be among the speakers at the convention in Bangkok.



# Spokes

May 1, 2012  
www.hattiesburgrotary.com

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

**ROTARY YEAR  
2012-2013**

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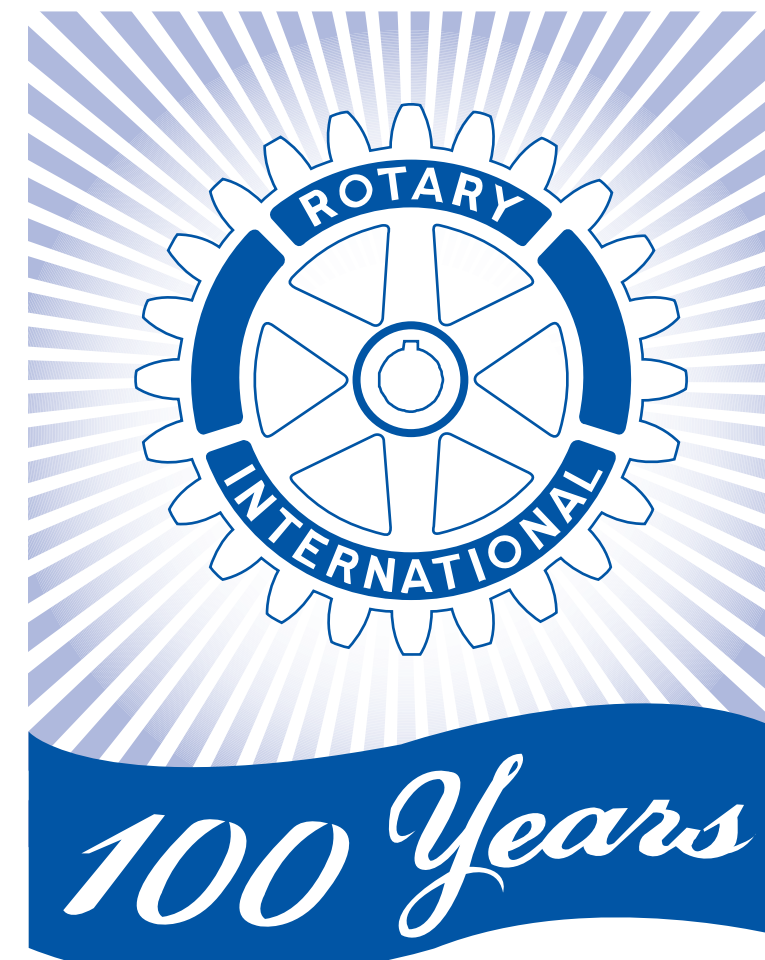
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## ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

A CENTURY OF SERVICE



A NEW CENTURY OF SUCCESS

**“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”**

## MINUTES FROM 04/24/12

President Robert Cummings, Jr. presided over the meeting.

Thanks to Scott Hummel, who gave the invocation. Thanks also to Larry LeBlanc for leading the club in the Pledge of Allegiance, Wes Brooks and Tracy Fowler for serving as today's greeters.

Sean Priebe welcomed today's guests. Elizabeth Gooze is a guest of Audra Cummings. Kevin Zemetis was a guest of Scott Hummel. Allyson Owens was a guest of David Owens.

Hats off to Chris Price, David Owens and members who volunteered to assist in this year's Night in Italy project. It appears we served more than 1,000 meals that evening, in spite of the bad weather. The final financial report is not yet ready and the date for the check presentation has not yet been set.

May 19th is the date set for the District Assembly. Board members, both current and future, are encouraged to plan to participate.

Robert thanked those who attended the District Conference and represented our club. Thanks to Aime Spears for her work with the newsletter. The publication won the best District Newsletter award for this year.

Lucy Parkman than came forward and introduced today's guest speaker, Dr. Steve Stogner. Sr. Stogner is a graduate of Ole Miss and received his medical degree from the University Medical Center. He came to Hattiesburg to join a Pulmonary Disease medical group at the Hattiesburg Clinic. He continues to work with the practice but is now also the Medical Director of the Forrest General Hospital Critical Care Unit. Dr. Stogner and the medical group he works with staffs the ICU 24 hours a day, seven days each week for the entire year.

Outside of the University Medical Center in Jackson, Forrest General is the only other hospital in the state to offer full-time ICU staffing. The unit currently has 40 beds with an average of ten admissions each day. The average length of stay in the ICU is three days. Dr. Stogner says he believes the unit could be expanded to 100 beds and that it would stay full. The Forrest General Hospital ICU serves a 16 county area in South Mississippi.

Dr. Stogner says the ICU treats patients with life-threatening illnesses. He also notes that the problem that brought you to the hospital is generally the problem that sends you to ICU. Life-threatening illnesses weaken the body and its immune system and frequently result in organ failure.

Of the 3,550 admissions during 2011 650 were due to heat failure, 200 admissions were due to respiratory failure, 100 were due to diabetic complications, and 50 were hemorrhagic stroke related issues. Rarely are cases referred to other hospitals. However, Dr. Stogner says some complicated pediatric cases have to be referred to the University Medical Center in Jackson.

There is an Infection Control Team staffed by doctors at Forrest General. They assist the ICU in keeping patients as safe as possible from hospital born infections. Forrest General Hospital has a lower than national benchmark rating in the control of hospital infectious diseases.

Dr. Stogner says it takes a committed team to run a successful ICU unit and he believes the residents of the Forrest General service area has that team. He says it take a great effort to turn the ICU rooms around quickly for waiting patients. He also notes that having competent and qualified ICU nurses who constantly monitor patients and report expected problems to the doctors is critical to a unit's success.

## MEET TODAY'S SPEAKER

### DEBBIE FIELDS SANFORD

Debbie Sanford currently serves as Forrest General Hospital's Chief Officer of Behavioral Health Services. Debbie has served in administration at Pine Grove for the past twelve years and has served in various healthcare administrative positions for the past 20 years.

Debbie is a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi and William Carey College and holds a Masters in Nursing as well as a Masters in Business Administration. She holds past adjunct faculty appointments at the University of Southern Mississippi.

### SMALL BUSINESS LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

MAY 2, 2012

### HONORING THE LATE RICHARD JONES

The late Rotarian Richard "Pepper" Jones is being recognized at the Small Business Leadership Award Luncheon on May 2. Annie Jones will receive the recognition in his honor. The luncheon is co-hosted each year by William Carey University and the ADP.

If you would like to contribute the scholarship that is being established in his name, you may write a check to William Carey University with "Richard Jones Scholarship" in the memo line.

You may also give to the scholarship online at [www.wmcarey.edu/givingtocarey](http://www.wmcarey.edu/givingtocarey). If you would like to attend the luncheon call 601-318-6231. Tickets are \$25.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Apr 30-May 2 Group Study Exchange Team visits

May 1 Debbie Sanford - Forrest General Hospital

May 8 Dr. Beverly Smallwod

May 15 David McRaney -- His book "You are Not So Smart" (reviewed in The Rotarian)

May 22 Stion Corporation

May 29 Butch Smith, Country Girls Creamery

## FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Valencia Williamson is being proposed for membership by Mike Ratliff. She was a Rotarian in the DeFiniak Springs Club.

Chase Munro and Curtis Smith were inducted recently. Please take a moment to welcome them.. Curtis is a lawyer and Chase works for the Red Cross. They were both sponsored by Bill McLeod.



We will start our auctions again to contribute to the Polio Plus program. Please see Jennifer Touchstone if you have gift cards or items to raffle. Also, come prepared to win a

## READING BETWEEN THE LIONS LITERACY PROGRAM

Volunteers needed each week to read children's books to Pre-Schoolers at The Family Y - Veterans Memorial Blvd. See Bill MacLauchlan to volunteer.