

MEETING OF JUNE 3, 2008

Minutes of Meeting of May 27, 2008

- President Freddy Walter presided over the meeting.
- Allen Anderson offered the invocation.
- Ric Cortis lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Valerie Sartin welcomed guests including:
 - Milton Wheeler was a guest from Petal Rotary.
 - Maryb and Christen Riley were guests of Bob Riley.
 - Felicia Warren and Mary Cromartie served as our Greeters today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Freddy introduced Richard Jones as a member to give his classification talk. Richard graduated from Hattiesburg where he played baseball and football in high school. His talent for baseball earned him a contract to play baseball for the Chicago Cubs and later for the Cleveland Indians. He currently owns businesses in Hattiesburg and Chicago to name a few places. Transportation consultant and Limo services are the main businesses. We welcome Richard to our club and back to Hattiesburg.
- 2) Tom Walker, a past member of Rotary had passed away and the funeral services are today.
- 3) As per membership guidelines, Toxie Morris, David Davies and Jaclyn Adams have been approved for membership by the board.

- 4) Freddy asked everyone to keep the following dates in mind as the weeks come upon us. June 10th we will present the AED's to Lamar County Volunteer Fire Department. June 17th we will be presenting the Children's Center with a check from the proceeds of the Night in Italy fundraiser. June 24th will be the annual Awards Luncheon where we will induct the new board members and thank the out going ones.
- 5) We are nearing the end of the fiscal year and ask that everyone bring his or her account current.
- 6) **Kris King announces the Rotary Program Chairs for 2008-2009:**

July—Kris King

August—Allen Anderson

September—Susan Light

October—Tom Potter

November—Greg Buie

December—John McDaniel

January—Hayden Mitchell

February—Todd Mixon

March—Gene Owens

April—Ric Cortis

May—Mike Ratliff

June—Kristy Gould

SPOKES editor, Gary Garner, asks that program chairs send bio of speaker via e-mail (garygarner2902@comcast.net) by Friday prior to the following week's presentation. Thanks.

LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Richard Topp introduced Dr. Ben Burnett. Dr. Burnett took over his elected position of Superintendent of the Lamar School District on January 2 of this year. Here is some current statistic Dr. Burnett shared with us. Mississippi schools are ranked last in just about every classification there is. The Lamar School District is the second fastest growing district in the state. There are currently 7,893 students with 15 campuses. The district adds 300-400 new students every year. The children bring approximately 30 different languages with 170 students not speaking any English at all. The drop out rate is 35-40 students daily. Even so, 80-82% of the students graduate from high school. Most say they will attend college in the fall. There are 3 Level 3 schools, 4 Level 4 schools and 5 Level schools. Dr. Burnett is working to get all the schools to a level 5.

Lamar County School District is budgeted for 12 Million. There are 1,250 employed with the Lamar County School District. One of the biggest budget challenges is gas for the school buses. Next years budget has ¼ of million budgeted extra just for the raising gas prices. The bond that passed for 43 Million, of this 10 million was to be used for renovations. After Katrina, the funds went to increased cost of materials for the new schools that were not completed.

The meeting was adjourned with our: Service Above Self

THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

Shellie Moses Morengo from the *Make a Wish Foundation* has the program.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Making fitness a daily habit

By Barbara E. Walters
Rotary International News - 29 May 2008

An emergency room nurse, Diane Froelich was on the road to a possible medical emergency herself. By her own description, she was out of shape and overweight. What's more, she was convinced she didn't have time to exercise.

"My [resting] heartbeat was 117, and I got winded just climbing one flight of stairs," says Froelich, 57.

So she signed up for Fit 2007, a six-month fitness challenge sponsored by District 6360 (Michigan, USA) and local community groups and government agencies. The program, aimed at helping participants develop lifelong exercise habits, not only improved Froelich's health but also helped her realize that she wasn't too busy to take regular walks.

"Now my heart rate is in the mid-60s, and I can climb stairs without getting out of breath," Froelich said during a group walk in Kalamazoo in October, cheerfully keeping up a brisk pace despite a steady rain and puddles on the sidewalk. She lost 20 pounds during the challenge but noted, "I'm more excited about the fact that I'm fit."

Starting in April, Froelich and about 1,800 others in southwest Michigan committed themselves to physical activities such as

walking, mowing the lawn, and biking for at least 30 minutes a day, five days a week.

Participants recorded the number of minutes they exercised each day on the [Fit 2007 Web site](#), which also featured tips for increasing activity levels and inspirational stories from exercisers. About 1,000 of the people who signed up recorded more than 4.7 million minutes for an estimated 236,500 miles, according to the program's Webmaster, Bob Brown, who divided the minutes by 20 to calculate the approximate mileage. In a survey conducted after the program ended, about a third of the participants reported improved fitness habits, said Brown, a member of the Rotary Club of Kalamazoo.

Past District Governor Karl Sandelin launched the program in 2006 as a 90-day project. During Fit 2007, Sandelin, 79, logged 750 miles as a member of a team at a retirement center that included a 100-year-old participant.

A global view of the planet

Compiled by John M. Rezek

The Rotarian

Ban Ki-Moon on polio

United Nations Secretary-General

For 23 years, the Rotarians have dedicated their time and efforts to eradicating polio.

They have done so in the face of extraordinary challenges. They have overcome financial shortfalls, conflict, and lack of security. They have conquered cultural barriers and lack of political will.

At every turn, in the face of seemingly insurmountable obstacles, the Rotarians have found creative solutions, in partnership with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In this way, Rotarians have shown the world what can be achieved when civil society and the United Nations partner together.

When the last chapter on polio eradication is finally written, it will tell one of the most spectacular success stories in public health. It will describe one of the world's most remarkable partnerships. And it will highlight the Rotarians' personal service to humanity.

Today, Rotary's leadership is more critical than ever. Its determination and generosity will drive us to the finish line in our race against polio. I know Rotarians will go the distance. And I will be with you every step of the way.

Editor: Gary Garner