# YOUR VOTE REALLY COUNTS

**Vote for Rotary Clubs in the South MS District** to win a grant for \$25,000 from Pepsi

The funds will support Early Childhood Literacy in disadvantaged daycares throughout Mississippi

Go to www.HattiesburgRotary.com

**Vote May 1st until May 31st** 

### **VOTE EVERYDAY**

Ask your friends and co-workers to vote

The only way our MS kids win is with your Vote!

Easy as 1, 2, 3....

- Set up a login at PepsiRefresh.com one time
- Login
- **VOTE DAILY**





May 4, 2010

www.hattiesburgrotary.com

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

**ROTARY YEAR** 2009-2010

#### **OFFICERS**

MARY CROMARTIE President

> BILL MCLEOD President-Elect

ROBERT CUMMINGS

Vice-President

MAURA MCLAUGHLIN

Secretary – Treasurer

LAMAR EVANS Executive Secretary

**GENE OWENS** Sergeant-At-Arms

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Term Expiring – June 30, 2010 Steve Ramp Erik Graham Wally Weakley Patrick Ward

> Past President: Richard Topp

Term Expiring – June 30, 2011 Heath Hillman

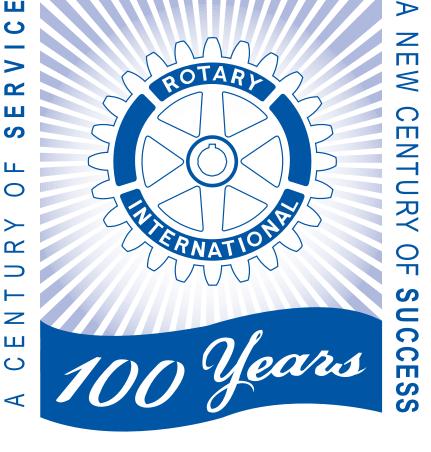
Gene Owens Mike Ratliff Aime Spears

SPOKES Editor

Aime Spears aspears@whlt.com Official Newsletter of the

# **ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG**

P.O. Box 15185 Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39404



"SERVICE ABOVE SELF"

#### MINUTES FROM 4/13/2010\*

President-Elect Bill McLeod presided over the meeting. He noted that Mary Cromartie was present at today's meeting but because of her recent travel schedule she had asked him to preside over today's meeting.

Thanks to A.D. Hunt who gave the invocation and Lamar Evans for leading the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill then led the Club in the Four Way Test.

Gene Owens introduced today's visitors and guests. Aaron Ladner was a guest of Jeri Buti. Liz Fromkin was a guest of Aimee Spears. Sarah Case-rice was a guest of Heath Hillman. Shawn Jones was a guest of Brian Moore. Kashmir Moses was a guest of Steve Ramp. Elwood Hausler was a guest of Richard Topp. Johnny Stevens introduced Christina Ghents who has applied for membership and will be inducted on April 27th.

Bill reminded members that the April board meeting will be held on April 19th. It was also announced that volunteers are needed for the Night in Italy event which will be held next Thursday. There will be no Tuesday luncheon meeting next week. Erik Graham reported progress on the golf tournament. Proceeds from this year's tournament will be contributed to the Association for Retarded Children. Maura McLaughlan reminded members that they will be receiving a call in the near future if they have not yet participated in the Rotary Foundation Sustaining Membership campaign.

#### LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Tom Potter then introduced today's speaker Lieutenant John Harless, with the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics.

Lt. Harless noted that most of the crimes committed today are in some way related to drug use or abuse. He also noted that drug related issues are almost always a factor in today's political and economic decisions. As an example, American troops are protecting the poppy field farmers in Afghanistan as a part of our efforts to fight the Taliban. International banking laws are influenced heavily by drug interests and many of those laws are designed to protect drug money, according to Lt. Harless. He cited the recent American debate over health-care reform and noted the influence the pharmaceutical companies had in that debate.

Lt. Harless discussed the new law recently passed in Mississippi that will go into effect in July requiring the drug Sudofedren be obtained only through a prescription. According to Lt. Harless, the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics was supportive of this legislation because of the horrible effects meth-labs are having on the lives of Mississippians, especially our children. The new law is

fashioned after one from the State of Oregon. That law has reduced the number of meth-labs discovered in that state by 90%. Previous efforts to control access to the drug have failed in our state.

During the first three months of this year Mississippi leads the nation in meth-lab seizures. The labs are dangerous and can cause chemical burns to anyone coming in contact with the actual substances used in the process or with the residue left behind. That's why the Bureau requires that hotel rooms used by portable labs be cleaned out completely. Furniture, carpet, drywall and everything else is removed from the room in order to prevent potential injuries. Three labs were discovered and removed from Lamar County during one week in April.

However, Lt. Hartless notes that the number one drug killer in the United States is the abuse of prescription drugs. All too often a person will mix a narcotic prescription with a muscle relaxant, an anxiety drug and alcohol. This is a deadly combination and often the individual simply falls asleep and never awakens.

If anyone has questions or would like more information about these and other narcotic issues in Mississippi, John's office number is (601) 261-6111.

#### "A NIGHT IN ITALY"

Please turn in any ticket money you may have so we can get an accurate account of how much was raised.

We had a tremendous turnout and are in the process of tallying the income and expenses and will have a final report soon.

Thanks to all of the volunteers from our club as well as The Children's Center who served with a smile!

Southern Oaks provided the delicious food with record timing. Many people commented on the delicious spaghetti.

Special thanks to our committee chairs, Greg Buie, Terry Miller and Robert Cummings who pulled together and organized this event.

#### THIS WEEK'S PROGRAM

#### Bio of Steven E. Farrell, MD, FHM

Steven Farrel is the Medical Director of Hattiesburg Clinic's Hospital Care Service and the Chief Medical Officer of Forrest General Hospital.

Originally from Texas, he received a BS degree from Texas A&M University and a MD from University of Texas Houston.

Steven is board certified in Internal Medicine and has practiced with the Hattiesburg clinic since moving here in 1994.

# POLIO PLUS 50/50 50/50 Raffle for Polio Plus Challenge

Our club has committed to raise \$33 per member to meet the Gates Foundation Matching Grant Challenge.

#### Raffle will end June 30th or when we reach our goal.

Each week we will have numbered tickets for sale and then at the end of the meeting draw one winner who will relieve half of the proceeds from that days ticket sales.

One ticket is \$5 or buy 4 get one free \$20 get 5 tickets



#### FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE......

We have 2 new applicants proposed for membership. Aaron Ladner is a Financial Advisor at Edward Jones in Hattiesburg and was proposed for membership by Jeri Buti. And Wade Wicht has been proposed by Robert Cummings. Wade is a Professional Therapist at Pinegrove Mental Health of Hattiesburg. Wade's father is a Senior Active Member of our Club and his brother, Ward, is a member and past President of the Ocean Springs Rotary Club. If you have questions about the proposed members please see a board member.

Please continue to invite others to visit. Don't forget that our membership challenge is still in place!

#### IMPORTANT DATES

May 4	Dr. Steven Farrell - Director Hospital Care Service FGH
May 8	District Training for all current and future Board Members
May 11	Nick Ortego - WDAM TV
May 18	David Thompson - AAA Homes of MS

Brian Montague - Colonel and Sr. Army National Guard



## READING BETWEEN THE LIONS LITERACY PROGRAM

We are looking for reading volunteers every week on Tuesday or Friday mornings.



May 25

The Gandy Child Development Center 2201 South 28th Avenue Extension 601-268-0808

See Erik Graham if you have questions.

Sign-up sheet located at sign-in table.

Takes 30 minutes or less to read a book or two.

The kids really enjoy being read to! Don't miss out.

Date	Volunteer	Volunteer
Friday, 4/30	Wally Weakley	Robert Cummings
9:30am		
Tuesday, 5/4	Steve Ramp	Wes Brooks,
9:30am		Bill Hughes
Friday, 5/7	Annie Wimbish	Bill Hughes,
9:30am		Bill MacLaughlan
Tuesday, 5/11	Vickie Shaw	Bill Hughes,
9:30am		Bill MacLaughlan
Friday, 5/14	Sean Priebe	Mike Ratliff
9:30am		
Tuesday, 5/18	Vickie Shaw	Andrea Hood
9:30am		
Friday, 5/21	David Johnson	Jaclyn Adams
9:30am		
Tuesday, 5/25	Jennifer Payne	Janice Touchstone
9:30am		
Friday, 5/28	Wally Weakley	
9:30am		
Tuesday, 6/1		
9:30am		

<sup>\*</sup> minutes from April 27th were unavailable at press time