

JUNE 18, 2013



SPOKES

"Best Newsletter - Large Club" 2012 - 2013

ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

Our President for 2013-2014 Scott Hummel, Ph.D.

Today we induct Scott Hummel as club President for the 2013-2014 Rotary year. As Provost of William Carey University and Past President of the Longview-Greggton Rotary Club of Longview, Texas, Scott brings a wealth of experience to this leadership role. Scott and his wife, Starr, have been married 22 years and have three daughters: Lauren, Rachel, and Julia.



"Service Above Self"

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Leadership & Board of Directors

Maura McLaughlin
President

Scott Hummel
President-Elect

Wes Brooks
Vice President

Jennifer Payne
Secretary-Treasurer

Chris Price
Sergeant At Arms

Robert Cummings
Past President

James Duncan

Bill MacLauchlan

Brian Moore

Lucy Parkman

Sean Priebe
Secretary/Treasurer-Elect

Janice Touchstone

Valencia Williamson

MINUTES:

June 11, 2013

President Maura McLaughlin presided over the meeting. Thanks to Mike Ratliff, who gave the invocation and to Erik Graham, who led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks also to Sean Priebe and Lucy Parkman who served as our greeters today.

Maura led the Club in the 4-Way Test and then asked Wes Brooks to introduce today's visiting Rotarians and guests. **Michelle McCleary** is a visiting Rotarian from Olympia, Washington. She has recently moved to Hattiesburg and is applying for membership in our club today. Lamar Evans introduced **Michael Cornett** who is visiting our club today and is applying for membership. Mike Ratliff introduced **Ember Ahua** from Southern Eye Center. Ember is also applying for membership today. **Dr. Abumere Akinwale** was also a member of Mike Ratliff.

Maura reminded members to make their \$10 contribution to the Moore, Oklahoma tornado relief efforts. Our club will match contributions up to \$500.

Amanda Lee and her sponsor Christy Cullinane and **Sara Peterson** and her sponsor Dan Davis were asked to participate in new member inductions. Both new members were welcomed and invited to join in our club's efforts by participating in a committee.

Robert Cummings, Jr. introduced today's guest

speaker, Dr. Jennifer Bailey. Dr. Bailey is an Ob=GYN at the Hattiesburg Clinic. She is a native of Houston, TX and was educated at the University of Texas and Texas A & M University.

Dr. Bailey spoke to club members about Human Trafficking (TIP). She became interested in this critical problem several years ago and recently participated in a mission trip to Nicaragua where she and others worked to help TIP victims in that country.

According to Jennifer, there are two basic types of human trafficking. One is enslavement of people for labor and the second is for sexual enslavement. In both instances she maintains that TIP victims have had their rights completely taken away.

She noted that the problem isn't just in Nicaragua or some other foreign nation. The problem exists worldwide and can also be found in Hattiesburg. It is estimated that 12.3 million people are in forced labor conditions. In Western Europe alone it is estimated that 500,000 women and children are involved in forced sexual traffic. Human greed seems to be one of the root problems of TIP however, it is big business. It is estimated that TIP results in 9.5 billion dollars of revenue each year. In the United States the most common form of human trafficking is teenage prostitution.

The Traffic Victims Protection Act was recently passed by the United States Congress. It is an effort to both prevent TIP from

occurring and to protect the victims.

Jennifer maintains that there are many methods used to enslave victims. Among those she listed are kidnapping, deception, debt bondage and even family members selling other family members. Methods of conditioning include starvation, drugs and alcohol, beatings, torture and traumatic bonding.

Many victims suffer from a variety of issues and conditions. Many are addicted to drug and alcohol, others suffer from traumatic brain injury, sterility, disease, bodily injuries and sexually transmitted diseases. Dr. Bailey also notes that many of the TIP victims have been found to suffer from post traumatic stress disorders equal to that of those who have served in the military.

So how can you get involved? Dr. Bailey encourages each of us to read and study the issue and look for victims that you may be aware of in our own area. Signs of abuse include making people work excessive hours, have lost their ability to relocate or change jobs, and are never left alone by their abuser.

Two organizations where you can find useful and helpful information are the International Justice Mission (<http://www.ijm.org>) and the Global Health Outreach (<http://www.cmda.org>).

Minutes provided by:
Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary
Rotary Club of Hattiesburg

News From the District

District Grant Applications Available

District grant applications, instructions, and guidelines can be downloaded from the website. Click on the dropdown menu "Grants and The Rotary Foundation" under the heading RI Programs/Grants/Affiliates. Clubs must be qualified to submit grant requests for the 2013-2014 year. District Grant applications must be submitted by August 15, 2013. Global Grant requests may be submitted at any time during the year.

From our District Governor

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

I know that all of you have heard of the devastation that has occurred in Moore, OK, and the adjacent areas from the recent tornados. I don't think all of us realize at this point, how extensive the damage has been, but I feel as Rotarians we need to help and do what we can to alleviate some of the suffering that has occurred because of this tornado.

I'm requesting and asking each club donate, if possible, at least \$100 for a relief effort.

These monies, of course would be for relief efforts for the Rotary clubs and others suffering in the OK area. If you're able to give, please send a check to District Treasurer Vicky Gutierrez, 1598 Birkshire Court, Biloxi, MS 39532 and make the check payable to Rotary District 6840. We would ensure that those monies get to those victims in the OK area. We will probably send those funds to a Rotary club in that area and let them designate how they would be dispersed. I think this is something the District should do, particularly after all the help the District received from Rotary after Katrina.

Also, since Norman, OK is the home of Rotary International President-Elect Ron Burton, we could show our support to Ron through our donations. If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,
Donald Bryan
Governor, District 6840

Our Guest Today - "Neighbors at Hawkins"

Michael Dixon serves as Pastor of Ekklesia Hattiesburg Community. In that role he has spent the past 5 1/2 years helping to guide Ekklesia more deeply in their effort to "Simply Follow Together" as they serve each other and the larger Hattiesburg Community. Michael Dixon is originally from Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. He is married to Sarah Dixon.

Sharon Miles has served as a community liaison at Hawkins Elementary through the Neighbors at Hawkins program for the past five years. As coordinator of Neighbors at Hawkins, her primary responsibility is to work closely with school staff and administrators to communicate opportunities for civic engagement to community volunteers. Sharon has been instrumental in cultivating a culture of service learning at Hawkins, fully understanding that when schools and community partners work together, everyone wins.



Be Aware of Scams Targeting Rotarians

Source: Rotary News, Rotary.org

Several Rotarians have recently reported receiving fraudulent emails, including one with the subject line "Proposed Rotary Visit." It fraudulently claims to be from a Rotary club president in Nigeria asking for information to help coordinate exchanges or to partner on projects.

Also be aware of Facebook pages or other websites using the Rotary logo without permission in order to solicit money and imply a relationship with Rotary.

Other recent scams include:

Fraudulent emails with the subject line "Rotary Membership Update" that reports to be from Rotary International asking them to update their membership status for the 2013 year by clicking on the link supplied in the email. Please be aware that this is a phishing scam. Phishing is the criminally fraudulent act of attempting to acquire sensitive information such as usernames, passwords, or credit card information by masquerading as a trustworthy source.

Several Rotarians have reported receiving a fraudulent email which reports to be from an Australian Rotarian stuck in London, England. The email claims the individual was robbed at gunpoint while on holiday and that she needs money to get home. Other Rotarians have reported receiving a similar email sent out in the name of a senior Rotary leader, a trustee of The Rotary Foundation, seeking money. The email claims that the individual is stuck at an airport with lost luggage and needs the cash to get home. Both emails are scams.

An email scam with the subject line "Award Winning Notification Final" has targeted Rotarians claiming that they are one of 21 winners of a promotional program.

An email scam targeting Rotarians and Rotaractors claims the recipient has won hundreds of thousands of euros through an international promotional program conducted by the "Euro-Millones Lottery."

An email scam with the subject line "Dear Award Beneficiary!!!" has targeted Rotarians claiming the recipient has won US\$500,000 and two HP laptops from RI.

RI encourages Rotarians and Rotary clubs to avoid becoming victims of such scams by deleting any email that appears suspicious.



On June 23 thousands of Rotarians will converge on Lisbon, Portugal, for the 2013 Rotary International Convention. Among them will be our incoming President, Scott Hummel.

The Rotary International Convention is held annually, aiming to bring together representatives of all clubs in the world for workshops and seminars for fellowship.

These conventions are intended to stimulate, inform and inspire all Rotarians and are described as the largest conventions in the world of the business tourism industry.

Divided into plenary sessions of work, areas of fellowship and sharing with commercial component as well as several local entertainment events.

From 23 to 26 June 2013 the Rotary International Convention will be held in Portugal, in the city of Lisbon. It will be the largest business convention ever held in Portugal it is expected the participation of about 25,000 people.



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Service Above Self!

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