

SPOKES

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG



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Spokes Newsletter
Wes Brooks, *Editor*

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Rotary International is the world's first service club organization, with more than 1.2 million members in 34,000 clubs worldwide. Rotary club members are volunteers who work locally, regionally, and internationally to combat hunger, improve health and sanitation, provide education and job training, promote peace, and eradicate polio under the motto Service Above Self. Pictured are the Club and District Officers in a group photo from the President-Elect Training Seminar held March 7-8, 2014, in Jackson, MS.



This was a four-district PETS (6190, 6800, 6820, and 6840). The District 6840 Conference will be held at the Biloxi Civic Center, Biloxi, MS, on May 9-10, 2014. The photo below is of our current club presidents and our District Governor, Barbara Mauldin, in a group photo from the 2013 PETS.



Minutes - March 11, 2014

Wes Brooks presided over the meeting for President Scott Hummel who is traveling to England with a student group. Thanks to Janet Williams who gave the invocation and Mike Ratliff who led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks to Tracey Fowler and Dan Davis for serving as our greeters today.

Sean Priebe sat in for Brian Moore and introduced today's visiting Rotarians and guests. Brandon Hodges is visiting from the Petal Club. Consuelo Ratliff is a guest of Mike Ratliff. Felisha Ruffin is a guest of Valencia Williamson.

Wes reported that the club has received thanks from Westminster Presbyterian Church for our sponsorship of their recent rebuilding project. A letter of thanks has also been received from the Gulf Coast Foundation for the club's contribution made on behalf of the Fit for Kids fund. Our check represented their share of the proceeds from the Bike-a-Thon held recently.

Wes also reported that he attended the President-Elect training held this past weekend by the District. He noted that he is honored to have been elected as President-Elect of our club and that he is looking forward to the beginning of the new Rotary year in July. District 6840 Assistant District Governor and Hattiesburg Rotarian Bill McLeod was also in attendance.

Bill McLeod reminded members of the District Conference on May 8-9. It will be held at the Beau Rivage in Gulfport. Bill mentioned that sponsorships are needed and to please contact him if you would like to sponsor.

Bill then introduced today's guest speaker Dr. Faye Gilbert, Dean, College of Business at the University of Southern Mississippi. Dean Gilbert used E-A-G-L-E-S as the basis of today's presentation.

E - represents the energy contained in the new vision and movement of the staff and faculty of the College. Hopefully the College will move into the new building in the spring of next year. The College MBA program is in the top 200 in the nation and the MBA program is back on the USM campus as well as in the Gulf Park Campus.

A - represents the applied learning that is being embraced by the College. Students and the community

have the opportunity to become certified in Microsoft products. This will give graduating students the tools they need to be productive on the first day of their new job. Students are also involved in economic development impact studies. Some of those studies are in the oil and gas industry. They're also studying the economic impact of festivals, fishing tournaments, etc. One group of students has committed to getting one person out of homelessness each year.

G- represents the global focus of the program. The College has a visiting scholar from China. A faculty member has been tabbed to teach in Cuba and students are conducting comparative port studies in several foreign countries with ports in and around the Mississippi area.

L - represents the leadership being demonstrated by the staff and faculty. Students recently were able to tour the Nissan plant here and then went to Japan to tour the operation there as well. Scholarships are being offered throughout the program to entice students to work hard to meet high levels of expectations. The College is also working with the leaders in other programs across the campus to integrate business skill teaching into other study areas.

E- represents the extend family. Dr. Gilbert notes that it takes an extended family to make a College of Business a success. Rotarians are invited to participate in the upcoming Experience Business Casually program being planned. Community and business leaders are encouraged to spend a day with students discussing the things that are important in the real world of business. More information will be forthcoming.

S - represents success. According to Dr. Gilbert success is measured one student - one project and one academic effort at a time. The College is the first in the state to offer Bloomberg certification and has many other "firsts" that it can be proud of.

Minutes:

**Jerome Siegel on behalf of
Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary**



OUR GUEST TODAY

Robert S. Kent, Ph.D.
Lecturer in Communication & Chair,
Management Communication Area (Retired)
Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration

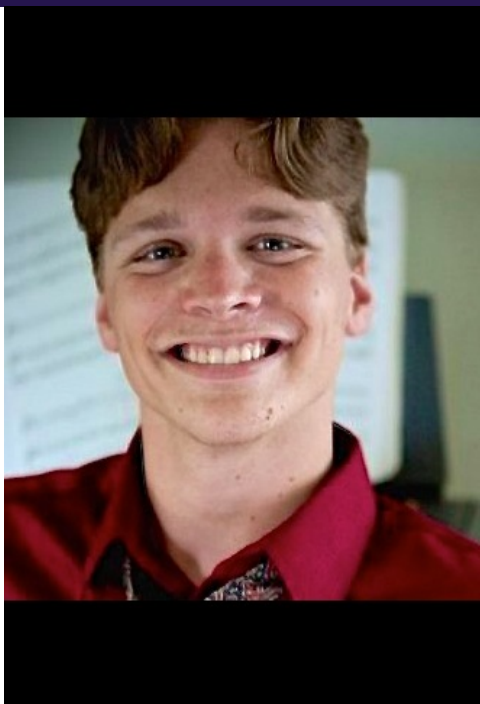
"To Be or Not to Be, Interesting: Writing and Speaking to the Point"



UPCOMING



Dr. Steven Moser
March 25



Christopher Napier
April 1



Lhay Thriffiley
April 15

