

# SPOKES

"Best Newsletter – Large Club 2012-2013"



Rotary Club of Hattiesburg  
District 6840, Club #04003



## 2013 Leadership PINEBELT

Since 1989, Leadership Pinebelt has trained emerging and existing leaders in Greater Hattiesburg. Designed to broaden the base from which emerging leadership is derived, Leadership Pinebelt serves as a catalyst for increasing diversity among future leaders. Each class session focuses on enhancing leadership skills and garnering a better understanding of the positions of Healthcare, Cultural Arts, Economic Development, Military and Industry; the region's essential assets.

Leadership Pinebelt comprises a diverse network of leaders and community volunteers who are committed to shaping our community both economically and socially while building and expanding their network. Each class encompasses a very diverse group of professionals who have attained leadership positions in their fields and are likely to be tapped for greater community responsibility. Many of the sessions focused on building leadership skills, such as conflict resolution, the power of persuasion and motivation. Leadership Pinebelt provides opportunities for professionals to garner a more informative view of the assets and potential of Greater Hattiesburg. Through these opportunities each class learns ways to make a positive contribution to the community, develop and practice their leadership skills, and gain a more comprehensive background on the contemporary issues concerning the region.

### The 2013 Leadership Pinebelt Class

**Howard Savage**, Hattiesburg Public Schools

**John McWhorter**, BancorpSouth Insurance Services

**Matthew Shoemaker**, Zachary & Leggett, PLLC

**Wes Brooks**, DuBard School for Language Disorders

**Todd Jackson**, Stion Corporation

**Harris Bell**, Hattiesburg Clinic

**Jeff Greene**, Howard Industries

**Colby Heathcock**, Community Bank

**Paxton Lowery**, Wesley Medical Center

**Dean Wade**, Hub City Scrubs

**Joy Smithson**, United Way of Southeast Mississippi

**Rebekah Jackson**, PRCC

**Katherine Callaway**, Commercial Business Interiors

**Kristen Brock**, Hattiesburg Tourism Commission

**Shonta Duncan**, Southern MS Planning & Dev. District

**Brittany Price**, BancorpSouth Insurance Services

**Jamie Hearn**, SMEPA

**Anita Knott**, Hattiesburg Public Schools

**Jenny Boudreaux**, USM Alumni Association

**Samantha McCain**, Hattiesburg Clinic



Today May 28		88°F 68°F	CHANCE OF RAIN: 10%
	Partly Cloudy		
Wed May 29		86° 69°	CHANCE OF RAIN: 20%
	Partly Cloudy		
Thu May 30		82° 68°	CHANCE OF RAIN: 30%
	Isolated T-Storms		
Fri May 31		86° 68°	CHANCE OF RAIN: 30%
	Isolated T-Storms		
Sat Jun 1		86° 70°	CHANCE OF RAIN: 10%
	Partly Cloudy		
Sun Jun 2		86° 68°	CHANCE OF RAIN: 30%
	Isolated T-Storms		



## Minutes: May 21, 2013

President Maura McLaughlin presided over the meeting. Thanks to Allen Anderson, who gave the invocation and to Mike Ratliff, who led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks also to David Owens 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. Jeri Buti is a visiting Rotarian from the Sunrise Club. Amanda Lee is a guest of David Owens. Courtney Campbell is a guest of Valencia Williamson and Greg Hairston is a guest of Lamar Evans.

Maura reported to members that the budget committee met recently and will have a proposed budget for the coming year to submit in the coming weeks. She also reminded board members of the May 28 board meeting. The meeting was moved from Monday evening to Tuesday morning at 11 a.m. due to the Memorial Day Holiday. She also invited the new board members who will be coming on the board in July to attend the May and June board meetings.

Mark your calendars for the November 9<sup>th</sup> Bike-a-Thon. Jonathan Shemper is requesting assistance from 10 volunteers. If you are interested in helping with this event, see Jennifer Payne or contact Jonathan.

Lynn Walton then came forward and provided a classification talk. Lynn is a native of Petal. She worked in mortgage banking in the area until her husband was relocated to Meridian. After almost twenty years in the Meridian area they have returned to the Hattiesburg area. She is currently employed at The First and is very happy to be back in close contact to four beautiful grandchildren.

Jennifer Payne then came forward and awarded two raffle winners their prizes. She announced that the club raised about \$170 for Polio Plus in just the last three weeks..

Valencia Williams then came forward and introduced today's guest speaker, John Brown, Jr. John currently serves as the Assistant to the Mayor for the City of Hattiesburg. He also is serving as the Interim Director of Public Works for the City.

John spoke briefly about his concept of Human Capital, which he defines as a human resource measure of wealth. It is his personal goal to help build the Human Capital in the Hattiesburg area, which he maintains is an attraction to new business leaders who will want to re-locate their families and the families of their employees to an area with great Human Capital.

John reports that the city currently has between 2 and 4 million dollars of capital construction projects underway throughout Hattiesburg. Some of the development is being paid for by Federal dollars, which must be matched by local dollars. Part of the planning process is to ensure that the City has adequate resources to match these grant opportunities when they avail themselves to the leadership.

He noted that residents have recently see sidewalk and bike lane improvements on city streets. Approximately one million dollars has been spent in recent years on sidewalk additions and improvements. The transportation improvements are part of the city's Complete Streets Program where all aspects of transportation are considered when street improvements are planned or executed. The improvements also include mass transit system improvements.

Additionally, John notes that the city is focused on Smart Growth, which includes improvements that help our citizens become healthier. Work continues on the Long Leaf Trail project that will tie the downtown area to the entire Long Leaf Trail.

John says that Hattiesburg is the beacon for growth in the State of Mississippi. Given our location, our leadership and opportunities that exist in the area, Hattiesburg continues to grow and prosper.

In the coming weeks the city leadership will adopt a major sewage treatment plan for the future. John says this will become the largest project in the Hub City area in many years and that it will have a major impact on the future potential of our area. He encouraged Rotarians to make sure that their voices are heard as the leadership considers the options before them.

**Minutes courtesy of:  
Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary  
Rotary Club of Hattiesburg**



## Upcoming Programs/Events

- May 28 Leadership Pinebelt  
June 4 Professor Jay Dean, Director of Orchestral Activities at Southern Miss  
June 18 Induction of President-Elect, Scott Hummel  
June 25 Awards Luncheon  
July 2 District Governor-Elect, Barbara Mauldin

# [www.hattiesburgrotary.com](http://www.hattiesburgrotary.com)

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### LEADERSHIP 2012-2013

**Maura McLaughlin**  
President

**Scott Hummel**  
President-Elect

**Wes Brooks**  
Vice-President

**Jennifer Payne**  
Secretary-Treasurer

**Lamar Evans**  
Executive Secretary

**Chris Price**  
Sergeant-At-Arms

### BOARD of DIRECTORS

**James Duncan**

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**Jennifer Payne**

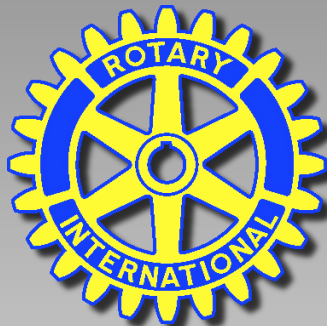
**Sean Priebe**

**Bill MacLauchlan**

**Janice Touchstone**

**Valencia Williamson**

**Robert Cummings**  
Past President



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