

MEETING OF OCT. 24, 2006

[SPOKES Editor apologizes for the incorrect copy sent to Standard Office last week. Copy is done on Word and identified by current date each week as **ro101006 &/or ro101706**. In the attachment to the copy, **ro101006** was inadvertently e-mailed instead of **ro101706**. Added to the situation was a new e-mail address at Standard, which I only received Monday morning. I am including pertinent copy of the minutes from last week’s SPOKES followed by the minutes of last week’s meeting.]

Minutes of Meetings of Oct. 10, 2006

- President Conrad Welker presided.
- Mike Ratliff gave the invocation.
- Larry LeBlanc led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Kristy Gould introduced and welcomed visiting Rotarians and guests:
 - ✓ Harold Nicholson was a guest of Johnny Stevens.
 - ✓ Mary B. Riley was a guest of Bob Riley.
 - ✓ Priscilla Pope was a guest of Tina Lowrimore.
 - ✓ Pierce and Jesse Stevens were visiting Rotarians from Petal as was Marcus Ware.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM OCTOBER 10TH MEETING

- 1) John Curley and Mickey Allen served as our Greeters.
- 2) Conrad announced that the Nominations/Elections Committee will meet next Tuesday just prior to the regular meeting. Bill Pace is that committee’s chair.
- 3) Mike Ratliff reminded members to sign up for the Pick up the Pine Belt project scheduled for Saturday, October 28. Volunteers will work for a four hour period to clean up Hattiesburg. A sign up sheet was made available.

PROGRAM FOR OCT. 10th MEETING

Suzy Steen introduced the speaker, Jack Kyle, Cultural Czar for the Area Development Partnership.

Jack discussed his desires to bring about a grassroots campaign in support of increasing our cultural exposure in the Pine Belt area. He maintains that there is no reason Hattiesburg can’t become the Cultural Center for the South. However, in order to do so, the general population must support the effort. Mr. Kyle says Austin, Charleston and Santa Fe all have been re-discovered within recent history because of their connections to the arts which led to the restoration of many of their local treasurers. He says the same is possible and has already begun in downtown Hattiesburg.

According to Jack, great works of humans or those found in nature inspire us emotionally and that when a community doesn’t seek exposure to those great works, a part of the community is missing. He encouraged Rotarians to support increased funding for arts and music exposure in the school system. Students exposed to arts and music are four-times more likely to be recognized scholastically. Education is a critical element in building this grassroots campaign to increase our cultural exposure. He has formed a task force to work with the public schools to try and increase art and music programs in the public school system.

Jack says, “Life is too short to not take advantage of things of beauty”. He encouraged members to focus on increasing the quality of our lives by added exposure to culture and things of beauty.



MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2006

Minutes of the Meeting of Oct. 17, 06

- Presiding: Conrad Welker
- Invocation: Richard Topp
- Pledge of Allegiance: Francis Farmer
- Introduction of Visiting Rotarians and guests: Kristy Gould
 - ✓ Pierce and Jessy Stevens and Kay Piers from the Petal Club
 - ✓ Erik Hearon from the North Jackson Club
 - ✓ Harold Nicholson was a guest of Johnny Stevens.
 - ✓ Mary B. was a guest of Bob Riley.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM OCTOBER 17TH MEETING

- 1) Greeters today were Greg Garraway and Jolly Matthews
- 2) Members still need to sign up for the Pick up the Pine Belt event on October 28. See Mike Ratliff for more information.
- 3) Charles Severance from the Charleston, SC club, representing his club and District 7770 in Eastern South Carolina was introduced. His club members, his club and the district accumulated \$7,050 in contributions to assist the Long Beach Library in its Hurricane Katrina Recover efforts. Many thanks to Charles, his club and his district. Also, thanks to his son Mark who made the trip with his dad. A formal presentation to the library will be made later today in Long Beach. Peggy Carlin of the Sunrise Club and Kay Spiers of the Petal Club were on hand to thank Charles and present him with a banner from their clubs. Conrad also presented a banner from the Hattiesburg club.

PROGRAM FOR MEETING OF OCT. 17TH

Bill MacLauchlan introduced the speaker, Sherman Hong. Sherman is the conductor of the Hattiesburg Community Band. He invited club members to the band's next performance, November 26, 2006. The Community Band will present the first half of the concert and the New Hub City Swing Band will be introduced and will perform the second half of the show. The concerts will be held in downtown Hattiesburg at the Sanger Theater.

Sherman gave the club a brief history of community bands. He has found records dating back to the 1500's. Most of the bands at that time were attached to military units. When America was settled, the band traditions came with the settlers. As the country moved westward, community bands became a vital part of each of the communities.

During the mid to late 1800's bands were introduced into public education in America, primarily through choral music. After the civil war there was a surplus of instruments and trained musicians so public schools and universities got involved in promoting bands.

After World War I football became a popular American sport, and of course, halftime is a perfect time for a marching band.

Sherman says Patrick Gilmore was the first American to introduce traveling bands. These bands traveled America and provided entertainment, but carried with them many of the military traditions found at the root of community bands.

The Hattiesburg Community Band was founded in 1983 in conjunction with the City of Hattiesburg. Public funding for the band has been withdrawn since then. The Hattiesburg Arts Council pays for any printing the band may now require, and the city provides free rental of the Sanger Theatre for performances. Many of the local schools, colleges and universities allow the band to borrow music, reducing the necessity of purchasing the music. All band members are volunteers, including the director. Band members come from the Pine Belt, Mobile, Alabama, Louisiana, Jackson, Mississippi and the Gulf Coast.

Sherman invited any club member interested in playing to volunteer. He promised them a good time

PROGRAM FOR MEETING OF OCT. 24TH

Lisa Slay is currently the Marketing Director for Wesley Medical Center, a position she began in May of 2005. At Wesley, Lisa is responsible for the creation and implementation of the annual business plan and she oversees a budget of approximately \$1 million.

Prior to her work at Wesley, Lisa was Director of Marketing and Public Relations at The University of Southern Mississippi, where she worked to create a stronger brand and marketing recruitment strategy for her alma mater.

She served as the Communications Director for the Office of the Governor of the State of Mississippi, Public Relations Coordinator for the City of Hattiesburg, and was the Marketing Officer for Trustmark National Bank in Hattiesburg.

Lisa received her B. S. Degree in Speech Communications with a minor in Public Relations from The University of Southern Mississippi, and began her career at Southern

Miss as a fundraiser and special events planner for the USM Foundation.

Lisa is a civic volunteer who has served on the board of The United Way of Southeast Mississippi. She was an active member of the Area Development Partnership, serving as past Chairman of the Retirement Committee, past Co-Chair for the Leaders For A New Century Steering Committee and past President of the Leaders For A New Century Alumni Association. Lisa is currently very involved in the ADP's Aesthetics and Beautification Committee where she is spearheading the efforts for Pick-up the Pinebelt.

Lisa was the chapter advisor for the Epsilon Delta chapter of Chi Omega Fraternity on the campus of Southern Miss and also served as Chairman of the Mississippi Miss Hospitality Pageant.

Lisa is a graduate of Mississippi Economic Council's Leadership Mississippi Program and was recognized as an Outstanding Young Woman of America. Most recently, Lisa was named one of Mississippi's 50 Leading Business Women for 2006 by the Mississippi Business Journal.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Rotary in India: An Example to Follow By Luis Vicente Giay

Dear Rotary family,

Recently, I returned from a short but extremely busy trip to India. In eight days, we visited seven cities, held six Rotary Foundation seminars, hosted six dinners and four luncheons to raise funds, met with several potential donors, and inaugurated two projects and visited four others. Never did I imagine that we would accomplish what we did.

In Mumbai, I had the opportunity to meet an exemplary Rotarian and witness his personal donation of US\$1 million to our Foundation — the first individual contribution of this amount made by a Rotarian from India. A few years ago, a donation of this magnitude would have been unheard of. As the result of our efforts during this trip, an additional \$2 million was received by The Rotary Foundation. What generosity! What a tremendous spirit of service!

Among donor countries in 2005-06, India ranks fifth in contributions to The Rotary Foundation. Who outside of this beautiful and enchanting country could have foreseen this level of fundraising success?

Rotary and Rotary Foundation activities in India should make us all very proud. The projects being carried out there are important, but what's most important is the personal commitment of the Rotary family in India to the ideals of our organization and to the work of The Rotary Foundation. Our friends followed the words of wisdom of Albert Einstein: "It is the responsibility of every human being to aspire to do something worthwhile, to make the world a better place than the one he found."

My sincere congratulations to our friends in India and to everyone who follows these principles and strives to achieve similar feats around the world. You make all of us proud to be Rotarians.

Sincerely,

Luis Vicente Giay
Trustee Chair, The Rotary Foundation, 2006-07

EDITOR: Gary Garner