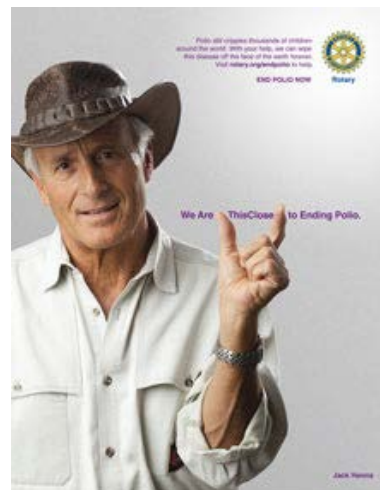


Rotary has the power to end polio, says Jack Hanna

Rotary International News -- 27 October 2011

Jack Hanna, director emeritus of the Columbus Zoo in Ohio, USA, is best known as the star of the syndicated television series *Jack Hanna's Into the Wild*. But he has also been recognized for his work rehabilitating victims of the genocide in Rwanda. Hanna, a participant in Rotary's "This Close" polio awareness campaign, spoke to RI News about his family's experience with polio, and the importance of Rotary's efforts to eradicate the disease.



Jack Hanna is a participant in Rotary's "This Close" polio awareness campaign.

RI News: Your brother contracted polio when you were a child. What impact did that have on you?

Hanna: My brother and his friend both contracted polio at about the same time in the '50s. He was eight at the time, and I was only five; I didn't really understand the disease and its complications. Back then, people didn't really know what caused it.

We all had to be careful where we went. We had to be very cautious that nobody else would get it. It's a terrible disease, and a lot of people who contracted it back then didn't survive. The polio went to my brother's legs, and he was forced to wear braces. After therapy, he was able to work through it.

RI News: How would you describe the impact of campaigns like "This Close" and End Polio Now?

Hanna: You mention World Polio Day in the United States, and people don't always understand the importance. Polio is a deadly disease in certain countries, and many people don't realize that.



Spokes

November 1, 2011
www.hattiesburgrotary.com

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

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2010-2011**

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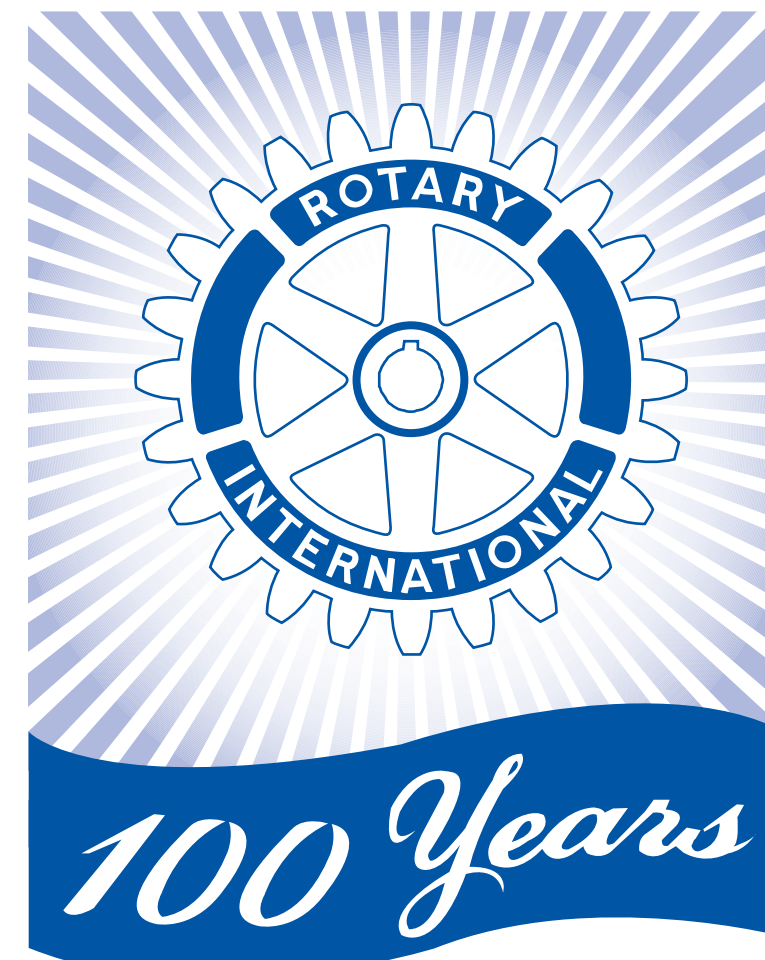
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To read more on this story, visit www.rotary.org

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President Robert Cummings presided over the meeting.

Thanks to Scott Hummel, who gave the Invocation, and to Conrad Welker, who led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Robert then led members in the Four Way Test.

Thanks to today's greeters, Richard Topp and Jerry Buti.

Sean Priebe thanked those who volunteered to assist with the meeting today. Ken West was recognized as a visiting Rotarian from the Petal Club. Mike Ratliff introduced Rusty Edwards as his guest. Stan Causey is a guest of Robert Cummings and Curtis Smith is a guest of Bill McLeod.

Patrick Ward announced that the Wine Tasting event will be held in conjunction with a Valentines event on the evening of February 9th. Members are invited to attend and bring their spouse or a guest.

Lucy Parkman reported that the Christmas event will be held as a lunch meeting on Tuesday, December 13th. Members are encouraged to invite their spouse or a guest. Fun, entertainment and an opportunity to participate in a project that will help some of the 110 foster children in Forrest County will be a part of the program.

Robert reported that the nominations and elections committee will be conducting elections to fill officer and director positions for next year's board in November.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Betsy Rowell then introduced today's guest speakers Web Heidelberg and Sally Hughes. Both are involved in the Gordon's Creek project. Web noted that Gordon's Creek is the largest water feature in our city as noted by three independent studies. All three of those studies suggested the city was missing a great opportunity if it did not utilize and develop the feature. The Historic Downtown Hattiesburg Association

formed a committee to begin research and study on the project. A conceptual plan has been created and an engineering firm has been hired to provide additional information. The next step in the process will be to raise the money to develop the Gordon's Creek Park Project.

Sally presented the conceptual plan which is broken down into a number of Districts. Each district has its own character and history and those items will be brought out in the development phase. The three elements that designers wish to emphasize in each district is the character of the district, the introduction of sustainable elements such as natural plan materials and bio-retention ponds. Each district will also feature art nodes that tell the cultural stories of the area.

The Zoo district is being developed first as a part of the extension of the Long Leaf Trace project. The second district to be developed will be the Downtown District. It will begin at the city parking garage across from Trustmark and will end around Town Square Park. Visitors will be able to walk along the shore of the creek in a number of places. They will also be able to cross under streets and train tracks. Other features will include accessible pools of water.

The conceptual plan is to eventually bring Gordon's Creek back to the way it was before the U.S. Corps of Engineers made significant changes to the creek in the late 1970's as a part of a flood mitigation plan. Sally notes that since that work it has been learned that many adjustments can be made to the creek without jeopardizing the flood mitigation efforts yet allowing the use of the creek for recreation, leisure and quality of life endeavors.



WEEKLY FOOTBALL BOARD GAME

Our football board game has had a couple of rule changes. If the winning square has not been purchased by a player the proceeds will carry over to the following week. Each week's winner will split the cash proceeds with the club which will benefit the Rotary Permanent Fund. The winner will not be announced until the end of the meeting, must be present to win. The winner last week was Erik Graham!

We Have a Facebook Page!

Visit Rotary Club of Hattiesburg on Facebook and "like" our page. Post your pictures, videos and comments.

READING BETWEEN THE LIONS LITERACY PROGRAM

Volunteers needed each week on **Tuesday or Friday** mornings at 9:30 to read children's books to Pre-Schoolers. Read for about 20-30 minutes.



The Family Y -
Veterans Memorial Blvd.
601-268-0808
Call Dan Kibodeaux or
sign up at lunch meetings
or email
dan@unitedwaysems.org
call 601-545-7141

November Reading Volunteers Needed!

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Tuesday, 10/4 9:30am | | |
| Friday, 10/7 9:30am | Jaclyn Adams | Steve Ramp |
| Tuesday, 10/11 9:30am | Chris Price | Conrad Welker |
| Friday, 10/14 9:30am | Wes Brooks | |
| Tuesday, 10/18 9:30am | Aime Spears Conrad Welker | Bill McLeod |
| Friday, 10/21 9:30am | Sean Priebe | |
| Tuesday, 10/25 9:30am | Lucy Parkman | |
| Friday, 10/28 9:30am | Wes Brooks | |

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- November 1** Presbyterian Christian School Forensics Team Sponsors Mrs. Dorcas Hawkins & Mrs. Jennifer Rayburn "Elements of Debate"
- November 8** Mr. David Drake, Mississippi Association of Independent Schools, Director of Technology "Challenges of Modern Technology"
- November 15** Dr. Lance Nail, Dean of the College of Business, USM "Update on Scianna Hall"
- November 22** TBA
- November 29** TBA

The RI president invites you to join him at the 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok

Rotary International News -- 3 October 2011

Learn more about RI President Kalyan Banerjee. Read his blog and send him a message, or you can share your photos of the president visiting your club.

Learn more

[Read the president's October message](#) about the 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok, from 6 to 9 May. Share the message in your club or district's newsletter and website.

Send a message and share photos

- Share your photos of President Banerjee on RI's Flickr group. Photos from the group may be used on www.rotary.org.
- Go to President Banerjee's LinkedIn question and let him know how you think your club has changed.
- Read the president's blog and send him a message.



Looking for Rotary District Information or International Information?
District Website www.rotary6840.org - Rotary International www.rotary.org