



SPOKES



NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG • DISTRICT 6840 • CLUB 04003

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Rotary Club of Hattiesburg
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Hattiesburg, MS 39401

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2014 BIKE•A•THON



MINUTES: October 28, 2014

President Wes Brooks presided over the meeting. Thanks to Mike Ratliff who gave the invocation and to Bill McLeod who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Thanks to Tracie Fowler and Kristy Gould for serving as our greeters today. There were no visiting Rotarians or visitors.

Wes reminded members of Saturday's Bike-a-Thon. If you haven't signed up to volunteer, please do so today. Volunteers are requested to remain for about 5 minutes after today's meeting for instructions. Thus far it appears that 90 rides have signed up for this year's event with registrations continuing.

Ryan Kelly then introduced today's guest speaker, Dr. Trenton Gould. Dr. Gould is the Associate Dean of the College of Health and a tenured professor within the School of Human Performance and Recreation at the University of Southern Mississippi. His topic today is the University's Sport and High Performance Materials Program (SHPM).

SHPM was begun in 2005. It was the first program in the nation to put together Human Performance, Engineering and Polymer Science. The project began with the development of highly improved mouth guard material for athletics. Its second focus was in the area of helmets and the material used inside the helmets to protect athletics.

Prior to the work of the USM program, helmets used a foam liner material to absorb the blows that athletes received. The USM project developed a pneumatic bag concept that provided improved cushioning to the head upon impact. If you visit the Virginia Tech University website you will find that two of the top five rated helmets in the nation currently use this technology. The same technology is being tested in military helmets and could lead to the development of a new head protection helmet for our military forces.

Another area of study for the program is that of shell degradation. It is a new area of research. The study group is trying to determine how long a helmet should be used to protect young players.

The current standard is a 10 year service life. However, that rule only went into effect two years ago. Many questions remain about how long a helmet can protect against catastrophic injury and how many times a helmet can be reconditioned before it becomes useless.

The SHPM program is also entering into a biomechanics study. Three schools in the area are using helmets in their football program that track every, single impact received. The monitoring system is expected to provide valuable data that the researchers can use in further development of helmets that will protect young players. This program is expected to expand in the Hattiesburg area in the coming year.

SHPM is also involved in injury surveillance studies. Beyond the well publicized concussion injury, Dr. Gould says there are many other injuries that occur that need to be monitored. The group has found that the majority of football injuries occur in spring practice when athletes are out of their training mode. Dr. Gould suggests that this research may indicate a need to change the way spring practices are conducted to prevent injuries.

The goal of the USM research program is to translate research into policy that will help prevent injuries to athletes. Dr. Gould says they want to determine if there is a problem and if there is a problem to determine what is causing it. Furthermore they hope to find ways to prevent the problem and finally to determine who needs to know the information they have developed from their work.

The sporting goods industry is a \$400 billion dollar a year industry. Perhaps the value of this USM program will be the development of economic development opportunities for the Hattiesburg area.

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

JOE WIEGAND

“President Theodore Roosevelt”

Joe Wiegand is regarded as the nation’s premiere reprisor of Theodore Roosevelt. Prior to becoming Teddy Roosevelt, Joe had a twenty-five year career in politics and public policy in his native Illinois. In 2008, after serving as campaign manager for gubernatorial and presidential campaigns in the Land of Lincoln, Joe set out with his wife, Jenny, daughter, Sam, and golden retriever, Faith, on a fifty state tour celebrating TR’s sesquicentennial birthday and the centennial of TR’s final year in office. The adventure was highlighted by a performance at the White House for President and Mrs. George W. Bush on TR’s 150th birthday.

Joe is a political science graduate of Sewanee, the University of the South, in Sewanee, Tennessee, and a former graduate assistant at the Center for Governmental Studies at Northern Illinois University, in DeKalb, Illinois. Joe is a Harry S Truman Scholar and a Thomas J. Watson Fellow. Joe is a member of the Sewanee-Monteagle Rotary Club and a member of the National Association for Interpretation. A former county commissioner in DeKalb County, Illinois, Joe and his family are living in Sewanee, Tennessee.

Today, Joe performs in all fifty states and internationally. He has been featured in film and television, most recently in “The Men Who Built America” on the History Channel and in “The Forward Pass: A Football Life” by NFL Films. Joe’s TR Tour is sponsored, in part, by the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation of Medora, North Dakota. More information is available at: www.teddyrooseveltshow.com.



Next Week: Jeffrey Burns, MD
 “Advancements in Joint Replacement”

PREMIER
ORTHOPAEDICS
& SPORTS MEDICINE



UPCOMING

NOV 11	Dr. Jeffrey Burns
NOV 18	Rotary Board of Directors Meeting (Southern Oaks)
DEC 2	Paige Kennedy
DEC 4	Paul Harris Society Foundation Gala
DEC 9	Clay Williams, Gulfport International Airport
DEC 15	Rotary Board of Directors Meeting (DuBard School)
DEC 23	NO MEETING
DEC 30	NO MEETING

Guest and visitors,

Thank you for coming to visit with us today! Are you interested in finding out more about the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg? Are you interested in how you might become a member? Would you like to be contacted by one of our members to discuss this? If so, please fill in the blanks below and we will be sure to contact you. Again, thank you! We hope you enjoyed your time with us.

Your Name: _____

Phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Questions/Comments _____