

SPOKES



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

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Valencia Williamson

Rotary Club of Hattiesburg 629 North Main Street Hattiesburg, MS 39401

www.rotaryofhattiesburg.com



MINUTES: October 21, 2014

President Wes Brooks presided over the meeting. Thanks to Steve Ramp who gave the invocation and to Kemi Simmons who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks to Lynn Walton and Amanda Lee for serving as our greeters today.

Aaron Ladner welcomed our guests. Damon Reese is a guest of Jerome Brown. Jane Kingsafer is a guest Tracie Fowler. Curtis Bishop is a guest of Erik Graham. Visiting Rotarian Charlie Lewis is a guest of Holt McMullan. Barbara McGilvery is a guest of Valencia Williamson. Paul Presley is a guest of the club and will be inducted as our newest member later.

There's only one more week to get the bag stuffers to the Bike-a-Thon committee members if you want your company represented in the participant's bags. Everyone in the club is asked to help put the race on. If you haven't signed up to volunteer yet, see Jennifer Payne or visit the website (www.rotaryofhattiesburg.com) and sign up today so your work assignment can be determined.



Wes read a thank you letter from the Extra Table for the generous contribution the club made to the organization during their presentation last week.

James Duncan and Paul Presley were asked to come forward. Paul was inducted and welcomed to the club as our newest member. He was challenged to join a committee and begin his efforts as a Rotarian. Paul thanked club members for this opportunity. He moved to the Hattiesburg area in 1989 and joined the Hattiesburg Fire Department in 1993. He worked his way up through the ranks serving as the Assistant Chief and just recently was named the HFD Chief. James is his sponsor.

Wes presented a motion accepted by the board at last month's board meeting to change the club's bylaws. "A motion was made and properly seconded to recommend to the membership a change to Article 6 Section 1 of the club's bylaws. That section currently reads, "If a member is unable or unwilling to pay dues for 180 days, he or she shall be removed as a member barring extraordinary circumstances." The motion, if accepted would change the section to read, If a member is unable or unwilling to pay dues for 90 days, he or she shall be removed as a member barring extraordinary circumstances."

During discussions it was suggested that the word "shall" be replaced by "may"

Motion: A motion was made and properly seconded to change Article 6 Section 1 of the club's bylaws to read, "If a member is unable or unwilling to pay dues for 90 days, he or she may be removed as a member barring extraordinary circumstances." The motion was accepted.

Ryan Kelly then introduced today's guest speaker, Dr. Wahnee Sherman, Executive Director of the Mississippi Rural Physicians Scholarship Program and the Mississippi Rural Dentists Scholarship Program. She has served in this capacity since 2013. The focus of the scholarship programs is to improve the health and dental health care in rural Mississippi. The physician scholarship program was begun in 2007 by a group of rural doctors and was created and funded by the Mississippi Legislature. Mississippi has the highest physician shortage rate of any state in the country. The problem is worsening because many of the rural physicians practicing today are aging and will have no replacement when they retire. The focus of the scholarship program is to help Mississippians afford medical or dental school without incurring an enormous student loan debt, making it somewhat easier for them to locate a practice in a small, rural area.

According to Dr. Sherman, most medical school graduates leave school with between \$150,000 and \$200,000 in debt. The scholarship program awards recipients \$30,000 a year which is about enough to cover tuition in most medical schools. It is estimated that a practicing physician will have an economic impact in their area of between ½ million and 2 million dollars annually. The goal is to have 30 new primary care doctors in rural Mississippi by 2017 making a \$60 million economic impact.

Recipients are recruited when they are in their sophomore year. The scholarship stays with the recipient for a total of 9 years. Today the program has 4 practicing physicians in the state. Additionally there are 33 in training residency programs, 54 in medical school and another 34 in undergraduate programs. Once they complete their medical and requirements they can practice anywhere in the state that is approved by the scholarship's board of directors. Their community must have a population of less than 20,000 and not have easy access to medical care.

The dental scholarship program was begun in 2013. It currently has 1 practicing dentist already in place, 6 dental students and 5 in the undergraduate programs.

If you would like more information on either of these scholarship programs, email Dr. Sherman at wsherman@umc.edu.

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

MOTION PASSES

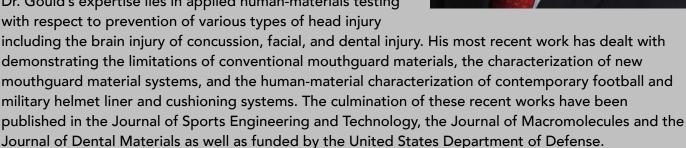
MOTION: A MOTION WAS MADE AND PROPERLY SECONDED TO CHANGE ARTICLE 6 SECTION 1 OF THE CLUB'S BYLAWS TO READ, "IF A MEMBER IS UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO PAY DUES FOR 90 DAYS, HE OR SHE MAY BE REMOVED AS A MEMBER BARRING EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES." THE MOTION WAS ACCEPTED.

DR. TRENT GOULD

The University of Southern Mississippi - College of Health

Dr. Gould is the Associate Dean for the College of Health as well as a tenured professor and graduate research faculty member within the School of Human Performance at The University of Southern Mississippi. Dr. Gould's main faculty responsibilities are associated with the University's Sport and High Performance Materials Program. This one-of-a-kind multidisciplinary program is a joint venture between the School of Human Performance and the School of Polymer Science and Engineering and is designed to cross-train students in both academic fields thereby preparing them to work in research and development in a \$400 billion dollar a year sporting goods industry.

Dr. Gould's expertise lies in applied human-materials testing with respect to prevention of various types of head injury



Along with his other Sport and High Performance Materials colleagues, Dr. Gould continues to develop a national expertise under the umbrella of sports medicine that specifically focuses on the new science and discovery of how sport materials and sport equipment interface with the human being.



UPCOMING	
NOV 1	BIKE-A-THON for Extra Table - Longleaf Trace Gateway
NOV 18	Rotary Board of Directors Meeting (Southern Oaks)
DEC 4	Paul Harris Society Foundation Gala
DEC 15	Rotary Board of Directors Meeting (DuBard School)



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 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	
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