## MINUTES FROM 9/08/2009

President Mary Cromartie presided over the meeting.

Rob Jackson gave the invocation. Greg Garraway led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mary then led members in the Rotary Four Way Test.

Gene Owens recognized today's visiting Rotarians and guests. Kim Bradley was guest of Todd Bradley. Brian Moore was guest of Mickey Allen, and Police Chief Frazier Bolton and His PR agent, Lakeisha Brown, were guests of the Rotary Club.

Thanks also for today's greeters Jennifer Payne and Tom Montgomery.

Mary reminded members that next week Ace Necaise, District Governor, would be attending. She made the announcement that the club has paid off the commitment to the Ogletree House, and that it is a beautiful building in Powell's honor. She also announced that Lucy Parkman would be considered a member as of the next board meeting.

Mary encouraged all members to make arrangements for Kollege of Knowledge this weekend.

Jaclyn Adams reminded members to purchase tickets for the wine tasting and silent auction held at the home of Mary Cromartie on October 16, 2009.

Erik Graham announced the price per player for the Annual Shadow Ridge Golf Tournament would be lowered, and reminded members the event is open to families and there will be a BBQ Social held afterwards.

The club then auctioned off two tickets on the 40 yard line for USM vs. Virginia which Johnny Stevens won for a mere \$70.00.

## LAST WEEK'S PROGRAM

Guest, Kim Bradley, then introduced today's guest speaker, Hattiesburg Police Chief, Frazier Bolton. Bolton, a Richton native, and early career Atlanta, Ga. officer has 37 years experience in law enforcement. He has a Bachelor's degree in criminal justice and a Master's degree in public administration.

Chief Bolton discussed the city's law enforcement from an outsider's point of view-turmoil, crime, and staff turnover. This is precisely what encouraged him to apply, and later reaffirmed his ability to do the job. He said his first priority was gaining trust from the force, because they are the ones who have to do the job. He captured their thoughts, ideas and beliefs and created a relationship where they support one another 100%.

Since his control in office in 2007, the department has witnessed a steady decline in all areas of crime for an entire 24 months. Bolton spoke of his new strategy of designating certain specialty teams to certain activity. They have a strike team for the beat, interdiction team for drugs, and a domestic violence/murder team. These efforts have been noticeably outstanding.

Chief Bolton also explicitly discussed drug search and seizure policies and procedures and how drug money is utilized for departmental financing and officer equipment to help support the city financially.

He also announced that the night before, the city made a major drug bust, taking into custody 9 of the 16 targeted drug dealers to prison and would continue the mission the following evening. This story was later released on the local news but he was pleased to inform the club first.

They plan to continue the drug awareness programs for the local schools and host events during the summer that encourage kids to play, swim and stay active versus less healthy options. Many applicants arrive at the academy daily creating a real sense of motivation for the staff.

Chief Bolton also stated that he wants the community to understand they can depend on the Hattiesburg Police Department to protect and serve. They still offer funeral escorts, among other things, which is a compassionate service that is not available to the public everywhere. Bolton and his forces are concentrating on making the city a wonderful place to live in the south, for people to enjoy and for businesses to expand.

We adjourned with the Rotary Club Motto.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Hattiesburg Rotary** Annual Golf Tournament with BBQ Social

Shadow Ridge Golf Club

October 30, 2009

12 noon.

Dr. Ted Harden, Jr Optometrist has generously decided to be title sponsor.

We need people to get teams up and try and get at least one \$100 tee sign sponsor.

Bring the family out for the BBQ after the tournament ends.

Space walk, food and

fun!

**Music by Remnants** 

We need players and sponsors for golf tournament.

\$65 per player (four players per team)

Putting green sponsor \$500

**Driving range sponsor** \$250

Tee box sign \$100

We would love for each rotarian to either find a 4 person team or find some sponsors.

See Erik Graham. **Robert Cummings, or Todd Bradley for more** information

HATTIESBURG ROTARY WINE TASTING SILENT AUCTION FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2009 7:00 PM 115 BEDFORD ROAD -Annual Hattiesburg Rotary Wine **Tasting Benefiting** Polio Eradication, Clean Water



# **Projects and Literacy Projects** Tickets 40.00 or Couples 70.00

See Jaclyn Adams, Mary Cromartie, or Jennifer Payne for tickets & if you would like to help with food or have items to donate for the auction.

THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE.... has proposed Betsy Rowell for membership into the Rotary Club of Hattiesburg. Betsy is actively involved in our community and a fine example of the type of Community Leaders we are proud to have in our club.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Sept 22	10:30am Kollege of Knowledge for all Red Badge Members and Board Members
Sept 22	Ace Necaise, Rotary District 6840 Governor
Sept 29	Dave Shelman - Regions Bank
Oct 16 Oct 30	Wine Tasting Event at Mary Cromartie's house Proceeds fund many of our projects Rotary Golf Tournament - with cookout to follow for all members and families

# Meeting Dates for Area Clubs

## Monday

Bay Springs - 12:00 City Hall Bolton - 7:30 Methodist Church Collins - 12:00 Cedars Restaurant Ellisville - 12:00 J.C.J.C. Cafeteria Jackson - 12:00 MS Museum of Art Lucedale - 12:00 MS Gulf Coast Community College Cafeteria Petal - 12:00 Civic Center South Hinds County - 12:00 BoDons Catfish & Seafood

# Tuesday

Columbia - 12:00 The Backdoor Restaurant Flowood - 12:00 River Oaks Hospital Laurel - 12:00 Laurel Country Club North Jackson - 12:00 St. James Episcopal Church

#### Wednesday Clinton - 12:00

Baptist Health Plex Gluckstadt - 12:00 Parker House Restaurant Hattiesburg Sunrise - 7:00 Wesley Medical Center Cafeteria Heidelberg - 12:00 Library Poplarville - 12:00 Pearl River C.C. Cafeteria Richton - 12:00 Magnolia Restaurant Waynesboro - 12:00 Western Sizzlin Prentiss - 12:00 Country Fisherman

### Thursday

Madison-Ridgeland - 12:00 Steam Room Grill I55 N Jackson Taylorsville - 12:00 MS Power Co. Building Wiggins - 12:00 Gulf Coast C.C. Cafeteria

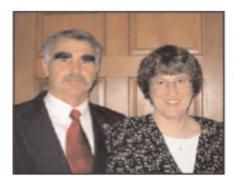
# Friday

Rankin County - 12:00 Rankin Co. Med. Ctr. Annex Slidell, LA - 12:00 Pinewood Country Club

# Rotary District 6480 Governor

# Ace Necaise

District Governor, 2009-2010



Ace Necaise was born and raised in Pass Christian, Mississippi. He has been a resident of the Mississippi Gulf Coast for over 47 years. He received his BS degree in Electrical Engineering in 1971 from Mississippi State University. While at State, Ace was a member of the MSU Track team (two years) and Kappa Beta Chapter of Theta Tau Engineering Fraternity.

In May of 1971, Ace moved to Birmingham, Alabama to work for Southern Services, Inc. as a project engineer. In July 1976, he moved to Hattiesburg, Mississippi to work for Natchez Electric and Supply Company, Inc. Ace began working for Singing River Electric Power Association October, 1981 and is currently their Gautier District Manager.

In February 1996, Ace joined the Rotary Club of Gautier, Mississippi. Early on, he worked with the Community Service Committee assisting with the distribution of holiday food baskets. Later, he became a board member and has served on the board of the Gautier Club for many years. He was club president 2003-2004. He served as Assistant Governor for 3 years in the East Coast Territory of District 6840 beginning in 2004-2005. Ace was District 6840's Rotarian of the Year 2004-2005.

In March 2005, as Special Representative, Ace assisted in the formation of the Rotary Club of Greene County, Mississippi. In November 2006 Ace served as Special Representative in the formation of Rotary Club of Hammond/Ponchatoula, Louisiana Sunrisers.

Ace is currently a member of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, a director of D'Iberville Chamber of Commerce, past secretary and past president of NRECA's T&D Engineering Underground Subcommittee, and a director of Chemical Abuse Prevention Services in Jackson County.

Ace is married to the former Patricia (Pattie) Costello. They have three children and one grandson. Their oldest daughter Stacey is married to Ryan Oneal Hansen. Stacey and Ryan have one son, Parker. Ace and Pattie also have a son Nathan and a daughter Katie who will both graduate from Mississippi State University in May 2007.

In his spare time Ace enjoys fishing and golf.

# ACE NECAISE

3105 Magnolia Lane Ocean Springs, MS 39564 FAX: (228) 497-4800

B: (228) 497-1313, ext. 2340

District Website: Rotary6840.org

# Spokes

September 22, 2009

www.hattiesburgrotary.com

Organized 1918 District 6840 Club Number 04003

> **ROTARY YEAR** 2009-2010

#### **OFFICERS**

MARY CROMARTIE President

> BILL MCLEOD President-Elect

ROBERT CUMMINGS Vice-President

MAURA MCLAUGHLIN

LAMAR EVANS

Secretary – Treasurer

Executive Secretary

**GENE OWENS** Sergeant-At-Arms

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Term Expiring – June 30, 2010 Steve Ramp

> Erik Graham Wally Weakley Patrick Ward

Past President: Richard Topp

Term Expiring – June 30, 2011

Heath Hillman Gene Owens Mike Ratliff Aime Spears

## SPOKES Editor

Aime Spears aspears@whlt.com Official Newsletter of the

# **ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG**

P.O. Box 15185 Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39404

