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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOVE, AGONY AND FORGIVENESS: A MISSISSIPPI STORY

“Pain Unforgiven” debut novel by Randy Pierce just released

GREENE COUNTY, MS — “Pain Unforgiven,” the debut novel by Randy Pierce, takes a controversial look into the life of Grant Hicks, a successful Atlanta attorney from rural Greene County, Mississippi. Pierce’s debut novel introduces the reader to a host of unforgettable characters, situations and issues that captivate the hearts of small town America.

Grant Hicks, a flourishing Atlanta-based attorney, has two missions in life – to never fail at any task and to NEVER return to Greene County. His untold history of painful memories pierced deep into the soul of Hicks. The novel chronicles the taboos, small town stereotypes and emotions Grant is forced to face after learning that his childhood friend, Brandon Smallwood, is dying. Brandon’s death bed wish is to see Grant one last time before his untimely passing. Grant has not been back to Greene County since he left to follow in the footsteps of his attorney father. Grant’s father, endeared and loved by the entire community, committed suicide while Grant was in college. A dark cloak of events estranged Grant from his father, leading up to the tragic ending of father’s life. Grant is compelled to tackle the gaping holes in his life when Brandon’s request requires him to return to the origin of his tumultuous past. Layers of disgust, resentment, and pain peel back like a Vidalia onion as he travels back down this troubled road to Greene County.

Grant assumes he will be able to say farewell to his dying friend and continue his existence “after” Greene County, but life unexpectedly draws him back to a place he swore to abandon. Jade Lott, the spirited town beauty, finds her way slowly into the murky abyss of Grant’s plagued heart. The embedded love story permeates through Grant’s continuous struggle with healing. A multitude of unforgettable characters assist in coloring the canvas of Grant’s life. Mysteries are unearthed and questions are answered during a series of events that explain his father’s death and his stated hatred for his childhood home.

“Pain Unforgiven” was released on May 10, 2011. The book is available in stores throughout the Southeast with book signings scheduled until the end of the year. For a complete list of book signings or for more information visit www.painunforgiven.com. You can see what readers are saying about the book on Facebook at www.facebook.com/painunforgiven.



Spokes

September 6, 2011
www.hattiesburgrotary.com

District 6840

Club Number 04003

Organized 1918

ROTARY YEAR
2010-2011

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Official Newsletter of the

ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

A CENTURY OF SERVICE



A NEW CENTURY OF SUCCESS

“SERVICE ABOVE SELF”

MINUTES FROM 08/30/11

President Robert Cummings presided over today's meeting.

Thanks to Gene Owens, who gave the Invocation and to David Owens, who led the Club in the Pledge of Allegiance. Robert then led members in the Four Way Test.

Special thanks to Wes Brooks and Maura McLaughlin for serving as our greeter.

Sean Priebe then welcomed today's guest. Aime Spears had Katie Townsend as her guest.

Congratulations to Scott Hummel who won two tickets to a USM football game donated by Erik Graham and Aaron Ladner who was the winner of a book written by today's guest speaker, Mandi Stanley.

Robert announced that the board has set April 24, 2012 as the date for next year's Night in Italy event. He also noted that Greg Buie has done an excellent job as chair of the Night in Italy event for the past three years however he will resign that position after the 2012 event. Robert is soliciting a co-chair for the 2012 event so they could train under Greg.

Robert also announced that the board has authorized a NFL Monday Night Football square program which will begin next week. Proceeds from the event will be split among the winner each week and a charity. If the winner isn't present the entire proceeds will be applied to the club's Rotary International Permanent Fund.

From the Louisiana clubs, a chili cook off is scheduled on October 29th at the Madisonville club. The Kenner club will host its annual golf tournament on October 6th.

Gene Winters reported that nine members have made their \$50 contribution toward the Joe Spell Paul Harris Fellowship memorial contribution. He encouraged other members who wish to participate to make their contribution soon.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Greg Buie then introduced today's guest speaker, Mandi Stanley. Mandi has more than 16 years of experience on the seminar circuit. She travels North America entertaining and educating seminar participants. Her client lists includes Campbell's Soup, The United States Air Force, the Mississippi Banker's Association and the NFL.

Mandi spoke to the group about "public speaking" which is the number one fear held by Americans. The fear of public speaking outranks the fear of death, the loss of a job, the fear of heights or the fear of spiders and snakes.

According to Mandi the most important part of public speaking is preventing what she calls "body leaks". She maintains that body language can either improve or destroy what would otherwise be a perfect presentation. She led the club through a group of exercises demonstrating proper stances and proper handshakes.

Content is king of any presentation. She suggests that you consider using story-telling and audience involvement to make your message more memorable. Adults learn better when their senses are stimulated according to Mandi.

In addition to content, she suggests that you master the fundamentals while you rehearse your presentation. Other important public speaking elements include your delivery and your other non-verbal skills.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Sept 6 Justice Randy Pierce
- Sept 13 Marcelene Thompson, DHS Children and Family, Adoption Unit
- Sept 20 Michael Marks, Just Over The Rainbow Acting organization (JORT)
- 27-Sep Kathy Emmons, FGH Spirit Girls

WEEKLY FOUNDATION RAFFLE

Our Foundation Chair, Brian Moore coordinates a raffle each week to help raise funds for the Foundation and also Polio Plus. Congratulations to Scott Hummel who won two tickets to a USM football game donated by Erik Graham and Aaron Ladner who was the winner of a book written by our guest speaker, Mandi Stanley. If you have items to donate to the raffle contact Brian Moore or Janice Touchstone.

We Have a Facebook Page!

Thanks to Jared Eastlack for setting this up and Jaclyn Adams for getting some items posted. Please go to Rotary Club of Hattiesburg on Facebook and "like" our page. Post your pictures 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

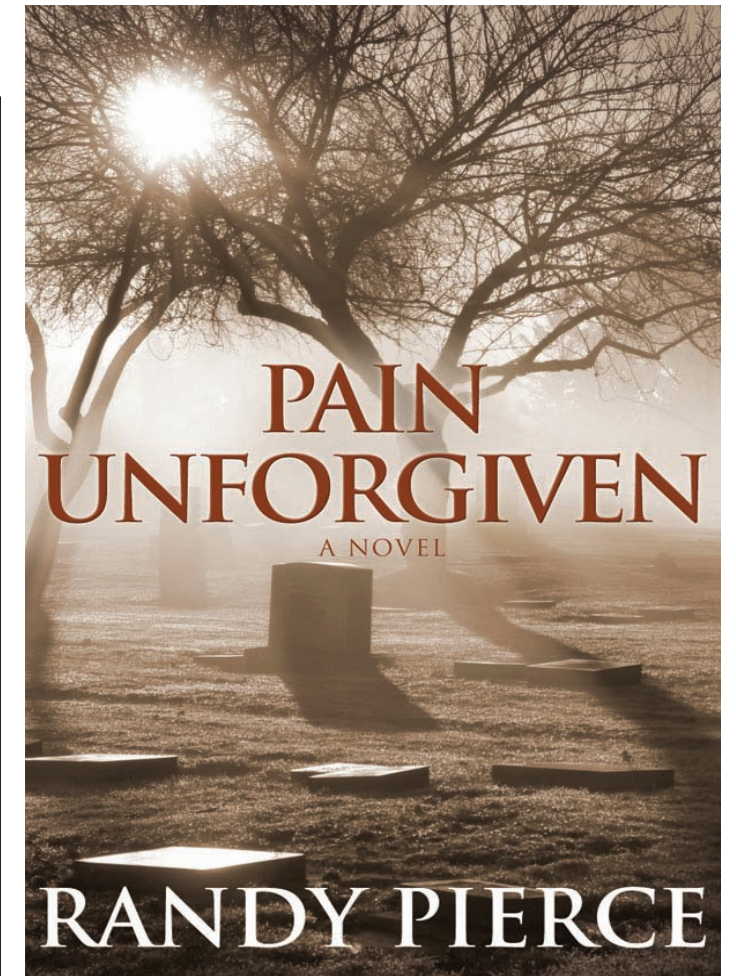
September Reading Volunteers Needed!

Date	Volunteer	Volunteer
Friday, 9/2 9:30am	Sean Priebe	
Tuesday, 9/6 9:30am		
Friday, 9/9 9:30am	Susan Steen	
Tuesday, 9/13 9:30am		
Friday, 9/16 9:30am	Wally Weakley	
Tuesday, 9/20 9:30am		
Friday, 9/23 9:30am		
Tuesday, 9/27 9:30am		
Friday, 9/30 9:30am	Aaron Ladner	

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Meet Our Presenter, Randy Pierce

Randy Pierce grew up in Greene County, Mississippi. He holds two degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi, a Bachelor of Science and MBA. Randy received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Mississippi. Randy has served in the Mississippi House of Representatives on the Agriculture, Transportation, Corrections, and Judiciary Committees, and as a Chancery Court Judge. He currently is an Associate Justice on the Mississippi Supreme Court serving the Southern District, Place Two, which covers 27 counties. Randy is a frequent public speaker, and he consistently receives high marks for his oratory ability. "Pain Unforgiven" is his first novel, and like his speeches, a perfect example of his ability to capture the audience and never let go.



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