

SPOKES

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HATTIESBURG

Upcoming

JUNE 7	HATTIESBURG HABITAT FOR HUMANITY
JUN 14	ANDY IMPASTATO—POLITICAL FORECAST & IMPACT TO HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY
JUNE 21	POLITICAL FORECAST & IMPACT TO HEALTH CARE—ANDY IMPASTATO
JUNE 28	AWARDS PRESENTATION, OFFICER INDUCTIONS



MINUTES: MAY 24, 2016

President Sean Priebe presided over the meeting. Thanks to Freddy Walter who gave the invocation and to James Mitchell who led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Thanks to Mike Ratliff and Kristy Gould who served as our greeters today.

Jaclyn Adams reported that we have no visiting Rotarians or guests today. She encouraged members to contact Rotarians who didn't make today's meeting.

Sean circulated sponsorship sign-up forms for the Bike-a-Thon. He reports that the committee is hard at work developing the details for this year's event. Rotarians who have companies interested in sponsorship should complete the form as soon as possible and get it turned in.

Maura McLaughlin noted that Christian Services has a need for volunteers who can deliver meals during the lunch hour for homebound Hattiesburg residents. One drive can cover one route and help five or six people. Contact Christian Services or Rotarian Jim Prout if you are interested in helping.

Jaclyn Adams then introduced today's guest speakers. Staci Cox is the Director of Marketing and Communication for the United Way of Southeast Mississippi. Elizabeth Winton currently serves as the Director of Volunteer Hattiesburg, a volunteer center under the United Way of Southeast Mississippi. Jaclyn noted the importance of today's speakers and how their topics can have a positive impact on Rotary next year. Rotary International has a theme of 100 hours of service next year for each club from January through April. Jaclyn's theme for our club next year will be Rotary Serving Humanity.

Staci notes that the United Way of Southeast Mississippi's primary goal is to help people. The organization's focus is in four primary areas including: Improving Education, Achieving Financial Independence, Promoting Healthy

Lives and Support Services. United Way of Southeast Mississippi serves 19 agencies in the four counties of its charter.

United Way believes that children and youth who have a quality education will learn and grow and reach their full potential.

The organization believes that if housing needs can be met the number of citizens in low income families who are financially unstable will be decreased.

The United Way believes that by improving improved physical and mental health and to help children avoid risky behavior there will be a decrease in the number of individuals who need support services.

And finally, the organization believes that support services should be available for those who need emergency services in times of crisis. United Way believes a system must be in place to provide fundamental resources during those times of need.

Elizabeth discussed how Volunteer Hattiesburg functions. As indicated earlier, it is a volunteer center within the United Way of Southeast Mississippi.

Volunteer Hattiesburg serves as a community hub for volunteers as well as nonprofit agencies in need of volunteers. The organization strives to create more awareness of the need and opportunities for volunteer service and then connects and mobilizes volunteers into areas where they can be productive. Currently Volunteer Hattiesburg serves 40 nonprofit agencies throughout the area.

Just to name a few, the organization has participated in the 9/11 National Day of Service, Project Homeless Connect and provided volunteers to help put together a prom for special needs individuals.

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Elizabeth noted that nonprofits can't do it all and are constantly in need of volunteers to provide the service element that can make them successful at helping those in our community. By volunteering you become more connected and more invested in the great good of this community. She also notes that by volunteering your impact will bring you joy.

For more information about the United Way of Southeast Mississippi you can contact Staci by email at staci@unitedwaysems.org or by phone at 601.545.7141, ext 2.

For more information about Volunteer Hattiesburg you can email volunteerhattiesburg@yahoo.com or call 601-545-7141. You can also participate in a statewide social network of volunteers at givegab.com.

Minutes provided by:
Lamar Evans, Executive Secretary



Next Week

**Michael Pascarella
Habitat for Humanity**

Habitat for Humanity®



Rotary Club of Hattiesburg



2015-2016

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Adams	Jaclyn M.	jaclyn.adams@bxs.com	Kelly	Ryan	ryan.kelly@horizonprofessionalservices.com
Akinwale	Abumere	abumereakinwale@gmail.com	Ladner	Aaron Anthony	aaronlander@gmail.com
Allen	Mickey	mickey.allen@bxs.com	Leblanc	Larry W.	leblanc3334@comcast.net
Anderson	Allen	aanderson@andersondesigncenter.com	Lochhead	Robert Y.	robert.y.lochhead@gmail.com
Aultman	Dorrance	da@aultmantlyner.com	MacLauchlan	William R.	wrmac@comcast.net
Bishop	Curtis Mathew	cbish03@gmail.com	McLaughlin	Maura	mauramc53@comcast.net
Brahan	Paula Ann	paula@paulabrahancan.com	McLeod	William E.	bmcLeod@eptaxlaw.com
Brooks	Wes	hattiesburgrotary@gmail.com	McMullan	W. (Holt) Holt	hmcMullan@trustmark.com
Brown	Jerome	cjbrown@thefirstbank.com	Meador	Joe	joemeador3@comcast.net
Burt	Cecil	jburt@prcc.edu	Mitchell	James Russell	mitchejlj9403@gmail.com
Carter	Phillip Marcus		Mitchell	Hayden	hmitchejl@thefirstbank.com
Chancelor	Amber Leigh	achancelor@forrestgeneral.com	Moore	Marcus Brian	brian.moore@bxs.com
Cole	Hoppy		Morris	Toxey	toxeymorris@bellsouth.net
Cooper	John Oliver	john_cooper@trustmark.com	Nugent	Katherine E.	katherine.nugent@usm.edu
Cromartie	Mary J.	marycromartie@bellsouth.net	Owens	David H.	dowens@owensbusinessmachines.com
Cummings	Robert R.	robertjr@candccpa.com	Owens	Gene	gowens@owensbusinessmachines.com
Davis	Daniel D.	ddavis@spepa.com	Parkman	Lucy	lucyparkman@gmail.com
Dillard	Evan	edillard@forrestgeneral.com	Payne	Jennifer	JPayne@camellia.com
Donald	Ben	benjamin.donald@kfcu.org	Peterson	Sara Robirtson	speterson@smepa.coop
Duncan	James	jandbdune@yahoo.com	Phillips	Brett P.	phillipsb@gsnb.com
Edwards	Paul Russell	rusty@ubchm.org	Priebe	Sean M.	sean.priebe@raymondjames.com
Evans	Lamar	amsle@megagate.com	Prout	Jim	pjim36@gmail.com
Fiveash	Dennis Wayne	dfiveash@trustmark.com	Ramp	Stephen W.	srampp@bellsouth.net
Fowler	Tracie	Tracie@unitedwaysems.org	Ratliff	Michael V.	mvratliff@gmail.com
Gammill	Stewart	sg3@aol.com	Read	Ashley R.	Ashley.Read@bxs.com
Garraway	Greg	greg.garraway@regions.com	Riley	Robert V.	
Gilbert	Faye	faye.gilbert@usm.edu	Shemper	Jonathan	jonathan.shemper@altertrading.com
Gilder	Jerry Q.	jggilder@gmail.com	Silberg	Gregg Stephen	gsilberg@wmcarey.edu
Gillentine	Elizabeth Broome	linaeab@bellsouth.net	Simmons	Kemi Leigh	kemi.simmons@grandbankfsb.com
Gould	Kristina	kristy.gould@hattiesburgclinic.com	Spears-Gerald	Aime	aspears@whlt.com
Graham	Erik	erikgraham@comcast.net	Stevens	John A.	bugman0625@aol.com
Granberry	Erin F.	eringranberry@comcast.net	Topp	Richard G.	richard@nicholsoncpas.com
Greer	Charles E.		Walter	Freddy	WALTERAGENCY@BELLSOUTH.NET
Griffith	John J.	john.griffith@regions.com	Watson	Jo Lynn	lynn.watson@yourcnb.com
Gustafson	David R.	dgustafson@lamar-times.com	Welker	Todd Owen	todd@mstreetumc.org
Harris	Anthony L.	anthony.harris@prvepa.com	Wicht	Conrad L.	lconradwelker@outlook.com
Hayhurst	David T.	david.hayhurst@usm.edu	Williams	William W.	wichtjr@aol.com
Henley	Daniel P.	danhleny@hotmail.com	Winstead	Janet K.	jwilliams@wmcarey.edu
Herzog	Angela T.	herzog_cpa@bellsouth.net	Yelverton	James K.	jameswinstead@comcast.net
Holifield	Joey Anthony	holifieldpest1@gmail.com	Zemetis	Chrissy	chrissy.cullinane@bksi.com
Hughes	William E.	whughes@bellsouth.net		Kevin T	kevin.zemetis@resultscenter.com
Hummel	Scott	shummel@wmcarey.edu			

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