



The Bath Tub

Hot Springs National Park Newsletter



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Week of June 5, 2023

Upcoming Programs:

June 7, 2023

Rotarian Diane LaFollette
Mid America Science Museum

June 14, 2023

Mariofanna Milanova, UALR Professor
Artificial Intelligence (AI)

June 21, 2023

Committee Achievement Day

HSPD Chief Billy Hvartin



L-R: President Neal Gladner, HSPD Chief Billy Hvartin, and Rotarian Bill Burroughs introduced our speaker, HSPD Chief Billy Hvartin. Hvartin is a native of Hot Springs who graduated from Cutter Morning Star High School and National Park College. With more than 3,600 hours of specialized law enforcement training, Hvartin is one of the most specially trained law enforcement officers in the state of Arkansas. He joined the HSPD in 1997 and spent 17 years in SWAT. He has been instrumental in developing new training concepts and techniques in the department. He was made captain in 2016, promoted to Assistant Chief in 2020, and worked alongside **Rotarian and then Chief Chris Chapmond** on the Violent Crimes Reduction Strategy. After serving as Interim Chief twice, he was appointed Chief of Police on March 29, 2023. Hvartin says that the appointment of police chief is the most important appointment that the city manager will make for the community.

Some of the other programs initiated recently include the Nuisance Abatement Program that was gleaned from North Little Rock. This has been very successful and a modified version of it still runs today.

He also instituted the Violent Crime Task Force with Chapmond, as well as Shot Spotter - the acoustic listening devices using GPS in an area of four square miles. These devices provide an immediate alert providing a close location when there are gun shots within that area. It has already been a great benefit and at least one life and potentially more has already been saved.

They have recently added a drone program used for special events and a couple of investigations. Another new program includes license plate readers, which can detect stolen vehicles as they drive down the road and tie them into a larger, national license plate database.

Hvartin is very proud of the reduction in violent crime over the last few years in our area.

Club Leaders



[Neal C. Gladner](#)
President



[Chris Franklin](#)
President-Elect



[Sara Brown](#)
Vice President



[Gary McKuin](#)
Secretary



[Courtney W. Moore](#)
Treasurer



[Diane LaFollette](#)
Club Director
ADM



[Tim Metcalf](#)
Club Director
Meetings & Activities



[William Solleder](#)
Club Director
Service Projects

Chair
Community Service Chair



[Cheryl Lynn Stafford](#)
Club Director
Youth

Some items for the future and going forward include:

* The return of the Citizens Police Academy and Teen Police Academy, which were stopped during Covid.

* A real-time crime center, which will be a room inside of the department that feeds information back to the Police Department in real time. Specific software brings several resources together to provide lots of information to officers even during route to the scene of a crime. They could also tie in shot spotter to this center. It would be great to have it all in one location. But at this time, they still need the right software and personnel to work it.

* Community Policing Response Team, which is a crime suppression unit. The city is divided into 7 zones and has at least one officer working in each zone. The Community Policing Response Team puts men and women out there in uniform that aren't tied to a particular zone. 3 members are already in place for this and more will be added when manpower allows. They have received a \$650k COPS grant over the next 36 months that will assist with the cost, yet this program has already done good things. They have been able to make arrests that have been outstanding for quite a while.

* Hvartin also wants to start an internal leadership mentoring program at the Police Department.

Some issues that are facing law enforcement today include hiring and recruiting. This is the A#1 issue for them, as law enforcement is the most criticized profession in the nation. Higher salaries are necessary and he is grateful that the Board of Directors recently provided a much needed large incentive package.

Media relations/social media are balancing acts for law enforcement. While they want people to understand what they are doing, they can't tell people for fear of tipping them off and negatively impacting a case. They must maintain integrity at all times and they just want to find justice for victims. Hvartin's philosophy is that we need to be aggressive towards crime in order to keep our community safe and secure.



[Donna K. Smith](#)
Club
Executive
Secretary



[Tiffany Tucker](#)
iPast
President



[Michelle Ratcliff](#)
Assistant
Governor

Birthdays

James Bornhoft
June 16th

Jimmy M. Pate
June 16th

David Trice
June 23rd

Charles H. Dante Jr.
June 23rd

Gary A. Troutman
June 28th

The 4-Way Test

INVOCATION
Justin Nicklas



PLEDGE
Christie Dawson



4 WAY TEST
Scott Dews



The Rotary Scholarship Trust Drawing



Susan Harper and John Hoefl were all smiles while getting to draw for the Ace of Diamonds, but alas.....the old Ace continues to hide out in the deck of cards. Next week, if someone draws her, they will win half of the pot! We will begin the week with:

\$ 819 in the pot

26 cards in the deck

Guests

Rotarian **Sarah Richardson** introduced our guests this week:

Karol Bailes introduced prospective member, Gefer Sims, **Scott Dews** introduced prospective member Brent Atkins, **Corey Alderdice** introduced prospective member Whitney Moore and **Gary Troutman** hosted Sheryl Staggs and Vickie Gilliam.



Prospective Members

The Board and Membership Committee have approved the following prospective members. If there are no written objections sent to the secretary within 3 days of this second publication, they will become members at our June 7 meeting.

Brent Atkins

VP Commercial Lending, First Security Bank
Rotarian transferring from Oaklawn Club
Sponsored by **Scott Dews**

Gefer Sims

Owner, Gefer Sims Weddings and Events
Sponsored by **Renee Bartholomae**

Whitney Moore

Director of Finance, ASMSA
Rotarian Transferring from the HSNP After Hours Satellite Club
Sponsored by **Corey Alderdice**

Announcements

COMMITTEE PREFERENCE FORMS

Attached to this newsletter is a committee list with descriptions for you to use to select which committee(s) you'd like to serve on next Rotary year (July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024). Please respond to Donna K with the committee(s) of your preference. Like President Neal said, if you don't respond, you WILL be assigned to a committee! **DEADLINE FRIDAY, JUNE 2!!!**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

HSNP ROTARY CLUB'S INSTALLATION BANQUET

The annual Installation Banquet will be held on **Tuesday, June 27** at 6pm in the Lake Hamilton Ballroom (7th floor) of the DoubleTree Hotel. Members and a "plus one" are invited to attend. Evites were sent out earlier and flyers have been on the tables for the past few weeks. **Please let Donna K know if you will be coming by Tuesday, June 20.** Reply to hsnprotaryclub@gmail.com

Board Notes

The next Board meeting will be held at the Hot Springs Country Club on **Tuesday, June 13 at 11:45.** As always, all membership is invited to join us, especially new members who are trying to earn that coveted Blue Badge! Please let Donna K know if you plan to attend.

President Neal Gladner

Congratulations to our member, **Dr. Stephanie Nehus** on the ground breaking Wednesday morning for the new Hot Springs World Class High School. I'm told ground was actually broken a bit earlier, but Wednesday was the "official" or "ceremonial" ground breaking. The new school is at 821 Emory Street, which is the site of the former soccer field, just up from the current building. Completion of the new building is expected to be in June, 2025.

It has been a bit since I've looked at the current status of polio cases, so I checked the most recent report that was updated last week. The World Health Organization, which tracks this, shows only three confirmed cases of the wild virus, 2 in Afghanistan and 1 in Pakistan. There are other unconfirmed cases



from other sources that total 23 as of this past April. It was a milestone you'll recall that Rotary International earlier this year was finally able to set a timetable for the total eradication of the disease – and that is still 2025.

I'll end my message with a few thoughts about finding happiness in “the little things”.
 Author Sharon Draper wrote: ***“Perfect happiness is a beautiful sunset, the giggle of a grandchild, the first snowfall. It's the little things that make happy moments, not the grand events. Joy comes in sips, not gulps.”***

Or ***“I don't have to take a trip around the world or be on a yacht to have happiness. I can find it in the little things, like looking out into my backyard and seeing a deer in the fields”***
 – from actress Queen Latifah.

Absence

Barrett, Matt Bartholomae, Blake O. Bennett, Delores C. Blackmon, Kelsey B Bornhoft, James Bradford, Jay Brinlee, Bryan Britton, Beau Brown, Jeremy W Chapmond, Chris Couch, Mary Anne Crawford, Roger Dante, Charles H. Jr. Dingler, Brett Disney, Daniel E. Dodd, Nick Echols, Taryn E. Gooch, Lloyd (Don) Harris, William T IV	Helm, Michael D. Hogan, John A. Kerst, William L. Koller, Rob Lipton, Michael J. Martinez, Rafael McGrew, Richard W. McNary, Mechele Mitchell, Tanya Moore, Courtney W. Mouton, Alex Northern, Martin Patel, Parth Peine, Brett Poole, Richard Porter, Lance A. Praetzel, Daron C. Pratt, John A. Ratcliff, Michelle	Roberts, Thomas W Ross, Doug Sample, William H. Shelby, Gene Simmons, Svetlana Smith, Janet E. Solleder, William Stephens, Noelle Stepka, Jordan Stobaugh, John S Taylor, Kathy H. Thompson, Ashley Thurber, Darla Tucker, Tiffany Tuohey, James Michael Wagstaff, Cindy Warren, Les A. Warren, Will	Active-R85 Bailey, Larry A. Brunner, John H. Craft, Joyce L. Creason, Bill G. Davenport, H. W. Endicott, Lynn E. Payton, Richard
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Thought for the Week

"Imagination grows by exercise,
 and contrary to common belief,
 is more powerful in the mature
 than in the young."
 ~Paul McCartney