



# Rotary

Club of Jackson,  
Mississippi



## Rotagram

April 28, 2025

The Rotary Club of Jackson welcomed **Andrew Seymour, Mississippi Mud Monsters General Manager.**

His presentation was **"Delivering Fun for the Whole Community One Pitch at a Time."**



**L to R:** Andrew Seymour, General Manager, Mississippi Mud Monsters; Kathy Hackshaw, Corporate Director, Retail/GM, Outlets of Mississippi; Phillip Carpenter, Rotary President and Owner, Carpenter Properties; and Deonte Oscar, President of Hinds Division, Community Bank of Mississippi

**President Phillip Carpenter welcomed Rotarians and guests.**

**He also led the Club in the Four Way Test.**

**Rob Salley** delivered the Invocation.

**Ted Jackson** led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Scott Waller** introduced our visitors:

**Visiting Rotarians:**

Charlie Johnson, North Jackson Rotary Club

**Visiting Guests:**

- Keith Wilson, Mississippi Mud Monsters
- Chris Tapia, Mississippi Mud Monsters
- Becky Redd's guest - Sharon Berry Clark, Procurement Supervisor, Department of Medicaid
- Dr. Deborah Wright's guest - Linda Haynes, Nursing Director, Sincere Home Care
- LeRoy Walker's guest - John Horhn, Democratic Nominee for Mayor of Jackson
- LeRoy Walker's guest - James Sibley, Field Director, John Horhn for Mayor
- LeAnne Brewer's guest - Jennifer Allen, Manager, Corp Communications, Southern Farm Bureau Life

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Rotary Social** - May 12 at TopGolf from 4:00 – 6:00. More information will be provided closer to the date.

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**MEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:**

Willie Crossley	04/27/2015	10 years
Richard Wilbourn	04/30/2002	23 years

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**Monday, May 5, 2025**, the Rotary Club of Jackson will welcome Walter Michel, Mississippi State Senator.

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Kathy Hackshaw introduced Andrew Seymour, Mississippi Mud Monsters General Manager.

## About the Mississippi Mud Monsters

Baseball Lives Here. It Just Got a Little Weirder.

There's baseball... and then there's swamp baseball.

The Mississippi Mud Monsters are a professional baseball team based in Pearl, Mississippi, competing in the Frontier League as a member of the West Division in the Midwest Conference. They officially joined the league as an expansion team ahead of the 2025 season — but make no mistake: They've been stirring the waters here for a while.

Their home is Trustmark Park, an 8,480-seat stadium that once housed the Mississippi Braves of the Southern League. For 20 seasons, professional baseball thrived in Pearl. And now, with the arrival of the Mud Monsters, that streak continues into its 21st straight year — just with a few more teeth, scales (okay, whiskers — catfish don't have scales), and weird little surprises hiding around every corner.

### Their Story

It all started on September 9, 2024.

That's when the Frontier League announced that Pearl would get an expansion franchise right after the Atlanta Braves' Double-A affiliate revealed they'd be relocating to Columbus, Georgia. The timing could've felt like a goodbye — instead, it became a chance to say what if?

From day one, this team was built for Pearl. Led by owner Joseph Eng, General Manager Andrew Seymour, and Assistant GM David Kerr, the Mud Monsters were created to be more than just replacements — they wanted to be a reinvention.

At first, they were known only as “On Deck 2025,” a placeholder name, while they invited fans to shape their identity. Between September 9 and September 26, 2024, over 5,600 people voted in their “Name the Team” contest. The final choices? Mississippi Mud Monsters, Mississippi Grits, and Mississippi Soul Shakers.

On September 27, the people spoke. And the swamp answered.

The Mississippi Mud Monsters were officially born.

Their name, their colors (teal and aquamarine), and their logo, revealed on October 10, 2024, weren't just design decisions. They were declarations. This was going to be something different, something campy, something fun, something ours.

## **Their Ballpark**

Trustmark Park, Pearl, Mississippi

Capacity: 8,480 people... and one suspicious ripple in the outfield pond.

Trustmark Park has been the beating heart of baseball in Central Mississippi since 2005. Now, it's the Monster's lair. They've freshened things up — new signage, new paint, new life — but they kept what matters: that unmistakable summertime feeling when the lights flicker on and something magical fills the air.

And now, thanks to a few tweaks (like no more paid parking), it's easier than ever to make a night at the ballpark feel like home — even if that home includes the occasional monster sighting.

## **Their Culture**

- They believe baseball should be:
- Unapologetically fun
- A little weird
- Wildly welcoming
- And deeply rooted in the places they call home.

This is baseball that belongs to everyone. Whether you're a lifelong local or just passing through, they want you to feel part of something special, like you've stumbled into the kind of summer night you'll still be talking about years from now.

They're not trying to copy the big leagues. They're trying to create something you can't find anywhere else. This is swamp-built, Mississippi-made magic. And they're just getting started.

## **Meet Fish**

Mascot. Swamp dweller. Local cryptid. Best left slightly unexplained.

Fish is the spirit of the Mud Monsters — strange, slippery, full of attitude, and oddly lovable. He might show up in the stands, on the concourse, or in your nightmares (in a good way). Nobody knows where he came from... and honestly, nobody wants to ask.

He's here. He's theirs. And he's ready to make Pearl weird again.

## **Still Curious?**

Then you're one of them already.



Pull up a seat. Grab a souvenir. Eat something on a stick; you probably shouldn't. And keep one eye on the field... and one eye on the swamp.

The Mississippi Mud Monsters are here. And they've got a ballgame to play.

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## MORE PHOTOS



Brad Hall, Jack Blackburn, Steve Corbit, George Gammon, and Bernard Bridges



Ray Lenow, Mark Saxon, and Karla Tye



Jennifer Allen and LeAnne Brewer





Thea Faulkner



Andrew Seymour, General Manager, Mississippi Mud Monsters



Mark Fields and Tom Johnson



President Phillip Carpenter



Scott Day





Hugh Trussell



Becky Redd and Sharon Berry Clark





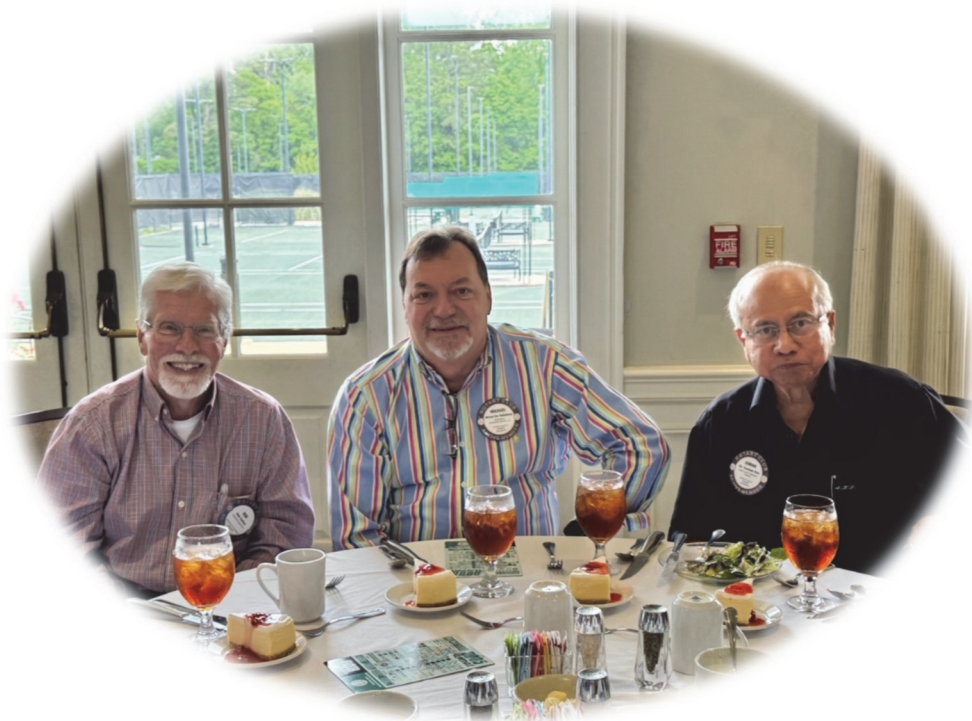
Linda Haynes and Dr. Deborah Wright



Sharon Momen and Seth Dickinson



Mark Fields, Lee Bush, Keith Ferguson, and Tom Johnson



Rob Salley, Michael Van Velkinburg, and Dr. Suman Das







