



From Our District Governor
Working and Learning Together to Expand Our Reach

By Mary Ligon
The statement to the left is powerful - the heart of Rotary International's vision for what we can accomplish. As individual Rotarians, as clubs ... all the way up to the RI level, we have a tremendous opportunity to make a positive difference in the world. And to grow ourselves - through contacts, experiences and knowledge sharing. Rotary International gives us many of the tools and resources we need to plan, take action and be successful. You can access many of those resources through Rotary's Learning Center; you can also participate in Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) courses (see an article about RLI later in the newsletter). Take, for example, Membership - an area you know is important to me and the #1 priority of our Rotary International President.
[more]

LEADERBOARD Check out the full district scoreboard

Here are the clubs that are leading the way in our district for membership, annual fund and polio plus.

Category	NET MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL FUND	POLIO PLUS
I	Fayetteville	North Atlanta	Brookhaven
II	North Columbus	North Fulton	Vinings Cumberland
III	Marietta	Dunwoody	Carrollton-Dawn Breakers
IV	Roswell	Roswell	Peachtree City

Key Dates



From Our RI Director

Join Zoomformation Call - Monday December 6 at 1:00 pm

By Mary Ligon

Once again, I am pleased to announce that the upcoming Zoomformation call (login details below) on December 6 at 1:00 pm will include three very distinguished speakers. As December is Disease Treatment and Prevention Month, the focus of each presentation will be on a different aspect of public health. Each of our speakers are leaders in their respective fields. You will not want to miss this Zoomformation call.

Please invite your Rotarian friends to join the call. Join Zoom Meeting at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85181928278?pwd=OTZyZVlycDdCS1lCSkIGZ0VpTVcwQT09> [more]



Our Rotary Foundation at Work

Meriwether County Students Benefit from D6900 Competitive Grant

By Laurie Lewis
When District Governor Mary Ligon made her official visit to the **Rotary Club of Meriwether County**, she toured the Wrap Around Care Center at Manchester High School - the beneficiary of one of the competitive \$10,000 grants awarded by Rotary District 6900. A school and community-based partnership providing one-stop Community Access to Resources and Education (CARE) the resource center focuses on the whole child by providing access to resources, services, and opportunities for Meriwether County students. [more]

Membership

Way to Grow! Keep It Going ...

By Jaclyn Donovan

Welcome these new members to District 6900 in November:

- Roswell - Alicia Hughes, Bill Hoban, Clifton Sprinkle, Haniel Jones, Tillie O'Neal
- Vinings Cumberland - Nate Muller
- Fayetteville - Katie Shawn
- Newnan - Brent Blankenship
- Thomasville - Lindsay Clay
- North Cobb - Marisela Lema, Brenda Fischer, Austin Abney
- Moultrie - Brad Gregory
- Lake Spivey/Clayton County - David Lighten Jr., Larry Vincent
- Columbus - Vivian Bishop
- Carrollton - Keith Carroll
- Buckhead - Alan Redding, Jane Arney
- Alpharetta - Deana Lindo, Victor Jones

Expanding our reach is one of our four strategic action priorities.

Congratulations to thee 36 clubs who have a YTD net increase in membership (click more to see the list). Every club needs a strategy for growth. Need help with yours? Please reach out to district membership chair, Jaclyn Donovan so she can connect you with resources that will help your club expand their reach.

[more]

The
Rotary
Foundation



The Rotary
Foundation

An Update on Giving for 2020-21

By Mary Ligon

Having just wrapped up November where our focus has been on the Rotary Foundation - our charity of choice - special thanks and recognition banners go to these clubs for their gifts to the Foundation in the 2020-2021 Rotary year. As we reported last month, the top three clubs based on per capita giving to the annual fund for 2020-2021 are:

1. Emory-Druid Hills at \$1777.78
2. North Fulton at \$1625.55
3. Muscogee-Columbus at \$1598.08

We also want to recognize the two groups of 24 clubs - one for achieving EREY and 100% sustaining club status, and the other group for giving at least \$1,500 in the last Rotary year to polio. [more]

Celebrating

— 75 Years —



THOMASVILLE, GA

GRSP 75TH GALA

FRIDAY | 6:30 P.M. | 1.21.22
DINNER & RECOGNITION
THE PLAZA RESTAURANT

DEDICATION

GRSP PEACE PLAZA & WILL WATT MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN

SATURDAY | 11:30 A.M. | 1.22.22
COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT
DOWNTOWN

[HTTPS://GRSP.ORG/CALENDAR-OF-EVENTS](https://grsp.org/calendar-of-events)

GRSP 75th Anniversary Help Celebrate 75 Years of GRSP Next January

By Katheryne
Fields

Two special
events are
planned for
Thomasville in
January 2022 to
celebrate the
75th
anniversary of
the Georgia
Rotary Student
Program. We
would love to
have you join us
for:

- **The GRSP
75th
Celebration
Dinner on
Friday,
January 21,
2022** at 6:30
PM at the Plaza
Restaurant
located at 217
Broad St.,
Thomasville.
The event will
feature ...
[more]



Youth and Peace in Action Sign Up for Guiding Young Peacebuilders and Get Involved

By Becky Stone
District 6900 is a designated
Champion (!) in the Zones 33 &
34 Youth & Peace in Action (YPA)
program, the largest local
peacebuilding initiative in Rotary
history. Any Rotarian in our
District can join in by registering
for the online YPA Guiding Young
Peacebuilders course, at no cost,
and learn what peacebuilding
involving Rotarians and young
people is all about:
<https://tinyurl.com/GYPRotary>.
There's a YPA online discussion
community available with the
course. Read more about the
program.
[more]



RI Convention
2022

Join Us in Houston - Last Call for Reduced Rates

By George Granade
Rotarians around the world are excited to gather again in-person to connect, share ideas, and strengthen relationships in an atmosphere of friendship and learning. The 2022 Rotary International Convention in Houston, Texas offers that opportunity - and we remain optimistic that we'll be joining the world in person June 4-8, 2022. There's already ...
[more]



Rotary Leadership
Institute

Start the New Year Off Right with RLI

By Stephanie
Windham

Rotary Leadership Institute offers a learning experience like no other Rotary training. It provides the opportunity to interact with Rotarians from all over Georgia in person, and all over Georgia, Florida and the Caribbean online. RLI is interactive, fun, and a great way to share ideas with a diverse group of Rotarians outside the confines of one's own club. The bigger world of Rotary is out there waiting for you! Do you know about Rotary Fellowships? Rotary Action Groups? The history of the Four Way Test? The Rotary Foundation and the good it is doing in the world? Do you want to know more about ways to attract new members and keep your current membership engaged and active in your club and beyond? If you answered "YES" to any of these questions, then RLI is right for you!

The Rotary Club of Barnesville graciously hosted RLI at Gordon State College
[more]

For the Club Leadership Team

Reminders As We Move into 2022

By Jackie Cuthbert

As we get ready to turn the calendar to 2022:

- **Presidents-Elect should be selecting their leadership teams for the next Rotary year.** Club officers and directors for 2022/23 year should be entered in myrotary.org system by December 31 so that the incoming team receives messages about training and information to help them get ready to lead in the upcoming year

- **Clubs should update their club membership and officer information in preparation for the January 2022 club invoices** from Rotary International and the District. Make your updates by January 1, using (Mary - please confirm whether it through District site or myrotary.org?)

- **The GRSP student selection process will take place in Thomasville in late January** - clubs wishing to participate in hosting a student must submit their commitment forms to the GRSP office no later than January 14. The Student Selection "book" is all online this year, and club presidents should have received an email November 22 with access to the online site. Contact the GRSP office if you have questions.

[more]



Calling All Rotary Anti-Slavery Superheroes!

By Jackie Cuthbert
The Rotary Action Group Against Slavery (RAGAS) - led by District 6900's own Dave McCleary - will hold a Zoom meeting on December 8 at 9:00 AM Eastern time. You may join using this **Zoom link**. The meeting will feature presentations by Matt Friedman, an internationally renowned expert on modern slavery and RAGAS Coordinator Amelia Stansell. RAGAS is committed to connect, empower and equip Rotarians to engage their communities to eradicate all forms of human trafficking/modern slavery, locally and around the globe.
[more]



GRSP Spotlight
**Meet
Some of
the Class
of
2021/22**

By Katheryne
Fields

What do Yoonho,
Geisha, Sagar
and Hanna
(clockwise from
top left) have in
common? All
four are among
the District 6900
sponsored
students in the
Georgia Rotary
Student
Program's Class
of 2021/22.

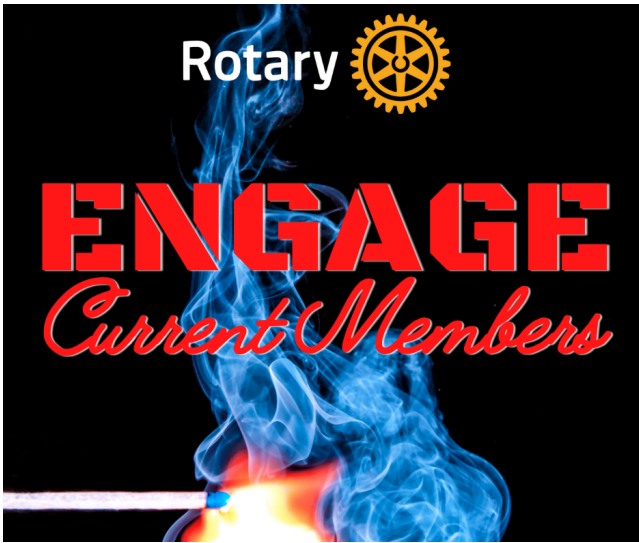
Yoonho was VP
of the Teach
North Korean
Refugees Global
High School
Union in South
Korea; Geisha
was Interact
Club president in
Colombia before
coming to
Georgia; Sagar
comes to us
from Australia -
and is competing
in Rowing at
Georgia State,
and Hanna
traveled from
Norway to
Wisconsin to
participate in a
Rotary World
Affairs seminar
in 2019. All four
are here for a
year's
scholarship,
thanks to the
support and
involvement of
Rotarians
throughout the
State of Georgia.
Learn more
about them.
[more]



Our Rotary
Foundation at
Work

Global Grant Project Focuses on Downs Syndrome Learning in Brazil

By Bob Koncerak
Six Alpharetta
Rotarians
traveled to
Pelotas, R.S.,
Brazil. They were
hosted by the
Rotary Club of
Pelotas-Oeste
(D4680) as the
clubs made
progress on a
Down Syndrome
learning center
and education
project. Meetings
and events
included city,
regional and
federal officials.
During the visit,
Pelotas-Oeste
finalized a \$2,500
commitment for a
Basic Education
and Literacy
(BEL) program,
and D4680
announced a
\$5,000 BEL
commitment.
These funds,
along with
financial
participation from
the **Stone
Mountain,
Dunwoody,
Peachtree City,
Roswell and
Alpharetta** clubs
support funding
of a \$63,000 BEL
global grant
project now in
development. All
six of the Pelotas
Rotary clubs
joined the
Alpharetta team
at a November 18
celebration
dinner.
[more]



Membership
Are you looking for ways to engage current members?

By Jaclyn Donovan
Use these Rotary resources to learn strategies that will keep members involved:

- Best Practices for Engaging Members — Take this Learning Center course to develop strategies for engaging people at all stages of membership.

- Practicing Flexibility and Innovation — Take this Learning Center course to help you better serve the needs of members and prospective members.

- Find ideas, a FAQ, and other resources on rotary.org/flexibility.

- Enhancing the Club Experience — Tailor this member satisfaction survey to get opinions [more]

Laws
of
Life



THE GEORGIA
ROTARY CLUBS
LAWS OF LIFE
ESSAY CONTEST

Laws of Life
**Laws of
Life
Essay
Contest:
You Be
the
Judge**

By Jackie
Cuthbert
The Georgia
Laws of Life
Essay contest
is coming up
this
winter/spring,
with thousands
of essays from
high school
students
around the
state.
Volunteers are
needed as
Essay Judges
for the Georgia
Rotary Clubs
Laws of Life
Essay Contest.
As a Contest
Sponsor you
and your club
members are
invited to
participate in
the judging
process. The
response from
schools has
been
tremendous
this year. We
expect to
reach the
number of
essays we had
in 2019,
doubling last
year's
numbers!
Thus, now
more than
ever, we need
your help. The
judging
process kicks
off on
February 14,
2022 - read on
to see how you
might help.
[more]



Club News

East Cobb Honors Public Safety; Welcomes New Member

By Fred Hanna
Many members of the **East Cobb Rotary Club** attended a celebration for the East Cobb Law Enforcement Division. East Cobb Rotary has been a founding sponsor since the inception several years ago. In addition, during her official visit, DG Mary helped the club welcome Dustin McCormick as a new member.



Club News

Dunwoody Continues 20+ Year Tradition of Magic

By Jackie
Cuthbert

For more than 20
years, Dunwoody
Rotarians have
gathered early in
December to do
magic -

converting
elementary
school books into
magical holiday
presents for each
student at
Dresden

Elementary
School. Rotarian
Roy Ethridge and
his wife Franci
took the lead on
these efforts for
many of those
years - inviting
us to their home
and garage the
first Saturday in
December to
enjoy coffee and
breakfast
goodies and add
book labels and
English/Spanish
vocabulary cards
to about 1,000
books. It was the
start to our
holiday season ...
followed by
delivering the
books to Dresden
and receiving
hundreds of
thank you cards
from the
children.
[more]



Interact Update
**Welcome
Jackson
High
Interact!**

By Becky Stone
Congratulations
to the new
Interact Club at
Jackson High
School!
Officially
chartered
November 16,
2021, the club
boasts 15
members and
Kelly White as
its faculty
advisor.
Assistant
Governor
Bonnie
Pfrogner,
District
Governor Elect
George
Grenade and
Rotarian Carlos
Duffey (also
Jackson Mayor
Elect), all gave
inspiring
motivational
talks to the ...
[more]



Club News

Thomasville Raises \$25,000 for United Way

By Adrian Burns

For several years, the Caterpillar Corporation in Thomasville sponsored a golf tournament to raise money for the United Way.

Unfortunately, Caterpillar closed their doors in 2016 and their manufacturing was relocated from Thomas County's community.

Rotarian Scooter Grubbs came to the Board and asked if the club would consider carrying on this tradition since the United Way of Thomas County supports over 18 organizations in the community. The Board approved it and on August 26, 2017, Rotary Club of Thomasville held its first annual Rotary Golf Classic to support the United Way. The club raised over \$11,000 the first year and in year four the club raised and presented United Way a check for \$25,000.

[more]



Club News
**New
Moultrie
Projects
Focus on
Kids**

By Jaclyn
Donovan
The **Rotary
Club of
Moultrie**
participated in
two new
service
projects
recently:
“Story Walk”
and “Kicks for
Kids.” The club
sponsored two
different books
– “Buckets,
Dippers, and
Lids” and “The
Rooster Who
Would Not Be
Quiet” for a
literacy event
held on the
second
Saturday of
each month in
downtown
Moultrie. “Kicks
for Kids” was a
partnership
with the
Moultrie Junior
Woman’s Club
to provide a
new pair of
shoes to our
local
elementary
school
students. The
shoes were
purchased
through a local
retailer and
each pair was
tagged with a
Rotary tag
which lists the
4-Way Test on
the back of the
card.
[more]



Club News

Americus Rotarians Offer Comfort to Cancer Patients

By Angela Smith
**Chemotherapy
Port Pillows
Funded by
District Grant**

What seems like just a small pillow can prove to be a much-appreciated item for someone with a port-a-cath, the device used to draw blood and give treatments, including intravenous fluids, blood transfusions, or drugs such as chemotherapy and antibiotics. The port is placed under the skin, usually in the right side of the chest. The Phoebe Sumter oncology clinic in Americus administers about 2,300 chemo treatments per year and with over 350 cancer patients who access the clinic, the Americus Rotary Club wrote for and was awarded a district grant to manufacture and distribute chemo port pillows to help ease the discomfort from seatbelt irritation at the chemo port site. They worked with a local woman-owned clothing manufacturer to make 415 chemo port pillows in a number of colors and designs, and logged over 100 volunteer hours over several days. [more]



From GRSP ...

Oslo Scholarship Applications Due By December 31

By Katheryne Fields

The Norwegian Rotary Advisory Board partners with GRSP each year to offer a scholarship to three Georgia college students to study in Norway as part of their International Summer School for June 27-August 22, 2022. Interested students can apply through the GRSP website; the deadline to apply is December 31, 2021. Requirement informational flyer and application are now available online:

<https://grsp.org/oslo-application>.
[more]



Club News

Roswell's Focus on Membership Paying Dividends

By Becky Nelson

Roswell Rotary President Terry Taylor, "The **Roswell Rotary Club** is proud of all our new 2021 members! Coming off the COVID restrictions where we lost so many members for so many reasons, Roswell took a proactive approach to recruiting and marketing. We asked former members if they were ready to return and we invited new ones ... [more]