



From Our District Governor

**From Excellence to Greatness**

By André Marria  
Aristotle once said: "Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives, choice, not chance, determines your destiny."

As we begin our new Rotary Year, let us keep in mind how awesome we are as individuals in this district!!! It will take our combined efforts to 'Create Hope in the World,' to move us from Excellence to Greatness! We can and will do it!!!

I am so honored to work with you in making this a reality. I have my "Boots on the Ground." I ask you to revisit your "Why" in Rotary as we embark on this journey. I challenge you to develop a plan of action which focuses on continuity. In doing this, you have the roadmap and guide to reach your destination.  
[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	<b>Fayetteville</b>	<b>North Atlanta</b>	<b>Brookhaven</b>
II	<b>North Columbus</b>	<b>North Fulton</b>	<b>Vinings Cumberland</b>
III	<b>Marietta</b>	<b>Dunwoody</b>	<b>Carrollton-Dawn Breakers</b>
IV	<b>Roswell</b>	<b>Roswell</b>	<b>Peachtree City</b>

**Key Dates**



Foundation News

## Lottery Raises \$170,000 to Help End Polio

By George Granade  
You may remember that Darren Jones, brother of our immediate past RI President Jennifer Jones, created a painting entitled "Imagine One's Dream" that was the visual inspiration for her year as President. Each district received a copy of the print to use to inspire continued support of Polio Plus. In our district, Rotarians had the opportunity to win the print by donating \$100 to Polio Plus - and were encouraged to do so at each of my official visits during the year. Congratulations to **Julia Houston, Rotary Club of Atlanta**, for winning this beautiful artwork. And congratulations to you - the lottery raised over \$170,000 for Polio Plus when the drawing was done. [more]

---



GRSP Update

## **GRSP Conclave Slated Aug. 18 in Macon - Reserve Your Spot Now!**

By Katheryne Fields

Rotarians and guests are invited to Conclave to welcome the Georgia Rotary Student Program Class of 2023-24 in Macon August 18-20. Conclave is hosted this year by District 6920 and under the direction of the Rotary Club of Macon, the Rotary Club of Macon North and the Rotary Club of Downtown Macon with Rebecca Grist and GRSP 6920 Director Milton Heard as co-chairs. Registration is now open for Conclave, please visit the GRSP Calendar at <https://grsp.org/calendar-of-events>

Hotel Forty Five, historic-boutique hotel in downtown Macon, has a block of rooms set aside for Conclave participants who will need lodging with July 18 as the deadline to reserve the special rate. [more]

---



Expand Your Rotary  
Thinking

## **RLI Opportunities Abound in 2023**

By Stephanie Windham  
The 2023-2024 Rotary  
year will be filled with  
opportunities to Learn,  
Share, and Grow  
through Rotary  
Leadership Institute.  
Here are some dates  
and locations to  
remember:

- July 22, 2023 -  
Graduate Course in  
Transforming Your Club  
- Midwest Food Bank,  
Peachtree City, Georgia.
- August 12, 2023 -  
Parts One, Two and  
Three - Cooper Lighting,  
Peachtree City, Georgia.
- August 26, 2023 -  
Parts One, Two and  
Three - PCOM Georgia,  
Suwanee, Georgia.
- October 14, 2023 -  
Parts One, Two and  
Three - Ben Robertson  
Community Center,  
Kennesaw, Georgia.

Expand your Rotary  
knowledge and network  
by attending RLI in  
Georgia. The RLI  
Sunshine Division also  
offers opportunities  
across Florida and the  
Caribbean, as well as  
virtual opportunities via  
Zoom. For more  
information and to  
register for an online or  
in-person event, go  
to <https://rlitraining.org/>  
[more]

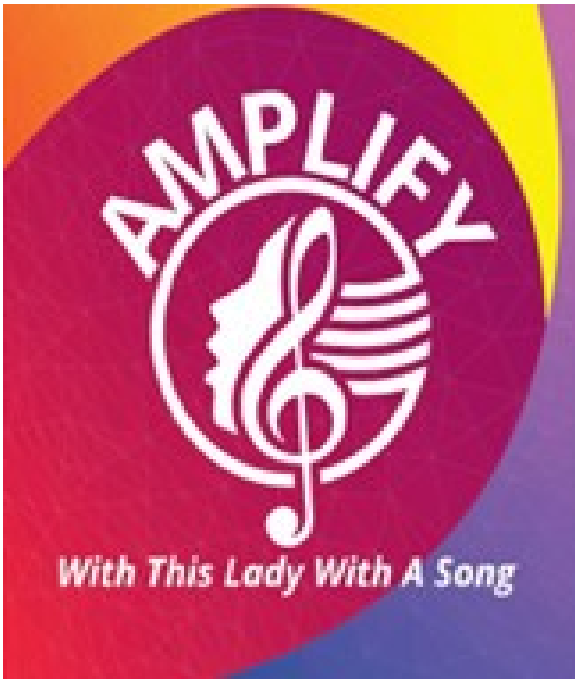
---



Developing  
Future  
Leaders  
**Good  
Times  
at  
RYLA!!!**

By Jaclyn  
Donovan  
Summertime  
in District  
6900 mean  
it's time for  
the Rotary  
Youth  
Leadership  
Awards,  
better known  
as RYLA!!  
RYLA is  
designed for  
young adults  
with proven  
leadership  
ability and a  
commitment  
to  
community  
service. The  
District 6900  
RYLA camp  
was hosted  
by the Rotary  
Club of  
Americus  
June 17-21  
on the  
campus of  
Georgia  
Southwestern  
State  
University  
and included  
104 students  
sponsored by  
over 40  
clubs.  
[more]

---



District Conference 2024  
**Register Now for  
the 2024 Rotary  
District 6900  
Conference in  
Jekyll Island,  
Georgia**

By Stephanie Windham  
District Conference returns to Jekyll Island, Georgia March 21-24, 2024. Join us as we Amplify Rotary and feature the Lady with a Song, none other than our District Governor André Marria. While cooler temperatures are still lingering around most of the country, Jekyll Island averages around 73 degrees during the month of March, with low humidity. It's perfect weather for walks on the beach, outdoor activities, and fun for the whole family! This island features a mix of calmness and curiosity with its white sandy beaches, natural beauty, and tons of greenery. This city also houses almost 33 historic structures. There is something for everyone on Jekyll Island.

DGE André is a Lady with a Song, and this conference will be filled with music, laughter, fun, and fellowship. Let's celebrate all the ways our clubs make Rotary BIGGER, BETTER, AND LOUDER! Make your plans to attend District Conference March 21-24, 2024 at the Jekyll Island Convention Center in beautiful Jekyll Island, GEORGIA. We look forward to seeing you there!The conference will be at the beautiful Jekyll Island Convention Center, and several hotels have room blocks reserved through February 21, 2024. Jekyll Island is booming, so you are encouraged to book your hotel room NOW! Once our room blocks are sold there is no guarantee that additional room nights will be added.  
[more]

---



Rotary  
Peachtree City



## Rotary New Year **Peachtree City Rotarians Join 50th Annual July 4 Parade**

By Holly Davanzo  
Along with over 115 other participants, **Rotary Club of Peachtree City** President Amy Benton participated in her first "official" event of the new year with the 50th Annual Peachtree City July 4 Parade! While a majority of the participants are decked out in red, white and blue golf carts for the three-mile route, PTC Rotarians ride in and walk alongside two of our Dragon Boats! The club is ready to kick off our new year! DG Andre challenged each of her presidents to choose a music genre to represent their club and/or community and to help share the theme through the next year as we "Amplify Rotary". In order to share our story of the oldest and largest service organization in our community, President Amy Benton has chosen to focus on 1967 - our charter year! [more]



Club News  
**Sandy Springs Celebrates Local Teachers**

By Rollin Richmond

In May, the **Rotary Club of Sandy Springs** held a special celebration, recognizing one teacher from each of the 11 schools serving our community as Teachers of the Year. Chartered in 1972, the club just celebrated 50 years of serving the community ...  
[more]



Club News  
**North Fulton Supports Local Foster Children**

By Mike Mudd  
The **Rotary Club of North Fulton** has a long history of working with children both in our community and around the world. This year, we wanted to focus on children in our community who have been placed in the Foster Care system. A committee was formed with past presidents Mike Mudd, Kristi Crockett and James Marosek ...  
[more]

---

New Satellite Club

## Atlanta Southern Crescent Adds Its First Satellite

By Claudia Mertl

The Rotary Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent is proud to announce that we have formed our first Satellite Club - the Satellite Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent/Clifton-Emory. The approval came from Rotary International on June 30 and the Club started with 9 members. The new members are Yamin Farhat, Karina Hatcher, Pia Valeriano, Vivek Singh, Jeevan Markam, Kamlesh Patel, Djebo Gourmanon, Anpuj Achari, and Angelii Abroi Duggal.

[more]

---



Membership

### What's Your Membership Strategy?

By Jackie Cuthbert

As we enter 2023-24, with a continued focus on growing our membership, we'd like to make the newsletter a place where we can learn from each other about successful strategies for recruiting, engaging and retaining new members.

While the idea we're sharing this month comes from the **Rotary Club of North Atlanta**, the pictures you see here ... [more]

---



Club News

## East Cobb Supports Local First Responders

By Aaron Strimban  
In June, Guy Gebhardt of the Rotary Club of East

Cobb delivered 14 boxes of Patak Meat's brats, knockwurst, sauerkraut and all the trimmings to station 14 of the Cobb County Fire Department for distribution to all three battalions which staff East Cobb's seven fire stations. The Club regularly supports Cobb County's first responders. [more]



Club News

## Dunwoody Kicks Off 40-Year Celebration with Fourth of July Parade

By Jackie Cuthbert

There is a famous quote that embodies yesterday's Fourth of July celebration in Dunwoody - "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass ... It's about learning to dance in the rain."

Dunwoody Rotarians turned out yesterday morning despite the rain to continue a 30+ year tradition of being part of the city's annual parade or and Fourth of July Festival with its hot dog stand. President Jack Sparks and his family joined other Dunwoody Rotarians to "dance" in the parade that started just as the deluge began. His family also hosted the revival of the club's "float building party" on the Saturday before July 4. [more]



Club News  
**Roswell  
After  
Hours  
Holds  
Comedy  
Night**

By Becky Nelson  
Roswell Rotary's  
After Hours Club  
(RRAH) hosted a  
Comedy Night  
recently at  
Lucky's Burgers  
& Brews as a  
fundraiser for the  
Max Gruver  
Foundation. The  
club sold 125  
tickets, raising  
over \$2,500 for  
this "close-to-  
home"  
organization  
focused on  
educating  
college/university  
settings and  
legislators of the  
tragedies that  
happen when  
hazing goes too  
far. It was a  
Successful &  
Beautiful night to  
listen to multiple  
stand-up  
comedians,  
socialize and do  
good night.  
NOTE: The RRAH  
Club meets at  
6:30 pm every  
1st & 3rd  
Tuesday evening  
in the loft at The  
Artillery Room on  
Canton Street.  
Everyone is  
welcome to  
attend and learn  
more. [more]

---



Final Thought From  
the Editor

## **Thomasville President Captures What We're All Thinking**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
When Mary Beth  
Donalson, 2023-2024

President of Rotary  
Club of Thomasville,  
gave her opening  
remarks to kick off  
the new Rotary year,  
she could have been  
speaking for all the  
presidents of the  
Rotary Clubs in  
District 6900: "I  
stand here before you  
now as the 103rd  
President of the  
Rotary Club of  
Thomasville, I look  
around the room  
today at the faces of  
past leadership and  
think about the ones  
who have passed on, I  
am humbled and  
honored that this club  
has chosen me for  
this role. I think you  
will find our upcoming  
year will be full of  
exciting projects,  
engaging community  
service as we live the  
Rotary International  
theme for this year,  
Create Hope in the  
World. This club  
creates hope in this  
community every  
month with its  
produce market,  
every quarter  
honoring our local  
heroes who serve,  
and having a heart for  
our seniors. I know  
this year we will  
continue to create  
that hope with all we  
have planned and am  
excited to be leading  
the charge."

Our projects, histories  
and members are  
different but we all  
look to create and  
nurture a Family of  
Rotary that Creates  
Hope for the World.  
Happy New Year!  
[more]