



The Magic of Rotary
It's The 4th Quarter

By Gordon Owens
As we enter the 4th quarter of the Rotary year, there is still plenty of work to do. Our district is leading the way in Annual Fund and Polio Plus giving, but neighboring districts are nipping at our heels. While our generosity knows no bounds, we are currently predicted to end the year with a few less members in our district than we started the year with. Imagining the impact we could have in our communities and around the world with a few more helping hands in each of our clubs. Even though district conference is when we recognize much of the hard work during this Rotary year, we still have 3 months left to help those in need with service, ask for donations to support our foundation and invite someone with a servants heart to join our team. Let's finish the year strong!
[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

APRIL 24-27
Jekyll Island, GA

TEAM CAPTAINS

6900 Gordon

6910 Bobby

6920 Todd

PREGAME Warmups

- Apr 24 | 6PM | Westin (Invite Only) | 6900 President's Dinner
- Apr 25 | 8:30AM | Ben Porter | PDG Breakfast (Invite Only)
- Apr 25 | 10:30AM | Conf G | 6910 District Meeting
- Apr 25 | 10:30AM | Conf H | 6920 District Meeting

Larry Lunsford
Past RI Director and Current Vice Chairman of the Rotary Foundation, Larry Lunsford, will join us as RI President, Stephanie Lischuck's representative. He will inspire us to take action locally & globally by leveraging all our Rotary Foundation has to offer.

Kevin Tanner
Kevin serves as a Trustee of the Georgia OpenSti Club Investment Trust and will administer Georgia's share of funds from national settlements with opioid manufacturers and distributors. Funds held by the Trust will be used by Rotary to support drug addiction prevention, treatment and recovery services across our state.

Jim Marggraff
In 2000, Jim launched Ebeam Learning, Inc., a revolutionary literacy platform that enables children to interact with books using a handheld air-coupled reading device—merging sound, light, and motion to foster engagement without screens.

Paul Root Wolpe, Ph.D.
Paul is building the new Emory University Center for Peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation (PACT) with an initial focus on domestic issues, programs like the Center Center, the King Center, the Center for Civil & Human Rights and others are coming together to make our

GeorgiaUnitedDC.com

Full Conference Agenda Available

By Ryan Swertfager
The **full conference agenda** is available on

GeorgiaUnitedDC.com.

There is still time to get registered and join us at the first ever joint district

conference on Jekyll Island, April 24-27, 2025. We will kick off

Friday, April 25 at noon, then hit the beach for a tailgate party all afternoon and into the evening.

We even have an after party setup at Tortuga

Jacks with a DJ & karaoke! After brunch on Saturday, we have

some exciting new partner & project

speakers, followed by breakout sessions to get your clubs

engaged. After a short break we will come back to the

conference center for dinner and dueling pianos to entertain us

all night long. You won't want to miss a minute of it!

[more]



GeorgiaUnitedDC.com

Sign Up To Join Our Tailgate Party!

By Becky Stone
With all three districts in Georgia coming together for the first time at a district conference, we want to kick off the weekend in true southern fashion with a **tailgate party**. We will hit the Great Dunes Pavilion on the beach at Jekyll Island for fun & fellowship from 3-9pm on Friday, April 25. Tortuga Jacks is catering dinner, so your club hospitality tent should include beverages & snacks to share along with your Rotary Game Day spirit. Also, along the beach we have games setup like, corn hole, bocce ball, volleyball, football toss, soccer darts, and bucket golf to spark some competition amongst your new friends from across the state. **Sign up to reserve your club's spot for a tent today!**
[more]



GeorgiaUnitedDC.com

Bring Gently Used Sports Gear To Donate

By Ryan Swertfager

At our **Georgia United District Conference** at the end of this month, we will be collecting gently used sneakers and sporting equipment to donate. The sneakers will get sent to Got Sneakers to be refurbished and distributed to those less fortunate than us. Sports gear that is collected will end up at Boys & Girls clubs in the surrounding area. This is an easy way for us to do a little service while we have fun celebrating all the impact we've had so far during the 2024-2025 Rotary year. We hope to see you on Jekyll, April 25-27.
[more]



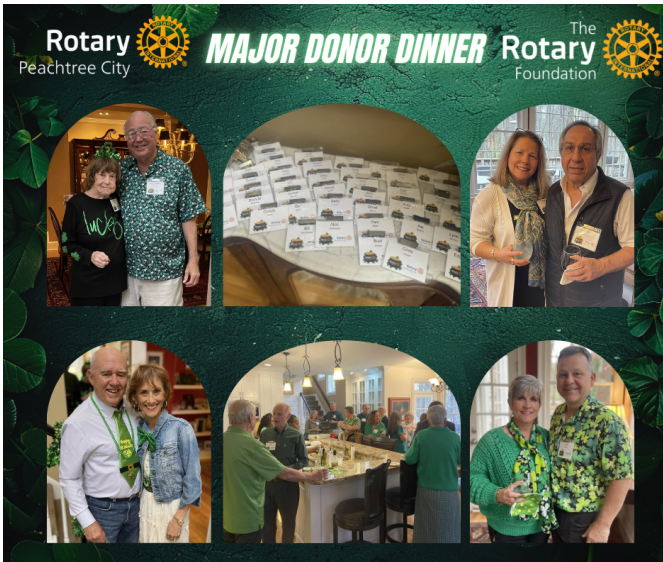
Our Rotary Foundation
at Work

Be Inspired by What Our TRF Contributions Can Do

By Bob Hagan

When the District Newsletter reminder note came to me this month, I must admit it truly did inspire me to look at what I wanted to communicate to you all this month a little differently than in past months. So often, and rightly so, I will talk about dollars. Dollars given and dollars in turn placed back out in our Rotary communities. All are great topics that should constantly be placed before us. However, this month the reminder stated, "We love to hear about the ways you are serving your communities and world..."

It got me thinking and really looking for stories that complement the request made to us this month. Low and behold, the story I decided to share with you all this month simply fell in my lap. It came from my good friend Club President Rick Clark of the Rotary Club of North Fulton. I've had the opportunity and blessing of getting to work with Rick, his dear wife Tina and the Rotary Club of North Fulton for a good long time now. This was a project that was funded by the District 6900 Competitive Grant awarded in the Fall of 2024. This is truly a life-giving project, two of his members, Steve Cory and Marc Gelber, have been working on for some time partnering with the North Fulton Fire Departments.
[more]



Our Rotary Foundation
Peachtree City Honors 40 TRF Major Donors

By Mandy Timmons
The Rotary Club of Peachtree City had the privilege of honoring over 40 Major Donors at a special dinner recognizing their incredible contributions to The Rotary Foundation. Each of these dedicated individuals has given from the heart, contributing \$10,000 or more to support Rotary's life-changing work around the world. We were especially proud to celebrate:

- Four members who have reached Major Donor Level 2 (\$25K)
- One member who has achieved Major Donor Level 4 (\$100K)

As a club, we've contributed nearly \$400,000 to The [more]



Our Rotary
Foundation at
Work

Columbus Uses Community Grant to Support Micah's Promise

By LeighAnn
DiCesaris

The Rotary Club of Columbus recently completed a meaningful Community Grant Project by providing two benches for the tennis courts at Micah's Promise. A dedication ceremony was held on March 17th to commemorate the occasion.

Micah's Promise, led by Executive Director and fellow Rotarian Bobbi Starr, is dedicated to restoring stolen childhoods by addressing the issue of domestic minor sex trafficking (DMST). Their mission—to "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly"—guides their efforts to educate the community on the risks and prevention of DMST while providing a supportive environment for the transformational life-change of survivors.

[more]



Frank E. Bentley Sr.
Award

Nominations Are Open For GRSP Recognition

By John Neill

The Rotary Club of Sandy Springs is pleased to once again present a District Level Award at this year's District Conference in honor of Frank E. Bentley, Sr. The award, titled: the Frank E. Bentley GRSP Leadership Award, will be presented to a District 6900 Rotarian who has displayed outstanding Leadership in the promotion of the Georgia Rotary Student Program. Please honor the contributions of Frank E. Bentley, Sr. to Rotary and the GRSP by nominating one member from your Rotary Club for the 25th Annual Frank E. Bentley GRSP Leadership Award by filling out this **Nomination Form**.

[more]

RYLA

Chaperones Rock!

Join us as a Chaperone and be part of the greatest week of the summer! Your time and skills can help make a difference.

Why be a Chaperone?

- Rotary Service and Engagement
- Participate in Impactful Activities
- Leadership Development for Young Adults
- Invest in the Future of Your Communities

7-11
June 2025



Give Us
#OneDayforRYLA
ryla6900@gmail.com
www.RYLA6900.com

RYLA Update **Experience the RYLA Magic Yourself!**

By Jaclyn Donovan
Hey Rotary
District 6900
members! Do you ever wish you could experience RYLA for yourself? Do you want to peek behind the curtain and see where all the magic happens each summer? If you answered yes, and if you can give us just *One Day* of your summer we can make the magic happen for you too! We are always looking to bring new Rotary members into the wonderful world of RYLA, offering the opportunity to experience the RYLA energy and explore a new avenue of Rotary service. Chaperones help us keep things running smoothly each night and each morning but have no assigned duties during the day. We think you are perfect for the job! If you are willing and able - even just for 1 day out of the 4 - to give us One Day for RYLA we would love to have you! And you never know, it just might change your life too. Reach out to Jaclyn Donovan or Susan Ruckman for more details and they'll sign you up! [more]



End Polio Now
**Why Our
Polio
Eradication
Support is
So
Important**

By Bob Hagan
What is the #1 initiative of Rotary International? ERADICATE POLIO! This brings me to two topics I want to touch on this month. One is a bit concerning and the other quite uplifting. Let me start with the one that is a bit concerning. I was sent an article for review last month that was published in the "Medscape Medical News" and was written by Annie Lennon that talks about the vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 was found in the wastewater systems in five European countries. The second story was about renewed vaccination efforts in parts of Pakistan. Both underscore the need for our continued support of End Polio Now.
[more]



30 Years of Recovery

A Warrior's Path - One Step at a Time

By Kirk Driskell

On April 24, 2024, I will take the first step of a journey that has been 30 years in the making. It marks the exact date I took my last drink and drug in 1995—and this spring, I'll celebrate that milestone by walking 300 miles over 30 days along the Benton MacKaye Trail in an effort we're calling **A Warrior's Path**.

This isn't just a hike. It's a visual metaphor for recovery, redemption, and resilience. As many of you know, I've shared openly about my personal battle with addiction and the grace that brought me out of it. But this trail is about more than my story—it's about walking on behalf of the men still struggling in silence, the ones still waiting for someone to believe in them, and the communities that desperately need hope and healing. This is about proving that recovery is possible, transformation is real, and no warrior walks alone. [more]



GRSP Update

GRSP **Students Visit** **Pelham and** **Thomasville**

By Kathyne Fields
From the food to the forest fields and the new friends made in between going from Pelham High School, **Pebble Hill**

Plantation, Gentian Creek Preserve, Hays LTI agricultural

equipment, the Mitchell County Tennis Center to the Mitchell County Ag Center, the 59th Annual Larry Frosteg Pelham International Weekend made memories for a lifetime. Our Georgia Rotary Student Program scholars were welcomed by amazing hosts from the **Rotary Club of Pelham, Camilla Rotary Club** and **Rotary Club of Thomasville** as they spent time touring the nearby South Georgia counties while visiting with one another.

Thomasville native Will Watt III, grandson of GRSP Founder William A. Watt, shared his family legacy with the group as well. The last day started with a pair of service projects, including installing a peace pole and a pergola with the help of **Rotary District 6900**

Governor Gordon Owens and his wife Ashley, relaxing at the Eubanks farm and ended with the Pelham Club honoring Kathy Frosteg and President Vince with a dedication to GRSP Trustee Emeritus Larry Frosteg as well as a variety show featuring the talented young adults. [more]



Attending the RI Presidential Peace Conference

By Ada Wikina
I was privileged to attend the Rotary International Presidential Peace conference which was held in Istanbul, Turkey from the 20-22 of February. The conference theme was "Healing in a Divided World." It was an amazing experience for me. There were speakers from all over the world. Topics and stories covered ranged from "Technology, media and Peacebuilding: From Conflict to Connection, to Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Peacebuilders. Details are available in my.rotary.org [more]



Rotary Means Business Join RMD for Our April Meeting

By Carter Stout
Join the fun and fellowship on April 22, 2025 from 6-8PM - at Politan Row at Ashford Lane (near Perimeter Mall).



Laws of Life
**Georgia
Laws of
Life
Winners
Announced**

By Carol Gray
Walker

We are thrilled to announce the school-level winners of the Georgia Rotary Clubs Laws of Life Essay Contest! The complete list of School Winners can be found in our announcement video on the [GLL Facebook page](#) and on

[our YouTube channel](#). Some quick statistics:

- More than 30,000 students from 65 schools participated in sharing their stories
- Over 1,400 submissions were received, judged by 136 essay judges ... resulting in 141 grade winners and 49 school winners.

Read on for more details. [more]



Dunwoody Makes The News

Anchor Place Respite Is Getting Noticed

By Charlie Augello

Here is just a snippet from the article on

RoughDraftAtlanta.com:

"Newly formed Anchor Place Respite Care, a twice-a-week program that hosts in its community space older adults living with mild-to-moderate memory issues, is looking to expand its offerings, with the help of the Dunwoody community.

Rotary of Dunwoody has named Anchor Place, as one of its beneficiaries through the Rotary Club, in their upcoming Fore the Memories Golf

Tournament to be held Monday, May 19." **Read the full article online.** [more]



Rotary Club of North Cobb



**ON THE LAKE
BBQ
FESTIVAL
Logan Farm Park**



Club News
**Join
North
Cobb for
Smoke on
the Lake
BBQ**

By Ada Wikina
This year marks the 15th Annual Smoke on the Lake BBQ Festival at Logan Farm Park - the largest fundraiser for the Rotary Club of North Cobb. The event takes place on Friday, May 9 and Saturday, May 10. All Net Proceeds are invested in our community. Get more information about the event and buy advance tickets for the Friday night event by visiting [the Smoke on the Lake BBQ Festival website](#).
[more]



Club News

Marietta Metro Wins the SOUPerBowl!

By Sally Platt

We did it again! While NFL players were working hard to get ready for the Super Bowl, Marietta Metro Rotarians were working hard to collect cans of nutritious, delicious soup for our annual SOUPer Bowl. Once again, the club was divided into 4 teams and challenged to see which team could contribute the most cans of soup. Our goal was a total of 1,000 cans, but thanks to a fourth-quarter pep talk from Coach Lynn Lanier, the teams blew that out of the water with 1,074 cans. [more]



Club News

Brookhaven Celebrates with Side By Side Clubhouse

By Judith Fuller
The Brookhaven Rotary Club got a jump on celebrating St. Patrick's Day with our friends at Side by Side Clubhouse. The Club brought the food and festoons. SbS members came ready to compete, playing dominos, spades and taboo. Side by Side Clubhouse provides a supportive community for those recovering from traumatic brain injuries (TBI). All members participate in clubhouse operations and support. This provides purpose and further aids their recovery. The Brookhaven Rotary Club members are happy to hang out and have fun with SbS members.
[more]



Club News

Meriwether County and St. Mary's College Students Build Home

By Kay Williamson

In March, a group of St. Mary's College students embarked on a journey that would change their spring break and make a tangible difference in the lives of a needy family. The annual college challenge for Habitat for Humanity took them to the heart of Meriwether County, where they dedicated their ... [more]



Club News

Peachtree City Rotary Community Corps Celebrates 10 Years of Service

By Mandy Timmons
The Rotary Club of
Peachtree

City recently hosted a "Magical Celebration" to commemorate the 10th anniversary of its Rotary Community Corps (RCC), a dedicated group of special needs adults committed to Rotary's core value of Service Above Self. The evening brought together Rotarians, RCC members, and their families for a heartwarming tribute to a decade of impact and service.

During the celebration, the RCC's outstanding achievements were highlighted. Over the past decade, RCC members have made a significant impact through service projects with organizations such as Bloom, Midwest Food Bank, and their extraordinary effort in donating seven service dogs to veterans and children with special needs. Special recognition was given to charter members, past RCC presidents, and current officers for their leadership and dedication. Each RCC member was presented with a commemorative plaque to honor their service and commitment over the past 10 years. [more]



Club News **Decatur Honors Star Students**

By Art Rosser
The Decatur Rotary Club and the PAGE (Professional Association of Georgia Educators) recognized the top students and teachers of Dekalb County by hosting the STAR (Student Teacher Achievement Recognition) awards at the Historic Dekalb Courthouse. Over lunch and congratulations by dignitaries such as Andrea Arnold, Decatur City Manager, the students and teachers received their STAR certificates and Chick-fil-A gift certificates, and each high school winner had pictures taken. Honored guests included Dr. Gyimah Whitaker, Superintendent of Decatur City Schools, Dr. Devon Horton, Superintendent of Dekalb County Schools, and many school board members from Decatur and DeKalb. [\[more\]](#)



Club News

Thomasville Provides Free Tax Prep Services

By David Sofferin
"Tax preparation for free" sounds too good to be true, but for nine years Thomasville Rotarians and other community volunteers have been delivering just that to local retired residents with low to moderate income. Since its start, the program has served more than 2800 individuals/families and resulted in direct refunds of over \$1,820,000 to those people. Tax-Aid is delivered through a partnership of the IRS, Volunteers in Tax Assistance, Rotary Club of Thomasville, Thomas County Library, Envision Credit Union, Thomas University and community volunteers. [more]



Club News

North Fulton Enjoys Day of Service

By Lisa Gelber
The Rotary Club of North

Fulton had a great day of serving the community on March 13th.

The day started off at Alpharetta High School to pick up chili and salad made by the Culinary Arts students. This lunch was delivered by Rotarians to every fire station in Alpharetta and Milton, as well as police headquarters and 911 centers. In total, over 125 first responders were

served! The evening brought our members to Children's Development Academy, where the club sponsored a Literacy Night which included dinner, entertainment and fun activities for the families of preschoolers. We absolutely love serving the North Fulton community!
[more]



Co-Chairs: Alan Gibby and Tiffany Williams

Club News

Marietta Reads in 33 Classrooms

By Jacob
Southerland
The Rotary Club of
Marietta recently
conducted its
Spring Marietta
Reads Program,
where Rotarians
read a story to
each of the 2nd
grade classrooms
in the Marietta
School District.
There are seven
elementary
schools containing
33 classrooms. so
this involves a
major commitment
from our fellow
Rotarians - 17
members read
once and eight
read twice. [\[more\]](#)

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OR UP TO \$50,000



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Rotavette.com

Last Chance To Win

By Will Daniel
The **Rotavette
Raffle** will

have a winner
at the end of
this month, so
be sure to get
a ticket for a
chance to win
half the pot, up
to \$50,000.

Asking a
friend to **buy
a \$100 raffle
ticket** is a
much easier
ask, than
saying, "will
you give \$100
to our Rotary
Foundation."

The money we
raise this year,
will come back
to us in 3 years
in the form
District
Designated
Funds to
support the
great work you
do in your
communities
and around the
world. The
more we raise,
the more
impact we will
have in the
future. Thanks
for helping us
share this fun
opportunity to
support the
Annual Fund.
[more]



Club News

Lake Spivey- Clayton County Joins Annual Pillars Luncheon

By Judith Bennett

In mid-March, members of the Lake Spivey/Clayton County Rotary Club proudly attended the Good Shepherd Clinic's 2025 Pillars Luncheon in Morrow, Georgia. This annual event celebrates community leaders and organizations making significant contributions to the region. This year's luncheon also marked a special milestone, celebrating the clinic's 10th Anniversary and honoring its continued dedication to providing free healthcare to uninsured residents of Clayton County. One of the highlights of the day was the presentation of the 2025 Pillars of the community. Among the distinguished honorees was Lake Spivey/Clayton County Rotary Club's own Deborah Anglin, who received the Community Service Pillar Award. As Cofounder and CEO of Hearts to Nourish Hope, Inc., Deborah has dedicated her career to empowering at-risk youth and fostering community development. [more]



Club News **DeKalb Rotary Council Honors Teachers and Rotarians**

By Jackie
Cuthbert

When the eight clubs of the DeKalb Rotary Council met for breakfast in March, they focused on education - with each club honoring a teacher from a school in their community.

Lorraine Cochran-Johnson, newly elected CEO of DeKalb County, was the keynote speaker and focused most of her remarks on the importance of education.

In addition to honoring teachers at this annual DeKalb Rotary Council event, the Council recognizes individual Rotarians who have gone the extra mile to exemplify Service Above Self. [more]

3rd Annual
Rotary's
West GA
Talent

Club News

**Carrollton
Stage for
Talent
Creates
Community
Investment**

By Nichole Fannin
The Rotary Club of
Carrollton's third
annual West
Georgia Talent
Competition
brought talented
performers of all
ages from West
Georgia, and
beyond, to
Carrollton, GA last
fall.

This annual
fundraising event
supports Rotary's
mission of service
to community
allowing the club
to support
deserving causes
across Carroll
County, including
the Dr. Rash
Education
Scholarship at the
University of West
Georgia, West
Georgia Technical
College Education
Scholarship,
Carroll County
Council on Aging,
THS Emergency
Shelter, Carroll
County Child
Advocacy Center,
and Carroll County
Mental Health
Advocates, among
others. [more]



Vinings Cumberland Brings Health to Bolivia

By Thomas House
Over a very snowy weekend in Atlanta, a team of dedicated Vinings Cumberland Rotarians embarked on an international mission to Bolivia. After enduring nearly 50 hours of travel delays, they arrived in Santa Cruz, ready to serve.

In partnership with Dr. Steve Rosser of Emory University, the team assisted in a cleft palate surgical mission, supporting mothers and children as they prepared for and recovered from life-changing operations. In just five days, the team helped provide care for 60 patients. For many of our Rotarians, the most unforgettable moment was witnessing the overwhelming joy on the faces of mothers as they saw their children's transformed faces for the first time.
[more]



Club News

Roswell in Costa Rica: From New Glasses & Backpacks to Big Smiles

By Kathryn Igou
Roswell

Rotary recently traveled to Costa Rica and those who were there will never be the same. We came back as different people, full of hope and the joy of giving back.

Project #1 was providing free eyeglasses. We tested almost 120 locals' eyes in two days! We found some with perfect vision, some who were blind in one eye, and had lots of people who were very happy to see better with their new glasses! Project #2 was

completing installation of the basketball goals our rotary grant purchased. We met with Mayor Veronica and City people who were so grateful.

Project #3 was a trip to the local school to give out backpacks, Spanish to English dictionaries and soccer balls! They were so excited and grateful. Such beautiful happy children. [more]



Club News

Stone Mountain Celebrates People Making a Difference

By Darlene Daly
In

March, the **Rotary Club of Stone Mountain** proudly celebrated its outstanding members and community partners at the annual DeKalb Rotary Council's Awards Breakfast. Among those honored: Dr. Monique Robinzine of Redan High School, one of the Council's Teachers of the Year, Darlene Smith Daly as Stone Mountain's Show Rotary Cares award winner, Alan Janssen as the Stone Mountain's Satellite Club Show Rotary Cares recipient, and Marlene Randall as the club's nominee for the Council's You are the Key award. The Club also honored DGN Cynthia Dorsey Edwards with its Guardian of the Legacy Award for her unwavering dedication to Rotary. [more]



Club News

Paulding County Salutes Soldiers at USO

By Roy Strickland
Paulding County
Rotarians recently
took time to greet
hundreds of
American soldiers
as they passed
through
Hartsfield-Jackson
Airport. Club
members
prepared and
distributed meals
for service men
and women
returning to basic
training following
the holidays. It's
the club's annual
event in concert
with the USO and
it's a most-
favorite endeavor
for club members.
What an honor to
serve these great
young American
soldiers! [more]
