

DISTRICT 6900 NEWS FOR JULY, 2021

From Our District Governor
Welcome to the Start of a New Rotary Year - Where We Will Serve to Change Lives!
By Mary Ligon
We certainly did not during the 2020-21 Rotary year - a tougher task because of COVID and the health and economic challenges it presented. Thanks to District Governor Kirk for his strong leadership, and to our district team and club presidents, and each and every one of you who kept us in the game - finding ways to stay connected and keep making a difference in our communities.
We embraced the Farmers to Families program, connections with local foodbanks and money from missed Rotary meetings to feed thousands in our district. We delivered PPE to local hospitals, fire and police departments just when they needed it most. We bought computers, enabled wi-fi connections and tutored students on Zoom ... all to keep supporting Rotary's mission during the pandemic. We look forward to celebrating their accomplishments more as we gather in Sandestin in August.
That said, it's time to **get back in the game in a big way** - returning to meetings, , expanding our reach and our impact. Your district leaders, club presidents and boards have been using the "preseason" for the new Rotary year to get our game plan in order. One strategy focuses on increasing our impact through the Youth & Peace in Action (YPA) initiative.
[\[more\]](#)

Youth and Peace in Action
Time to Board the YPA Peace Train!
By Becky Stone
District 6900 is making a huge investment in our youth this year! Rotary International Zone 33/34 has launched the largest local peace initiative in Rotary history and District 6900 is leading the way!
Youth & Peace in Action is a project that will be providing virtual peacebuilding training to high school students (they will receive peacebuilding certification), peace project training for student leaders, implementation of peace projects and peace training to teachers (in July) during the 2021-22 school year. More information is available at <https://www.youthpeaceaction.org/>.
It's ask your school/student organization to REGISTER FOR YPA at <https://www.youthpeaceaction.org/> as soon as possible. If you are very certain that the school will implement the program this Fall, YOU can sign-up for your school. It takes about five minutes. What's critical to share with the schools?
[\[more\]](#)

Membership
Welcome to the Membership Committee!
By Mary Ligon
Welcome to the new members pictured above who joined District 6900 clubs during June 2021. We hope they'll be joined by many more new members in the 2021-22 Rotary Year, as we look to "Grow More to Do More."
As we kick off this membership initiative, we count on each of you to serve on the membership committee. So ask yourself! - as an individual and a club.
[\[more\]](#)

GRSP Update
GRSP Builds International Goodwill and Lifelong Friendships
By Sue Bird
District 6900 Rotarians are understandably proud of the Georgia Rotary Student Program. This one-of-a-kind program was founded after all by members of the Rotary Clubs of Thomasville and Atlanta a mere 75 years ago. Along with our fellow Rotarians in Districts 6910 and 6920 we have been bringing nations together since 1946.
The program began with only 4 scholars, and now we have more than 3,092 alumni from all over the world.
The program's purpose is to develop leaders who promote understanding and peace throughout the world. A few weeks ago, Rachel Radin (Edinburgh, Scotland), one of our D6900 alumni from the class of 2006-2007, shared a story that illustrates the enduring power of GRSP to build international goodwill and lifelong friendships, which is the foundation for genuine world peace.
Rachel reports that she just "randomly" bumped into two other GRSP alumni from 2006-2007 on the street while she was grabbing a coffee.
[\[more\]](#)

Help Celebrate 75 Years of GRSP at the August Conclave
By Katherine Fields
This year, the Georgia Rotary Student Program celebrates its 75th anniversary - and we will be celebrating at the annual conclave in Thomasville, Georgia - August 19-21, 2021. The Conclave registration page for golf fundraiser, hotel and general Conclave reservations are now open at www.grsp.org/conclave. Note, the Thomasville Marriott Courtyard Hotel reservation GRSP special rate link is active through July 19, 2021. A credit card will be required for guarantee to book and charged at check-out. The card is authorized at check-in with a 24-hour cancellation policy prior to arrival. Conclave event registration is open until August 13, 2021.
Read on or visit the website for more details about the conclave and the inaugural Conclave Classic Golf Tournament. [\[more\]](#)

From Rotary International
Reimagining Rotary: A Look Back and Forward
By Mary Ligon
Rotary International, General Secretary John Hewko opened his report to the RI Convention, saying "It's been a challenging year, but Rotary has proven again that we can adapt and thrive in the face of change. The lessons we learned this year will shape our organization for years to come ..."
To be inspired by the impact we can have, take time to read the rest of John's report on the RI website at <https://www.rotary.org/en/general-secretary-report-2021-convention>
[\[more\]](#)

Honoring PDG Bill Mulkey
By James Sigick
As most of you know, in early June, the Rotary Club of Dunwoody and District 6900 lost one of our most significant members - William (Bill) Mulkey. His long term support of Rotary included leadership of the club and district, support of the zone, a passion for the Rotary Foundation, resource guides for all things Rotary, and so much more.
The club plans to honor Bill in two ways. Creating a "Tribute" book of our memories of Bill, with messages for his family on what he meant to us Taking Bill to the next level of Major Giving for the Foundation - his passion. If you'd like to participate in either tribute, please read on.
[\[more\]](#)

Join the Largest Rotary Meeting Ever ... July 21
By Claudia Merti
Past Rotary International Director Stephanie Urlickich is conducting the first ever "Largest Rotary Meeting Ever" event at 1 pm on July 21, and you're invited to be one of the 1000 people attending! Stephanie will be speaking at the meeting on the topic, "Rotary Responds: Surviving and Thriving During the Pandemic and Beyond"
... [\[more\]](#)

District Newsletter
Share Your Membership Stories for August- and Help All Our Clubs Grow More to Do More
By Jackie Culbert
August is Rotary International's Membership Month - and we'd like to celebrate that by sharing your stories about your club's successes in 1) recruiting new members, 2) getting new members "settled" in, and 3) Keeping Rotary vibrant for all your members - do you do anything special to recognize and/or re-energize long-term members? Share your stories/creative ideas - and pictures of new members since the start of this Rotary year to culbertj@indspring.com by July 25. Your story could be just the one to help another club "Grow More to Do More."
We want your other stories and pictures too for our August newsletter. The process is easy - we can take stories in a Word document or typed right into an email, and pictures as JPG files. You don't need to do any special formatting, and we'd prefer not to receive information in a PDF.
Thanks for helping!
[\[more\]](#)

Club News
Welcome to New Satellite Club of Stone Mountain Passport!
By Margie Kerney
Rotary International has opened the door to evolutionary club formats and the impact of COVID 19 ensured that many of us took advantage of those formats. The **Rotary Club of Stone Mountain** became a fully hybrid club in 2017 (featured in Rotary magazine!) well before the pandemic. Now Stone Mountain is taking advantage of another club innovation - the Passport model! The newly-chartered **Rotary Satellite Club of Stone Mountain Passport** had its first meeting Wednesday night, June 23 and will meet online on the third Wednesday of each month.
This is the first club of its kind in District 6900. It offers a unique and exciting new way to allow members to continue service without the restrictions of physical meetings, speakers, and limitations of geography. This is more than an e-club, it is a new approach to Rotary. The new club combines two models - the Satellite club model and the Passport club model.
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Club News
Sandy Springs Partners with Fire Department to Collect Medical Waste
By John Neill
The **Sandy Springs Rotary Club** is currently partnering with the City's Fire Department to collect expired pharmaceuticals, sealed needles and PPEs. During COVID-19, hospitals have been unable to collect used medical equipment and prescriptions as they had in the past. Throwing away or flushing medical waste can contaminate our environment ... [\[more\]](#)

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Tucker Raises \$10,000 for Local and Global Education
By Latheth Dixon
In April, The **Rotary Club of Tucker** held its 2021 Annual Golf Classic: FOREducation at Smoke Rise Country Club and raised \$10,000 to fund various local and global education initiatives, including
• REACH Georgia Scholarships - helping students in Tucker Middle School and Tucker High School to strive towards a higher education ... [\[more\]](#)

Club News
Midtown Atlanta Rotary Celebrates 65th Birthday!
By Becky Ford
The **Midtown Atlanta Rotary Club** celebrated its 65th anniversary on May 24 with a series of events which included a 6.5K walk at Piedmont Park the weekend before. T-shirts were designed and provided for all walkers, some of which who actually ran around the Active Oval and others who ambled or less! The celebration continued on May 25, when John Hewko, General Secretary of Rotary International, ZOORned into the meeting ... [\[more\]](#)

Club News
Lake Spivey/Clayton County Recognizes Its Leaders
By Ron Swiford
The **Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County** enjoyed its first in-person meeting in a year late this June, when it held its annual club recognition and officer induction banquet at the Lake Spivey Golf Club.
President Tryn Hodges recognized several club members for the important roles they played and the extra miles they traveled this year in completing club service projects and other activities. Dr. Paddy Sharma was honored as Rotarian of the Year. Dr. Sharma, a past president and current assistant district governor, has been a strong supporter of many club projects and also has been instrumental in establishing a global grant in partnership with The Rotary Club of Madras South in Chennai, India to harvest rainwater at ten schools in Chennai.
[\[more\]](#)

Club News
Roswell Jumps on the Peace Train for 2021-22
By Becky Nelson
Proud to help launch the Youth Peace in Action (YPA) with Rotary International, Roswell Rotary jumped on the Peace Train early, and will be sponsoring workshops through local school resources (including Interact Clubs) to educate and engage young community peace builders.
As a nod to the club's commitment to YPA, club members turned ... [\[more\]](#)

Club News
Vinings Cumberland Recognizes Citizens of the Year
By BRENDA Borden

Club News
Celebrating 100 Years of the Rylander Theater and Americus Rotary
By Aprilia Smith
This year's Annual Trip Raffle to **Rotary Club of Americus** tradition) was celebration of a very unique year. The pandemic created opportunities for the club to meet many of the needs of the community, but made it difficult to have regular monthly socials created to "build better friendships" - one of four guiding principles that Rotarians think, say and do.
The year-end event was also used to pay homage to the Rylander's Centennial and the partnership the Americus Rotary Club has had with the iconic theater. Discussions in the Americus Rotary Club regarding the need for a civic auditorium in Americus led to construction of the Rylander Theater in 1921. After being closed for more than 40 years, the newly-restored Rylander Theater reopened in 1999 and the Americus Rotary Club was a significant contributor to its restoration. In March of this year, the Americus Rotary Club wrote for and received a \$10,000 grant from The Rotary Foundation to help replace projector equipment and wiring, just in time for the theater's reopening after a year of closure.
[\[more\]](#)

Club News
Balloons Over Dunwoody
By Jackie Culbert
The **Dunwoody Family of Rotary** gathered on July 5 to celebrate the New Rotary Year and fill Dunwoody with helium balloons - marking 30 years since we participated in our first (and Dunwoody's first) annual Fourth of July parade. We marched in the parade between Tim Le's vintage Hummer and Ken Levy's new truck - passing out balloons ... [\[more\]](#)

From Facebook
Happy New Year District 6900!
By Jackie Culbert
We're closing this July newsletter with pictures of installation celebrations at clubs around the district ... collected from their Facebook pages! Happy New Year!

From Facebook
Clubs Making a Difference in Their Communities
By Jackie Culbert
Well done **Alpharetta Rotary**. Restroom facilities being built by our members for the charity Meals Buy Grace. Way to go team. A few more builds and we will finish this.
The **Rotaract Club of Atlanta** recently packed fruits, vegetables and other fruit items and loaded them onto the delivery cars so that the Concrete Jungle could ... [\[more\]](#)

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Upcoming Key Dates	
Tuesday, July 20th, 2021	Atlanta Airport
Thursday, July 22nd, 2021	Atlanta Metro
Tuesday, July 27th, 2021	North Fulton
Wednesday, July 28th, 2021	North Fulton North Fulton/Johns Creek North Fulton Social
Thursday, July 29th, 2021	Alpharetta Social
Friday, July 30th, 2021	Alpharetta
Monday, August 2nd, 2021	Seminole
Tuesday, August 3rd, 2021	North Columbus
Wednesday, August 4th, 2021	Columbus
Thursday, August 5th, 2021	Muscogee-Columbus

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We certainly did that during the 2020-21 Rotary year - a tougher task because of COVID and the health and economic challenges it presented. Thanks to District Governor Kirk for his strong leadership, and to our district team and club presidents, and each and every one of you who kept us in the game - finding ways to stay connected and keep making a difference in our communities.

We embraced the Farmers to Families program, connections with local foodbanks and money from missed Rotary meetings to feed thousands in our district. We delivered PPE to local hospitals, fire and police departments just when they needed it most. We bought computers, enabled wi-fi connections and tutored students on Zoom ... all to keep supporting Rotary's mission during the pandemic. We look forward to

celebrating their accomplishments more as we gather in Sandestin in August.

That said, it's time to **get back in the game in a big way** - returning to meetings, , expanding our reach and our impact. Your district leaders, club presidents and boards have been using the "preseason" for the new Rotary year to get our game plan in order. One strategy focuses on increasing our impact through the Youth & Peace in Action (YPA) initiative.

Youth & Peace in Action is the largest local peace initiative in Rotary International history - providing virtual peacebuilding training to high school students and their teachers - and engaging them in identifying and carrying out projects to support peace. This project is a tremendous way to generate lots of excitement at your Interact Clubs this fall and NOW is the time for ACTION! See the article later in this newsletter.

Expanding Our Team: One of our biggest focuses for the year will be on membership. Our rally cry is "Grow More to Do More" - we want to attract new Rotarians and keep all members - old and new - enthusiastically involved in what we do. Incoming Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta challenges each Rotarian to bring in one new member in 2020-21. As we kick off this membership initiative, we count on each of you to serve on the membership committee. As you prepare for Rotary's Membership Month (August), take a look at the questions later in the newsletter.

We'll be talking more about these initiatives as we move ahead with 2020-21. I look forward to meeting many of you in my travels around the district. Thank you for all you do and for helping us Serve to Change Lives.

Posted by Mary Ligon
July 6, 2021

Youth and Peace in Action

Time to Board the YPA Peace Train!



District 6900 is making a huge investment in our youth this year! Rotary International Zone 33/34 has launched the largest local peace initiative in Rotary history and District 6900 is leading the way!

Youth & Peace in Action is a project that will be providing virtual peacebuilding training to high school students (they will receive peacebuilding certification), peace project training for student leaders, implementation of peace projects and peace training to teachers (in July) during the 2021-22 school year. More information is available at <https://www.youthpeaceaction.org/>. This project is a tremendous way to generate lots of excitement at your Interact Clubs this Fall and NOW is the time for ACTION! Do you know a group of high school students that would love to become peacebuilder certified? Would your high school and community benefit from peacebuilding?

If so, ask your schools/student organization to REGISTER FOR YPA at <https://www.youthpeaceaction.org/> as soon as possible. If you are very certain that the school will implement the program this Fall, YOU can sign-up for your school. It takes about five minutes.

What's critical to share with the schools?

- YPA is provided at no charge to the school for 2021-2022
- YPA is a turn-key program that does not require the teacher sponsor or Rotary Club to provide any content! Our partners NewGen Peacebuilders and Outward Bound Peacebuilders will do ALL of the heavy lifting! Your club members may be involved but it is not required.
- YPA can be implemented through any service club—Interact, National Honor Society, Boys & Girls Club, etc.
- YPA will provide two social studies teachers professional development training at the end of July 2021

Want to know more? [Link from here to a video](#) summarizing what the initiative is. Rotary is providing virtual information sessions to further introduce you and school personnel to Youth & Peace in Action every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 5:00 p.m. ET. Register for training at www.youthpeaceaction.org or <https://tinyurl.com/YPA-InfoSession>. Please attend and invite the schools to attend!

There will also be an opportunity for Rotarians to receive peacebuilder training and be involved in the peace projects!

In addition, about ten colleges and universities in the State of Georgia, including GA Tech, KSU, UGA and GA State, now have curriculum for peacebuilding and are working with the Atlanta Peace Initiative in expanding Atlanta as a global center for peace. What that means for high school students that are college-bound is that Georgia institutions are looking for peacebuilders and the certification Youth & Peace in Action will provide will set these students apart from others applying to these schools. To learn more about peace education at universities in Georgia, go to <https://atlantaglobalstudies.gatech.edu/Peace>.

District 6900 is leading the way because YOU are amazing leaders and know that providing tools for peacebuilding to our youth will build stronger communities and a better world. DO NOT miss this opportunity!

Have more questions? Call Andre Marria at 229-221-7230 or Becky Stone at 770-634-2717! We are here to help you bring this great program to your schools!

Posted by Becky Stone
July 2, 2021

Welcome New Members



Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
July 6, 2021

Membership

Welcome to the Membership Committee!

Welcome to the new members pictured above who joined District 6900 clubs during June 2021. We hope they'll be joined by many more new members in the 2021-22 Rotary Year, as we look to "Grow More to Do More."

As we kick off this membership initiative, we count on each of you to serve on the membership committee. So ask yourself - as an individual and a club:

- **How do I scout for talented teammates:** What qualities do you think make a good Rotarian? Who in particular should you recruit?
- **How do we deliver a "winning" experience from Day 1?** Do we have a good way of expressing who we are and what value we deliver to potential teammates? Think about everything from the way you welcome visitors to informative programs and demonstrating your passion for service. Are you inviting potential players with a variety of skills to social events and service projects as well as meetings?

- **What's your playbook for bringing new team members on?** Do you have a solid orientation process? A way to quickly connect new Rotarians with people and with projects and service opportunities that use their talents and speak to their passions?
- **How do you "recruit" your existing members all over again ...** to keep them engaged in your club.

Posted by Mary Ligon
July 6, 2021

Help Celebrate 75 Years of GRSP at the August Conclave

This year, the Georgia Rotary Student Program celebrates its 75th anniversary - and we will be celebrating at the annual conclave in Thomasville, Georgia - August 19-21, 2021. The Conclave registration page for golf fundraiser, hotel and general Conclave reservations are now open at www.grsp.org/conclave. Note, the Thomasville Marriott Courtyard Hotel reservation GRSP special rate link is active through July 19, 2021. A credit card will be required for guarantee to book and charged at check-out. The card is authorized at check-in with a 24-hour cancellation policy prior to arrival. Conclave event registration is open until August 13, 2021.

Conclave Classic Golf Fundraiser - Thursday, August 19: The tournament will be held at the historic Glen Arven Country Club in Thomasville with a 1:30 p.m. start. Teams will feature four golfers, and the fee is \$150 per golfer. There is no team rate for this event. Golfers paid together will be kept together. The golf pro will group players who do not have pairing preferences. All players should list handicap or note average score for 18 holes. Driving range and box lunch included. The Conclave Classic will benefit the GRSP Foundation 501(c)(3), the GRSP Peace Plaza, and Will Watt Memorial Fountain.

Big Birthday Party, Peace Plaza and Fountain Dedication and Conclave: On Thursday, the tournament will be followed by a complimentary Big Birthday Party that combines GRSP's 75th

celebration and the 100th anniversary for the Rotary Club of Thomasville.

The GRSP Peace Plaza, and William A. Watt Memorial Fountain dedication will be on Friday at the Courtyard® by Marriott® Thomasville Downtown. The weekend will also feature student introductions for the Class of 2021-22, Trustee and host family meetings, a parade of flags and conclude with a student Cabaret talent show Saturday plus food and fellowship. You can learn more about the conclave agenda on the website

Posted by Katheryne Fields
July 6, 2021

GRSP Update

GRSP Builds International Goodwill and Lifelong Friendships



District 6900 Rotarians are understandably proud of the Georgia Rotary Student Program. This one-of-a-kind program was founded after all by members of the **Rotary Clubs of Thomasville** and **Atlanta** a mere 75 years ago. Along with our fellow Rotarians in Districts 6910 and 6920 we have been bringing nations together since 1946. The program began with only 4 scholars, and now we have more than 3,692 alumni

from all over the world. The program's purpose is to develop leaders who promote understanding and peace throughout the world.

A few weeks ago, Rachel Eadie (Edinburgh, Scotland), one of our D6900 alumni from the class of 2006-2007, shared a story that illustrates the enduring power of GRSP to build international goodwill and lifelong friendships, which is the foundation for genuine world peace.

Rachel reports that she just "randomly" bumped into two other GRSP alumni from 2006-2007 on the street while she was grabbing a coffee. I seem to recall they both attended University of West Georgia, while Rachel attended Columbus State University. Rachel visited Lina and other Colombian students from their class in Barranquilla in 2009, but she told me she had not seen Lina in ten years; she had not seen Connor in five years. However, Lina and Conner are "an item" now and moving to London together! Rachel says, "GRSP for life!"

In May this year Rachel took part in a Zoom program for the **Rotary Club of Columbus**. When asked to comment on the impact of the pandemic she said, "It's a mess for everyone." Then she added, "Be pleased that all us 2006-07 GRSP alumni are in touch and have been exchanging messages of global solidarity" throughout the pandemic. "Just like Janis [Comer] taught us."

Photo captions: Conner, Rachel and Lina in Edinburgh, June 2021. Rachel and Lina with fellow GRSP alumni in Barranquilla, October 2009.

PHOTOS:



Posted by Ian Bond
July 6, 2021

From Rotary International

Reimagining Rotary: A Look Back and Forward

Report by Rotary International General Secretary John Hewko



Rotary International, General Secretary John Hewko opened his report to the RI Convention, saying "It's been a challenging year, but Rotary has proven again that we can adapt and thrive in the face of change. The lessons we learned this year will shape our organization for years to come"

He also said, "When the Rotary year started on 1 July 2020, we were nearly four months into a pandemic. We were not immune to the fear, uncertainty, and loss experienced by millions around the globe. During this challenging time, our members rallied behind a shared purpose to connect and serve. In-person meetings turned into virtual gatherings, and service projects began to include sewing masks and donating personal protective equipment to first responders.

"Through it all, the RI staff has continued to support members and operations and find new ways for Rotary to thrive, while still delivering on the promise of our four Action Plan priorities. Rotary added a new area of focus — the environment. We awarded our first multimillion-dollar grant and achieved a major milestone in ending polio. We developed learning opportunities to keep members engaged and introduced technology that enhanced the membership experience."

To be inspired by the impact we can have, take time to read the rest of John's report on the RI website at <https://www.rotary.org/en/general-secretary-report-2021-convention>

Join the Largest Rotary Meeting Ever ... July 21



Largest
Rotary Club
Meeting
Ever!

July 21, 2021 at 1:00 PM
Eastern Time

Register Today

Past Rotary International Director Stephanie Urchick is conducting the first ever "Largest Rotary Meeting Ever" event at 1 pm on July 21, and you're invited to be one of the 1000 people attending! Stephanie will be speaking at the meeting on the topic, "Rotary Responds: Surviving and Thriving During the Pandemic and Beyond"

It will be a unique opportunity to be present at the first meeting of the first Zone to have this event. The meeting is sponsored by:

- Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County, GA (D6900),
- Rotary Club of Homewood, IL
- Rotary Club of Edina Morningside, MN
- Rotary Club of McMurray, PA

Please use the instructions below to register now and be part of history. Only the first 1,000 who register can attend. You may give these instructions to your friends and family. Thank you in advance for making this a huge success.

To register,

- Go to the [Zone 33/34 calendar](#)
- Scroll down to the Largest Rotary Club Meeting ever and click More Info

- Click Register
- If you are on DacDB, put in your user name and password. If not, register as a guest.

Posted by Claudia Mertl
July 15, 2021

Honoring PDG Bill Mulkey



As most of you know, in early June, the Rotary Club of Dunwoody and District 6900 lost one of our most significant members - William (Bill) Mulkey. His long term support of Rotary included leadership of the club and district, support of the zone, a passion for the Rotary Foundation, resource guides for all things Rotary, and so much more.

The club plans to honor Bill in two ways:

- Creating a "Tribute" book of our memories of Bill, with messages for his family on what he meant to us
- Taking Bill to the next level of Major Giving for the Foundation - his passion.

If you would like to contribute to either (or both) causes, please let us know.

- We will be putting together the book at the end of July and would truly appreciate your input. Dottie Toney will be assembling the various messages into books for Bill's wife Beverly and their two daughters; just send a tribute e-mail to toneydot@me.com.
- If you would like to contribute to the cash gift for Bill, make a tax deductible donation to the

“Dunwoody Charitable Fund” (a 501c3). We will put all gifts together with a donation from our club and send it to The Rotary Foundation in his name. This will not count towards your individual Foundation giving, but instead be a tribute to the cause that Bill loved – The Rotary Foundation. To make that gift, please reach out to jstipick@att.net for mailing instructions.

Thank you for your support of Bill – I know his family appreciates any prayers, tributes, or gifts you make.

Posted by Jennie Stipick
July 6, 2021

District Newsletter

Share Your Membership Stories for August- and Help All Our Clubs Grow More to Do More



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Thanks for helping!

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Rotary International has opened the door to evolutionary club formats and the impact of COVID-19 ensured that many of us took advantage of those formats. The **Rotary Club of Stone Mountain** became a fully hybrid club in 2017 (featured in Rotary magazine!) well before the pandemic. Now Stone Mountain is taking advantage of another club innovation - the Passport model! The newly-chartered **Rotary Satellite Club of Stone Mountain Passport** had its first meeting Wednesday night, June 23 and will meet online on the third Wednesday of each month.

This is the first club of its kind in District 6900. It offers a unique and exciting new way to allow members to continue service without the restrictions of physical meetings, speakers, and limitations of geography. This is more than an e-club, it is a new approach to Rotary. The new club combines two models - the Satellite club model and the Passport club model.

- Satellite clubs are subsets of an existing club that meet at a different day and/or time. Satellite clubs have their own dues structure and bylaws, but are listed officially as members of the sponsoring club. They have a Chair instead of a President and may not apply for District Grants separately from the sponsoring club.
- The Passport model is newly approved by Rotary International and can exist as a Satellite or a stand-alone club. Passport clubs generally meet online once a month to report and record service hours and projects. There are no speakers or meals (unless we hold a social!). They have their own dues structure and bylaws and always feature a minimum number of service hours required monthly. This model is perfect for people who are Rotarians at heart but have restrictions that prevent them from participating in a traditional club.

The new club will meet online monthly on the third Wednesday. Contact us at Al@lipphardt.com, Carol@lipphardt.com or margie@callkbs.com

Get information on these club models at:

- Satellite model - <https://my.rotary.org/document/guide-satellite-clubs>
- Passport model - <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/guide-passport-clubs>

Posted by Margie Kersey
July 2, 2021

Club News

Sandy Springs Partners with Fire Department to Collect Medical Waste



The **Sandy Springs Rotary Club** is currently partnering with the City's Fire Department to collect expired pharmaceuticals, sealed needles and PPEs. During COVID-19, hospitals have been unable to collect used medical equipment and prescriptions as they had in the past. Throwing away or flushing medical waste can contaminate our environment and rivers.

The Fire Department has set up drop sites at Fire Station 1 (1425 Spalding Drive) and Station 3 (6025 Raider drive) Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM. In May, a recognition event at Fire Station 3 included demonstrations of how fire station personnel safely handle and process the items deposited in the collection boxes. Sandy Springs Rotary is funding the entire cost of this program.

Posted by John Neill
July 2, 2021

Tucker Raises \$10,000 for Local and Global Education



In April, The **Rotary Club of Tucker** held its 2021 Annual Golf Classic: FOREducation at Smoke Rise Country Club and raised \$10,000 to fund various local and global education initiatives, including

- REACH Georgia Scholarships - helping students in Tucker Middle School and Tucker High School to strive towards a higher education
- Little Libraries - created and set up throughout the community
- DeKalb Rotary Council Teacher of the Year - recognizing outstanding educators in a Tucker community school
- Carolyn's Giving Closet at Tucker High School - supplying food, clothes and personal care items to homeless students
- Tutu Desk Campaign - led by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, seeking to bring writing desks to disadvantaged African children in schools lacking proper infrastructure
- Senegal Teacher Project - funding one year of salary for a teacher in a remote Senegalese school.

The tournament included about 50 players, and awarded prizes to winning foursomes and individual players.

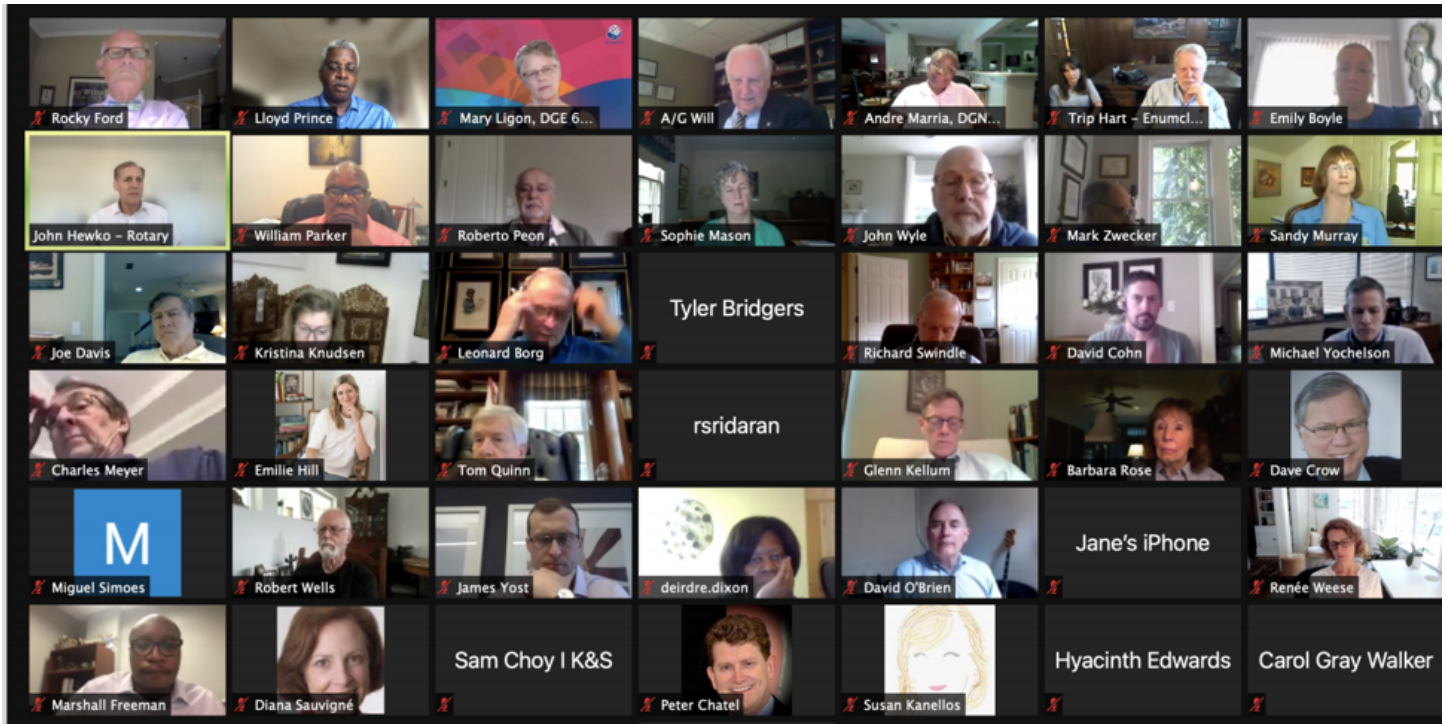
In the picture, Tucker Rotarians Jim Rodeghiero, Colin Crawford, Virginia Rece, and District 6900 ADG Chris Brand hold the box lunches provided for the tournament by Chick-fil-A (Northlake Festival - Tucker Station).

Posted by Lizbeth Dison

July 2, 2021

Club News

Midtown Atlanta Rotary Celebrates 65th Birthday!



Midtown Atlanta Rotary Club celebrated its 65th anniversary on May 24 with a series of events which included a 6.5K walk at Piedmont Park the weekend before. T-shirts were designed and provided for all walkers, some of which who actually ran around the Active Oval and others who ambled or less!

The celebration continued on May 25, when John Hewko, General Secretary of Rotary International, ZOOMed into the meeting to talk to the club about the many initiatives Rotary is undertaking as it carefully examines its relevance in a changing world environment. He emphasized the opportunity we all have to offer a meaningful experience to Rotarians.

And on May 26, our club hosted the first Diversity, Equity & Inclusion workshop, organized by our two new DE&I Board members and facilitated by our consultant. The event followed many months of organization and articulation around and about our own diversity. We had attendance from current members as well as those from across the district and a past president from a club in Enumclaw, WA who is organizing the DE&I efforts for his club. Our celebration included recognition of the fact that our newly-established Five Pillars of Interest will allow us to better focus on the areas in which we feel MARC can make the greatest impact. They are: Anti-Human Trafficking, DE&I, Education, Environment and Midtown. We appreciate our accomplishments of the past 65 years and look forward to celebrating many more anniversaries!

Posted by Rocky Ford
July 2, 2021

Lake Spivey/Clayton County Recognizes Its Leaders



The **Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County** enjoyed its first in-person meeting in a year late this June, when it held its annual club recognition and officer induction banquet at the Lake Spivey Golf Club.

President Troy Hodges recognized several club members for the important roles they played and the extra miles they traveled this year in completing club service projects and other activities. Dr. Paddy Sharma was honored as Rotarian of the Year. Dr. Sharma, a past president and current assistant district governor, has been a strong supporter of many club projects and also has been instrumental in establishing a global grant in partnership with The Rotary Club of Madras South in Chennai, India to harvest rainwater at ten schools in Chennai.

District Governor Elect Mary Ligon officiated at the highlight of the evening - the induction of Dr. Sonya Gaither, Dean of Libraries at Clayton State University, to be Club President for 2021-2022. In the photo, Dr. Gaither takes the oath of office administered by District Governor Elect Ligon (right) and Dr. Sharma (center) observes.

In a surprise move as the meeting began to close, President Elect Sonya Gaither provided President Hodges a well-deserved special award and gift for his leadership during this extraordinary "pandemic" year.

Posted by Ron Swofford
July 2, 2021

Roswell Jumps on the Peace Train for 2021-22



Proud to help launch the Youth Peace in Action (YPA) with Rotary International, Roswell Rotary jumped on the Peace Train early, and will be sponsoring workshops through local school resources (including Interact Clubs) to educate and engage young community peace builders.

As a nod to the club's commitment to YPA, club members turned out for the induction of 2021-22 Club President Terry Taylor and his board of directors dressed in their 60s-inspired "peace" garb. Terry and his officers were inducted by PDG Cheryl Greenway and DGE Mary Ligon.

Find out more about YPA at www.youthpeaceaction.org/

PHOTOS:



Posted by Becky Nelson
July 2, 2021

Club News

Vinings Cumberland Recognizes Citizens of the Year



Posted by Brenda Borden
July 2, 2021

Club News

Celebrating 100 Years of the Rylander Theater and Americus Rotary



This year's Annual Trip Raffle (a **Rotary Club of Americus** tradition) was celebration of a very unique year. The pandemic created opportunities for the club to meet many of the needs of the community, but made it difficult to have regular monthly socials created to "build better friendships" - one of four guiding principles that Rotarians think, say and do:

The Four-Way Test · Is it the TRUTH? · Is it FAIR to all concerned? · Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS? · Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

The year-end event was also used to pay homage to The Rylander's Centennial and the partnership the Americus Rotary Club has had with the iconic theater. Discussions in the Americus Rotary Club regarding the need for a civic auditorium in Americus led to construction of the Rylander Theater in 1921. After being closed for more than 40 years, the newly-restored Rylander Theater reopened in 1999 and the Americus Rotary Club was a significant contributor to its restoration. In March of this year, the Americus Rotary Club wrote for and received a \$10,000 grant from The Rotary Foundation to help replace projector equipment and wiring, just in time for the theater's reopening after a year of closure.

"The Rotary Club of Americus has been wanting to help fund this equipment for some time and were so glad to have the opportunity to make it happen," exclaimed Angela Smith, club president 2020-21.

As a result of the grant and to celebrate the club's 100-year partnership with the Rylander, it seemed apropos to hold the club's year-end celebration on stage. The club even had a large cake on hand and sang

"Happy Birthday" to the Rylander before cutting it. Managing Director Heather Stanley was on hand to address the group and draw for the prizes given away throughout the evening.

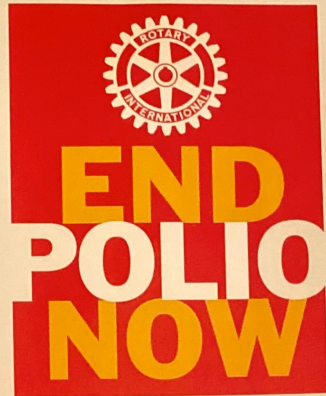
"Our partnerships within this community are crucial to our mission and our success. We are so fortunate to have the support of the Americus Rotary Club as an organization and to also have the individual support from so many of its members," stated Stanley. "The grant we received is much needed and will be utilized to further our impact in the community. We are truly grateful for the generosity and support shown to the theatre over the years."

Every Rotarian got a little something as they arrived as each got to choose a tumbler branded with the club's logo. Extras were sold with proceeds donated to polio eradication efforts. Prize winners (pictured) who won the drawing (which included three trips) were Mark Scott (1st), Darryl Brown (2nd), Kenny Phillips (3rd), Mike Cheokas (4th), Jimmy Whaley (5th), Russ Childers (6th), and Michelle Parker (7th). All prizes were a nod to art, culture, and history, while the decorations were art deco and straight out of the roaring twenties, the era when the Rylander opened a century ago.

PHOTOS:







Each Rotarian receives his/her
choice of ONE gift
(either design).

Purchase another (either size) for
yourself or your guest for \$20 with
all proceeds going to
THE ROTARY FOUNDATION
for the eradication of polio!



Club News

Balloons Over Dunwoody



The **Dunwoody Family of Rotary** gathered on July 5 to celebrate the New Rotary Year and fill Dunwoody with helium balloons - marking 30 years since we participated in our first (and Dunwoody's first) annual Fourth of July parade. We marched in the parade between Tim Le's vintage Hummer and Ken Levy's new truck - passing out balloons along the way. Then we welcomed the crowd to our hot dog stand for hot dogs, baked goods, and MORE balloons.

By the time we were done, we can say we put 1,000 balloons in the hands (and trees) of Dunwoody. It's part of our goal to increase Rotary awareness in our community this Rotary year. Thanks to Anne and Clark Glenn for leading our ballooning effort - and to Ed Holliday and Kobelah Svensen Bennah for chairing the hot dog stand!

PHOTOS:



**Our
Family of
Rotary
Kids**





Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
July 6, 2021

From Facebook

Happy New Year District 6900!

We're closing this July newsletter with pictures of installation celebrations at clubs around the district ... collected from their Facebook pages! Happy New Year!

Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
July 6, 2021

From Facebook

Happy New Year District 6900!



Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
July 6, 2021

Happy New Year District 6900!



Meriwether County



Johns Creek North Fulton



Muscogee Columbus



Newnan



Carrollton

Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
July 6, 2021

Happy New Year District 6900!



Pelham



Vinings Cumberland



Emory Druid Hills

Posted by Jackie Cuthbert

July 6, 2021

From Facebook

Clubs Making a Difference in Their Communities

Carrollton Dawnbreakers completed their Road Clean Up - finalizing the 2020-2021 Rotary Year with a Service Project!

The **Rotaract Club of Atlanta** recently packed fruits, vegetables and other fruit items and loaded them onto the delivery cars so that the Concrete Jungle could deliver them to families in need. Concrete Jungle transforms overlooked and underutilized land into a healthy food source to those in need!

Well done **Alpharetta Rotary**. Restroom facilities being built by our members for the charity Meals Buy Grace. Way to go team. A few more builds and we will finish this.

The **Paulding Rotary Club** has a long-standing annual cookout for the seniors here in Dallas. For decades now members have grilled hotdogs and hamburgers to provide a freshly cooked meal for the seniors. Given the pandemic circumstances these past two years it has not been easy to keep this tradition going. Thanks to the WellStar Nursing staff there was a safe way made possible to deliver these special meals. Rotary Club members brought everything to the Wellstar Paulding Nursing Center in Dallas. The nurses and staff members took the grilled food and the rest of the meal preparations for the residents.

The Rotary Club of Fayetteville has just about completed the playground at Oakridge Estates. Our district matching grant provided the seed money for this children's playground at the Habitat built 48 unit residential area.

The **Rotary Club of Johns Creek - North Fulton** celebrates importance of local arts programs and the service to community. The Johns Creek Arts Center & Johns Creek Symphony Orchestra both received checks for \$2,000.

Peachtree City is incredibly proud of the Unsinkable Magnolias. They individually started paddling in our Dragon Boat 101 open-to-the-public sessions. These women had so much fun that they decided to form a team to race at our September festival. THEN, they chose to invest in nine9 weeks of Next Level Training with head coach Jessica Shotwell Walker.

Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
July 6, 2021

From Facebook

Clubs Making a Difference in Their Communities



Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
July 6, 2021

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Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
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