

September 5, 2023



DISTRICT 6800 NEWS FOR SEPTEMBER, 2023

Amplifying Our Efforts to Support Education

For many years, District 6800 has been a leader in supporting education. We have been able to do this because of the strong support of our members and our commitment to the future of our district. We have been able to do this because of the strong support of our members and our commitment to the future of our district. We have been able to do this because of the strong support of our members and our commitment to the future of our district.

Help Select Our Future District Leader

It is time to elect a new District Leader for 2023-2024. The District 6800 Leadership Committee has been working hard to find the best person for the job. We have received many applications and we are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

We Are Waiting for You at Jekyll Island

Rotary Club of Jekyll Island is looking for members to join our club. We are a friendly and active group that is committed to service. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

RI Opportunities Abound in 2023-24!

The 2023-2024 Rotary year is filled with opportunities to learn, share, and grow through Rotary Leadership Institute. We have some states and locations to choose from. We have some states and locations to choose from. We have some states and locations to choose from.

Building an Irresistible Club: Simple But Not Easy

Rotary Leadership Institute has emphasized the importance of building a strong club. It is not just about having a lot of members, but about having a club that is attractive and fun. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

Congratulations to Rotary Citation and MAP Honorees!

The Rotary Club of Jekyll Island is proud to announce that several of our members have been recognized for their outstanding service. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

GSPP Conclave Ushers in Class of 2023-24
The Georgia Rotary Student Program's Class of 2023-24 is being inducted into the program. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

GSPP Scholars Include 20 Males and 22 Females from 24 Countries
The GSPP scholars are being inducted into the program. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

Welcome Global Grant Scholars

We are pleased to welcome our new Global Grant scholars. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

GLL Student Writers Express Gratitude
The Georgia Rotary Student Program's Class of 2023-24 is expressing their gratitude for the support they have received. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

Rotary Hotel Room Blocks on Jekyll Island
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Empowering Girls with "Dignity Bags or It's a Girl's Thing Bags"
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Rotary Club of Thomasville Making a Big Impact in Their Community
The Rotary Club of Thomasville is making a big impact in their community. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

Douglas County Welcomes DG Andre
Douglas County is welcoming a new DG. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

Marietta Metro Supports Education
The Marietta Metro area is supporting education. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

The Power of Collaboration as We Serve the Community
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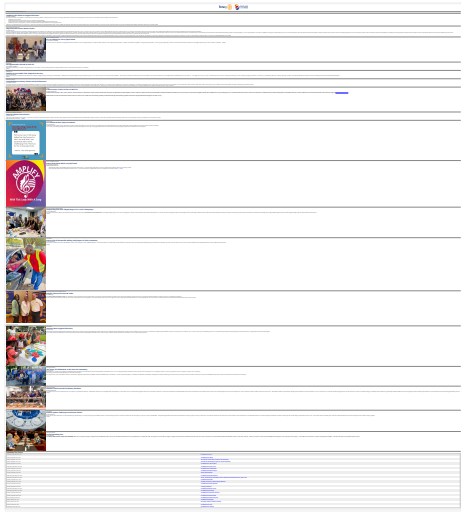
Marietta Team Feeds MUST Ministry Students
The Marietta team is feeding MUST Ministry students. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

Roswell Updates Tablescape to Welcome Visitors
The Rotary Club of Roswell is updating their tablescapes. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

Trying Something New
The Rotary Club of Roswell is trying something new. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead. We are looking for someone who is passionate about service and has the ability to lead.

Upcoming Key Dates

Wednesday, September 06, 2023	DG Official Visit-Cato
Thursday, September 07, 2023	DG Official Visit-Blakely
Friday, September 08, 2023	Roswell 45th Annual Audrey Gremmey Golf Tournament
Monday, September 11, 2023	Roswell 12th Annual Hogan Cup Classic Tennis Tournament
Tuesday, September 12, 2023	DG Official Visit-Atlanta Metro
Wednesday, September 13, 2023	DG Official Visit-John's Creek
Thursday, September 14, 2023	DG Official Visit-South DeKalb
Friday, September 15, 2023	DG Official Visit-Albany Airport
Tuesday, September 19, 2023	Rotary Meets Business
Wednesday, September 20, 2023	DG Official Visit-Griffin Daybreak
Thursday, September 21, 2023	DG Official Visit-Griffin
Friday, September 22, 2023	Monthly List of Rotary Youth Exchange Volunteers
Tuesday, September 26, 2023	DG Official Visit-North Columbus
Wednesday, September 27, 2023	LaGrange 100th Gala
Thursday, September 28, 2023	DG Official Visit-Marietta County
Friday, September 29, 2023	DG Official Visit-Landmark
Monday, September 04, 2023	DG Official Visit-Marietta County
Tuesday, September 05, 2023	DG Official Visit-Landmark
Wednesday, September 06, 2023	DG Official Visit-Marietta County
Thursday, September 07, 2023	DG Official Visit-Atlanta Metro
Friday, September 08, 2023	DG Official Visit-Atlanta Metro
Monday, October 02, 2023	Planning & Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 03, 2023	DG Official Visit-Park
Wednesday, October 04, 2023	DG Official Visit-Marietta



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Amplifying Our Efforts to Support Education

For Rotary International, September is Basic Education and Literacy Month - and based on the stories we're sharing, District 6900 continues its strong support for education in our communities and around the world. Read about:

- Projects in our schools
- The opportunity for local students to be part of Rotary Youth Exchange
- The newest class of Global Grant students from Japan and GRSP students from around the world
- The Laws of Life essay program - and how your sponsorship can make a difference in young people's lives.

And there are opportunities for you to learn too - check out all the Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) classes available for Rotarians. Read about how North Cobb has grown from 40 members to 100 in just 4 years. And learn about our process for selecting future District Governors and how you can help.

NOTE: We are missing some pictures this month because of technical difficulties on my remote computer! Will catch up with those next month!

Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
August 31, 2023

From Our District Governor

Help Select Our Future District Leader

It is time to begin the process of selecting our District Governor for the Rotary Year 2026-2027. The elected individual will become District Governor on July 1, 2026. We invite you to become more familiar with how the process works and to think about individuals who might be good candidates for this important responsibility.

Rotary International requires that the person nominated follow a two-year process of training and preparation before assuming the role of District Governor. During the 2024-2025 Rotary year, the selected individual will be the District Governor Nominee (DGN). This role includes observation and training, and participation at District events. It also includes participation at the Rotary Zone 33-34 training institute 2024-2025 and Presidents-Elect Training Seminar and participating as a non-voting member of key district committees. During the 2025-2026 Rotary year, the selected individual will be the District Governor-Elect (DGE). Training and observation activities continue, including participation at the Zone training institute and at the Rotary International Assembly (an assembly and training program for District Governors-Elect from over 500 Rotary Districts in the world) in Orlando in January 2026.

Our district utilizes a Nominating Committee process. Your help in identifying qualified applicants would be appreciated. Please look within your club and within your Rotary network to identify those Rotarians who met the qualifications and have the desire to get involved at the district level.

Interested applicants must have the support of their club indicated by resolution and submit it along with their completed application and including a brief resume to District Executive Secretary, Teri White by **November 1, 2023**. Interviews of selected applicants, by the committee, will take place on **Saturday**,

November 18, 2023.

If you have questions, contact me, your AG, or call Teri White at 229-221-3935, or e-mail her at twhite@hurstboiler.com

Qualifications, Requirements and Instructions

- Be a current active member in good standing of a functioning Rotary club in District 6900.
- Have full qualifications for membership in the strict application of the club membership provisions, and the integrity of the Rotarian's classification must be without question.
- Have served as President of a Rotary club for a full term before July 1, 2023 or be a charter president of a club having served the term from the date of the charter to 30 June, provide that period is for at least six months. (Note: that club may be one outside of District 6900.)
- Demonstrate willingness, commitment, ability, physically and otherwise, to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the office of Governor as provided in the RI Bylaws section.
- Demonstrate knowledge of the qualifications, duties, and responsibilities of the Governor as prescribed in the RI Bylaws, and submit a signed statement acknowledging a clear understanding of them. This statement shall also confirm that the Rotarian is qualified for the office of Governor and is willing and able to assume the duties and responsibilities of the office and to perform them faithfully.
- The nomination is made in the name of the sponsoring Rotary Club and must include a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the club. The resolution shall be signed by the Club Secretary, certifying the resolution. The Nominating Committee Chair shall contact the Club President of the candidate to verify the applicant is a member in good standing and to verify that the application is properly signed and certified.

Each applicant is to complete and submit the following:

- District Governor Application along with a brief resume
- The Club Resolution signed by the club President and Club Secretary
- The Governor-nominee Form from Rotary International signed by the Club Secretary

Completed applications should be mailed/emailed to: Teri White District Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 55, Coolidge, GA 31738-0055; email: twhite@hurstboiler.com

Posted by André Marria
August 31, 2023

District Conference 2024

We Are Waiting for You at Jekyll Island



You don't want to be anywhere except Jekyll Island next March 21-24, as we Amplify Rotary at our District 6900 conference. We're planning a beach party - complete with karaoke competition - along with great speakers, a service project opportunity, chances to learn more about Rotary and what we accomplish this Rotary year. Not to mention a beautiful location with lots to do. Think about registering right now, just log into rotary6900.org and click on the Register button at the top of the page. And see the information below about the Jekyll hotels offering blocks of rooms at discounted rates.

DG Andre' and the Conference team are hard at work to make this a great experience for our district Rotary family!

Posted by Stephanie Windham
August 23, 2023

RLI Update

RLI Opportunities Abound in 2023-24!

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

- September 16, 2023 - Parts One, Two and Three - Georgia Institute of Technology, Savannah, Georgia
- October 14, 2023 - Parts One, Two and Three - Ben Robertson Community Center, Kennesaw, Georgia
- October 21, 2023 - Parts One, Two and Three, and Graduate Membership - Georgia Highlands

College, Cartersville, Georgia

- January 13, 2024 - Parts One, Two and Three - Southern Regional Technical College, Thomasville, Georgia
- February 10, 2024 - Parts One, Two and Three - Houston County Board of Education Annex, Perry, 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 onsite event, go to <https://rlitraining.org/>

Posted by Stephanie Windham

August 31, 2023

Membership

Building an Irresistible Club: Simple But Not Easy

Rotary International has emphasized the importance of making a bigger impact by increasing our membership. The **Rotary Club of North Cobb** has enjoyed significant growth. Four short years ago our club had 40 active members. This week we will induct our 100th and 101st active member! We have been asked how we accomplished this remarkable growth. The answer is: It is simple, but not easy! In fact, it is difficult, but well worth it! Creating and nurturing a warm, welcoming, engaging, productive, and dare I say, entertaining club takes creativity, planning, and effort. The North Cobb Rotary has put into action several key practices that attract potential members.

The Meeting Experience

Rotary is a membership club, whose product is service. NCRC creates engaging relationships by treating people as they wish to be treated. We learn names, we ask questions (and remember the answers!) We learn special details about people, like partner's names, children, and business name. We invite New Members to serve at the badge table, so they can meet members, hear names (and then read them on the badge) and learn a few each week. Of course, everyone loves good food, so we have our meetings at a restaurant known for its excellent food.

We build an environment of trust and respect, and people can feel it. This includes starting and finishing every meeting on time, calling upon people by name, moving the focus around the room through "Sunshines" (sometimes called Happy Dollars) and announcements. Every meeting is carefully planned, with a timestamp to be sure we can get through the many special things we do each week, such as Inductions, Paul Harris Awards, special announcements, and a joke (or two!) This planning happens throughout the week, so that nothing is forgotten, and we include it all.

Members never know what will happen next week, so they don't want to miss! Meetings are informative in two important ways. First, a "Service & Social Events Coming Soon" slides are projected in a PowerPoint, so everyone can see and know what is coming up. One member creates QR codes for easy sign up. We show photos from the week before, so we can see pictures of ourselves and our Rotary friends, doing service. We over-communicate, to keep people in "the know." Second, we have a dynamite speaker every week, one who has something important to say and can say it well. Members invite interesting people they know to be our speakers and make the introduction. Members leave the

meeting knowing more than they did when they came in.

But the “secret sauce” of the North Cobb Rotary is: We have fun! Always! We might sing a song; we might hear a poem. We might have someone dressed up as a hotdog (advertising a BBQ) or as a witch (near Halloween.) Recently, Carnac the Magnificent showed up to offer the Club Assembly. You never know! Meetings are fresh, entertaining, and sometimes surprising, which requires creativity and effort.

The Service Experience

Just like our meetings, our service experiences revolve around relationships. We plan and participate in many service events, on any day of the week, at any time of the day. That accommodates the various schedules of our members. Sometimes our service is appropriate for partners, neighbors, children, and even grandchildren to, which gives us an opportunity to learn names and become acquainted. Every service event has a Rotarian “Champion” who has a connection. That member knows what needs to be done, arranges the supplies, the instructions, the details, so fellow members can just show up and be ready to work. We do what our members want to do. Last year we participated in about 100 separate service activities. This year we will likely have more. Our members see a need and we fill it. This may be filling a food pantry, distributing food, gathering crutches and walkers or winter coats, or making summer lunches for hungry kids. We service children, seniors, disabled, veterans, homeless, recovering addicts, and more. We serve whatever cause our members care about.

The Social Experience

Like our meetings and service events, our social events are focused on relationships. We sponsor a social event once each month, always at a new, interesting, or unique location. We include our partners and have great food. Sometimes there is a service component to our social events. This ties us all together.

The Ideal Member

North Cobb Rotary has identified the qualities that make an ideal member. They must: (1) have a servant’s heart, (2) live or work near our meeting location so attending meetings is convenient, and (3) be willing to get out of bed most Thursday mornings to come to a 7am breakfast. This is what it takes. We ask people to “lean in” and attend as many meetings and service events as they comfortably can. This works!

Make a Bigger Impact

To make a bigger impact in our community, we need more members. We attract more members by sincerely loving them, caring for their needs, hearing their interests, and making encounters satisfying and meaningful. This is everyone’s responsibility.

Fortune favors the bold. So be bold, be creative, be thoughtful, be loving... and watch the magic happen!

Posted by Nancy Prochaska
September 4, 2023

Congratulations to Rotary Citation and MAP Honorees!

The Rotary Citation is awarded by the International Rotary President to recognize the hard work clubs do throughout the year. Working to achieve the citation goals helps clubs engage their members, stay relevant in their communities, and run more efficiently. A welcoming and engaging club not only fosters a positive experience for its members, but also reflects the values of Rotary. When clubs achieve citation goals, they contribute to the overall health and culture of Rotary for generations to come.

The Rotary Citation is based on the citation goals one sets in Rotary Club Central. To achieve the Rotary Citation, review all the available goals, select at least half of them, achieve those goals, and report your achievement in Rotary Club Central. This past Rotary year, we had 24 Rotary clubs to achieve the Rotary Citation. They are:

- **Rotary Club of Alpharetta**
- **Rotary Club of Americus**
- **Rotary Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent**
- **Rotary Club of Barnesville**
- **Rotary Club of Columbus**
- **Rotary Club of Cordele**
- **Rotary Club of Dunwoody**
- **Rotary Club of Fayetteville**
- **Rotary Club of Griffin**
- **Rotary Club of Griffin Daybreak**
- **Rotary Club of Harris County**
- **Rotary Club of LaGrange**
- **Rotary Club of Lake Spivey-Clayton County**
- **Rotary Club of Marietta Metro**
- **Rotary Club of Meriwethers County**
- **Rotary Club of North Cobb County**
- **Rotary Club of North Columbus**
- **Rotary Club of North Fulton**
- **Rotary Club of Peachtree City**
- **Rotary Club of Roswell**
- **Rotary Club of Sandy Springs**
- **Rotary Club of Senoia**
- **Rotary Club of Thomasville**
- **Rotary Club of Vinings Cumberland**

A little over a year ago, Zones 33 and 34 paired together to launch an innovative Membership Action Plan (MAP). The Plan was focused on helping clubs and districts learn proven ways to grow, provide better experiences for members and increase their impact. It also set up an awards program which would reward clubs and districts that participated and grew.

During 2022-23, monthly MAP webinars were held for club members, and gave them new tools such as the innovative Membership Success Center which gives a membership tracking and growth tools at your fingertips. The following clubs from District 6900 are recognized for participating to a significant level in MAP and grew membership:

- **Gold: Rotary Club of North Cobb** net increase of 23 members and 11 members either attended

MAP webinar or viewed videos

- Silver: **Rotary Club of Tyrone** net increase of 9 members and 8 members either attended MAP webinar or viewed videos
- Bronze: **Rotary Club of Griffin** net increase of 2 members and 8 members either attended MAP webinar or viewed videos

Congratulations to all the above clubs for their hard work for earning these awards.

Posted by George Granade
August 25, 2023

GRSP

GRSP Conclave Ushers in Class of 2023-24

by Katheryne Fields, GRSP Executive Director



Milton Heard

Cabaret, featuring songs, skills, humor, national costumes and more, showcased a variety of talent and

diversity among the Georgia Rotary Student Program's Class of 2023-24 in Macon. Directed by Chair Emeritus and GRSP Foundation President Jim and Lynn Drake, the phenomenal program started with the GRSP Peace Song, featuring the lyrics by Administrator Emeritus Janis Comer and composition of 1994-95 Alumnus Bernard Wong. Photos and Cabaret video the Conclave weekend can be found at the bottom of the resources page at www.grsp.org/resources.

GRSP scholars include 20 males and 22 females from 24 countries. The scholars are sponsored by 93 Rotary Clubs within Georgia and attending 24 public and private colleges/universities throughout the state.

District 6920 Governor Felix Smith jump started the sessions last weekend with Rotary 101 by sharing his passion for service. Chair Emeritus, Parliamentarian and Judge Bert Guy provided preventative reminders of laws in Georgia while Chair Emeritus and Foundation President Drake added highlights in the GRSP student handbook. What a treasure we uncovered when Trustee Dave Razo energized and empowered the group with the keynote reminder: I am STRONG and COURAGEOUS!

Within the class, 22 are from Europe, two from Asia, five from Africa, seven from South America, four from Central America and from North America. GRSP picked up students who represent three new countries (Curacao, Gabon, Rwanda). Those countries will be calculated in next year's alumni statistics alumni our tallied when the program ends in May. To date, our GRSP Alumni stands at 3,775 from 109 countries in 77 years. This is the 76th class as the Class of 2020-21 did not have any students as the result of the COVID-19 Pandemic. We were fortunate to have District leadership from 6900 with DGN Steve Ivory, 6910 with DG Brandy Swanson and PDG Bill St. Clair and 6920 with DG Felix Smith, DGE/Trustee Todd Freeseemann and PDG/GRSP Foundation Director Heather Kellen participating in events all weekend.

We are indebted to this year's Conclave Host, 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. We appreciate each person who serves as host family, GRSP club coordinator or a weekend host and thank those who provided transportation and/or a meal to our scholars. GRSP is forever grateful for our leadership, staff and trustees, particularly Vice Chair Ian Bond, who invested a substantial amount of effort for his oversight of this Conclave event.

The first GRSP class in 1946 consisted of four students from Norway, France, Czechoslovakia and Greece. As the GRSP logo states, we have literally been "bringing nations together since 1946!" Full and partial scholarship options are available and the application is open now through the end of October. For more information or to have a GRSP representative provide a program for your club, please email grsp@grsp.org.

PHOTOS:



Milton Heard



Milton Heard



Posted by Kathyeryne Fields
August 31, 2023

Our Rotary Foundation at Work

Welcome Global Grant Scholars

Welcome to Taiko Nakazawa from Japan - a practicing oncologist in Japan (Rotary District 2760) who will be doing graduate studies at The Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University. Taiko will be hosted by the Decatur Rotary Club for her two-year program of study, with Art Rosser as her primary contact.

District 6900 also welcomes Tetsuro Sato from Japan; he and his family will be hosted by the Rotary Club of North Atlanta, with Mike Emmanuel as the primary contact. Tetsuro is also a doctor who will be doing graduate studies at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University.

The Rotary Foundation's Global Grant Scholar Program supports graduate studies around the world focused on one of the Foundation's seven areas of focus.

District leadership hosted a special welcome session on August 19.

Posted by Kathy Brandt
September 4, 2023

Laws of Life

GLL Student Writers Express Gratitude

Student Perspective #6

How did writing a Laws of Life essay affect you?

“

Writing my Laws of Life essay helped me stay focused on who I was and what I was passionate about amid challenging times. Thank you for this writing opportunity.

Nathan B. - North Cobb High School

”



Students genuinely appreciate the opportunity to reflect on their life experiences. The Laws of Life essay helps many teens realize that they have wisdom and life skills to make a difference for family, friends, and their community.

In a recent survey among participants, many students shared heartfelt appreciation for this writing opportunity. More than 200 students from 60 participating high schools completed the survey.

- Over 97% of students responded that writing the essay made them more aware of the

importance of personal values.

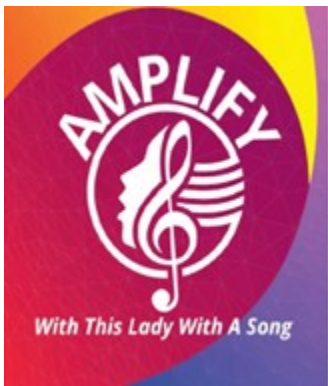
- 95% of students felt that writing a Laws of Life essay and reading/hearing other essays gave them a better understanding of other students.
- Of students who attended a meeting at their Rotary Club, 80% said that meeting the members inspired them to broaden their aspirations for college or career.

If your Rotary club is interested in bringing the Laws of Life Essay Contest to your local high school's students, contact District 6900 Laws of Life Chair Linda Hatten at linda@georgialawsoflife.org. We can provide information for you to share with your partner school. Linda is also available for club meetings or meetings with partner schools.

Posted by Linda Hatten
August 25, 2023

District Conference 2024

Rotary Hotel Room Blocks on Jekyll Island



HOTEL ROOM BLOCKS:

- The Westin Jekyll Island (Walking Distance from Convention Center) - 110 Ocean Way Jekyll Island, GA 31527, telephone 800.937.8461, Rotary rates starting at \$239
- Courtyard by Marriott (Free Island wide shuttle service) - 178 S. Beachview Drive Jekyll Island, GA 31527, telephone 912.635.2416, Rotary rates starting at \$239
- Residence Inn (Free Island wide shuttle service) - 178 S. Beachview Drive Jekyll Island, GA 31247, telephone 912.635.3692, Rotary rates ates starting at \$239
- OTHER HOTEL ROOM BLOCKS (Group: Rotary District 6900) Hampton Inn & Suites Seafarer Inn & Suites Holiday Inn Resort Beachview Club Hotel

Hospitality Suites are the responsibility of the clubs. No hospitality suites will be reserved by District 6900

Posted by Stephanie Windham
August 23, 2023

Amplifying Rotary with DG Andre'

Empowering Girls with “Dignity Bags or It’s a Girl’s Thing Bags”



On August 8, DG Andre' Marria and Assistant Governor Susan Ferguson joined Meriwether County Rotarians to put together Dignity Bags or It's a Girls' Thing Bags for the girls within the Meriwether County School System. It's part of the club's ongoing Meriwether County Empowers Girls partnership with Meriwether County School System Wraparound Services Program. Through this partnership, the Meriwether County Rotary Club helps by providing feminine hygiene products within zippered dignity bags for girls within the school system.

Dignity is one of the most important things to the human spirit. Only with dignity can people achieve things like being good in school, finding friends, or leading a happy life. Having dignity means being treated with respect and treating others with respect.

No student should have to choose between their education and or their dignity. No family should have to choose between buying groceries or feminine products. Having feminine pads and hygiene cleaning products accessible is essential in empowering girls to maintain that dignity and avoid severe concerns to their mental and physical health.

The zippered Dignity Bags ensure girls can attend classes and school activities without those monthly

worries. Each bag contains an assortment of feminine products, including various pads and cleaning cloths. If more is needed, girls can visit the Wraparound Care Closet to replenish their It's a Girls Thing Bag.

Posted by Kay Williamson
August 23, 2023

Club News

Rotary Club of Thomasville Making A Big Impact In Their Community



Rotary Club of Thomasville made a BIG IMPACT on their local community at their “FRESH FOR YOU - Free Produce Market” in partnership with Second Harvest of South Georgia and Marguerite Neel Williams Boys & Girls Clubs on Saturday, July 22nd. The club’s efforts served a total of 253 households in the Thomasville-Thomas County community alone that day!

In 2021, during the club’s 100th year, the club embarked on a mission to discover the most critical needs in the Thomasville-Thomas County community. The results showed that diabetes, heart issues, and other health concerns affected a higher percentage of the residents compared to other parts of the country. But they didn't stop there! Rotary Club of Thomasville saw an opportunity to make a lasting impact on the quality of life for their neighbors by addressing this issue head-on.

The club’s initiative to provide fresh, healthy foods to the underserved community members has been incredibly successful. Each month, their "Fresh For You - Free Produce Market" offers a diverse selection of nutritious fruits, vegetables, proteins, and other healthy goodies

Join Rotary Club of Thomasville and members of Thomasville-Thomas County in celebrating the power of community and the joy of giving back. Together, this club and their community are building a healthier, happier future for Thomasville and Thomas County, one fresh produce at a time!

PHOTOS:







Posted by Shanna Derby
August 3, 2023

Amplifying Rotary with DG Andre Marria

Douglas County Welcomes DG Andre



Douglas County Rotary President Tekmekia Gilchrist with Andre Marria and Assistant Governor Ryan Swertfager

The **Rotary Club of Douglas County** was delighted to hear from District Governor Andre Marria at its August 14 meeting. Members found her passion for all things Rotary inspiring and her vision perfectly aligned with Rotary’s tagline for the year: Create Hope in the World.

Rotary members also learned about all the great work of the Nichols Center in Douglasville. The organization provides services and support for those suffering from mental health issues and drug dependency. We are proud that our fellow Rotarian Tara Nichols founded the Nichols Center in 2013.

Posted by Nell Boggs
August 22, 2023

Marietta Metro Supports Education



Marietta Metro Rotarians kicked off Basic Education and Literacy month a bit early by participating in back-to-back events to benefit the Emily Lembeck Early Learning Center in Marietta. For the first event, a Health Fair, children painted kindness rocks at our station to place around the area. For the second event, the Reading Is Fun fair, we provided the preschoolers with goody bags that contained crayons, coloring books, and other school supplies.

We recently presented scholarships to three college-bound Interact students: Ashaf Kashif, Maxwell Crowson, and Liam Lepp. Students and their parents were honored at one of our club meetings.

PHOTOS:





Posted by Sally Platt
August 22, 2023

Amplifying Rotary

The Power of Collaboration as We Serve the Community



September 11-17 of this year is Celebrate Community Week. John Hewko, the General Secretary and CEO of Rotary International wrote, *“we’re encouraging Rotary and Rotaract clubs to partner with local Kiwanis, Lions, and Optimist clubs on a service project that will have a long-term impact in your community.”*

The **Rotary Club of North Atlanta (RCNA)** got a head start this August.

For the past three years, the RCNA has hosted a used medical equipment collection day for FODAC (Friends of Disabled Adults and Children - a local non-profit that gathers, refurbishes and distributes wheelchairs, hospital beds, and other medical gear to those in need), joined by a local Lions club as well as the seven clubs in the **DeKalb County Rotary Council** and **The Atlanta Metro Rotaract club**.

Volunteers at the event team up to drive to various pick-up locations in the greater metro area. A total of ten teams including 54 volunteers from six Rotary clubs, Rotaractors from Atlanta and Sao Paulo, Brazil, and Lions from the North DeKalb Lions Club participated.

Jon Yaeger, past president of the RNCA and former chair of the DeKalb Rotary Council joined the Lions in 2019 to look for opportunities for the two volunteer organizations to collaborate and partner on projects. He is serving as president of the North DeKalb Lions Club this year, to better understand the Lions culture and how they work.

According to Yaeger, *“partnering with other Rotary clubs and volunteer organizations is an excellent way to bring new energy into a club, as well as to multiply the good we can do through service projects. It also helps to recapture some of the energy and enthusiasm that dissipated during Covid, while exemplifying the Rotary 4-Way Test.”*

Contact Jon Yaeger if you would like to get in touch with a Lions club in your area:
jonyaegerrotary@gmail.com

Posted by Jon Yaeger

August 23, 2023

Amplifying Rotary

Marietta Team Feeds MUST Ministry Residents



Teamwork is one of the most important tools as it relates to organizational efficiency. Phenomenal miracles were accomplished this past Thursday as a bare bones crew of seven Rotarians prepared and served a hot meal to 100 diners in a three-hour timeframe at the MUST Ministry Fishes and Loaves Kitchen with customers lined up end to end in the dining hall and out into the reception area. This is the largest number of diners present in several years. After MUST residents are provided for, MUST opens their kitchen to the local homeless. No one is turned away. Gratitude, thanks and appreciation to all who turned out, leaned in, and made it happen. The **Rotary Club of Marietta** in partnership with MUST Ministries has been preparing meals and feeding the homeless every 2nd Thursday of each month for approximately 20 years.

This month's faithful crew of Rotarians consisted of Doug Haynie, Adam Hobbs (son of Harold), Chef Harold Hobbs, Dr. John Knox, Holly Walquist, Marlys Williams, and Fred Beloin (a welcome volunteer briefly pirated from Marietta Metro Rotary), creating a smoothly coordinated unit and ensured that no guest left hungry. Every morsel of food was consumed, - no leftovers this week whatsoever. There was enough to feed 100, but seconds were meager and the lines were long. As the Rotary team departed the kitchen, remaining diners thanked and applauded all.

This Thursday's delicious entrée was Smoked Sausage Pasta Casserole, accompanied by a mixed salad

with ranch dressing, fruit cocktail, hot rolls, and for dessert an assortment of cookies.

PHOTOS:





Posted by Marlys Williams
August 23, 2023

Club News

Roswell Updates Tablescape to Welcome Visitors



Going into our third month with our elevated tablescape, **Roswell Rotary** is no longer lingering in the COVID protocols. Our lunch meeting has been a chosen investment for new china plates, tea glasses, cutlery and tablecloths. The plastic/disposable items have been moved back into storage for picnics and to-go orders only. Our featured speakers for the 2023-24 year include Senators, Executive Directors, and phenomenal stories of personal triumph; President Alex wanted our tablescape and overall meeting

environment to level up too. The response has been amazing with a full-room, tables of Rotarians and visitors chatting and new initiatives coming together.

Posted by Becky Nelson
August 25, 2023

Amplifying Rotary

Trying Something New



The Rotary Club of Harris County (Pine Mountain) held one of its August meetings at a different time and different location. Our club is a breakfast club that has met every Wednesday at 7:45 AM since 1999. On August 16, the club met for supper at a popular local restaurant.

President Court Dowis said, "The aim is to add variety to our old meeting schedule and break the routine of 'same time; same day.' And to give ourselves a more relaxed atmosphere than morning's usual 'gotta get to work' urgency. It also makes it more attractive to spouses and prospective members. We will do this again every month in 2023-24."

The local restaurant, normally closed on Wednesdays, opened just for our club and with a unique menu created for our meeting. The evening also featured music from a favorite Harris County duet. So dancing automatically became part of the agenda.

PHOTOS:





Posted by Pat Keating
August 25, 2023
