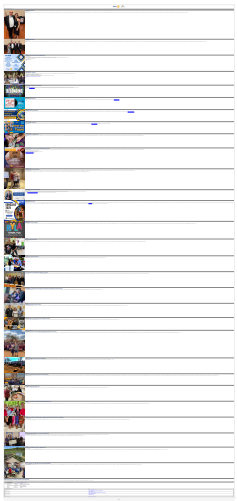
Rotary
District 6900



June 5, 2025

Rotary

DISTRICT 6900 NEWS FOR JUNE, 2025

Magic of Rotary

Thank You District 6900

By Gordon Deaton

Thank you for the many things in our district and it has been fun to witness a good bit of it first hand. From spreading time in your communities, doing service projects and supporting your fundraisers we have certainly seen the Magic of Rotary in action this year. Thank you for your hospitality as we visited your clubs. We shared some wonderful meals together and you, your families and your clubs have been so welcoming to us. Thank you for that. Now, as we look to the end of the year and to the first few weeks in July of next year, don't hesitate to continue to invite us to your new year with you. On behalf of Ashley and me, thank you again for an irrestable year in Rotary!

[more]

Congratulations!

Sheffield Award Winners

By Gordon Deaton

The bright-hearted, bold-a governor is our district has way by picking the Sheffield Award winner. We have 67 clubs that do wonderful things in their communities and it is hard to choose just one club to receive the award. Each year there are a lot of careful considerations. This year our had a coordinated to drive the decision on Club of the Year but The Sheffield Leadership Award has much more to do with an individual effort in setting a club up for success today and carry that club forward. The Sheffield Leadership Award is named for Jim Sheffield, a Rotarian from Rome, Georgia. Jim was a 1977 District Governor of Rotarian Club 82 and Nancy Alterman of Roswell Club 91 on being named this year's Sheffield Leadership Society [more]

Public Image

Congratulations to Our 2024-25 EPIC Award Winners!

By Gordon Deaton

We are proud to recognize and celebrate the 12 Rotary Clubs across District 6900 that have exceed the Zone 33/34 Membership Growth Goal of 2% net growth for the year. The clubs are:

• Fleetwood Dougherty County Hiawatha Milton, Meriwether County, Moultrie, Newnan, North Fulton, Peachtree City, Roswell

• Gold: LaGrange, Ustanga Cumberland

• Silver: Columbus

• Bronze: Albany

[more]

Check Out What's New

2025 Council on Legislation

By Wade Alterbaum

Rotarians from all over the world met in Chicago, Illinois, USA, on 21-7 April to vote on proposed changes to the legislation governing Rotary International. The Council approved changes that, each on

• Increasing the dues that all members pay to Rotary International

• Allowing clubs to charter with as few as 15 members

• Allowing clubs to meet virtually as long as they hold conferences

• Allowing more governance model clubs beyond those being tested in districts in RIB1, New Zealand, and Australia

Read about this year's decisions and view the vote totals.

[more]

Respite for All

Start A Respite Program In Your Community

By Charlie Angelle

At the recent Georgia Georgia United District Conference, you had the opportunity to learn more about our growing partnership with Respite for All. If you missed it or attended our breakout session and want to learn more ...

Check out this [personal Rotarystory](#) that tells the story of a care partner and participant, highlights the joy of respite, and shares the impact that Rotary clubs all across Georgia are having in so many lives.

[more]

Monday, June 9 | 6:30PM

Kickstart Your Membership

By Dawn Schwiebenitz

Want to finish strong by adding a few new members or set your club up with a great plan for the 2025-2026 Rotary year? The Want to finish strong by adding a few new members or set your club up with a great plan for the 2025-2026 Rotary year? The
West is thrilled to host this 2024 webinar and go through the process this time after conflicts this year. Think of this as the
[click here](#)

[more]

Thursday, June 19 | 6:00PM

Learn More About Our Foundation

By Ann Hogan

The "Foundation Nations" Webinar Series was developed especially for Club Presidents and Club Foundation Chairs. These monthly webinars will provide "bite-sized chunks" of valuable insights and actionable strategies that really work to increase your Foundation giving. Each webinar will be recorded, so even if you miss it, your club foundation chair for the next Rotary year. This is a great place to start to learn more. [Register for the webinar](#)

[more]

Tuesday, July 22 | 6PM

Meet The Public Image Team

By Wendy Timmons

Join us for our first live virtual event of the 25/26 Rotary Year! This is your chance to meet the new PI team, hear what they have planned for the year, and ask any questions you may have about how we can support you. Whether you're our new club public image chairs should [register for this event](#) and jump-start their club's PI for our new Rotary year.

[more]

Our Rotary Foundation

It's Not Too Late for the Rotary Year!

By Rob Hogan

Make your Foundation donation before June 15 so your contributions can be counted for the 2024-25 Rotary Year. We have
set a goal of 100% participation in Annual Fund giving for the 2024-25 Rotary year. This is a great opportunity for our
District or District Designated Funds (DDF) to show years - making our global and community grants possible.Our Global and
District Grants have been phenomenal this year because of the Rotary dollars you contributed three years ago.

[more]

August 14 | 8AM-5PM

Strengthening Rotary: Don't Miss the D6900 Membership Summit

By Mandy Timmons

Calling all leaders in Brotherhood of Rotary - mid this August. Rotarians from across District 6900 will come together to energize, innovate and strengthen our clubs at the 2025 Membership Summit. Whether you're a Membership Chair, club officer, or simply passionate about growing Rotary, this interactive workshop is for you - featuring a dynamic lineup of local and international speakers, hands-on breakout sessions, strategies and models for building and sustaining vibrant clubs.

• Location: Fellowship Hall at Jonesboro Baptist Church

• Date and Time: Saturday, August 16, 2025 from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM

• Cost: Free! Lunch will be provided for pre-registered participants.

[REGISTER YOUR SPOT TODAY!](#) [more]

Our Rotary Foundation

Oh What the Bequest Society Delivers!

By Lee Hollingsworth

At the recent Convention, DG Gordon Deaton made a surprise announcement to his wife Ashley and her parents, Amy and George Howard. Gordon revealed that his Bequest Society endowment will be named after Ashley's beloved grandmother - the Jane Stewart Homestead Fund. By joining the Society and committing to include the Rotary Foundation in his estate plan at the $1,000 level, Gordon has created a lasting legacy in her honor.

You can become a member of the Bequest Society too - by committing $10,000 or more in your estate planning to The Rotary Foundation. Anyone who is interested can contact District Major Gifts Officer Lee Hollingsworth at LeeGHollingsworth.com. [more]

Schedule DG Steve for Your Club Events!

By Steve Hudson

District Governor Steve Irony is looking forward to connecting with every club during his year of service - and that includes your meetings, service projects and fundraisers!

Use the [Schedule DG Steve](#) link to invite your club to use the link below to schedule time with DG Steve. Whether it is a club meeting, hands-on service activity, or a weekend fundraiser, he wants to be there to support and celebrate your impact. Visit his [https://forms.gle/yUEtGZ7kcSaGaGTA8](#) to make your requests. Let's make next year club is on his calendar! [more]

August 14-17 | Athens

Join Us For GRSP Conclave

By Katherine Fields

Rotarians and guests are invited to Conclave to welcome the Georgia Rotary Student Program Class of 2025-26 to Athens August 14-17. Conclave is the kickoff event for the GRSP year and is the first opportunity for the new students to meet The Classic City of Athens Rotary Clubs. This is the kickoff event for the GRSP year and allows the international college scholarship students to interact with one another as well as Georgia Rotarians. Highlights include a keynote address by Dr. Jere Morehead, President of the University of Georgia, a tour of the campus and a visit to the Georgia Museum of Art. Conclave is a series of freedom what spent the first year of college as a GRSP scholar at UGA, and Saturday evening's GRSP Cabaret, where we will be entertained by our new GRSP students. There are many more opportunities for fun and fellowship throughout the weekend. Click on the [Conclave Registration](#) link to register for Conclave. The cost is $250 per person for Conclave participants - with a special GRSP limited availability rate for those registering by July 2. Please visit the GRSP website at [www.grsp.org](#) to register for Conclave and to link to hotel registration. [more]

RYLA Updates

Thank You for Your RYLA Support!

By Jordan Grossman

By the time you read this, RYLA 2025 will be about to get underway and go full speed ahead. THANK YOU for believing in this
program and supporting it financially. Your support helps RYLA to continue to be a life-changing experience for our young leaders. You wouldn't believe how much we can accomplish in just five short days - sometimes it is just WOW amazing.
It is our hope that you will invite them to visit your clubs upon their return from camp so you can hear their stories and see
the impact your support has had on them. Your RYLA Committee and the [RYLA Foundation](#) greatly increase young leaders, and your communities will be better for it! From all the RYLA Family, thank you! [more]

Club News

Roswell: Turning 20% into 84%

By Kathryn Lyon

Getting all your Rotary Club members to engage has always been a struggle. The saying goes that usually 10% of your membership does 90% of the work. The Rotary Club of Roswell has been no exception to that rule of thumb. So, we specifically focused on engaging the entire club to action. Was it the hoots shirts? The diversity of projects? Tax fun facts? The flexibility? It was all that and more, and the club has moved that 20% to 84% participation this Rotary year. [more]

Club News

Douglas County Feeds the Homeless

By Neil Kemp

The **Rotary Club of Douglas County** had wonderful weather and a great time at the annual Rotary cookout for residents of the Douglas County Homeless Shelter. Rotarians served up a delicious meal of grilled chicken, hamburgers and sides, all guests left with a goodie bag of snacks and toiletries. [more]

Club News

Stone Mountain Busy Supporting the Community for 60 Years

By Steven Smith

As the club celebrates 60 years of service to the community, **Stone Mountain Rotarians** have been busy! Highlights include
hosting from Redan High School students who participated in the Georgia Lions of Life Essay Contest, volunteering at The
Rotary Club of Stone Mountain's annual Memorial Day ceremony and viewing projects from the Rotary Club of Stone Mountain
disabilities, was participating in a Mocktail class for dementias, and supporting the Foster Children & a Suitcase Project. Get all the details! [more]

Club News

From Combat to Classroom: PTC Rotary Helps Camp Southern Ground Prepare for Warrior Programs

By Wendy Timmons

Peachtree City Rotarians rolled up their sleeves for a powerful service project at Camp Southern Ground, helping set up
infrastructure for upcoming Warrior Programs scheduled for September 2025 and Harvest Week. Both programs focus on helping
our military Veterans create a positive future in civilian life. [more]

Club News

Atlanta Airport Rotary Celebrates Courage

By Kathy Shaw

The **Atlanta Airport Rotary Club** honored first responders in College Park, East Point, Forest Park, Hapeville, and the Atlanta Airport this May, with a luncheon recognizing ten honorees who exhibited courage commitment and compassion. President Kathy Shaw said, "These are men and women who head toward a crisis rather than away from one. They are firefighters and police who protect and serve." [more]

Club News

Lake Spivey Clayton County Supports Veterans with SMGA Georgia

By Jeffrey Hall

The **Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County** proudly presented a Rockwell Golf Launch Pro Monitor to SMGA Georgia earlier this year, reinforcing our commitment to support post-9/11 veterans through meaningful partnerships. The Rockwell Golf Launch Pro includes advanced technology that provides power-ramp data, helping veterans build skills and confidence. [more]

Our Rotary Foundation at Work

Thomasville Joins with International Clubs for Life-Changing Water Project in Kenya

By Kelly Bowers

Rotary Clubs in Iceland and Kenya, the **Rotary Club of Thomasville** is undertaking a water sanitation and hygiene project at the Olunguna Comprehensive School in Bondo, Kenya. The school supports 624 Mosani white students and
staffers, and complies with all Kenyan and tribal guidelines. Included in the build are 12 toilets for girls, five toilets and five
urinals for boys, a hand washing station, a rainwater harvesting system, a kitchen garden, a 10,000 liter water
handwashing stations , sanitation and hygiene education for children, females and staff, and funding for sustainability of the facilities. [more]

Our Foundation at Work

Griffin's Community Grant Buys Playground Equipment

By Lenny Nelson

The **Rotary Club of Griffin's** District Grant was used to purchase playground equipment for New Dawnson New Directions Preparatory Academy in Griffin. New Directions is a private school dedicated to helping children with learning [more] to not only help students succeed academically but also to help students become champions for life. HANDS Prep ... [more]

Club News

GRPA Fosters Financial Success in Asian American Community

By Christopher Chen

This May, the Georgia Rotary Professional Alliance (GRPA), a satellite of the Johns Creek North Fulton Rotary Club, hosted its
annual Financial Literacy Night at Dunwoody Nature Center. The event aimed to empower Asian American and Pacific
Americans through practicing their personal information and increasing their financial security. The summit featured two
keynote speakers, Jeff Yang and Jeff Chen, who shared their insights on how to protect personal information and
implement in their long term. Nearly 100 attendees filled the spacious Arrow Creek Community Room above the municipal
offices of the City of Chamblee to hear speakers from arena different companies and organizations, including two officers
from the City of Chamblee Police Department. [more]

Club News

Carrollton Grant Funds Student Meals

By Kristina Jones

The **Rotary Club of Carrollton** was honored to engage in a service project - partnering with Group Hearts, Inc. to prepare meals for student backpacks. The club - and our GRSP student Jasmine Tarasas (pictured with Carrollton Rotarian Lynn Sowa and Club President Sit Nicol) - hosted out to help pack meals. [more]

Club News

Paulding County Prepares Lunch for Wellstar Paulding Nursing Center

By Lenny Nelson

In May, the Rotary Club of Paulding County completed its annual service project to prepare over 350 meals for the Wellstar Paulding Nursing Center. The club has been doing this project for many years and it is a great way to show appreciation for the 350+ seniors residing in this facility and serve the loving staff. Projects such as these are funded by our annual fundraisers: our Annual Charity Golf Tournament each October and the Annual Invitational Dallas Christmas Parade in December. [more]

Club News

Columbus Hosts Private Leadership Reception Supporting Micah's Promis and Advance Anti-Trafficking

By Josephine Hernandez

The **Rotary Club of Columbus** partnered with End Human Trafficking Now (EHTN) to host a private reception focused on strengthening community and legislative collaboration to the fight against child sex trafficking. This invitation-only event welcomed approximately 35 attendees, including state and local legislative representatives, Rotary leadership and advocates dedicated to ending human trafficking. [more]

Club News

South Cobb Honors Public Safety; Tees Up Successful Fundraiser

By Pamela Kramer

In April, the **South Cobb Rotary Club** hosted its annual Public Safety Appreciation Day at the Cobb Police Training Center in Austell. Approximately 100 guests, including 75 first responders, were treated to a BBQ lunch and presentation of $1,200 grant to Jason Thomas of the Cobb Police Department, in recognition of her service and dedication.

The club followed its May with its fifth Annual Golf Tournament - an event that celebrates community partnership and collaboration - and provides funding for a wide variety of programs that have lasting impact on the community. [more]

Club News

Peachtree City Funds New Signage at NeSmith Preserve

By Wendy Timmons

Thanks to a generous grant from the **Rotary Club of Peachtree City** and Georgia Department of Natural Resources Georgia ENHANCE Forestry Grants Program, Southern Conservation Trust was able to install a new educational sign at Nesmith Preserve and redesign the rest of the boardwalk to better accommodate the sign and make the space more welcoming to visitors. The new sign, installed in April 2025, is the first step in a larger effort to [more] the site landscape transformed from Piedmont institutional forest to thriving wetland shaped by human over decades. [more]

Club News

Rotary Community Core - Peachtree City Packs 29,000 Toothbrushes

By Tom Deaton

The **Rotary Community Core of Peachtree City** - a dynamic group of adults with special needs - completed its annual service project at Oakwood Food Bank, packing over 27,000 toothbrushes to be distributed to those in need. The Rotary Community Core of Peachtree City was established in 2021 and is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Peachtree City. RCC now stands at 45 members - showing remarkable growth from just 17 members when RCC began 10 years ago. [more]

Club News

Harris County Hosts US Fellowship of Rotarians Golf Championship

By Tom Deaton

The **Rotary Club of Harris County** will be hosting the US Coastie Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians Golf Championship this September 14-16. This is an annual event hosting Rotarians from across the US and Canada. It will take place at Callaway Resort in Hamilton at Pine Mountain. For more information, contact Tom Deaton at 502-553-2255 or by ... [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
1	Henry County	North Atlanta	Meriwether County (Warm Springs)
11	Johns Creek North Fulton	Ustanga Cumberland	Ustanga Cumberland
12	Albany	Carrollton Swordswriters	Carrollton Swordswriters
13	Buckhead	Peachtree City	Columbus

Upcoming Key Dates

Thursday, June 5th, 2025	**Official Visit - Atlanta Brasil**
Friday, June 6th, 2025	**Rotary Youth Exchange Outbound Orientation 2/Graduation**
Saturday, June 7th, 2025	**District 6900 RYLA Camp**
Tuesday, June 10th, 2025	**District 6900 RYE District 6900 Monthly YEO and Counselor Meeting**
Tuesday, June 17th, 2025	**Official Visit - Atlanta Airport**
Thursday, June 19th, 2025	**Official Visit - Rowan**
Sunday, June 22nd, 2025	**Rotary International Convention**

Magic of Rotary

Thank You District 6900

We do so many great things in our district and it has been fun to witness a good bit of it first hand. From spending time in your communities, doing service projects and supporting your fundraisers we have certainly seen the *Magic of Rotary* in action this year. Thank you for your hospitality as we visited your clubs. We shared some wonderful meals together and you always helped us find a good local beer after the hard work of Rotary was done for the day. While we are looking forward to a less hectic schedule next year, don't hesitate to continue to invite us to come serve with you. On behalf of Ashley and me, thank you again for an irresistible year in Rotary!

Posted by Gordon Owens
June 4, 2025

Congratulations!

Sheffield Award Winners

The single hardest task a governor in our district has may be picking the Sheffield Award winner. We have 67 clubs that do amazing work in their communities that are all lead by great Rotarians. So, picking just one person in each category takes a lot of careful consideration. This year we had a scoreboard to drive the decision on Club of the Year but The Sheffield Leadership Award has much more to do with an individual effort in setting a club up for success today and carry that club well into the future. Congratulations to Rick Perry of Henry County (Cat I), Rick Clark of North Fulton (Cat II), Dudley Larus of Decatur (Cat III) and Nancy Alterman of Roswell (Cat IV) on being named this year's Sheffield Leadership Society inductees.

We had a great celebration hosted by the Rotary Club of Americus on the campus of Georgia South Western this past weekend. A special thanks to Angela and Rene Smith who host an awesome brunch on Sunday morning which is just what the doctor ordered after a long night of celebrating.

Posted by Gordon Owens
June 4, 2025

Public Image

Congratulations to Our 2024-25 EPIC Award Winners!

We are proud to recognize and celebrate the 12 Rotary Clubs across District 6900 that have earned the Zone 33/34 Excellence in Public Image Coordination (EPIC) for 2024-25!

- Platinum: Dougherty County, Marietta Metro, Meriwether County, Moultrie, Newnan, North Fulton, Peachtree City, Roswell
- Gold: LaGrange, Vinings Cumberland
- Silver: Henry County
- Bronze: Albany

This prestigious recognition is a testament to the **hard work, dedication and creativity** of these clubs in enhancing Rotary's public image. Through thoughtful storytelling, impactful visuals, community engagement and consistent messaging, you have brought Rotary's mission and values to life in meaningful ways.

The impact of this award goes far beyond the citation itself - it serves as an **inspiration to clubs across the district** to elevate their public image efforts and expand Rotary's presence and influence in their own communities. When we tell our Rotary story well, we attract new members, engage partners and amplify the good we do in the world.

Thank you for setting the standard and showing what's possible through collaboration, innovation and

passion for service. You make District 6900 proud!

Let’s keep telling our Rotary story - boldly, creatively, and together.

Posted by Mandy Timmons
June 2, 2025

Check Out What's New

2025 Council on Legislation

Rotarians from all over the world met in Chicago, Illinois, USA, on 13-17 April to vote on proposed changes to the legislation that governs Rotary clubs. The representatives considered 78 proposals, such as:

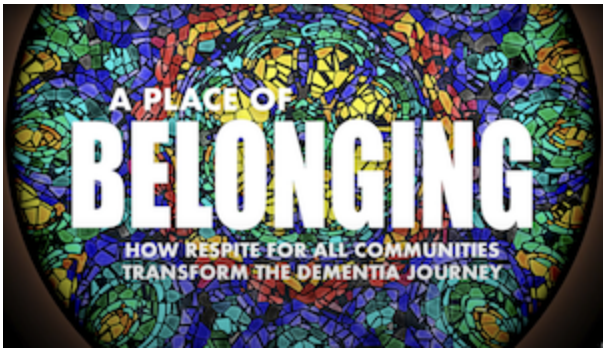
- Increasing the dues that all members pay to Rotary International
- Allowing clubs to charter with as few as 15 members
- Allowing districts the option not to hold a district conference
- Allowing more governance model pilots beyond those being tested in districts in RIBI, New Zealand, and Australia

The Council meets every three years. Afterward, the general secretary issues a report on the actions taken by the Council. Clubs will have at least two months after the report is sent to submit their opposition. The council’s adoption of legislation is suspended if the measure receives opposition from clubs representing at least 5% of the votes all clubs are entitled to cast.

Read about this year’s decisions and view the vote totals.
Posted by Blake McBurney
June 1, 2025

Respite For All

Start A Respite Program In Your Community



If you were at the Georgia United District Conference, you had the opportunity to learn more about our growing partnership with Respite for All. If you missed it or attended our breakout session and want to learn more…

Check out this **inspiring documentary** that tells the story of a care partner and participant; highlights the joy of respite; and shows the impact the RFA social model of care is having in so many lives. It was filmed at six respite communities in such locations at Montgomery, AL, Birmingham, AL, McDonough, GA and Chapel Hill, NC, and as you watch, you'll see that our Respite for All communities are part of a wonderful movement that is going to change the world.

As *people of action*, if you want to see a Respite For All program in real life, reach out to me (**Charlie Augello**) to setup a time to join us at Anchor Place Respite in Dunwoody. We would love to help you start a respite program in your area.

Posted by Charlie Augello
June 1, 2025

Monday, June 9 | 5:30PM

Kickstart Your Membership

Want to finish strong by adding a few new members or set your club up with a great plan for the 2025-2026 Rotary year? The last Membership Action Plan (MAP) webinar will go through the greatest hits from all the calls this year. Think of this like the cliff notes version of the best ways to engage your existing members and attract new one. We hope you will **JOIN THE WEBINAR**.

Posted by Dave Schwickerath
June 3, 2025

Thursday, June 19 | 6:00PM

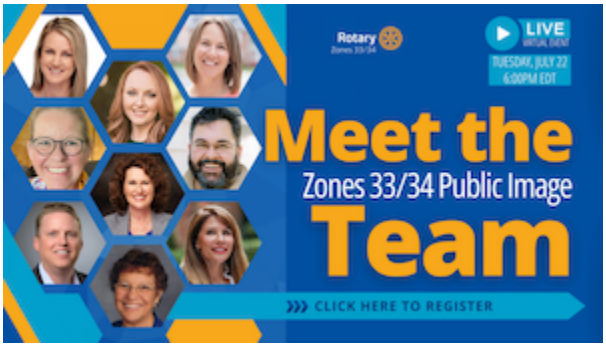
Learn More About Our Foundation

The “Foundation Matters” Webinar Series was developed especially for Club Presidents and Club Foundation Chairs. These monthly webinars will provide “bite-sized chunks” of valuable insights and actionable strategies that really work to increase club engagement in The Rotary Foundation. If you will be taking over as your club foundation chair for the next Rotary year, this is a great place to start to learn more. **Register for the webinar**.

Posted by Bob Hagan
June 3, 2025

Tuesday, July 22 | 6PM

Meet The Public Image Team



Join us for our first live virtual event of the 25/26 Rotary Year! This is your chance to meet the zone PI team, hear what they have planned for the year ahead, and learn how they can support your club’s public image success! All our new club public image chairs should **register for this event** and jump start their club's PI for our next Rotary year.

Posted by Mandy Timmons
June 3, 2025

Our Rotary Foundation

It’s Not Too Late for the Rotary Year!

by Bob Hagan, District Foundation Chair

Make your Foundation donation before June 15 so your contributions can be counted for the 2024-25 Rotary Year. We have had a very positive year, so let’s continue this upward trend. Remember, 50% of all the funds contributed come back to the District as District Designated Funds (DDF) in three years - making our global and community grants possible.Our Global and District Grants have been phenomenal this year because of the Rotary dollars you contributed three years ago.

Remember, your Foundation dollars can go toward polio also. We continue to benefit from the Gates Foundation 2 for 1 match - where the Gates Foundation adds $2 for every $1 we contribute toward polio. We also have a match from Rotarian Tommy Bagwell (District 6910) for every $100 contributed to Polio Plus this Rotary Year - up to $400,000. This is a huge benefit for us, and we should all try to take advantage of this opportunity. We are so close - just two countries left and we will have eradicated Polio! We can do this together. Remember: EVERY DOLLAR COUNTS!

Posted by Bob Hagan
June 1, 2025

Our Rotary Foundation

Oh What the Bequest Society Delivers!

At District Conference, DG Gordon Owens made a surprise announcement to his wife Ashley and her parents, Amy and George Stewart. Gordon revealed that his Bequest Society endowment will be named after Ashley's beloved grandmother - the Jane Stewart Memorial Fund. By joining the Society and committing to include the Rotary Foundation in his estate plan at the $25,000 level, Gordon can name the perpetual endowment that's created.

This fund will generate approximately $1,000 every year to his choice of Rotary endeavor. DG Gordon had planned this announcement - and kept it secret - for an entire year. There was hardly a dry eye in the place when he made the annoucement. Standing with the DG in the photo are PDG Bob Hagan, Meriwether County Past President and District Community Grants Chair Kay Williamson, and Rotary Foundation Trustee Larry Lunsford

Bequest Society commitments are revocable. They are structured to ensure Don'rs' families come first. No funds are required now but the gesture and recognition can be shared freely today.

As DG Gordon mentioned, our District tripled its Bequest Society commitment from last year, which itself was tripled two years ago. All it takes is awareness.

Anyone - especially Presidents-Elect and incoming Foundation Chairs, should contact District Major Gifts officer Lee Hollingsworth at Lee@leehollingsworth.com for details and ideas for your club.

Posted by Lee Hollingsworth
June 3, 2025

Schedule DG Steve for Your Club Events!

District Governor Steve Ivory is looking forward to connecting with every club during his year of service - and that includes your **meetings, service projects and fundraisers!**

To help plan his calendar efficiently, we're asking each club to use the link below to schedule time with DG Steve. Whether it is a club meeting, hands-on project, or a signature fundraiser, he wants to be there to support and celebrate your impact.

Visit **https://forms.gle/rVLEGZ9vZavkpETv8** to make your requests. Let's make sure your club is on his calendar!

Posted by Mandy Timmons
June 2, 2025

August 15-17 | Athens

Join Us For GRSP Conclave

Rotarians and guests are invited to Conclave to welcome the Georgia Rotary Student Program Class of 2025-26 in Athens - August 15-17. Conclave is hosted this year by District 6910 and under the direction of the Athens, Oconee County and The Classic City of Athens Rotary Clubs.

Conclave is the kickoff event for GRSP and allows the international college scholarship students to interact with one another as well as Georgia Rotarians. Students, trustees, officers, host families and friends of the program will participate in important informational sessions beginning at 12:30 pm on Friday at the University of Georgia Center for Continuing Education & Hotel, and throughout the day on Saturday. Here are some of the featured activities:

- District Governor Elect Jessica Fleetwood, Rotary Club of Etowah Cartersville, will open the Friday

session with an introduction to Rotary International.

- Dr. Anna Westerstahl Stenport, Dean and UGA Foundation Professor of Arts and Sciences, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, will be the keynote speaker for the scholars on Saturday. A native of Sweden, Shenport spent her first year of college as a GRSP scholar at UGA, sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Peachtree City and Canton in 1993-94.
- A special welcome dinner for registered Rotarians and guests will be held Friday from 6-9 pm. Enjoy a Tuscan buffet for $58 per person. Students will provide a short introduction and name their trustee and their sponsoring Rotary Clubs.
- Saturday evening attendees (6:15 to 9:15 pm) - business/smart attire, will enjoy a dinner and program at Mahler Hall - featuring the GRSP Cabaret, the popular variety-style performance and parade of flags The dinner will be $63 per person for a Travelers Buffet. Afterwards, students and Rotarians will have separate mixer events, including a cash bar for Rotarians
- On Sunday morning, the students will experience the Ultimate Football Experience, getting a glimpse of Sanford Stadium and the West End Zone Facility, including historic displays, before leave at 11 AM to return to their respective colleges and universities or their host families.

Registration and Housing

GRSP students are pre-registered for the event and meals. They will be hosted by Athens-area Rotarians for the weekend.

Rotarians and guests may register for Friday and/or Saturday dinners through the GRSP web site at **www.grsp.org**. The UGA Center for Continuing Education & Hotel, 1197 S. Pumpkin St., Athens, GA 30602, has a block of rooms set aside for Conclave participants who need lodging - with a special GRSP limited-availability rate that’s available for reservations made by July 2. Lodging reservations can be made via a link on the GRSP website - separate from the link to register for Conclave meals.

Posted by Katheryne Fields
June 3, 2025

RYLA Updaate

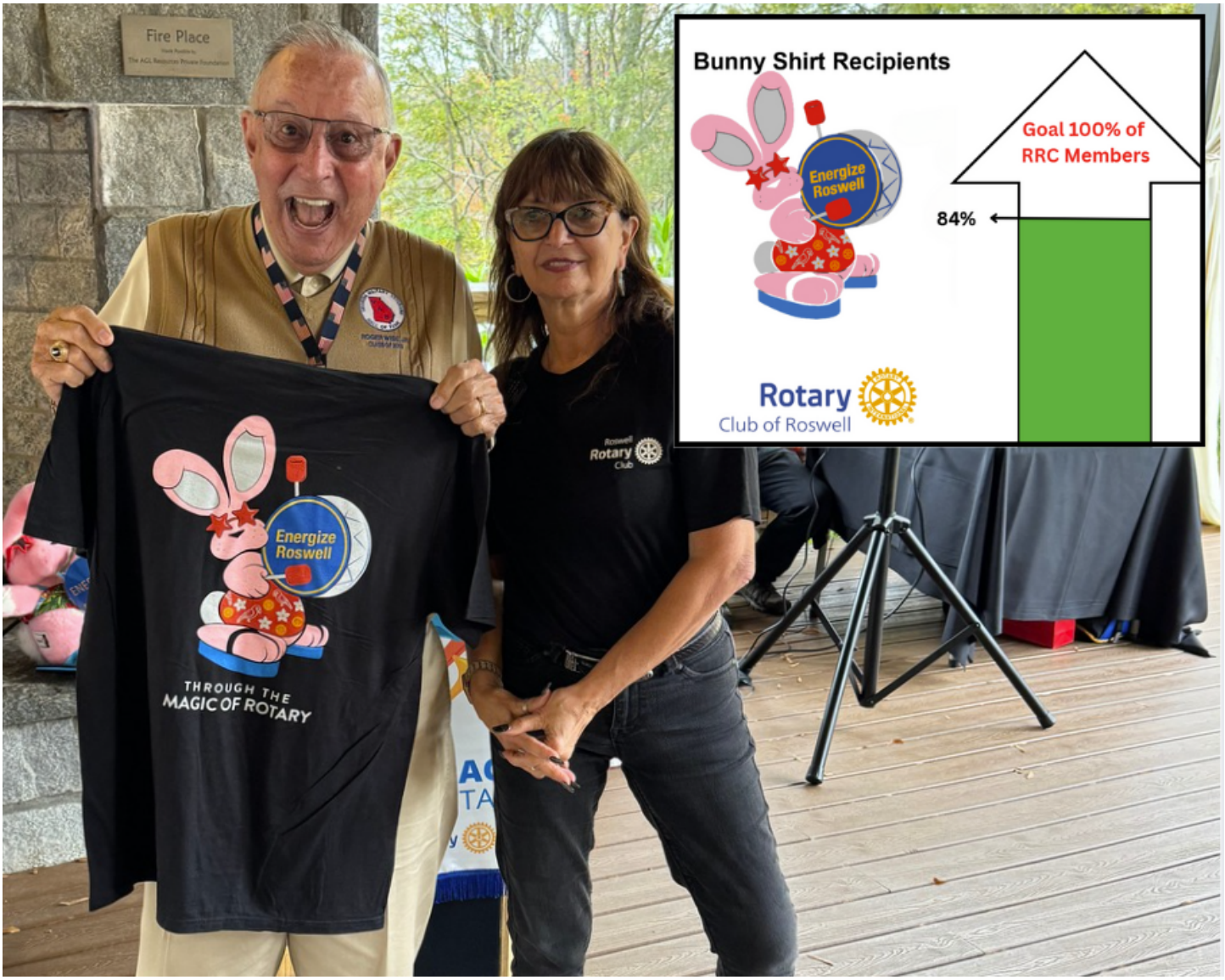
Thank You for Your RYLA Support!

By the time you read this, RYLA 2025 will be about to get underway and full speed ahead. THANK YOU for believing in this program and sending your students to us. We are so grateful for the opportunity to invest a little bit of ourselves in these young leaders. You wouldn't believe how much we can accomplish in just five short days - sometimes it is just WOW amazing. It is our hope that you will invite them to visit your clubs upon their return from camp so you can hear their stories and see the impact your support has made on their lives. You are helping us grow some pretty awesome young leaders, and your communities will be better for it! From all the RYLA Family, thank you!

Posted by Jaclyn Donovan
June 1, 2025

Club News

Roswell: Turning 20% into 84%



Getting all your Rotary Club members to engage has always been a struggle. The saying goes that usually 20% of your members do 80% of the work. When 2024-25 Roswell President Nancy Alterman was planning her year, she specifically focused on engaging the entire club in service.

This include:

- **Flexible times for projects:** including during meetings, before and after meetings, in the evening, in the morning and on weekends. A time that worked for every member.
- **Recognition:** Bunny shirts were awarded for each person who participated in a service project. Special Bunny Awards were given to those who went above and beyond. Presentations happened at Club meetings for all to see!
- **Diversity of projects:** Numerous projects this year allowed each member to select a project that aligned with their passion, whether for veterans, youth, the environment, seniors, historic buildings, first responders … or more
- **Fun:** President Nancy focused on making all the projects enjoyable. So many smiles and lots of laughter as the club worked together living Service Above Self.

- **President and Board Participation:** From track meets at the high school to Honor Air Flight to Washington, DC, to dancing with seniors at Christmas, our club leadership was always part of the volunteer team.

Results: We are almost at the end of the Rotary year, and to date, we have 84% of our members earning a bunny shirt! And still few more projects to go! Thanks to our own Energizer Bunny, President Nancy, and congratulations for turning 20% into 84% (and maybe more before June 30),

Posted by Kathryn Igou
June 1, 2025

Club News

Douglas County Feeds the Homeless

The **Rotary Club of Douglas County** had wonderful weather and a great time at the annual Rotary cookout for residents of Sanctuary Village and the homeless camp behind the courthouse. In addition to a delicious meal of grilled chicken, hamburgers and sides, all guests left with a goodie bag of snacks and toiletries.

Joe Williams headed up the grilling and John Baker provided the ground beef from his farm.

Sanctuary Village provides temporary housing for people going through drug court. It was spearheaded by Judge Bean McClain with a lot of community involvement.

PHOTOS:

WISDOM 1-4

Posted by Nell Boggs
May 7, 2025

Club News

Stone Mountain Busy Supporting the Community for 60 Years

As they celebrate 60 years of service to the community, Stone Mountain Rotarians have been busy!

Georgia Laws of Life Essay Contest: Recently, club members had the privilege of hosting Redan High School students who read their inspiring Georgia Laws of Life essays on values like integrity and kindness. We heard from Emily Applewhite (10th grade winner) and Guy Moo, Ku'aualoha Schmidt-Kaanaana, and Yohany Cruz-Andres (10th grade honorable mentions). Teachers Marcia Wiltshire and Rodney Finley also joined us for the meeting. As a proud sponsor, we are proud of our commitment to uplift young voices in our community.

Volunteering at The Smart Place: We recently visited The Smart Place for Adults & Children (SPAC), a local organization founded by Stone Mountain Rotarian Teresa Punzi. SPAC is a unique community-based educational and training program for individuals with developmental disabilities, offering vocational training, life skills instruction, counseling and support services designed to enable participants to succeed in work and live independently. It is the first Certified Autism Center in DeKalb County. During our visit, we were moved by a heartfelt prayer led ;by District Governor Nominee Cynthia Edward's. We toured the facility, engaged with staff and participants, and witnessed the recording a children's book by President-Elect Marlene Randall for SPAC's living library. We also had the honor of judging a pie baking contest, and we took the opportunity to share an cake recognizing our club's 60th anniversary!

Foster Children Project: We recently collected suitcases, personal items and cash donations for the Foster Children and A Suitcase Project, an initiative led by Ms. Queen of the Positivity Foundation. Donations were collected at FODAC.

As we celebrate 60 years of service, Stone Mountain is excited to continue expanding our reach and deepening our impact.

PHOTOS:

Posted by Darlene Daly
June 1, 2025

Club News

From Combat to Classroom: PTC Rotary Helps Camp Southern Ground Prepare for Warrior Programs

Peachtree City Rotarians rolled up their sleeves for a powerful service project at Camp Southern Ground, helping set up the veterans' classrooms for two life changing programs: Warrior PATHH and Warrior Week.

Warrior PATHH (Progressive and Alternative Training for Healing Heroes) is a transformative, Posttruamatic Growth program designed by warriors for warriors. This intensive seven-day resident experience is jut the beginning of a journey of growth and transformation, followed by 90 days of continued training, support and connection. It's a powerful path that turns suffering into strength, and trauma into triumph.

Warrior Week is a free, tailored transition program for active-duty service members and veterans, offering professional development, career training, and tools to support personal well-being. It's designed to equip our heroes with get he confidence, clarity, and resources they need to thrive in civilian life.

PHOTOS:

Posted by Mandy Timmons
June 3, 2025

Club News

Atlanta Airport Rotary Celebrates Courage

The **Atlanta Airport Rotary Club** honored first responders in College Park, East Point, Forest Park, Hapeville and the Atlanta Airport this May, recognizing 10 honorees who exhibited courage, commitment and compassion. President Kathy Ware said, “These are men and women who head toward a crisis rather than away from one. They are firefighters and police who protect and serve.”

Hartsfield Jackson Executive General Manager Jan Lennon was the keynote speaker at the luncheon that honored these first responders and thanked them saying. “While you were saving lives and helping to reshape our country, you were missing your son’s game, your daughter’s recital, the 6 pm dinner with your family and the family vacation. Even if you went on vacation sometimes, it had to end abruptly because you had to return to work.”

Many of the recipients were very humble and said they had no idea that anyone cared about the daily sacrifices they make to keep us safe.

PHOTOS:

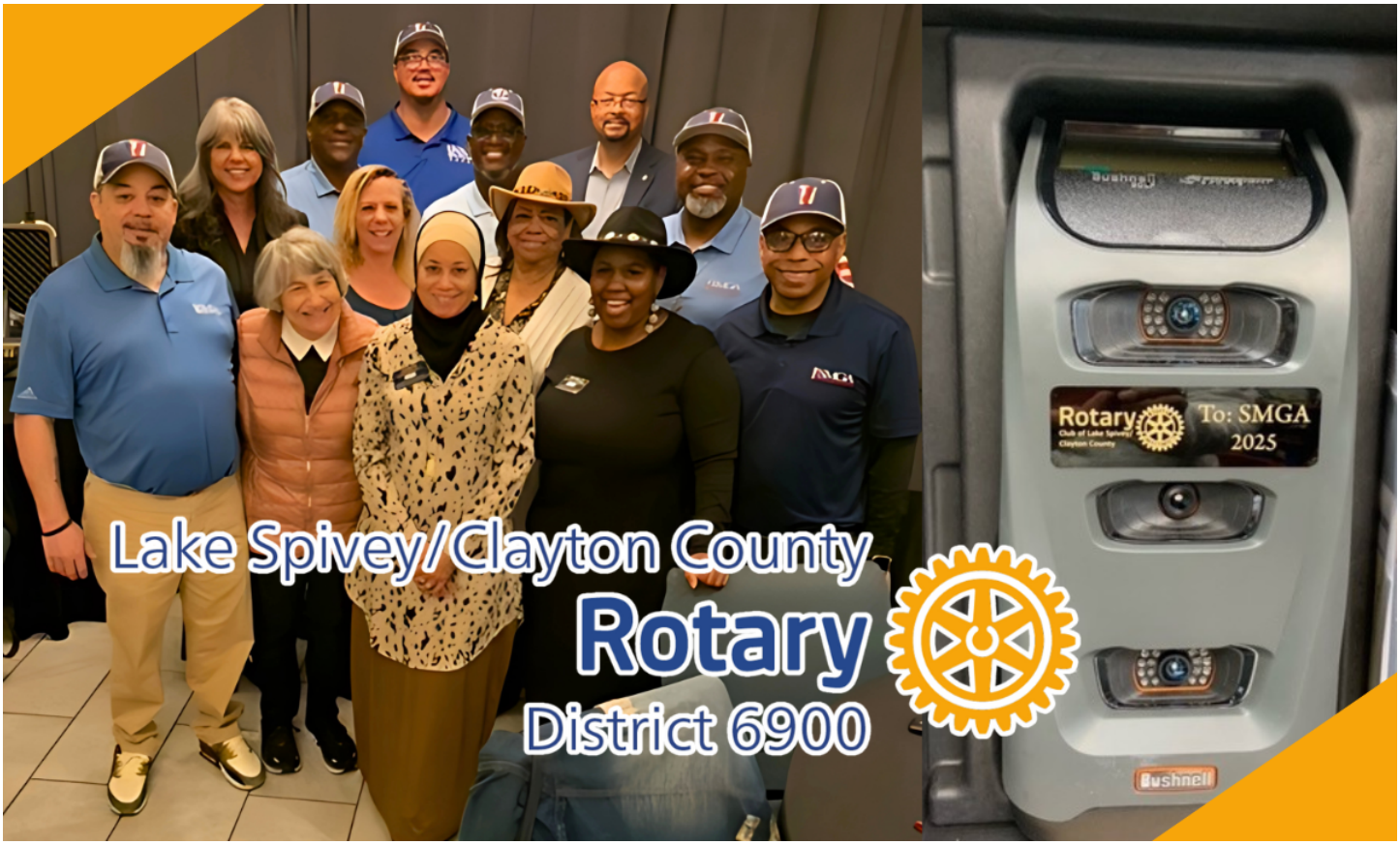
Rotary
Atlanta Airport
POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR
CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION
Sergeant Romero Graham
FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF EAST POINT
May 13, 2025
ATLANTA AIRPORT ROTARY
Kathy Ware
Club President

Rotary
Atlanta Airport
POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR
CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION
Lieutenant Jerrold Wilkerson
FIRE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF FOREST PARK
May 13, 2025
ATLANTA AIRPORT ROTARY
Kathy Ware
Club President

Posted by Kathy Ware
June 1, 2025

Club News

Lake Spivey Clayton County Supports Veterans with SMGA Georgia



The **Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County** proudly presented a Bushnell Golf Launch Pro Monitor to SMGA Georgia earlier this year, reinforcing our commitment to support post-9/11 veterans through meaningful partnerships. Wade Ikiriko, SMGA Assistant Director, highlighted the advanced capabilities of the Bushnell Golf Launch Pro, technology that provides precise swing data, helping veterans build skills and confidence.

Club President Judith Bennett emphasized Rotary's dedication to creating lasting change. Through grants and collaborative projects, our club ensures veterans receive valuable resources for healing and growth. R.A. Hedges, SMGA Chapter Director and Rotarian, expressed gratitude for our support.

The day started with a delicious breakfast prepared by Chef Deameris Oliver, fostering comaraderie and community spirit. Following the presentation, SMGA members enjoyed a round of golf at Christal Lake Golf and Country Club, receiving expert guidance from Brandon Brown.

Posted by Trina Kolawole
June 1, 2025

Our Rotary Foundation at Work

Thomasville Joins with International Clubs for Life-Changing Water Project in Kenya

Partnering with Rotary Clubs in Ireland and Kenya, the **Rotary Club of Thomasville** is undertaking a water sanitation and hygiene project at the Olmapinu Comprehensive School in Rombo, Kenya. The school supports 424 Maasai tribe students and staffers, and complies with all Kenyan and tribal guidelines. Included in the build are 12 toilets for girls, five toilets and five urinals for boys, and additional facilities for staff, and younger and handicapped children. The project also includes handwashing stations, sanitation and hygiene education for children, females and staff, and funding for sustainability of the facilities.

Thomasville Rotarian and past club President Joe Brown is leading the club's involvement in the project. "Our club's 100% participation in fundraising for the Rotary Foundation helped us secure the global grant for the project. Our club was also responsible for providing $15,000 in new money to the Rotary Foundation Annual Fund - Share, but the total Rotary Foundation funding made available for the project from the District and the Foundation totaled nearly $67,000."

Joe also noted the significant cooperation among the various clubs working ;together to complete the project. "The Dublin Central, Ireland club was fundraising for a water project, so it made sense for us to come along ;elide them for the sanitation port. Working together with clubs from across the globe for a project of this magnitude has demonstrated the significance of Rotary, not only in the community, but everywhere."

PHOTOS:

Posted by Sally Bowman
June 1, 2025

Our Foundation at Work

Griffin’s Community Grant Buys Playground Equipment

The **Rotary Club of Griffin’s** District Grant was used to purchase playground equipment for New Horizons New Directions Preparatory Academy in Griffin. New Horizons is a private school whose founder was inspired by a strong desire to not only help students succeed academically but also to help students become champions for life. NHND Prep pledges to offer a positive difference in the lives of students, their families and the community. Before installing the swings and mulch (spread by club members on a rainy day!), the students had almost no playground equipment. It has been a treat for Rotarians to ride by the school and see the swing set in use.

Posted by Janice Wallace
June 1, 2025

Club News

GRPA Fosters Financial Success in Asian American Community

This May, the **Georgia Rotary Professional Alliance (GRPA), a satellite of the Johns Creek North Fulton Rotary Club**, hosted its first signature event - GRPA Financial Wellness Summit. This free community service event was designed to empower Asian Americans through protecting their personal information and increasing their financial security. The summit featured two moderated panels of experienced industry professionals providing practical advice that attendees could immediately implement in their busy lives. Nearly 100 attendees filled the spacious Arrow Creek Community Room above the municipal offices of the City of Chamblee to hear speakers from seven different companies and organizations, including two officers from the City of Chamblee Police Department.

GRPA President Holly Geordies, one of the club's founding members, welcomed participants, saying, "GRPA is committed to fostering meaningful relationships through collaboration, professional development and public service." In this first even, GRPA successfully brought together five event sponsors, six community partners and four AAPI co-hosts. Representatives from the ;National Association of Chinese Americans, the Philippine American Chamber of Commerce of Georgia, OCA Georgia, and the Hong Kong-US Business Association were able to introduce themselves to summit participants.

GRPA was founded last October and has quickly grown from 12 to 30 total members, making it one of the fastest growing Rotary groups in Georgia. The next signature event is being planned for Fall 2025. For summit sponsorship opportunities, contact GRPA at grpaaapi@email.com. You can also link to **GRPA's Financial Wellness Summit Event page.**

Posted by Christopher Chan
June 1, 2025

Club News

Carrollton Grant Funds Student Meals

Earlier this year, the **Rotary Club of Carrollton** was honored to engage in a service project - partnering with Giving Hearts, Inc. to prepare meals for student backpacks. The club - and our GRSP student Jasmine Tasman (pictured with Carrollton Rotarian Lynn Kress and Club President Ed Ward)- turned out to help pack the meals.

Giving Hearts' mission is to provide supplemental food resources to underserved populations in Carroll County and surrounding areas. The project was funded by a Rotary Club grant to Giving Hearts.

PHOTOS:

Posted by Nichole Fannin
June 3, 2025

Club News

Paulding County Prepares Lunch for Wellstar Paulding Nursing Center

In May, the **Rotary Club of Paulding County** completed its annual service project to prepare over 300 meals for the Wellstar Paulding Nursing Center in Dallas, GA. This is one of our largest service projects of the year, as we show our appreciation for the 150+ seniors residing in this facility and serve the loving staff. Projects such as these are funded by our annual fundraisers - our Annual Charity Golf Tournament each October and the Annual Invitational Dallas Christmas Parade in December.

Posted by James Ransom
June 1, 2025

Club News

Columbus Hosts Private Leadership Reception Supporting Micah's Promis and Advance Anti-Trafficking

In May, the **Rotary Club of Columbus** partnered with its End Human Trafficking Now (EHTN) committeeto host a private reception focused on strengthening community and legislative collaboration in the fight against child sex trafficking. This invitation-only event welcomed approximately 20 attendees, including state and local legislative representatives, Rotary leadership and advocates dedicated to ending human trafficking.

Rather than a public unveiling of the therapeutic garden at the Girls Rise Hoem, the reception centered on a more focused mission:

- Highlighting the impact - exploring how the therapeutic garden and trauma-informed spaces promote healing and emotional regulation for survivors
- Interactive tour - offering firsthand insight into how Micah’s Promise is transforming lives through specialized care and support
- Focus on collaboration - deepening relationships between local and state leaders, the Rotary Club, and Micah’s Promise to enhance collective impact
- Public policy engagement - encouraging meaningful dialogue on the role of legislation and government partnerships in preventing and addressing human trafficking

Many of the elected officials in attendance were visiting the home for the first time, gaining new understanding and appreciation for the social work being done behind the scenes at Micah’s Promise.

”Our club was proud to host this intimate and impactful event, said Club President Meredith King. “It was an opportunity not only to witness the hope and healing happening at Micah’s Promise but to build relationships that can lead to real change in our community and beyond.”

PHOTOS:

Posted by LeighAnn DiCesaris
June 1, 2025

Club News

South Cobb Honors Public Safety; Tees Up Successful Fundraiser

In April, the **South Cobb Rotary Club** hosted its annual Public Safety Appreciation Day at the Cobb Police Training Center in Austell. The event celebrates the contributions of Cobb Police, Cobb Fire, Puckett EMS, Cobb 911, Cobb Sheriff, Austel Fire and Austell Police. The ceremony included speeches, award presentations notations and lunch. A highlight was the presentation of a $1,000 grant to Israa Winston of the Cobb Police Department, in recognition of her service and dedication.

Club President Pamela Kramer noted, ”Today, we honor the heroes who keep our community safe. Their dedication and bravery are truly commendable, and we are grateful for their service.

In May, the club hosted its 44th Annual Golf Tournament in Austell, GA - an event that celebrates community partnership and collaboration - and provides funding for a wide range of programs that have a lasting impact on the community.This event has long been the club’s most impactful fundraising event.

PHOTOS:

Rotary
THE FOUR-WAY TEST
Of the things we think, say or do:
first
Is it the TRUTH?
second
Is it FAIR to all concerned?
third
Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
COBB COUNTY
POLICE

Posted by Pamela Kramer
June 3, 2025

Club News

Peachtree City Funds New Signage at NeSmith Preserve

Thanks to a community grant from the **Rotary Club of Peachtree City** and Georgia Department of Natural Resources - Georgia DNR's Wildlife Viewing Grants Program, Southern Conservation Trust was able to install a new educational sign at NeSmith Preserve and redesign the end of the boardwalk to better accommodate the sign and make the space more accessible and useful for all visitors. "NeSmith Preserve: A 100 Years in the Making" shares how this landscape transformed from Piedmont bottomland forest to thriving welland shaped by beavers over decades.

Southern Conservation Trust is a public charity that elevates nature through exceptional stewardship through over 55,000 acres of conserved land and public lands throughout the Southeast, including five public nature areas in Fayetteville County, Georgia, and the Fayette Environmental Education Center. Not only working to protect our lands, they also want to promote the education and access to enjoy our natural preserves.

Posted by Mandy Timmons
June 3, 2025

Club News

Rotary Community Core - Peachtree City Packs 29,000 Toothbrushes

The **Rotary Community Core of Peachtree City** - a dynamic group of adults with special needs - completed its annual service project at Midwest Food Bank, packing over 29,000 toothbrushes to be distributed to those in need. Their commitment to helping others is a powerful reminder of what it means to live by Rotary's motto: Service Above Self.

RCC proudly welcomed four new members - William Banks, Corbett Dishman, Jack Donohe and Abby Picket - bringing total membership to 43 - a remarkable growth from just 17 members when RCC began 10 years ago.

PHOTOS:

Posted by Mandy Timmons
June 3, 2025

Club News

Harris County Hosts US Fellowship of Rotarians Golf Championship

The **Rotary Club of Harris County** will be hosting the US-Canada Golfing Fellowship of Rotarians Golf Championship this September 14-18. This is an annual event hosting Rotarians from across the US and Canada. It will take place at Callaway Resort & Gardens at Pine Mountain. For more information, contact Tom Shaver at 540-315-2283 or by email at shavertas@gmail.com.

Posted by Tom Shaver
June 3, 2025