



Celebrating the Second Year of the Second Century of Rotary

District 6900 Newsletter

May 2007

Congratulations to the Best Clubs and Sheffield Leadership Award Recipients



Category 1

Best: North Fulton
Runner-Up: Smyrna
Sheffield: Terry Schaeede,
Atlanta Airport

Category 2

Best: Stone Mountain
Runner-Up:
Roswell East
Sheffield: McClellon Cox,
Northlake

Category 3

Best: Dunwoody
Runner-Up:
Marietta Metro
Sheffield: Miley Adams,
Camilla

Category 4

Peachtree City and Roswell
Clubs ... tied for Best!
Sheffield: Mary Chapman,
Peachtree City

See more information on all
the District awards
on pages 3 and 4.

Play Like You Would in the Fourth Quarter

The Pink House, Americus, Georgia ... Memorial Day 2007

Well here we are. May is almost over and I am just getting to the newsletter for the month. We are starting to get back to something that resembles normal. It seems that I lost two months in March and April. There are no blue tarps left on Stanfield buildings – but the carport just has felt paper and no shingles. School is almost out and Jeannie is thankful for a break. We are making plans for the International Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah.

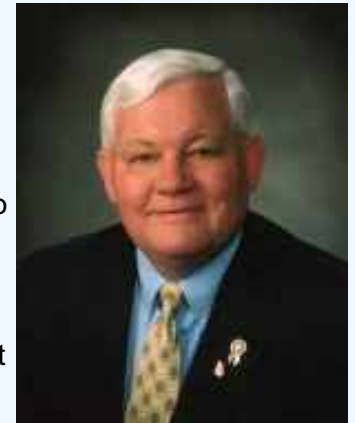
It was an International Convention in Singapore that started this journey. We look forward to it every time we can attend. It will be even more special this year as we see so many from the District attending. It may be a record year for attendance from our District. In Singapore the District attendance was small, but oh the great Rotary and personal friends we made on that trip, Al and Carol Lipphardt, Bill Mulkey, David Stahl, Tom and Lee Kent. Friends we ride the roads of life with. I look forward to making more friends this year – I know we will.

I keep seeing great things from our Rotary year – Club Presidents, be proud of the job each of you has done in Leading the Way for your club this year. It is amazing how much each of you has accomplished. Water projects, food for the hungry, literacy projects, Family of Rotary events, the big bash set for August at Warm Springs for the Polio Plus Exhibit – Foundation Giving, and all while you grew the District membership over 15%. Oh, the public relation grants from RI – wow, you received 10% of the total amount of money allocated for these grants for the entire Rotary world!

In fact, I just saw a product of the PR grants as we drove back into Americus from Lake Blackshear and our annual Memorial Day gathering with my golf/ Sunday school group. There on a large billboard on Highway 280 just in front of the Wal-Mart entrance is the Rotary Wheel and a sign talking about clean water for the world – amazing. It has been a wonderful year watching you all plan and work your year. If we could bottle your enthusiasm and drive, we could conquer all of the RI tasks in such a short time.

We keep seeing Ray, Roy, and Bob's notes about the \$1M year for Foundation Giving – it is possible at the rate we are going but don't wait. If your club happens to have money being held for this year's Foundation Giving turn it in now please. If you have planned to make a donation to the Foundation large or small now is the time. Don't wait until June – do it today.

(cont'd on page 2)



*District Governor
Steve Stanfield*

As I get back to the task of work and clean-up I want to share a great experience I had about a week ago. I was asked to speak at the Rotary Club of Cuthbert's 80th anniversary of their chartering. It was a great day – a small club in an area that is economically challenged – but a club with great traditions and history ... a club that means so much to its community. It was great to see old friends there – Jimmy Rice, Charles Ferguson, Scott Curry, Charles Curry, and their ever-present guest from Dawson – Judge Joe Bishop (it was Joe's son that won that speech contest and kept us entertained and thrilled with his oratory skill at Jekyll Island some years ago). I asked the Cuthbert Club to invite me to speak at their 100th anniversary.

I hope you had a great time at District Conference and that May has been good for your Club and your families. For those veterans who deserve so much recognition on this day for your service to our Country – I offer the traditional toast made on this occasion: "To absent comrades." It is traditional to break the glass in the fireplace.

Thanks,

Steve

6900 Leads the Way!

Join Your Georgia Family of Rotary To Celebrate: August 11 in Warm Springs, Georgia

What better way to get the "Rotary Shares" year underway than a three-district Family of Rotary Day to celebrate the dedication of the "Whatever Happened To Polio?" exhibit – coming from the Smithsonian Institute to its new home at Roosevelt Warm Springs, Georgia?

This August 11 will include the dedication and activities for Rotarians and their families – watch for more in email, the July and August District newsletters and the District 6900 website!

The polio exhibit was originally created to mark the Salk vaccine, It comes now to Warm Springs where momentum for polio eradication and the accelerated in the late 1920s due to the efforts founder Franklin Delano Roosevelt. With last vation of the Museum of American History, one national museums in Washington, D.C., the exhibit became available and negotiations started between Rotary, one of the original sponsors and the Smithsonian last summer.

For several years, Rotary International has been "a prime player" in polio eradication efforts worldwide and under the leadership of Carol Pandak, its PolioPlus Program has enjoyed tremendous success. Now, thanks to generous support by both the Rotary Foundation and Rotary District 6900, the exhibit is actually under reconstruction at Roosevelt Warm Springs and final decisions are being made regarding presentation, staffing and promotion. The *Rotarian Magazine* is currently featuring news of the loan.

Touring the exhibit will take 30 minutes to an hour and will be available to the general public free of charge. More information will be forthcoming as plans proceed through this website, local and regional media.

Roosevelt Warm Springs Development Director Ken Harris is a member of the Peachtree City Rotary Club and RWS Annual Gifts Manager Dawn Freelin is a member of the Meriwether County Rotary Club. Peachtree City's Mary Chapman, wife of Roosevelt Warm Springs Development Fund Board of Trustee member Edgar Chapman, is one of the local Rotarians involved in the exhibit loan effort.



the 50th anniversary of Springs, the place March of Dimes really and exposure of RWS year's closing for reno- of 13 Smithsonian national

We recognized the Best Clubs in District 6900 and the Sheffield Leadership Award winners on page 1 of this newsletter. Here we congratulate the rest of the clubs who received awards at District Conference in SanDestin. Keep in mind that all 70 Clubs in District 6900 are winners — we are making a difference in the world and thank you for all that you do each year!

The Golden Awards

Best Club Service

Category 1

Best: Atlanta Airport
 Runner-Up: Windward

Category 2

Best: Sandy Springs
 Runner-Up: East Cobb

Category 3

Best: Camilla
 Runner-Up: Vinings

Category 4

Best: Atlanta
 Runner-Up: Buckhead

Best Vocational Service

Category 1

Best: North Cobb
 Runner-Up: Brookhaven

Category 2

Best: North DeKalb
 Runner-Up: Douglas County

Category 3

Best: Vinings
 Runner-Up: Camilla

Category 4

Best: Buckhead
 Runner-Up: Atlanta

Best International Service

Category 1

Best: Windward
 Runner-Up: Atlanta Peachtree

Category 2

Best: Sandy Springs
 Runner-Up: North DeKalb

Category 3

Best: Vinings
 Runner-Up: Camilla

Category 4

Best: Atlanta
 Runner-Up: Buckhead

Best Community Service

Category 1

Best: Brookhaven
 Runner-Up: North Cobb

Category 2

Best: North DeKalb
 Runner-Up: Sandy Springs

Category 3

Best: Vinings
 Runner-Up: Camilla

Category 4

Best: Buckhead
 Runner-Up: Atlanta

Best

New Generations

Category 1

Best: Dunwoody Sunset
 Runner-Up:
 Fayette Daybreak

Category 2

Best: Sandy Springs
 Runner-Up: North DeKalb

Category 3

Best: Vinings
 Runner-Up: Alpharetta

Category 4

Best: Buckhead
 Runner-Up: Atlanta

Awards About District Conference

| | Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 | Category 4 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| House of Friendship Display | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Windward | North DeKalb | Dunwoody | Roswell |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Atlanta Airport | Muscogee | Alpharetta | Peachtree City |
| Conference Theme | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Windward | North DeKalb | Dunwoody | Peachtree City |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Dunwoody Sunset | Clayton County | Vinings | Thomasville |
| Conference Attendance | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Fayette Daybreak | Clayton County | Dunwoody | Peachtree City |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Dunwoody Sunset | Stone Mountain | Vinings | Roswell |

Individual Awards

Russ Childers, Americus ... William E. Carver, Sr. Rotarian of the Year
Maja Aman Bergkvist ... Will Watt Award (student)
Bill Keappler ... Frank Bentley Leadership Award (GRSP)
Rotary Club of Roswell ... Al Daniel Membership Award
Rotary Club of Smyrna ... Al Thomson Award
PDG Al Lipphardt, Stone Mountain ... Follow Me Award (new in 2006-7)

| | Category 1 | Category 2 | Category 3 | Category 4 |
|--|------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Dick Mitchell Award | Dunwoody Sunset | North DeKalb | Marietta Metro | Columbus |
| Perfect Attendance Award | Fayette Daybreak | Pelham | No Award | Columbus |
| CART Award (Alzheimer's Research) | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Atlanta Airport | Pelham | Alpharetta | Roswell |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Windward | North DeKalb | Newnan | Americus |
| Project to Alleviate Poverty | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Atlanta Airport | Griffin Daybreak | Vinings | Atlanta |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Jackson-Butts | North DeKalb | Camilla | Buckhead |
| Project Addressing Health Concerns | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Windward | Fayetteville | Vinings | Buckhead |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Jackson-Butts | Clayton County | Camilla | Atlanta |
| Support of Rotary Foundation | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Smyrna | Stone Mountain | Dunwoody | Peachtree City |
| ◆ Runner-Up | North Fulton | Muscogee | Marietta Metro | Decatur |
| Foundation Support/International Service | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Roswell East | Sandy Springs | Marietta Metro | Buckhead |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Smyrna | Stone Mountain | Vinings | Peachtree City |
| Character Education Program | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Atlanta Airport | Pelham | Vinings | Buckhead |
| ◆ Runner-Up | North Cobb | Fayetteville | Camilla | No award |
| AIDS Education/Awareness | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Brookhaven | Northlake | Vinings | Buckhead |
| ◆ Runner-Up | North Cobb | Atlanta West End | Camilla | No award |
| Literacy and Education Project | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Atlanta Airport | North DeKalb | Vinings | Atlanta |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Fayette Daybreak | Sandy Springs | Camilla | Buckhead |
| Community Service Project | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Atlanta Airport | Douglas County | Vinings | Buckhead |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Jackson-Butts | Muscogee | Camilla | Atlanta |
| Club Website | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Brookhaven | Fayetteville | Vinings | Thomasville |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Windward | Clayton County | Camilla | Buckhead |
| Public Relations | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Windward | North DeKalb | Vinings | Atlanta |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Atlanta Airport | No award | Camilla | Marietta |
| Bulletin | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Atlanta Airport | North DeKalb | Camilla | Atlanta |
| ◆ Runner-Up | North Cobb | Sandy Springs | Vinings | Columbus |
| Family of Rotary Participation | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Brookhaven | Northlake | Vinings | Buckhead |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Fayette Daybreak | Muscogee | Camilla | No award |
| Best Club Yearbook | | | | |
| ◆ Best | Windward | Fayetteville | Dunwoody | Roswell |
| ◆ Runner-Up | Brookhaven | East Cobb | Vinings | Peachtree City |

The Rotary Foundation Bequest Society Did You Know?

“The Rotary Foundation Bequest Society is dedicated to those very special friends who have had the foresight and wisdom to remember the Foundation in their estate plans with a significant bequest of US\$10,000 or more.” By becoming a member each Rotarian is offered “membership in a society that is ... changing lives through ... a legacy of hope, The Rotary Foundation Bequest Society.”

Being a Benefactor with a commitment of \$10,000 does not automatically enroll a Rotarian in the Bequest Society. Membership is upon request only. The Bequest Society form (found on the RI website or by request) should be completed and returned to RI.

Major Donor status does not mean that a Rotarian is a member of the Bequest Society. Major Donors have given outright contributions of \$10,000 or more to The Rotary Foundation. Bequest Society members commit \$10,000 or more to The Rotary foundation through their estate plan. If a Rotarian makes both an outright gift of \$10,000 or more and makes provisions to leave \$10,000 to the Foundation that Rotarian would qualify to be recognized both as a Major Donor and a Bequest Society member.

Naming The Rotary Foundation as a beneficiary on a term life insurance policy does not qualify for Bequest Society membership. Rotarians who identify bequest commitments of \$10,000 or more on whole or universal life insurance policies will be eligible for membership in the Bequest Society.

If a Rotarian joins the Bequest Society, their spouse is not automatically a member as well. Spouses need to submit their own commitment if the application does not specify a joint bequest. There is a special place on the Bequest Society membership form to specify a joint commitment and be recognized together.

May we add you to the list? Just fill out the form and send it in. Please let PDG Claudia know (email cmdg05@leisurelines.com or telephone (770) 968-4000), as Rotary International does not notify us if you join. She does not need to know details, only that you have sent in the form.

Leave a Legacy of Hope. Join the Bequest Society Today.

At The Top of the World ...

The Rotary Foundation's May list of the Top 50 APF Per Capita clubs includes two District 6900 clubs:



- ◆ **Smyrna** continued at #1 with **\$3,533.00** in per capita giving,
- ◆ **Peachtree City** joined the list at #41 with **\$733.06** per capita giving.

As far as we know, this is the first time that we have led the world and had two clubs in the Top 50. Congratulations to Presidents Roy Strickland and Mary Chapman. Both of you and your clubs are truly “World Class.”

... Ray McKemie,
District 6900 Annual Giving Chair

Thanks for the Gift of Mobility

Your very generous support of Governor Steve's Wheelchair project his year will give over 2000 individuals the freedom of personal mobility that has not possible up to now. Wheelchairs were donated on a number of different fronts, some directly to the Wheelchair Foundation and others through the District 6900 program coordinated by Alan Yott, Vice President Southeast Region for the Wheelchair Foundation.



- ◆ Contributions from the clubs of District 6900 and District 7120 translated into two container loads of wheelchairs that will be sent to Jamaica. The details on the arrival date are being finalized and we will inviting interested Rotarians to assist with the delivery — coordinating with the local District and Rotary Club of Kingston. Governor Steve is good friends with the local DG Alastair Patterson.
- ◆ Members of the Cobb Rotary Council including Marietta, Marietta Metro, Vinings, Smyrna, and South Cobb responded to Governor Steve's request by partnering with the Rotary Club of Foster City, CA and District 3300 in Malaysia — getting a Matching Grant. The total cost of the project was \$126,000 — enough to buy 1,680 wheelchairs — or six containers! The wheelchairs now are being manufactured in China and will be shipped to Malaysia in late summer/early fall. The Malaysian Rotarians will handle distribution.

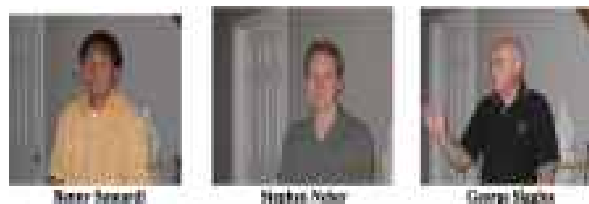
Thank you all for your support of this worthwhile project. Please also thank Candace Klein of the Buckhead Rotary Club and Jim Buckler of the Sandy Springs Rotary Club. They were instrumental in the success of this program as well.

... C. Nicholas Spates, District Chair for Wheelchair Project

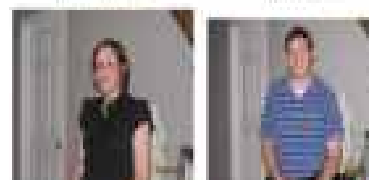
2007-8 Outbound GSE Team to Japan Rotary District 2730 Chosen

Thank you GSE Selection Committee members Mike Elliott, Muscogee; Jennifer Jenkins, Dunwoody; Rene Lanier, Marietta Metro; Whit Perry, LaGrange; Warren Williams, Peachtree City, and PDG & Foundation Chair, Robert Hall; and DGE Bill Woulfin, Dunwoody for participating in the 2007-2008 Team Selection. The Japanese outbound team departs about October 12, 2007 for Japan.

Congratulations to Rotarian Team Leader **George Siggins, Rotary Club of Henry Country** . His team includes:



- ◆ Wade Beacham - Charter Insurance, Buckhead
- ◆ Maureen Copeland – Publix Pharmacy Technician, Muscogee
- ◆ Stefan Neher – IRS, Buckhead
- ◆ Benny Sumardi – Bank of America, Atlanta



Maureen Copeland and Wade

The team held their first team meeting on Saturday, May 5. Former Group Study Exchange Team Leader, Warren Williams conducted a team building exercise that encouraged team members to assess their goals and purpose for participating in the exchange. Mary Jane Siggins prepared awesome snacks with a Japanese bent and invited everyone to try out chopsticks.

Time to Apply for Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships

In July, District 6900 will select its Ambassadorial Scholars for the 2008-2009 school year — some for a full year academic scholarship, some for three– or six-month cultural scholarships. Applications are due no later than **June 29, 2007 to:** Tom Klein, 1036 Bellevue Drive, Atlanta, GA 30306.

Rotarians and potential applicants can visit www.rotaryscholarship.org to get the full scoop on the program and a helpful document called “How to Apply” that’s good information for Rotarians and applicants.

Rotary District 3020 Inbound District 6900 Team Photos

The Rotary District 3020 team arrived in Atlanta on April 20 where they were greeted by their Dunwoody Club hosts and members of the outbound Rotary District 6900 GSE team. They were hosted at a reception by the Decatur club at the old DeKalb County courthouse where they met Rotary District DGE, Bill Woulfin and his wife, Les. They have been hosted to date by the Rotary Clubs of Alpharetta, Sandy Springs, LaGrange, Columbus, E. Columbus, Muscogee, Roswell, and North DeKalb clubs. See photos below of our new friends from Rotary District 3020.

The team included:

- ◆ Rotarian leader Raghu Vir Satuluri, 49, male, married, email :raghuvirinc@yahoo.com, lawyer
- ◆ Madhuri Challa, 26, female, single, email: madhurichalla@rediffmail.com, human resources trainer
- ◆ Dr. Indrajit Kothari, 31, male, married, email: k_indrajit@yahoo.com, ophthalmologist
- ◆ Vaishali Harish More, 38, female, married, email: vaishu193@yahoo.com, elementary school teacher
- ◆ Dr. Kalyan Chakravarthy Yeluri, male, married, email: whykay69@yahoo.com, anesthesiologist



Pictures: Watch for more photos in the June issue!

Top row: (left) DGE Bill, Challa & Les, (middle) Dunwoody Hosts, Pres. Anne, the Shalins, Madhuri, VJ, (right) DG Steve and Jeannie receive a gift from the team

Second row: (left) India Team Leader Raghu Vir with Australian Team Leader Wendy Scarlett, (middle) Challa, (right) Indian team with Lorri Christopher and Whit Perry, our outgoing Team Leader.

Bainbridge and Camilla Rotarians Help Mexican Children to Read

Through the sponsorship of Rotary International, individuals and Rotary clubs are assisting young people in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico to stay in school and get an education. **Bainbridge Rotary** applied for and received a matching \$1000 grant, and with the addition of \$500 from the **Camilla Rotary Club**, and \$500 more from an anonymous donor, the Frees were able to take a check for \$3000 to the Puerto Vallarta Rotary in February to help support their efforts.

The Becas scholarship program began in September 1996, giving assistance to 10 children living in poverty. Children in Mexico can legally leave school at age 12 to go to work. Many families living there cannot afford to keep their children in school beyond that age, and many quit to go to work and help support the family. The Becas scholarship program helps keep children in school. Originally the goal was to take the students through grades 7, 8 and 9, but now the program has been expanded to take them through to the end of college if they so desire. At the beginning of the 2006-07 school year there were 160 students being assisted by the program.

Individuals are also being sought to individually sponsor a student with annual costs ranging from \$250 to \$350, depending on the educational level. That amount supplies uniforms, books, transportation and materials. In addition to educational assistance, much work and assistance is being given by the Puerto Vallarta Rotary to help the families living near the garbage dumps. Free said housing in that neighborhood is built from items salvaged from the dumps, and the adults and children are constantly rummaging through the dumps looking for items they can use or sell. Once a week, the city brings around drinking water which is put in large metal cans. They bathe in nearby polluted water. Food from restaurants is delivered weekly by Rotary for the families. Food lines are set up and overseen by the women of the families, who are taught basic sanitation. Free said the people coming to eat bring their own utensils and eat together by families. Clothing is also distributed to the families.

Rotary volunteers help tutor English classes for the children and the parents receive separate classes in English and other topics, such as AIDS prevention, nutrition and wellness. The children have no materials at home for school work. Their English lessons are checked and they are rewarded with two to three sheets of paper and one pencil.

Medical and surgical services and equipment, such as wheelchairs, are also provided through the generosity of Rotarians.

Marilyn Free reported to the Club and said it was amazing to see the generosity and the response of the Rotarians there. "The attitude is wonderful! There is never a question

New Interact Club Hopes to Make a Difference in the Community



Counterpane School has started a YouthAct club for children ages 10-14. The group promotes literacy in our community and supports refugee families. This new club is sponsored by the **Rotary Club of Peachtree City** and the **Interact Club of Counterpane High School**.

The Youthact members help with the Souns program that promotes literacy at the Peachtree City Library and at the Fayette Family YMCA. During our monthly visits to the library and to the YMCA, they show the parents how to use Souns in their homes and we play Souns games with the children. "It's fun to see how much the children progress and how quickly they learn the sounds of our language," commented a Youthact member. We also help prepare the handmade wooden Souns for use by sanding each individual letter.

The Youthact Club asks citizens to donate household items, school supplies, and clothing to help refugee families who have relocated in the Atlanta area. We collect and deliver supplies that are donated to the International Rescue Committee. One child commented, "It is really amazing to see how much the kids really appreciate what we do for them."

of whether or not it is in the budget. The response is always 'We'll do it'—and they find a way."

Before leaving, the Frees asked if there was anything more they could do. They were told the children had been fascinated by the taking of pictures and that none of them had any pictures of themselves in their homes. Frees took pictures and had them copied at Wal-Mart to give out to the children who were delighted to receive them. Free said the one thing she came to realize was that the parents there really care about their children