

DG Jim with the Rotaract Club of Atlanta and the Atlanta Metro Rotary Club in early March - before our days of social distancing

From Our District Governor **Connecting to Rotary in a Whole New Way**

By Jim Squire
Rotary is secular. Our membership is global and represents many different religions as well as non-believers. But there are challenging times when we all need to look to each other for strength while also seeking the comfort and courage from our individual faith. In my case, there is comfort in knowing that one of the most often repeated phrases in the Bible is four simple words, "This too shall pass." [more]

LEADERBOARD

Check out the full district scoreboard

Here are the clubs that are leading the way in our district for membership, annual fund and polio plus.

Category	NET MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL FUND	POLIO PLUS
----------	----------------	-------------	------------

I **Cordele**

II **Blakely**

III

IV **Alpharetta**

Key Dates

Thursday, July 9th, 2026	North Atlanta Professional Alliance Governor Visit
Tuesday, July 14th, 2026	Paulding County Governor Visit
Tuesday, July 28th, 2026	Jackson-Butts County Governor Visit
Thursday, July 30th, 2026	North Cobb County Governor Visit
Monday, August 3rd, 2026	Marietta-Metro Governor Visit
Tuesday, August 4th, 2026	North Columbus Governor Visit



This photo comes from Global Grant Scholar Sean Minton, who is sheltering in place with wife Amy in London and working on getting ethical approval for interviews related to his masters dissertation, which he will begin writing in June. Amy is recovering from an upper respiratory infection due to COVID-19 and Sean tested positive as well but is asymptomatic.

The Rotary
Foundation
**As the
World
Shakes,
Rotary
District
6900
Rocks!!!**

By Anne Glenn
We hope every
District 6900
Rotarian is
well and safe
at home, far
away from the
COVID - 19
virus. If you're
out there
working
among our
Healthcare
Heroes, the we
send our
thoughts,
prayers,
support and
deepest
gratitude to
surround you
daily as you
fight to save
our friends and
neighbors.
Thank you.
The past five
weeks brought
immense
challenges into
Georgia -
nightly news
media
displayed
issues "front
and center"
that were
unimaginable
in January or
February,
2020. The
numbers of ill
and dying
people were
too large to
comprehend;
yet they
climbed higher
daily as the
lines of people
needing food
grew longer.
[more]

The Rotary Foundation



Serving During the
Pandemic

Urgent Request for Disaster Relief Funds - District 6900 and The Rotary Foundation

By Anne Glenn

Today is May 1, 2020 -
the virus is still with us at
home and across the
world.

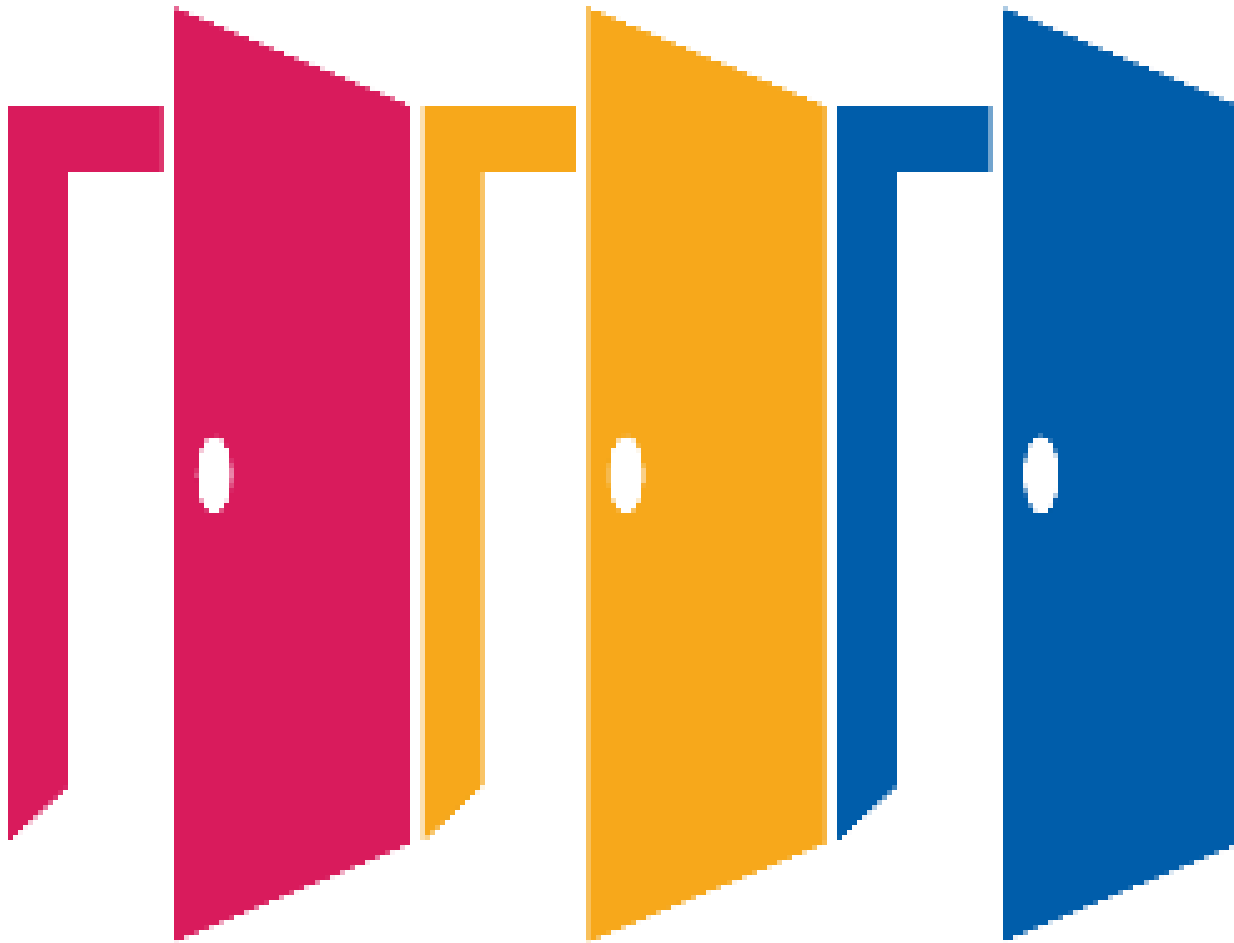
What are we doing today
that makes tomorrow
different?

Here are two actions
you, with your Rotary
Club, can take now that
help other District 6900
Rotarians give life
changing care in their
corners of the world.

- **Opportunity #1 - At Home** - This world's corner is Southwest Georgia, where all types of PPE and hand sanitizers are needed in every community.

- **Opportunity #2 - Far Away** - Remote Bangladesh is this corner of our world, where District 6900 has supported a Rotary-sponsored rural hospital as they expanded cancer detection and treatment services to remote communities. Now the hospital has been designated a COVID-19 center, the city is quarantined, and food, ventilators and COVID-19 testing kits are needed.

Both of these needs are urgent. Read more and if your Club or individual Rotarians want to support either or both of these efforts, please contact Anne Glenn, Grants Chair Rotary District 6900 at adillardglenn@gmail.com [more]



Rotary Opens Opportunities

The Rotary
Foundation
**District
2020-21
Grant
Deadline
Extended
to
Monday,
June 1,
2020**

By Gillian
Leggett
Due to the
current
situation with
COVID-19, the
deadline to
submit your
District Grant
application for
2020-2021 has
been extended.
The new
deadline is
**Monday, June
1, 2020**. This
should allow
extra time for
you to evaluate
community
needs and to
work with your
community
partners to
determine the
best use of
funds to meet
those needs ...
[more]



From Our
District
Chaplain
**May Day
2020
Rotary
District
6900
Prayer**

By Mark
Barbour
Father God, we
are so very
grateful for
these days, as
challenging as
they are, while
we all are
dealing with
such odd,
peculiar,
puzzling, and
unprecedented
difficult and
sad times, we
are ever-
humbled by
your
watchcare
over us.
Father, there
are so many
emotions
related to the
intrusion of
death, the
disruption of
our work-life,
Rotary life, and
all activities
that we
certainly have
taken for
granted prior
to this awful
pandemic.

[more]



District
Celebration
**Join Us at
Jimmy's
Fish
Camp -
Saturday,
June 13**

By Blake
McBurney
We invite you to
join us for a
District 6900
celebration on
Saturday, June
13 at the Bibb
Mill Event
Facility in
Columbus, GA
on the banks of
the beautiful
Chattahoochee
River.

We are taking a
page from the
playbook of
what would
have been this
weekend's
District
Conference -
celebrating at
Jimmy's Fish
Camp with a
Happy Hour
from 11:30 AM
to 12:30 PM
followed by a
Lunch and
Awards
Presentations.
Stay tuned for
more
information on
the event and
how to register.
[more]



Elin Fyhrlund with host family Ken and Janice Townsend, North Columbus

GRSP Update

What's In Store for GRSP in Today's Environment?

By Lynn Clarke
NEWS FOR STUDENTS NEXT YEAR AND MORE
We have received no information in regards to next year at newsletter submission date; however, a decision is to be made shortly as to whether or not we will even have a program this year in order to allow students who were offered scholarships before the pandemic to explore other options. My gut feeling is that we will have a program and I have already made inquiries to some host families and all the trustees in regards to next year, i.e., if the dorms close, would the host families be able to house the student or would the clubs want to sponsor a student for the next semester? Our district stands at about 50% wanting to sponsor a student for next year; however, the other two districts are overwhelmingly in favor of continuing the program through next year. [more]



From a GRSP
Alumnus ...
**The Joy
of
Learning
New
Cultures**

By Lynn
Clarke
Going to a
foreign
country, in
another
continent,
thousands of
miles away
from home...if
that doesn't
sound
terrifying
enough,
imagine
counting on
people that
are at the time
just names at
the end of
emails or on
documents, to
be waiting at
the airport
when you
land. They
were there
when I landed
holding a
placard that
read
"Welcome
Ivy!" They
were ... [more]



Membership
**Until We Meet
Again...
Membership
at a Distance**

By Jaclyn Donovan
Are you looking for ideas to engage members while we're physically distancing ourselves from each other? Has your club started meeting online? Here are some of our favorite resources to help:

- Watch membership webinars and speeches from recent conventions and the International Assembly in the new Club Programming collection on Vimeo.
 - Share the updated State of Membership presentation at your next meeting.
 - Discover the professional and personal development opportunities in the Learning Center. From Leading Change to Building Rotary's Public Image, these online courses allow you to learn new skills from your home.
 - Encourage your members to exchange ideas in the Meeting Online learning topic in the Learning Center.
 - Invite DG Jim Squire to help with an online New Member Induction at your next virtual meeting - no need to wait to make new members official!
- Find more resources at rotary.org/membership.
[more]

RYLA 2020 CANCELED



BUT WE'LL SEE YOU IN 2021!!

RYLA
**RYLA
2020
Cancelled**

By Jaclyn
Donovan
In the midst of
all that is
happening
around us and
the uncertainty
that comes with
COVID-19,
Georgia
Southwestern
State University
has decided
that its campus
will not be open
to students or
camps this
summer. So
that
unfortunately
means that
RYLA 2020 will
not happen. All
clubs that
submitted
sponsorship
commitments
should have
already heard
from ... [more]



Laws of Life

Georgia Laws of Life Announces State Winners

By Natalie Marshall
The Georgia Laws of Life Essay Contest announced state winners for the 2019-2020 contest. Cindy Huynh, an 11th grader at Brookwood High School in Snellville, won the competition with her essay about standing up to bullies. Sha'niya Rogers, a 9th grader at Westover High School in Albany, won the George A. Stewart Jr. Character in Action award with her essay about working through homelessness to achieve in school and for her family. Each of these outstanding student writers will receive a \$1,000 prize. Savannah Johnson, in 11th grade at Lafayette High School, was awarded 1st runner-up. Faith Fitzgerald, a 9th grader at Thomasville High School, won 2nd runner-up. The 3rd runner-up winner was Reagan Beach, a senior at North Cobb High School. Wade Chappell, a 10th grader at North Springs Charter High School, was awarded 4th runner-up. Hyuk Lee, a senior at Lambert High School, won 5th runner-up. [more]

At Paul Duke STEM High School in Gwinnett County, participation in the Georgia Rotary Clubs sponsored Laws of Life Essay Contest soared from 12 students last year to 718 students for the 2019-2020 contest.



Serving During the Pandemic

Bringing Virtual Joy to Atlanta Neighborhoods

By Jackie Cuthbert
Paige McKay Kubik is the President of the **Rotary Club of Atlanta West End** - and the current "Semi-Conductor" (band director) of the all-volunteer Seed & Feed Marching Abominable. The last Saturday of April, the S&FMA led an "unparade" that visited Atlanta neighborhoods and hospitals ... [\[more\]](#)



Serving Before and During the Pandemic

Muscogee-Columbus Leaps into 5K to Benefit Mercy Med

By Lakisha Taylor
On leap day 2020, the Rotary Club of Muscogee-Columbus hosted its very first 5K run to support a local healthcare organization, Mercy Med. Mercy Med provides healthcare services including medical, dental, counseling, physical therapy and other services to the local community at low or no costs. No one is turned away because of their inability to pay. Nestled in the middle of a lower socioeconomic area, Mercy Med ensures the most vulnerable in our community have access to good health. In addition to healthcare services, the organization also has a robust garden where locals can get fresh, organic fruits and vegetables. For these residents, Mercy Med is the only place for miles to get fresh fruits and vegetables. [\[more\]](#)



Serving During the
Pandemic

Lake Spivey- Clayton County Provide Needed Medical Supplies

By Ron Swofford
Rotarians from the
Rotary Club of Lake
Spivey/Clayton County
are reacting to the
Corona virus not only in
the usual way of
practicing social
distancing, limiting
travel only to what is
essential, and
conducting meetings via
Zoom, etc. but also by
implementing a major
new service project. This
project is based on the
immediate and profound
need for critical supplies
such as sanitizer, gloves,
and masks as stated by
many organizations that
are battling the
pandemic [more]



Serving During the
Pandemic

Marietta Rotarians Flatten COVID-19 Dilemma Facing 80 International Students at Reinhardt University

By Dale Covington
P.T. Barnum
observed, "Without
promotion, something
terrible happens. .
.nothing!"
Nothing, that's what
gnawed at Abigail
Merchant's heart.
Abigail, a senior at
Reinhardt University
in Waleska, GA, along
with almost all of
Reinhardt's student
body of more
than 1700 individuals,
was at home
embracing the
university's ... [more]



Serving During the
Pandemic

Douglas County Sponsors Meals for Hospital Workers

By Samantha Rosado
The Douglas County Chamber and Douglas County Economic Development Authority joined forces to support our Douglas County restaurants and provide daily meals to the over 500 healthcare workers at Wellstar Douglas Hospital and public safety workers serving on the front lines during the Coronavirus pandemic. They created the Douglas Strong Fund to support this effort as well as create a fund for the recovery effort of COVID-19. 100% of funds will be used to purchase meals which will be delivered to Wellstar Douglas Hospital and public safety departments. All meals will be provided by Douglas County restaurants who will be paid for these meals. This is a win-win-win front line workers need our support, local businesses need our patronage, and the residents of Douglas County want to do what they do best, help each other. [more]



Club News
RI Past President Barry Rassin Speaks to Lake Spivey-Clayton County via Zoom

By Ron Swofford
During the current COVID-19 quarantine, many clubs in the district are conducting their regular meetings using the popular software program, Zoom. The Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County jumped on this early, and Program coordinators Gina McCombs and Claudia Mertl quickly recognized that meeting via Zoom not only addressed the quarantine limitations but also removed geographical limits on who could be invited to present programs at the meetings. As a result, the Club has enjoyed several speakers from well beyond Jonesboro, Georgia. [more]