



DG George visits with Newnan High School Interact Club

From Our District Governor

## Imagine a Year Filled with Fun, Fellowship and Service!

By George Granade  
Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. As we begin 2023, we should re-examine our goals and see where we are. One of the best ways to accomplish this is updating our goals in Rotary Club Central and checking to be sure we are on track to receive the Governor's Citation and the Rotary Citation as well as other awards. We need to continue to attract new members and grow our District membership. Remember membership is the responsibility of all Rotarians not just the membership committee. Since January is Vocational Service Month, look at your membership and see what other vocations should be added to make your club well rounded. [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	<b>Cordele</b>		
II	<b>Blakely</b>		
III			
IV	<b>Alpharetta</b>		

## Key Dates

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



Rotary Foundation at Work

## Thomasville Shows a Heart for Seniors

By Jackie Cuthbert  
*Editor's Note: One of the main reasons we donate to The Rotary Foundation is the good it allows us to do in the world. Here's a story that illustrates that. Take time to share your stories and think about what your contributions to the Foundation could do.*

**Thomasville Rotary** used this year's District Grant to adopt local seniors. Club President Danny Braddy explained their new grant, saying every Rotary Club has access to an application provided by the Rotary Foundation. "Every club contributes to the Rotary Foundation and a lot of people leave their inheritance to the Rotary Foundation," Braddy said. Some of the money donated to The Rotary Foundation comes back to the district for use in local projects. Our grant this year that was approved was for the seniors at Scott Senior Center," Braddy shared. "When we were thinking about the grant, Rotarians in our club were the ones who got the Senior Center reopened and had a real passion for seniors." The club made every senior a goody bag, complete with stationary, hygienic items and pre-stamped envelopes that allow the seniors to communicate with the Rotarians. [more]



End Human  
Trafficking

**Join  
Alpharetta's  
January 21  
Seminar**

By Paul Ray  
Our children are in  
danger! Human  
traffickers are using  
personal and online  
connections to  
coerce our children.  
It is happening right  
here in North  
Fulton! The Rotary  
Club of Alpharetta  
and End Human  
Trafficking Now are  
hosting a FREE  
seminar on  
Saturday, January  
21 from 9:00 AM to  
1:00 PM where you  
can learn

- What state and local officials are doing to combat trafficking
  - How everyone from corporations to our own children are involved in the fight against HT
  - How to identify the characteristics of HT grooming
  - How to monitor your child's online activity
  - What to watch for throughout your community
  - How to get directly involved.
- [more]
-



## Membership Here We Grow Again!

By Jackie Cuthbert  
As DG George says, membership growth is everyone's responsibility ... and it benefits everyone ... new perspectives, new project ideas, new people to enjoy! Here are some pictures and ideas shared on Facebook:

- Barnesville Rotary held a "Bring a Guest Day" in October - pictured are Jackie Bumgardner, Olivia Jefferis, David Hacker, Marie Bundy, Cindy McGee, & Brenda Brown (now a member) [more]

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RLI Update

## **Building a Better Rotary through Education**

By Stephanie Windham  
RLI is going strong in District 6900! We have more opportunities for you to Learn, Grow, Share and Lead. If you are registered for January 14, 2023 in Thomasville, Georgia, we will see you this coming Saturday, January 14, at Southern Regional Technical College in Thomasville, Georgia. Some of the interesting leadership topics that will be discussed during our classes include: Membership Engagement, Analyzing Your Rotary Club, Strategic Planning, Service Projects, Effective Leadership Strategies and the History of Rotary.

There will be other live opportunities on February 11 in Greensboro, Georgia (D6910) and on March 11 in Tallahassee, Florida (D6940). You can also check [rlitraining.org](http://rlitraining.org) for Live Online RLI sessions and in person events all over the Sunshine Division. The cost for in-person sessions is \$100 and includes materials, breakfast and lunch; online sessions are \$15. [more]

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Thoughts from Our Readers

## **The Rotary Foundation: Giving and Major Donor Credit**

By Robert Hall, Sr.

Most of you probably know that anyone who gives at least \$10,000 to The Rotary Foundation is recognized as a Major Donor. There are different levels of Major Donor recognition based on a person's contributions.

I have had some questions about what donations count toward Major Donor status when you give money to The Rotary Foundation. Some people seem to think that only their donations to the Annual Fund count. [more]

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Club News  
**Atlanta  
Southern  
Crescent  
Spreads  
Holiday  
Cheer**

By Claudia Mertl  
The Rotary Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent was busy enjoying fellowship and spreading holiday cheer with the community in December - with a holiday party at the Mertls and the "Giving Side of Christmas" event held at the Griswell Senior Center. [more]



Club News  
**Sandy Springs Brings Vision to Local Schools**

By Jay Brackman, Sr.  
The Rotary Club of Sandy Springs recently partnered with a national organization called Vision to Learn to provide nearly 800 pairs of glasses for students in Fulton County Schools based in Sandy Springs. Most recently, the club provided over 240 students at Sandy Springs Middle School with either the first glasses they've ever received or the only ones they have had on their own.  
[more]



Club News  
**Dunwoody  
Brightens  
Children's  
Holidays**

By Jackie  
Cuthbert  
The **Rotary Club  
of Dunwoody**  
continued two  
long-time  
traditions this  
holiday season -  
both benefiting  
local children. For  
more than 20  
years, the club  
has made a point  
of donating  
books to  
elementary  
students - a  
tradition started  
with Dresden  
Elementary  
School and  
extended a few  
years ago to  
Kingsley  
Elementary  
School - both  
Title 1 schools ...  
[more]



Club News from  
Facebook  
**Meriwether  
County  
Brightens  
Senior  
Holidays**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
Meriwether Co  
Rotary Club  
played Santa by  
giving out over 90  
gift bags to the  
residents of Warm  
Springs Nursing  
Home and  
Mountain View  
Assistive Living  
Facility. The  
Manchester High  
School Jazz band  
was a part of the  
magical afternoon  
by adding holiday  
cheer through a  
variety of  
Christmas songs  
played for the  
Rotary Club  
members, the  
Warm Springs  
Nursing Home  
residents and the  
staff. The Rotary  
Club is grateful for  
the community  
partners who  
played a major  
role in making this  
event happen:  
Manchester  
Kiwanis Club,  
Manchester  
Women's Club,  
Manchester High  
School Jazz band,  
and Warm Springs  
Baptist Church.  
[more]



Club News from Facebook

## Making a Difference in Our Communities

By Jackie Cuthbert  
Here are some examples of the difference we are making through our work in the community:

- Brookhaven Rotarians continued their bell-ringing tradition on behalf of the Salvation Army
- The Rotary Club of Harris County names a teacher of the month.

[more]

**ROTARY'S 2ND ANNUAL  
WEST GA TALENT COMPETITION**

**Rotary's  
West GA  
Talent**

A COMPETITION OPEN TO ALL AGES

GRAND PRIZE

**\$1,000**

1ST PRIZE

**\$750**

2ND PRIZE

**\$500**

3RD PRIZE

**\$250**

[www.westgatalent.com](http://www.westgatalent.com)

Club News from Facebook

**Carrollton  
Sponsors Second  
Annual West  
Georgia Talent  
Show**

By Jackie Cuthbert

Takes place January 28 at

7:00 pm at the Carrollton

Center for the Arts. Visit

[www.westgatalent.com](http://www.westgatalent.com) for

information about the

competition and how you can

buy tickets to the show.



Club News from Facebook  
**Paulding County Feeds Troops at Hartsfield-Jackson Airport**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
When the USO needed to serve our brave soldiers returning from leave, **Paulding County Rotarians** answered the call. Lots of volunteers mean lots of sack lunches made for these men and women in uniform coming through Hartsfield-Jackson Airport on their way to Fort Benning and Fort Gordon. Thank you Jeb Gordon for organizing this project and thank you to all the volunteers!  
[more]



Club News from Facebook  
**DG Gives Coins of Excellence, Meets with Interactors in Newnan**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
 Newnan  
 Rotarians were recently honored by DG George Granade with the 2022-2023 Coin of Excellence. Honorees included Clay Neely, Cathy Wright, Jay Boren, Granade, George Siggins, and John Thrasher. While visiting Newnan, DG George also took time to meet with the Newnan High School Interact Club. [more]



Club News from Facebook  
**North Cobb Fighting Hunger**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
 North Cobb Rotary joined together to help Forever Fed's Mobile Food Pantry deliver food support to families in need. What's different? Forever Fed travels to communities. One fixed location would only serve one small area... and hunger is everywhere. Learn more at <https://foreverfed.org> [more]



Club News from  
Facebook  
**North  
Columbus,  
Quitman and  
Vinings  
Cumberland  
Adopt Parts  
of Their  
Communities**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
The **Rotary Club of North Columbus** was glad to be a part of Adopt a Family at Rigdon Road School! As Rotarians, we love any opportunity to get involved & give back to our community. **Vinings Cumberland Rotarians** dropped off 50 gifts for the young children at La Amistad for the after-school participants; many are ESL kids and ... [more]



Club News from Facebook

## **Roswell Helps Kids "Sing in the Rain"**

By Jackie Cuthbert

Fellowship Christian School has been growing, and part of that growth involves building renovation. Unfortunately for the 5th grade class, they have been temporarily displaced to an exterior building with no covered walkway, and that is no fun when it rains. Roswell Rotarian David Wash has a son who attends Fellowship Christian and remembered the club had a bunch of golf umbrellas left over from our recent charity golf tournament and asked club president John Carruth if we could donate them to the class. John agreed and Dave was able to deliver the umbrellas just before the last rainy day. In appreciation, the Fellowship Christian 5th grade class sent the club a very nice thank you card signed by all the students and teachers who can now stay dry when they come and go. This small project It shows the compassion of one of our Rotarians, recognizing a problem & taking individual action.  
[more]



Club News from Facebook

## Thomaston Gets Help with Community Relief Efforts

By Jackie Cuthbert  
The **Rotary Club of Thomaston** received a special gift from the Diane Burr Memorial 5k Flag Run/Walk - \$10,000 for the Club's Fuel & Crisis Fund! Generous donations like this allow the club to provide relief to pay heating bills during the winter months and to enable Thomaston's Social Services Department to help Thomaston residents ... [more]