



# Rotary District 6920 *Sow the Seeds of Love*

**Bruce Montgomery**  
District Governor

102 East 44th Street  
Savannah, GA 31405

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## *Simon Selected District 6920 2004-05 President*

Former Augusta West Rotary Club President Dallas Simon was selected District Governor for 2005-06 during the Jan. 11 meeting of the District Governor Selection Committee.

Simon, a current Assistant Governor whose tenure expires in July, is owner of Simon Printing in Augusta, a business he began when he was 22 years old. Simon served on the board of the Augusta West Rotary Club for four years, is a Paul Harris Fellow, a Will Watt Fellow and a Benefactor. He has received the Rotarian of the Year honor twice and the Augusta West Rotary Club was named Rotary Club of the Year under his leadership.

"I am just honored as I can be," Simon said of being chosen as the 2005-06 District Governor.

Simon said one of his goals as District Governor will be to establish "area Rotary councils throughout the District." The councils would meet bimonthly to discuss and share information about events and activities. Currently, the Savannah and Augusta area clubs are the only ones involved in Rotary councils.

Simon and his wife, Pat, have four children and two grandchildren. Their daughter Kelly Harbison is an active Rotarian in Augusta.



*Dallas Simon*  
DGND 2005-06



*Dick Hyer, a member of the Macon Rotary Club, is interviewed by members of the District Governor Selection Committee.*



*Past District Governors Albert Reichert Sr., Albert Reichert Jr. and Jim Puryear, review their notes during a meeting of the District Governor Selection Committee.*

**Visit the District's Web site at**  
**[www.rotary6920.org](http://www.rotary6920.org)**  
**for the latest attendance report and news**



# Thunderbird Has Arrived at Showroom

The raffle car, a torch red 2003 Thunderbird convertible, has been delivered to the Ford automotive dealership in Kingsland (Camden County), Ga.

As of Jan. 17, 525 raffle tickets had been sold. The clubs leading in sales are St. Simons Island with 186, Skidaway with 155 and Perry with 60 (this includes 25 sales not yet recorded), according to Bill Turbeville.

Mr. Turbeville shares two success stories that other clubs and Rotarians might find useful in selling the raffle tickets:

The Skidaway Island Rotary Club sold tickets at two community events, one of which was a regular club fundraiser.

During a community symphony concert, 55 tickets were sold. The club borrowed a new Thunderbird convertible from a local Ford dealer, set up a display and a sales table. They also had a large banner made to help attract attention. A credit card unit was

available for those choosing to charge their purchases, which Turbeville says is important to make it easy to charge purchases.

During a second event, The Skidaway Island Rotary Club sold 60 tickets using the same props, etc. The second event was the club's regular Rotary fund-raising barbecue. The club also made a \$1,000 profit on barbecue sales!

In both cases, the tickets were sold mostly to non-Rotarians. Skidaway Island plans to have another barbecue in the spring using the same sales technique.

Skidaway Island Rotary Club's goal is to sell 300 tickets for the District 6920 Raffle.

"Good going for a club with 45 members," said Turbeville.

Another success story involves the efforts of a single Rotarian.

Raffle chairman DGN John Parkins has had great results in selling raffle tickets by sending a personal letter to selected friends, former business contacts and relatives seeking their help for Rotary in completely eradicating polio worldwide by 2005. He enclosed in each letter two raffle tickets with the stubs filled out,

the "Fulfilling Our Promise" polio brochure and a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of the ticket stubs and a check for the tickets.

"This has really worked," said Turbeville. "He has sold 91 tickets to mostly non-Rotarians.

"We encourage you to develop your own program or follow the above examples and tell us about your successes," added Turbeville.

Remember to send in your ticket stubs and money on the first and 15th of each month to Mr. Turbeville.

Tickets are available on the district Web site for \$50 each and can be paid for by credit card or check on-line. Tickets also can be purchased by contacting Mr. Turbeville. Each Rotarian is encouraged to invest in at least two tickets, with up to 80 percent of the cost of the tickets applied to the Rotarian's Rotary Foundation Paul Harris Fellowship account.

The drawing will be held at the Rotary District Conference on May 3.

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## *Districts Combine Efforts to Unify Training Activities*

Districts 6900, 6910 and 6920 are combining efforts to offer the unified training activities of the club president elects and assistant governors. All training activities will be held at the CentroPlex in Macon.

Assistant Governors will meet for training on Thursday, March 20, while the President-Elects Training Seminar will be conducted Friday, March 21 and Saturday, March 22. The District Assembly will begin at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 22, and conclude late in the afternoon.

According to DGE Leon Benefield, who also serves as chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, all presentations associated with the Assistant Governor



*Ray Klinginsmith  
Foundation Trustee*

training, PETS and District Assembly

will be made by PDGs from the three districts involved. Current DGs and DGNs will have duties at the seminars associated with registration and PDGs are asked to lend a hand as greeters/sergeant-at-arms, especially during the District Assembly.

This year, the featured speakers will be RI Director David Roper, Foundation Trustee Ray Klinginsmith and Rotary General Secretary Ed Futa. In 2004, RI President Jonathan Majjiyagbe, Cliff Dochterman and Mark Maloney are expected to make appearances.



*RI General Secretary Ed Futa speaks during the 93rd RI Convention in Barcelona, Spain.*



*RI Director David Roper, RI President Bhichai Rattakul and District 6920 Webmaster George Carden pose for a photo during a recent meeting of the Jacksonville (Fla.) Rotary Club.*

"The long range implication of this combined training effort are improved consistency from year to year and the ability to attract the best speakers that Rotary has to offer," said Mr. Benefield.

# District Updates

## *District Designated Funds' Focus to Shift to Aid More Club Extension*

In the recent past, District 6920 has used extensive amounts of District Designated Funds to fund scholarships, including Rotary Peace Scholars, Cultural Exchange Scholarships and others. The district has also participated in humanitarian efforts across the globe. More recently, it has been pointed out that the district can impact more people with funds used in humanitarian efforts than with scholarships. Therefore, over the next few years, the focus of the budgeting of the district designated funds will change. More funds will be spent on matching grants and other humanitarian grants rather than scholarships. Scholarships will not be eliminated, but less money will be allocated for scholarships.

"More [money] will go to help people in areas where help is badly needed in the form of basic necessities for life," said DGE Leon Benefield.

A study by DGN John Parkins last year indicated that Rotary penetration (clubs per population) needs to be improved in mid-sized communities within the district. Small and large cities and towns have a more favorable penetration by Rotary than do midsize communities. The focus of starting new Rotary clubs should be in midsize communities where a Rotary Club already exists. Associated with the topic of growth in clubs is the topic of membership retention. DG Montgomery has in place a "Red Badge" program that encourages new member orientations and has the possibility of impacting retention.

## *Rotary Foundation Goals for Coming Year*

The Rotary Foundation Annual Fund goal for 2003-04 will be \$100 for each member in the district. Currently,

that would be approximately \$400,000. The Rotary Foundation Permanent Fund goal for 2003-04 will be contributions and bequests of at least \$50,000. PolioPlus pledges will continue with two years remaining for each Rotarian to pledge and pay \$67 over a three-year period.



*President-Elect Jean Iaderosa inducts Donna Happach into the Savannah East Rotary Club.*



## The Governor's Corner by Bruce Montgomery

Dear Rotarians:

The Beach Party at Jekyll Island is just around the corner. It will be here before you know it. You can save some money by registering on-line on our secure Web site at [www.rotarydistrict6920.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.org) and clicking on the Beach Party link. If you do not want register on-line, you can still go to the Web site and download and print the form. The form can either be faxed or mailed in with a check.

Remember, Friday lunch features the former head coach of Georgia Southern University, Erk Russell. The Kinston Trio will perform Friday night, followed by an afternoon golf tournament on Saturday. A cooking demonstration will be given by the Jekyll Island Club Hotel chef on Saturday and finals of the high school speech contest will be held that same day. A live auction and the Georgia Rotary Student Program skit are also planned for Saturday. All in all, we are looking to have a GREAT time with lots of fellowship, prizes and family fun. So, register early. See you at the Beach Party.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, Bill Turbeville talks about the success stories of Rotarians selling Thunderbird raffle tickets, mostly to non-Rotarians. What is going to be YOUR success story? We can use this unique opportunity to help wipe out Polio in the world, give folks one of the best chances they will ever have in a raffle and get Rotary Foundation credit for our clubs and ourselves, all without pulling one cent from our own pockets. It's easy and fun! All you have to do is ask your neighbor if he/she will help you eradicate Polio. Everybody can relate to that. Since this is the ONLY fund-raiser the district does, it is incumbent upon every Rotarian in the district to get behind the effort to make this a success. Please join the effort and help us make this fund-raiser a success.

Yours in Rotary,  
Bruce Montgomery, District 6920 Governor

# CLUB VISIT PHOTOS



*Leslie Mattingly, Hamsa Thota and Bill Turbeville lunch with the Dublin Rotary Club.*



*Edmund Burke Academy Interact Club members Susanne Palmer, Gaines Story, treasurer; and Leslie Jenkins, president, pose with DG Montgomery during his visit with the Waynesboro Rotary Club.*



*The McIntosh County Rotary Club board meets during DG Montgomery's official visit.*



*President Alan Barfoot presides at the Dublin Rotary Club meeting.*



*Reidsville club members enjoy lunch during DG Montgomery's official visit.*



*Members of the choral group Holiday Harmony entertain the Savannah East Rotary Club during their annual Christmas party.*