



Rotary District  
**6920**



Lend a Hand

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## Savannah-Area Rotaract Club Inducts it's First Members

Armstrong Atlantic State University students were inducted into the campus's recently chartered Rotaract Club on Nov. 9. The Rotary International charter was earned last spring after months of discussion and coordinating among Armstrong Atlantic International Studies students, Rotary Club of Skidaway Island members and college officials. Fifteen students were inducted.

The induction ceremony, held at the University's Memorial Center, drew Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill, Rotary Club of Savannah East, Rotary Club of Savannah South, Rotary Club of Savannah West and the Rotary Club of Skidaway - the sponsoring club for the AASU Rotaract group. Assistant Governor Jim Drake and District Director Kenan

Kern addressed the group and congratulated the students for their diligence in forming the first Rotaract Club in the Savannah area.

Rotary Club of Skidaway Island President Lydia Ramsey presented the Rotaract Club gavel to Nathan Brown, a senior at Armstrong who has also served as president of the International Studies Organization. Nathan is from Atlanta and has enjoyed fellowship with other Rotaract members from countries around the world including Honduras, Zambia, Ecuador and Colombia.

Skidaway Rotarians John Sobke (Rotaract Chair), Alice Jean, Ake Svenson and

—Continued on Page 3



Rotaract President Nathan Brown accepts the gavel from Rotary Club of Skidaway Island President Lydia Ramsey as club members, area Rotarians and guests look on.



Visit our new Web page at  
[www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net)

# DISTRICT NEWS

## ***District Web Address Changes***

If you've been trying to access the district Web site at [www.rotarydistrict6920.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.org) and haven't been successful, it's because the district's web address has changed. Last month, the address for Rotary District 6920's Web site was changed to [www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net) under the direction of Webmaster Jim Bruce.

If you haven't visited the Web site lately, you'll surely want to. Jim has included links to the DG's schedule, newsletters, goals and projects and numerous staff, including past district governors, committee chairmen and club presidents. The district directory and handbook are also posted for viewing and downloading, as are other forms and information. Check it out!

## ***Sustaining Membership Goal***

If you gave only 28 cents a day, imagine what could be accomplished in the world of Rotary.

District 6920 Rotarians are asked to help the district achieve a 100 percent sustaining membership goal this year by approving a \$25 charge to your quarterly bill or \$8.33 to your

monthly bill.

The request, according to District Foundation Chair and DGDN Dallas Simon, is for Rotarians to "encourage each member to become a sustaining member" and "tell the story of the Rotary Foundation" by "explaining that for 28 cents a day, the goal of the district could be met."

Among projects and programs funded through the sustaining member fees are ambassadorial scholarships, Group Study Exchange, Rotary World Peace Scholars, AIDS awareness, literacy campaign, District Simplified Grants and Matching Grants.

"This does not even scratch the surface of what the Foundation does for world peace and understanding," said Dallas.

## ***Sustaining Member Award***

There will be a new award for clubs that are 100 percent sustaining member clubs at the District conference this year. It's very easy to do; just ask your board to approve a \$100 annual charge to your billing statement or \$25 per quarter. If you prefer, an \$8.33 charge can be added to your monthly statement.

# ZONE INSTITUTE

*Zones 33 and 34 met in mid-October in Jacksonville.*

## ***Enjoying Fellowship***



*Bill Belk of North Carolina and Ken Smallwood of Jacksonville in the Zone Hospitality Suite.*

## **Long Range Planning Committee**



*The Long Range Planning Committee meets at Little Ocmulgee State Park in late October. Pictured are (left to right) PDG Lynn Hadwin, WCS Chair Bob Ashley, PDG Pat Donahoo, PDG Marion Franklin, DG Leon Benefield, District Director (DD) Langga Gay, PDG Bruce Montgomery, Langga's husband Don, DD Bill Booth, PDG Jim Puryear, DGN Dallas Simon and AG Bill Blankenship.*

***See More Photos from the  
Long-Range Planning Committee Meeting on Page 4***

## ***DG Leon and Guests Entertain***



*DG Leon and Issac LaBoy of Puerto Rico entertain with Alice McDonald of Peachtree City, Ga., and Donna Smallwood from Jacksonville.*

## ***PDG Caneega Speaks at Plenary Session***



*PDG Jeanette Caneega addresses a plenary session at Zone.*

# RI NEWS

## December Designated Family Month

In recognition of President Majiyagbe's focus on the importance of family, Rotary International's Board of Directors earlier this year designated December as "Family Month" and discontinued "Family Week" during the second week of February each year.

## Register Early for Osaka Convention

It's time to start making your plans to attend the 95th Annual RI Convention, 23-26 May 2004, in Osaka, Japan. To enjoy the benefits and peace of mind that come with planning ahead, Rotarians, Rotaractors, and other attendees are encouraged to register by the first deadline of 15 December 2003. Through that date, registration fees are US\$300 for each Rotarian or guest 19 years and over; \$400 for a Rotarian and spouse or Rotarian couple; \$60 for a Rotaractor, non-Rotarian Foundation alumnus, Foundation scholar, or RYLarian; and \$20 for a Youth Exchange student, Interactor, or guest 18 years and younger. Early registrants also get first choice in reserving tickets for RI and host events. Some host-ticketed events have limited capacity, providing an added advantage to registering early. Download the Osaka Convention forms at [www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/events/index.html](http://www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/events/index.html).

## Japanese Diplomat to Address RI Convention

RI has confirmed that Sadako Ogata, former UN high commissioner for refugees, Rotary alumna and recipient of the 1996 Rotary Award for World Understanding and Peace, has accepted an invitation to speak at the 2004 RI Convention in Osaka, Japan, May 23-26.

Ogata, a native of Japan, served as a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar in 1951-52. She studied at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., where she received a master's degree in international relations in 1953, and earned a doctorate in political science from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1963. She gained international acclaim as a diplomat, advocate for refugees and Japanese minister to the United Nations. In 2002, she accepted the J. William Fulbright Prize for International Understanding, which recognizes extraordinary contributions toward fostering understanding among peoples, cultures or nations.

# Rotary Foundation Wins Place of Respect in Global Village

*The following is excerpted from a letter by RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe which appeared in the November 2003 issue of The Rotarian.*

November is The Rotary Foundation Month, a time for all Rotarians to consider the many ways in which they can support Foundation programs and projects around the world. The Foundation is our most effective vehicle for fighting hunger, poverty, disease, and illiteracy. People who are deprived of life's basic necessities understandably may feel fear, hopelessness, and desperation — emotions that can breed anger and intolerance and even lead to violence. Through the Foundation, we can carry out humanitarian projects that improve the standard of living worldwide. These efforts will provide a stable foundation for peace and promote international understanding.

In 2002, The Rotary Foundation embarked on a visionary program that provides advanced education and practical training in the field of international relations and diplomacy. Each year, 70 scholars study at seven Rotary Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution. Our hope is that these gifted men and women will be tomorrow's international leaders, diplomats, and peacemakers.

The Foundation offers Rotarians an opportunity to participate in humanitarian and educational projects that make a difference. They can refurbish a school, build a water well, deliver medical supplies, provide vocational training, and immunize a child. The Rotary Foundation allows Rotarians to transform their ideas into action and turn dreams into reality.

Through this year's Presidential Celebrations, we encourage Foundation-supported efforts by providing information and resources for participants. Many Rotarians have attended project fairs and forums where they have met potential partners for service. These can lead to successful applications for Foundation grants that benefit both donors and recipients.

I am perhaps most proud of the Foundation's greatest effort to date: PolioPlus. Rotarians made history by launching an unprecedented public-private partnership with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Together, we have wiped out 99 percent of the polio cases worldwide. Rotarians have played a leading role, volunteering both time and money. Most recently, they surpassed the \$80 million fund-raising goal set last year. We must continue to marshal our resources and persevere until we eradicate polio, an accomplishment that will stand as our gift to the world's children.

As we approach our centennial in 2005, we can take pride in all that we have accomplished through the Foundation. One of our goals is "Every Rotarian, Every Year." I ask that every Rotarian contribute at least US\$100 every year to the Annual Programs Fund. This will allow us to continue so many worthwhile projects that deserve funding through our grant programs. It is our personal investment in peace, in hope, and in ourselves.

As Carol Bellamy, executive director of UNICEF, has said, "Rotary has won a place of respect in the global village — in fact, Rotary has helped make the world a global village."



*Jonathan B. Majiyagbe  
RI President, 2003-04*

# Rotaract Club Inducts Members

*--Continued from Front Page*

Bernadette Nolan will be working closely with Rotaract members. The new Rotaract club will meet twice monthly at AASU and the agenda will include community speakers whose business, career or profession, and community service will offer valuable insights to these students who will become future community leaders.

First established in 1968 by Rotary International, Rotaract clubs emphasize the importance of individual responsibility as the basis of personal success and community involvement. The motto is "Fellowship through Service" and AASU Rotaractors will be participating in community service projects. As an example, after a

recent club meeting with speaker Dr. Sylvia Fields, director of the Savannah Health Mission, a Rotaract member volunteered to act as an interpreter for Hispanic patients at the clinic. In the coming months AASU Rotaract members will identify two major service projects for the next school year.

*District Rotarians: Please contact John Sobke at 912-598-2840 for an opportunity to speak at a Rotaract meeting. Enjoy meeting these young people, share your experience and contribute to their education and perspectives.*

### Claxton



AG Vicki Cook and DG Leon are pictured with Claxton Rotary Club President James Sands.

### Sandersville



The Sandersville Rotary Club organized an evening with former AG's Jimmy Childre and David McMasters and other club officers. Pictured with Sandersville President Michael Atkinson and DG Leon are GRSP students.

### Richmond Hill



AG Jim Drake and Richmond Hill President Laura McGee are pictured with DG Leon during a visit with the Richmond Hill Rotary Club.

## CLUB VISIT PHOTOS

### Metter



Metter Rotary Club President Jordy Carter is pictured with DG Leon.

### Glennville



The Glennville Rotary Club meets in the Garden Center. The Rotary Club and Garden Club share a fund-raiser.



District Treasurer PDG Bruce Montgomery enjoys not being in charge as Director Langga Gay looks on.

## Long Range Planning Committee



Director Bill Booth, PDG Marion Franklin, PDG Pat Donahoo and AG Bill Blankenship are being examined by World Community Service Chair Bob Ashley.