



Rotary District 6920



Lend a Hand

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September 2003

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Foundation Seminar Draws Large Crowd

Nearly 200 Rotarians attended the Foundation, Membership and Public Relations Seminar in Vidalia, according to DGN Dallas Simon, district Foundation chair.

The Dublin Rotary Club had the most members in attendance, followed by The Augusta West Rotary Club. Don Mebus of Texas and John Smarge of Naples, Fla., were among the guest speakers. A Rotarian since 1984, Mebus has served as a past district governor, GSE team leader and Rotary Regional Foundation Coordinator. Smarge, a former District Governor in Florida, has been a Rotarian since 1981 and has twice been a delegate to the Council on Legislation and a member of the Nominating Committee for the Rotary International Board of Directors.

Bob Ashley, District Grants/World Community Service Chair, spoke to attendees regarding the Rotary Foundation and the "money flow" and the Rotary District 6920 Medical Equipment Transport Corporation, otherwise known as METC.

"METC is the largest project ever undertaken by this district and will come to

play a large part in our district activity," said Bob. "It involves receiving free donated used medical equipment and supplies from all over the district. The district will eventually own it's own warehouse. The equipment will be sorted, inventoried and tested, if necessary, and prepared for shipping, and then placed in a 40-foot shipping container and shipped to an NGO in a developing country at no expense to the receiving organization. The board of directors of METC will be Rotarians from our district. Our district members will help acquire the equipment and will also serve as volunteers in the warehouse to help in the sorting and packing."

Jeff Fehrmann, District Chair for the Permanent Fund, presented a brief overview of the fund and how monies are being used. He also explained the needs associated with the funds growth.

Finally, Damon Cline, District Chair for Public Relations, presented ideas on how to share the Rotary word. Damon is the business editor of *The Augusta Chronicle*.

District Has 100% Sustaining Member Goal

DGN Dallas Simon reminds club presidents that the district's goal for the year is a 100 percent sustaining membership.

"This is the only promotion of funds this year; there will be no automobile raffle or any other type of sales projects," Dallas wrote in a letter to club presidents. "If each of you would just ask your boards for approval to add just \$25 to each Rotarian's quarterly bill, which equates to 27 cents per day, the district GOAL could be met."

While there is no obligation from any

Rotarian to pay the \$25 increase, Dallas said the increase is merely a suggestion.

"The district needs each of you to help achieve the goal of 100 percent sustaining member," wrote Dallas.

"I am asking for your help in promoting this worthy cause for world peace and understanding," writes Dallas.

Rotarians are reminded that 60 percent of their giving comes back to the district for distribution.



Visit our new Web page at
www.rotarydistrict6920.net

Outbound GSE Team Headed for Chile

Rotarians in southeast Georgia's Rotary District 6920 are seeking four outstanding professionals to visit Rotary District 4340 in Chile from March 23 to April 26, 2004 as part of the Group Study Exchange program of The Rotary Foundation.

Through the program, teams of professionals exchange visits between paired areas in different countries. The rewards involve the team members having the opportunity to share personal knowledge of their own country and experience the customs, vocations and life-styles of another.

The purpose of a Group Study Exchange is to promote international understanding and goodwill through person-to-person contact, according to Bill Blankenship, District 6920 Outbound GSE

Team Leader for 2003-2004. The basic team member requirements include being professional individuals in the age range of 25-40 who have been employed full time during the past year. What the selection committee will be looking for is outstanding dynamic individuals who are able, and who desire, to devote the time required for the exchange. Individuals interested in making the world a better place to live who would make good ambassadors for both Rotary and the United States are high desirable.

Initially, six team members will be selected: four primary and two alternates. This all-expense-paid trip to Chile is a wonderful opportunity for non-Rotarians to learn about Rotary and what Rotarians do. Some people who have been members of GSE teams in the past, are today, super Rotarians. The GSE program is a win-win

experience for all concerned.

While in Chile, team members will stay in the homes of Rotarians and have the opportunity to meet their professional counterparts. They will also give presentations to Rotary clubs and other groups about their home country.

The Rotary Foundation provides a round-trip air ticket and local Rotarians in the host country provide meals, lodging and group travel in their district. Team members pay for personal and incidental expenses.

Applicants must live or be employed in Rotary District 6920. All applications, which can be obtained from your club's chair for International Service, must be received by Nov. 21, 2003 and should be returned to Mr. Blankenship at P.O. Box 931, Kingsland, GA 31548.

CART Presentations

Savannah Sunrise Rotary Club



Jeanette Caneega, PDG & CART Chairperson, receives a CART contribution from Deepika Paul, President of The Rotary Club of Savannah Sunrise.

Savannah South Rotary Club



President Shari Miltiades presents a check for \$2,000 on behalf of the Rotary Club of Savannah South to CART Fund Vice President & Chairman, Grants Committee, Jack C. Bass, M.D., as District Director Kenan Kern looks on.



Richmond Hill Rotary Club

Past President Jim Gardner presents a check of \$2,700 on behalf of the Rotary Club of Richmond Hill to CART Fund Vice President & Chairman, Grants Committee, Jack C. Bass, M.D.



All in the Family

PDG Bruce Montgomery, 2002-03, inducts his daughter Anne Montgomery Renner into the Cleveland, Tenn., Rotary Club. Bruce also made his daughter a Paul Harris Fellow "to get her started."

Traveling Quilt



Caroline Benefield works on her "traveling quilt" in the home of PDG Jim and Joan Puryear during a visit to Augusta.

District Simplified Grants Awarded to 12 Clubs

The first set of District Simplified Grants has been awarded, according to DG Leon Benefield.

Nearly all of the \$30,000 allocated for District Simplified Grants was granted, with more than \$72,000 requested and \$29,664.88 awarded.

Requests made and approved were:

Tifton Rotary Club in conjunction with the Tift County Foundation for Educational Excellence: \$5,000 granted; money will be used to provide books to low income students and instruct older family members how to read.

Tifton Rotary Club in conjunction with the Tiftarea Judicial Shelter, Inc. (Ruth's Cottage): \$1,516.23 granted; money will be used to purchase play equipment for children in a women's shelter.

Dublin Rotary Club in conjunction with the Communities in Schools of Laurens County, Inc.: \$1,163.65 granted; money will be used to purchase 50 Quantum or Leap Pads to assist students with reading difficulties.

Warner Robins Rotary Club: \$440 granted; money will pay for eight adults to attempt the GED. Another \$500 was granted for the purchase of dictionaries for every fourth grade student in the Warner Robins area.

Savannah East Rotary Club in conjunction with America's Second Harvest: \$1,500 granted. Another \$1,745 was granted to this club and the Live Oak Public Libraries Foundation to purchase two complete sets of Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools Summer Reading List books for K-3.

Cochran Rotary Club in conjunction with Heart of Georgia Tech College: \$800 granted to supply matching funds for the support of adults attempting the GED and to purchase an LCD projector.

Sylvania Rotary Club in conjunction with Screven County Hospital's Outreach Prescription Program: \$2,000 granted to assist financially unable, chronically ill people to obtain free or reduced medication as a 30-day emergency supply.

Swainsboro Rotary Club in conjunction with Emanuel County Special Olympics: \$1,000 granted to purchase T-shirts for special olympics and beautify the community.

Hawkinsville Rotary Club: \$1,000 granted to provide Christmas gifts to families identified by Pulaski County DFCS.

Reidsville Rotary Club in conjunction with Southeastern Cert. Literate Community Program: \$2,000 granted to encourage adults as they attempt the GED.

Valdosta North Rotary Club: \$1,500 granted to support adults as they attempt the GED and have a graduation complete with caps.

Savannah Sunrise Rotary Club: \$1,000 granted to purchase software to assist adults as they prepare for the GED.

Skidaway Island Rotary Club: \$1,000 granted to support crisis care for the working poor without insurance.

Downtown Macon and Macon Rotary Clubs in conjunction with Goodwill Industries; \$2,500 granted to improve literacy by linking improved literacy with improved job skills.

Rotary Club of Downtown Macon



Downtown Macon President Elizabeth Hardin is photographed with DG Leon.

Rotary Club of Eastman



DG Leon is pictured with Saul Rubin, the only living charter member of the Rotary Club of Eastman. The club was chartered in 1938.

CLUB VISIT PHOTOS

Rotary Club of Blackshear



Blackshear President Tommy Hatcher listens intently as DG Leon Benefield talks to his club.

RINEWS

2005-06 RI Presidential Nominee

Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar of the Rotary Club of Göteborg, Sweden, is the choice of the RI Nominating Committee for President of Rotary International in 2005-06. He will become the official nominee on Dec. 1 if there are no challenging candidates.

Stenhammar, a marketing manager for international food products, is the former owner of Gust. F. Bratt AB. In addition, he has been a member of the boards of several companies and served as chairman of the board of a local private school.

A Rotarian since 1974, Stenhammar served on the RI Board of Directors from 1996 to 1998. He has also served RI as district governor, committee member and chairman, and task force general coordinator.



Stenhammar

Currently, Stenhammar chairs the Permanent Fund Committee for Europe and RIBI and is general coordinator of the Literacy and Education Task Force. He is a member of the Polio Eradication Advocacy Task Force, a PolioPlus National Advocacy Advisor, and was chairman of the Presidential Celebration Committee—Peace and Tolerance, which was held in Sweden in August 2003.

Rotary Club of Augusta South



DG Leon Benefield and DGN Dallas Simon visit with Augusta South President Patricia Scott.

Rotary Club of Eastman



Eastman President Neil Spradley is photographed with DG Leon and his father, AG Jim Spradley.

CLUB VISIT PHOTOS

Rotary Club of Savannah South



Assistant Governor Jim Drake is photographed with GRSP Line Trustee Joe Richey and GRSP Student Crystal Archer during DG Leon's official visit with the Rotary Club of Savannah South.

Food, Fun and Fellowship



Caroline and Leon Benefield have dinner with PDG Jim Puryear and his wife, Joan, Augusta Rotary Club President Walt Alexanderson and Augusta Rotary Club Board Member Ernie Sizemore.

Rotary Club of Savannah



Members of The Rotary Club of Savannah enjoy each other's fellowship.

Rotary Club of Augusta West



GRSP Student Kenneth Quin of Scotland poses for a photo with Caroline and Leon Benefield and District Secretary Joe Converse.