



ROTARY DISTRICT 6920

William J. (Bill) Blankenship, District Governor
P.O. Box 931
Kingsland, GA 31548
rotarybill@tds.net

District Governor Offers Thanks, Plans for Success

It is Saturday morning, Aug. 5, and as I look out my window, I see the sky darkening and the summer afternoon storm clouds are starting to form. As I reflect on the past month, I have wonderful feelings of joy from meeting the members of the 18 Rotary clubs I have visited.

Each Rotarian and each Rotary Club is unique, yet share in efforts to make their community and our world a better place to live. I have found that Rotary clubs do more good works than they record.

Plans for membership growth are being enthusiastically implemented. I take great pride in your support of Our Rotary Foundation. Caring, taking-action Rotarians are planning for another stellar year in support of our Georgia Rotary Student Program.

Each club that I have visited has shown enthusiasm for the Hybrid Raffle Ticket Holiday Campaign. The net pro-



The Rotary Club of Kings Bay President Ed Clary presents DG Bill with his club's check for the hybrid raffle. Clubs are being asked to purchase one or two raffle tickets in lieu of a personal gift for DG Bill. If one of the club tickets is chosen the winner, the club will have the option of raffling it off in their club, with a portion of the proceeds going to The Rotary Foundation.

ceeds of the raffle will be divided between the (Our) Rotary Foundation and the (Our) Georgia Rotary Student Program. As these two endowment funds grow, we can do more to resolve the poverty, literacy, world

peace and cultural understanding challenges in our community and the world.

Please employ the strategies in the acronym SEA - Self Example and Ask - to make membership growth and the Hybrid Raffle Ticket Holiday Campaign a success. Giving hybrid raffle tickets as gifts is an action that will result in multiple positive outcomes. Asking a potential Rotarian to come to a Rotary meeting and enjoy a meal with you will bring us new members.

At least two or three times a month, please mail payment and the filled-out side of the hybrid raffle ticket stubs to Rotary Hybrid Raffle, P.O. Box 931, Kingsland, GA 31548.

You Rotarians have provided significant service. Making a list would require excessive volume. Today, hundreds of thousands of people are alive, not cripples, fed and have safe water because of Rotarians. It is an honor for me to be a Rotarian and a privilege to have Rotarians as friends. Thank each of you for all that you do to make our world a better place to live.

- District Governor Bill

READ ABOUT IT INSIDE

August 2006

District Director
David Pierce
Loses Battle to Cancer
Page 2

World Community Service
Projects Already
Being Planned
Page 3

Recruiting
New Members:
What to Look For
Page 4

District Director Pierce Loses Bout with Cancer

David Pierce, who served as a district director under DG Bill Blankenship, passed away on July 13. The district mourns the loss of a great man and a great Rotarian and offers its condolences to the Pierce family. The following article, written by Lifestyles Editor Charlotte Perkins, was published in The Houston Home Journal on July 17, 2006, and is being reprinted here with permission from Don Moncrief, managing editor of The Houston Home Journal.

PERRY – David Miller Pierce, Chief Judge of the Magistrate Court of Houston County, died of pancreatic cancer July 13 at the Houston Medical Center, Perry Hospital. He was 61.

Born in Hawkinsville, Georgia, in 1945 to Mr. and Mrs. John Dupree Pierce, Judge Pierce attended Hawkinsville High School, where he was a scholar and all-state quarterback, leading his team to the 1962 State championship game before graduating in 1963. Judge Pierce graduated from Florida State University in 1966 with a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics and later attended Emory University School of Law, receiving his Juris Doctor degree in 1969.

While attending law school, his mother reintroduced him to his childhood neighbor, Susan Dean, and the two were soon married on August 3, 1968.

Following law school, he joined the United States Air Force and served as a member of the Judge Advocate General Department, attaining the rank of Captain before receiving an honorable discharge in 1974. Judge Pierce and his wife then moved back to Perry, where they gave birth to their daughter Meredith. Engaged in the private practice of law for 27 years with Nunn, Geiger & Pierce, and later Geiger & Pierce, Judge Pierce was appointed to the Houston County Magistrate Court in 1997, where he has diligently served for the past nine years.

A renaissance man, Judge Pierce was as likely to be found enjoying a Florida State football game, as he was working in his yard or preparing a gourmet meal for friends and family. A man of integrity, compassion and intellect, he was highly regarded by his legal colleagues and the community at large.

Judge Pierce was an active participant in a variety of professional and community organizations. As a member of the Perry United Methodist Church, he served as a member of the Administrative Board, Finance Committee, and Staff-Parrish Committee. He was also Chairman of the Board of Trustees and a member of the Christadelphian Sunday School class.

Also active in Rotary, with 30 years of perfect attendance, his leadership roles included serving as President, District Director, Assistant Governor, Paul Harris Fellow, and Will Watt Fellow.

Within his community, he has served as a Chairman of the Perry Area Chamber of Commerce, the Houston County Development Authority, The Westfield Schools Board of Trustees, and the Middle Georgia Military Affairs Committee, as well as serving on the Board of Governors for The Grand Opera House; Museum of Aviation Foundation, Robins Air Force Base; Board of Directors for the Robins Air Force Base Museum and The Air Force Association.

Professionally, Judge Pierce presided over the Municipal Courts of the cities of Perry, Byron, and Roberta, and served on the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution and the Commissions Committee of Rules. He was also a member of the Council of Magistrate Court Judges serving on the Executive Committee and Training Council, the Council of Municipal Court Judges Executive Committee, the State Bar of Georgia, American Bar Association, and Houston County Bar Association.

In addition to his wife, Susan, and his daughter, Meredith Hunter, and son-in-law, John, who live in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Judge Pierce leaves his two brothers, Dr. R. Thomas Pierce of Perry and Jack R. Pierce of St. Simons Island, as well as seven nieces and nephews.

Please sign the on-line register at watsonhunt.com



David Miller Pierce

District News ... District News ... District News ... District News ... District News

District Director

Bill Booth, a member of The Rotary Club of Valdosta and an Assistant Governor under the late David Pierce, has been named as the replacement to fill the District Director position left vacant upon David's passing last month.

World Community Service

The Rotary Club of Dublin is planning to do hurricane relief work in Biloxi, Miss., this fall for it's World Community Service Project. If your club is planning to do a World Community

Service Project, let us know about it by e-mailing newsletter editor Deborah Steele at dsteale76@comcast.net. We'd like to list district outreach projects in an upcoming newsletter.

Golf Tournament

The Rotary Club of Savannah South is planning a GRSP Golf Tournament scheduled for Oct. 2 to be held at the Westbrook, Savannah Quarters course. Siemens will be the title sponsor and St. Joseph Candler, Fred Williams Homebuilders, Armstrong Atlantic and

A.G. Edwards are corporate sponsors. There is room for 30 teams and 17 have already signed up.

"To be successful we need everyone's help, no matter how small," said president-elect Tom Hussey. "If you're not a golfer, ask a friend who is, get us a door prize, or a hole sponsor. Hole sponsors are just as critical to our success as golfers! We have a great start on many levels, so we could use current efforts on hole sponsors."

Contact Tom at tom.hussey@agedwards.com if you are interested in participating.

Club Presidents and Secretaries: Did You Know ...?

Information Resources for New Club Officers

Did you know that the Club and District Support (CDS) staff at Rotary International serves as your primary contact at the RI Headquarters? They are ready to answer almost any question you may have about Rotary, and can provide you with advice on such topics as club elections, constitutional matters, club traditions and customs, club operations and RI Board policy.

Do you know who your CDS representative is? Your representative can be found on the web at www.rotary.org/support/CDAREps/index.html.

Have you seen some of our Web resources that will make it easier for you to administer your club?

* Helpful resources have been designed specifically for club presidents and secretaries. A copy can be found on the Rotary Web site at www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pds/club_pres_sec_resources.pdf.

* Learn how you can make changes to your club's membership records, reference various Rotary Foundation reports, pay your club's dues on-line, and report next year's club officers using Member Access. Full instructions and helpful suggestions can be found on the Web at www.riweb.rotary.org/faq.asp.

* You can find a selection of important club administration publications, including audiovisual programs, club software, forms and supplies on the Web at www.shop.rotary.org/catalog/default.php?cPath=37

* The Club President's Checklist is a month-to-month calendar, for the club president and president-elect, with reminders about important club and district functions, as well as RI and Rotary Foundation program due dates. Find it at www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/pres_checklist.pdf

* The Club Leadership Plan is a great new way to invigorate stagnant clubs. It is based on the best practices of effective Rotary clubs. You can find this plan on the Web at www.rotary.org/support/club/clubplan.html.

* Important information for Rotary clubs located in the United States, including basic information regarding your club's tax status and mandatory yearly reports to the I.R.S. can be found at www.rotary.org/newsroom/downloadcenter/pdfs/info_paper_clubs_irs.pdf.

The RI Secretariat staff looks forward to working with you and supporting your club's service efforts in the year ahead.

Visit www.rotarydistrict6920.net
for the latest district news
and to purchase your Mercury Hybrid raffle tickets



Rotary District 6920 Newsletter

Know What to Look For When Recruiting New Members

August is Membership and Extension Month. In keeping with the efforts to grow our district, we are printing an article on recruiting new club members which appears on the RI Web site this month.

When it comes to finding new members to join Rotary, start by looking in the obvious places, says Rosemary Barker Aragon, a member of the Rotary Club of University District of Seattle, Washington, USA. As a regional RI membership coordinator, or RRIMC, Aragon is always on the lookout for potential Rotarians who are just waiting for an invitation.

"I look for people who are 'already Rotarians,'" she says. "They're active in the community, they volunteer, they might be part of another organization that you might be involved in." Parent-teacher associations, neighborhood groups, and

volunteer events draw involved, community-minded individuals who might be just right for Rotary but never thought to join.

Children and grandchildren of Rotarians are also good potential members, according to Aragon, because they understand the nature of Rotary. "Rotary is a commitment organization, and they know that," she says. "You need to find out what people are passionate about and then show them how they can get involved through Rotary."

At the same time, it's very important to make sure that prospective members receive proper information about Rotary's mem-

bership expectations. RRIMC Tony Lico, of the Rotary Club of Roma Sud Est, Italy, looks for new members mainly among business and personal acquaintances. He says prospective members come to several meetings and speak to the club before their membership is approved.

Lico adds, "It is important to demonstrate to the new member what Rotary is and what Rotary does, because it happens many times that people join Rotary and they say after a few months, 'I had no idea.'" Once it's clear that prospective members are a good fit, they receive their Rotary pins. Then, he says, "We cross our fingers."

We Want to Hear from YOU

We want your club news and photos for the governor's newsletter. E-mail newsletter editor Deborah Steele - dsteele76@comcast.net - photos of your club-sponsored GRSP students and of DG Bill's club visit, as well as happenings in your club. Listings and photos will be published as space permits.