



Rotary District 6920

Richard E. Hyer Jr., District Governor, 2007-08

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THE GOVERNOR'S FORUM

August is Membership Month! Growing Rotary membership is RI President Wilf's top priority. There are currently about 3,900 Rotarians in District 6920. We are hoping to count 4,300 or more on the rolls by June of 2008. Remember that Rotary is the world's largest charitable organization and we need a strong, quality membership. Please make every effort to "Share Rotary" with your friends and business associates. We will be stronger as a larger organization.

Thanks to District Governor Elect Kenan Kern for organizing the District 6920 Seminar in Vidalia. We enjoyed quality presentations and it was a great learning experience for a large group of Rotarians. The focus was The Rotary Foundation which is the heartbeat of Rotary International. The District 6920 leadership expects that every Rotarian will be a sustaining member by contributing \$100 or more. We not only want EREY clubs, but an EREY District!

I hope you will join us for the Family of Rotary event on Satur-

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District Seminar Focus on The Rotary Foundation

The following has been provided by DGE Kenan Kern who organized this year's District 6920 Seminar, which was held Aug. 4 in Vidalia.

"I support the Foundation because I strongly believe in what the Foundation does. Rotary changes the lives of so many people around the world, and I feel quite privileged to be part of a family that truly cares and does make a difference."

These words were shared by Rotarian William Reginald Patchett of the Rotary Club of Cobourg, Ontario, Canada, District 7070 recently when asked why The Rotary Foundation was important.

If each Rotarian was asked to share similar reasons of why The Foundation was important, there would be other reasons shared such as integrity in the management of funds and providing hope to millions around the world. One Rotarian pointed out that, "Every Rotarian, Every

Year is a commitment for life."

Such remarks will surely follow the annual District 6920 Foundation Seminar held this past weekend, at Southeastern Technical College in Vidalia, Georgia. This annual Foundation training for club officers and committee members offered the opportunity to gain valuable knowledge and information

regarding the many programs The Rotary Foundation supports. When Rotarians learn about their Foundation and learn about the international

service accomplished with the assistance of Foundation programs, they support their Foundation, both financially and with their time and talent.

Our Foundation training seminar is known for its inspirational and informational values that help Rotarians develop plans to spread the exciting story of The Rotary Foundation. Don't miss this valuable opportunity to help continue District 6920's goals for the future by supporting The Rotary Foundation.

EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

Centerville Rotarians Donate to METS

The following article first appeared in The Macon Telegraph on Wednesday, June 18. It is reprinted here with permission from Columnist Alline Kent, who wrote the article, and PJ Browning, publisher of The Macon Telegraph.

Every year, the Rotary district governor makes a visit to the Centerville Rotary Club. This year, in honor of that visit, the Centerville Rotarians made a donation in his honor.

A gift so big they had to have a truck to take it away.

The Centerville Rotarians chose to make a contribution to METS, or Medical Equipment Transportation Service. The big METS truck arrived Tuesday morning to take the medical donations to a warehouse in Savannah where Rotarians

collect, sort, identify, store and ship millions of dollars worth of medical goods to worldwide locations.

The donations include wheelchairs, crutches, walkers, stretchers, blood pressure cuffs, nebulizers and numerous other medical supplies to treat patients.

Along with the donations made by individual club members, Street Home Medical donated four hospital beds and four wheelchairs. The Volunteer Medical Clinic also made a large donation to METS of items that are not used at the clinic.

A total of about 2,000 items were donated.

"We are just really pleased about this effort. Not only our club members donated but Street Home and Volunteer Medical Clinic and we look forward to continuing this project. Today is our big kickoff," said club president Joy Hurst during the presentation.

Hurst explained that the district governor sets goals for each club year, which for Rotary starts the first of July. METS is a district-wide project, supported by the 63 clubs in District 6920.

While the Centerville Rotarians used their donation as a way to honor their district governor, they also wanted to set the pace for donations to METS this year.

"We wanted to motivate the whole district. We have a commitment to METS and wanted to start the year off right," explained Hurst.

District Governor Dick Hyer has been a Rotarian since 1976 and a member



of the Macon Rotary Club, where he has served as president, club administrator and on the board of directors. He is the former superintendent of the Georgia Academy for the Blind.

In his remarks, Hyer applauded the efforts of the Centerville Rotary Club.

"I know the activities that you have been involved with and what you mean to this community," he told the members.

Hyer also provided several challenges to the club, including helping to find gainful employment programs for graduates of the Houston County school system and continued involvement in Rotary International's polio eradication project.

Through the efforts of Rotary and their partners, only four countries still have polio. The first year of Rotary's involvement, 1985, Rotary donated \$220 million to the fight. It is estimated that the total figure now is more than \$2 billion.

"Rotary is a vehicle to serve. It is about being very active," Hyer said. "It is about service to Georgia, to our district and to the world beyond."

Rotary exists in 132 countries and has about 1 million members.

Membership Growth Emphasized

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day, August 11 in Warm Springs. The Smithsonian Institute is dedicating the exhibit on polio to the Roosevelt Rehabilitation Center. President Wilf and Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue will be the principal speakers. This will be a unique and historic event.

Congratulations to each and every club president throughout the district. Thanks for your timely reporting, committee appointments, and communications with the District Governor. Working for Rotary for one year as DG is a challenging and rewarding experience. I look forward to the opportunity to "Share Rotary" with each one of you.

Yours for Better Rotary Service,
Richard E. Hyer, Jr.
District Governor

DISTRICT 6920 NEWS

Eastman Rotary Club Donates Books

The Rotary Club of Eastman presented a basket full of books to the Dodge County Pre-K site director recently.

The club has been having its weekly speaker sign a book that is then donated to the Dodge County Pre-K Program.



Dodge County Pre-K Site Director Jane Mazza is presented a basket of books to support literacy. Making the presentation is Jim Kimmons, center, club president, and Freddie Dwozan, past president.

Ag Commissioner Speaks to Ashburn Rotarians

The Rotary Club of Ashburn played host to a special guest speaker



last week. Agriculture Commissioner Tommy Irwin was invited to speak by member HR Wiggins on July 12.

Among the commissioner's topics of discussion were food safety and Georgia crops.

Valdosta North Holds Induction Ceremony

The Rotary Club of Valdosta North held an induction ceremony for new officers recently.

According to President Bob Harrison, the ceremony was all about Rotary and "a promise from my administration to share Rotary not only within our community, but an increased cooperation with the other two clubs in our city."

President Bob is planning a first-ever townwide Rotary social. The event will be held in October at a Valdosta State University football game, which will be televised on



Inducting Valdosta North club president Bob Harrison are Past Assistant District Governor Bill Booth and Past Club President Matt Hart.

ESPN. The clubs will be in a "dominant position to share what Rotary is all about in our community," he said.

Clubs Recognize New Paul Harris Fellows



Lemuel Lancaster, past president, of The Rotary Club of Effingham County, and Aaron (Ace) Herring, current club president, are pictured with their Paul Harris Fellow plaques.

Jerry Woods, president of The Augusta Rotary Club, recognizes member Darryl Leach as the club's newest Paul Harris Fellow.



Visit www.rotarydistrict6920.net

for the latest news and information

Jim Bruce, Webmaster and President, St. Simons Island Club

Important Dates

August 4: District Seminar, Vidalia

August 11: Good-bye to Polio Celebration, Warm Springs

August 24-26: Georgia Rotary Student Program Conclave, Augusta

October 27: Membership Seminar, Dublin

October 27: Club Secretary's Workshop, Dublin

January 4-5, 2008: College of Governors, McRae

March 8-9, 2008: Presidents Elect Training Seminar, Peachtree City

April 16-18, 2008: District Conference, Macon

June 15-18, 2008: Rotary International Conference, Los Angeles, CA

Governor's Club Visit Schedule

Wednesday, Aug. 1: Tifton, noon

Thursday, Aug. 2: Douglas, noon

Tuesday, Aug. 7: Metter, noon

Wednesday, Aug. 8: Savannah West, 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, Aug. 9: Savannah Sunrise, 7:30 a.m.

Friday, Aug. 10: Savannah East, 12:30 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 13: Savannah, 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 14: Waycross, noon

Monday, Aug. 20: Augusta, 12:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 21: Augusta South, noon

Wednesday, Aug. 22: Jefferson County, noon

Thursday, Aug. 23: Augusta West, 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 28: Warner Robins, noon

Wednesday, Aug. 29: Hazlehurst, noon

Thursday, Aug. 30: Ashburn, noon

DISTRICT 6920 GOALS 2007-08

I. PROJECTS

- *Place 120 disabled students in competitive employment district-wide
- *Strengthen and continue Medical Equipment Transport Service (METS) Project
- *Support the Caribbean initiative from ten clubs
- *Sponsor Youth Exchange activities
- *Sponsor an International Water Project
- *Promote eradication of hunger in the district
- *Promote literacy projects in the district

II. FOUNDATION

- *Reach a goal of \$400,000 - Every Rotarian Every Year (EREY)
- *Obtain 20 Benefactors; 5 Bequest Society Members

III. MEMBERSHIP

- *Continue the Rotary Rookie of the Year Award
- *Grow the District Membership by 1%
- *Organize 1 new Rotary club
- *Organize 1 new Rotaract club
- *Organize 1 new Interact club
- *Create a District-wide Membership Seminar for 100 club leaders

IV. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

- *Obtain attendance of 200 at Annual District Seminar
- *Obtain attendance of 150 at District Assembly
- *Obtain attendance of 400 at District Conference
- *Participation by 20 clubs in Group Study Exchange (GSE)
- *Provide a seminar for club secretaries and treasurers

August is Membership and Extension Month

August is Membership and Extension Month, a time to focus on Rotary's continuing need for growth, to seek new members and form new clubs.

In last month's *The Membership Minute*, President Wilf outlined a few key reasons why membership is important for Rotary. Among them were the ability for Rotary to increase its service, the fact that new members bring in fresh ideas, new interest and increased energy for clubs, and new and younger members ensure the future of Rotary and its work.

"Start thinking about the new membership development initiatives your club and district can undertake throughout August to celebrate Membership and Extension Month," he wrote. "Consider scheduling the program topics for each of the month's meetings to focus on a different facet of membership development, such as developing a prospective member information packet, mentoring programs for new members and increasing club presence in local media."

If your club is looking for new ideas or innovations to address specific membership development issues, consider contacting your regional Rotary International membership coordinator. You'll find the names and contact information of the 2007-08 RRIMCs on the RRIMC page of www.rotary.org.