



# Rotary District 6920

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

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## THE GOVERNOR'S FORUM

Dear Rotarian Friends,  
This is the first District Governor's Newsletter for the 2007-2008 Rotary Year. The newsletter will come to you in electronic format in order to save over \$10,000 in printing and mailing costs. Those dollars will be put to use serving persons who need "good works" from District 6920. Please be sure that club presidents distribute the newsletter at the next Rotary meeting. My efforts throughout the year are to be sure to spend money where it will do the greatest good for the largest number of persons in need and to support district activities.

There will be a column each month which will provide the District Governor's schedule of activities, club visits, and special events. There will also be an Important Dates section so that you will know in advance about particular events in the district. It is my hope that we can work together as Rotarians to bring even greater service to our communities and to the world. Several events mentioned in this issue are the District Seminar on Saturday,

*-please see 'Governor' on page 2*

## Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART)

Established in 1995, CART has raised close to \$2 million for research which will lead to the prevention or cure of Alzheimer's Disease. The program was initiated by The Rotary Club of Sumter, S.C., then adopted by District 7770. It has now spread to all of the Rotary Districts in South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia. Through these efforts, the CART Fund has made grants of nearly \$2 million. The program simply asks Rotarians to donate their loose change at their weekly meeting.

PDG Bruce Montgomery, the district treasurer, will be the designated collector of all dollars from District 6920. Please send all money collected by your club and designated for CART to: PDG Bruce Montgomery, 102 East 44th Street, Savannah, GA 31405.

### CART AWARD

During the 2007-08 Rotary year, two awards will be given to those clubs contributing to CART. One will go to the club with the largest total dollar amount contributed to the CART Fund, while the other will go to the club with the largest per capita dollar amount to the CART Fund.

The Eugenia Phillips CART Fund Award will go to the club contributing the largest total dollar amount. This annual giving award is named after the mother of Augusta West Rotarian Bill Phillips.

For the club that contributes the largest per capita dollar amount to the CART Fund during the year, the Allen Gibson CART Fund Award will be presented. This award is named after the father of PDG Jeanette Caneega of The Rotary Club of Wrightsville.

Suggestions will be made throughout the year to help your club increase its giving. Those suggestions will arrive via email and USPS. A brochure currently being produced will also be available soon.

PDG Dallas Simon, 2005-06

CART Chair 2007-08

Always: *Service Above Self*

# Rotarian at Heart Will Lead Organization

A Rotarian since 1962, Wilfrid J. Wilkinson is a member and past president of the Rotary Club of Trenton, Ontario. He has served Rotary International as vice president, director, Rotary Foundation trustee, and district governor. He will now lead the international organization during the 2007-08 year as president.



As a member of the International PolioPlus Committee, Wilkinson has been dedicated to the global effort to

eradicate polio. He participated in National Immunization Days in Kenya, Tanzania, and India, and also administered polio drops to children of Afghan refugees in Pakistan. He has served as a Health, Hunger and Humanity Grants program volunteer to India. In addition, Wilkinson has had Rotary assignments in South

Africa, Namibia, the United Kingdom, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and many regions throughout the United

States and Canada.

Wilkinson, a retired chartered accountant and founding partner of Wilkinson & Company, a public accounting firm, is the recipient of numerous Rotary honors. Among them are RI's Service Above Self Award and the Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service, Distinguished Service Award, and International Service Award for a Polio-Free World.

Wilkinson and his wife, Joan, have been married since 1953 and have four sons and eight grandchildren.

## Governor Shares Plans for Year Ahead

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August 4 in Vidalia and the "Say Goodbye to Polio and Family of Rotary Celebration" at the Roosevelt Warm Springs Center on August 11. The Georgia Rotary Student Program Conclave will be hosted by our district and will be held on August 24-26 in Augusta. There will also be seminars on Membership and a special Club Secretary's Workshop in Dublin on October 27. These events are designed to bring cutting edge knowledge to the district leadership. I know there are many worthy special events in your club, please send a description of those activities and dates so that they may be publicized. We will also publish your pictures.

The District 6920 leadership personnel participated in the Zone 33 and 34 Institute on Membership and The Rotary Foundation at Rotary Headquarters in Evanston. District Membership Chair Lloyd Horadan, DGE Kenan Kern, and DGN Clyde Taylor, along with your District Governor were in attendance. District Governor Bill Blankenship, Kenan Kern, and

Clyde Taylor took part in the RI Convention in Salt Lake City. I have also had the recent pleasure of inducting officers in Savannah and St. Simon's Island. The spirit and enthusiasm of club leaders is apparent and I will make every effort to expand this enthusiasm throughout the Rotary Year.

In a separate section of this newsletter, you will find the RI and District goals listed each month. Please make every effort to address the goals so that District 6920 will be in harmony with the Rotary International efforts to create peace and understanding in our world. Please continue your club efforts to demonstrate "service above self" at the local level.

Special, separate e-mail groups have been set up for Assistant Governors, Club Presidents, Presidents-Elect, Club Secretaries, Club Treasurers, District Committee Chairs, and Past District Administration. The purpose of this electronic connection will be to communicate in real time across the district with those in leadership capacities. There is no doubt that implement-

ing programs in the district will be a challenge, but communication should flow effectively among those of us who are responsible for the future of the district. It will be my effort to "raise the bar" in terms of quality communication through the newsletter and with special communications to individuals. Your input will add to the quality of services district-wide. I expect to hear from you when you agree and when you think differently. Former Assistant Governor Bill Booth has been assigned to chair a one-person committee on Goals Attainment. This is a special effort to provide accountability on the quality of services to the clubs from the district support services, to determine the effectiveness of club operations, and to align the district with Rotary International's goals and objectives. Please expect to hear from Bill and give him your full cooperation so that we can not only implement, but determine the quantity and quality of district events.

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

# DISTRICT 6920 NEWS

## ***Pooler Club Awards Paul Harris Fellowships***

At the June 27 meeting of The Rotary Club of Pooler, DGE Kenan Kern awarded three members with Paul Harris Fellowships.

Members receiving the recognition were Wilson Roberts, Charles Archer and Frankie Fort. In addition, DGE Kern awarded David Skadeland with a Multiple Paul Harris Fellowship Award.

## ***Club Rotarians of Year***

While only one person is chosen by the selection committee as the district's Rotarian of the Year, each club recognizes its own Rotarian of the Year. We have asked club presidents to email us the name of their Rotarian of the Year so that we can recognize them for their accomplishments and commitment to their respective clubs. The club Rotarians of the Year that we have received to date are: Bill Quinn, Kings Bay; Jean Iaderosa, Savannah East; Jeff Kublin, Effingham County; Charles P. Olliff, Statesboro; Roland Berry, Warner Robins; Boyd Yarley, Eastman; Louise Fortson, Waynesboro; Nancy White, Macon; Richard W. Collins, Savannah West; Michael Smith, Glynn County.

Also receiving the honor are Alfie Cofield, Claxton; Mick McCay, Savannah Sunrise; Danny Grace, McIntosh; Carl Thornton, Jr., Augusta West; Matt Turknett, Cochran; Jackie Wilson, Douglas;

Vicky Betrossoff, Centerville; Carlos McNair, Ashburn; Ernie Cavallaro, Downtown Macon; Dick Marcott, Milledgeville; Michele Daughtery and

Gail P. Green, Valdosta Sunrise; Wells Hood, Skidaway; Chris Roessler, Glennville, Troy Gay, Millen; and Frank Moye, Sandersville.

## ***Rotarians Attend RI Convention***

Eleven members of Rotary District 6920 attended the 2007 RI Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah capping off a four-day celebration of the many faces of Rotary. DG Bill Blankenship of the RC of Camden County, along with Bob Ashley, RC of Savannah Sunrise, Patti Victor, RC of Savannah East, Bob and Brenda Griggers, RC of Centerville, Tom and Robin Hussey, RC of Savannah South, Dot and Ron Williams of the Macon Rotary Club, and DGN Kenan and Beth Kern, RC of Savannah South made up D-6920's representation to the 98<sup>th</sup> RI Convention.

Incoming RI President Wilfrid J. Wilkinson called membership the "single most important thing you can do to ensure Rotary's second century." PE Wilf sent RI convention-goers home with a directive to "found new clubs wherever the soil is fertile." Wilf added during the

closing plenary, "Without new members, nothing else matters. It will only take a few decades for Rotary to disappear."

The largest convention ever to be held in Salt Lake City, the event drew more than 16,500 Rotarians from 147 nations, some from as far away as Katmandu, Nepal.

The first RI convention in Utah since 1919 was also the site of several other Rotary firsts. The Rotary Foundation's announcement of the first-ever 100% Major Donor Club and the first Rotary World Peace Symposium, held just before the convention.

Following the convention, the RI Board of Directors announced a change in the location of the 2009 RI Convention from Seoul, South Korea to Birmingham, England. Specific dates are to be announced in the near future. The City of Los Angeles, California will host the 99<sup>th</sup> RI Convention to be held from June 15-18, 2008.

- provided by DGE Kenan Kern



**Visit [www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://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: Goodbye 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

April 16-18, 2008: District Conference, Macon

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

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

## Governor's

## Club Visit Schedule

Wednesday, July 11: Kings Bay, noon

Thursday, July 12: Brunswick, 12:30 p.m.

Friday, July 13: Camden County, 7 a.m.

Monday, July 16: Perry, noon

Tuesday, July 17: Centerville, 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday, July 18: Downtown Macon, 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, July 19: Jones County, noon

Tuesday, July 24: Valdosta North, 12:15 p.m.

Wednesday, July 25: Valdosta, noon

Thursday, July 26: Valdosta Sunrise, 7:30 a.m.

Friday, July 27: Eastman, noon

Monday, July 30: Ocilla, noon

Tuesday, July 31: Tift County, 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

## 'Say Goodbye to Polio'

Anticipation is building for the opening of the Smithsonian Institution's exhibit "Whatever Happened To Polio?" at Roosevelt Rehabilitation Center in Warm Springs this summer. In celebration of the exhibit's opening, the three Georgia Rotary Districts are teaming up to mark the occasion.

On Saturday, Aug. 11, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Rotarians from around the world will attend a ribbon cutting of the display on permanent loan from the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Admission to the event, which will draw distinguished guests such as RI President Wilf Wilkinson and his wife Joan, Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue and Georgia Rotary district governors, is \$10; children under 6 are admitted free.

In addition to the ribbon cutting, numerous activities are being planned, including a golf tournament, a game room for older children, live entertainment, a project fair for Rotary clubs throughout the United States and much more. Bring your lawn chair for an old-fashioned picnic on the lawn.

To register for the event, go to [www.rotarydistrict6900.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6900.org) and follow the link from the homepage. If you have questions or need guidelines for participating in the project fair, contact Marsha Hyer, District 6920 Chair, Family of Rotary, at [mhyer@cox.net](mailto:mhyer@cox.net) or Margie Kersey at [margie@callkbs.com](mailto:margie@callkbs.com).

## July is Literacy Month

July is designated by Rotary International as Literacy Month.

PDG Leon Benefield is serving as chair of District 6920's Literacy Committee. He can be reached via email at [lwbcdb@friendlycity.net](mailto:lwbcdb@friendlycity.net) or by phone at (229) 386-4657.