



# Rotary District 6920

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

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## THE GOVERNOR'S FORUM

Dear Rotarian Friends,

There are a lot of activities planned during the month of October. In the Rotary World, this month is dedicated to Vocational Service. October 27 is the date for the Membership/Secretary's Workshops at the Heart of Georgia Technical College in Dublin. Please register right away so that Assistant Governor Lloyd Horadan can make the appropriate arrangements. Please join us in welcoming Past District Governor Mike Thacker from North Carolina who will conduct the Secretary's Workshop on the district database system.

Group Study Exchange Chair Gordon Matthews, DGE Kenan Kern, Past District Governor Bill Blankenship and I met last Friday to select the outbound team leader for the trip to France next spring. Assistant Governor John Ricks of Cochran has been selected as the leader for the GSE Team which will go to District 1760 in the South of France in 2008. Six Rotarians were considered for this opportunity. The committee, led by John Ricks, is now seeking applications from non-Rotarians ages 25-40 who are not related to Rotarians to accompany John to France. Applications may be downloaded from the RI website and should

*-please see 'Activities' on page 2*

## *New Rotaract Club Chartered at Sandersville Technical College*

On Tuesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, the Charter Presentation Ceremony of the Rotaract Club of Sandersville Technical College put the students of this quality institution into Rotary International's "Service Above Self" mode of thinking.

Sandersville Rotarian Julian Diaz hosted the event and welcomed local Rotarians and new Rotaract members. After a moment of silence in remembrance of the tragedy of 9/11, the ceremony began with a welcome by STC President and Rotary Assistant District Governor Dr. Lloyd Horadan.

Sandersville Rotary Club President Eric Holmes was honored to present the charter to the 19 founding members, alongside many Sandersville Rotarians. Rotary Assistant District Governor Ron May also spoke to the new Rotaract club

members about the importance of service, both in the local community and across the globe,

and welcomed them into the Rotary family.

Prior to the ceremony, STC Rotaract President Kathy Aaron spoke by phone with Rotary District Governor Richard Hyer who thanked her for embracing the Rotaract model at Sandersville Tech.

Kathy then thanked the Sandersville Rotary members for their support, Dr. Horadan and Mr. Diaz for their initiative in founding the chapter, and Rabun Taylor and Jim Brown for agreeing to serve as Rotary advisors for the newly established club.

STC Rotaract Club members are Kathy Aaron, president; Amanda Terry, vice-president; Jennifer Thigpen, secretary; Geri Clements, treasurer; James Jeweski,

*-please see "Rotaract" on page 2*



*Sandersville Rotarians (from left) Dr. Lloyd Horadan, Ron May, Eric Holmes, and Julian Diaz present the STC Rotaract Charter to STC Rotaract Club President Kathy Aaron, center.*

# DISTRICT 6920 NEWS

## *Rotaract Club Chartered in Sandersville*

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director; Amanda Brown, Michael Baucom, Diane Cowart, Charles Davenport, Alex Jordan, Andrew Moye, Shanique Odwin, Diane Payne, Stacie Pinkston, Tammy Summerlin, Linda Trippe and Jacqueline Warren. STC President Dr. Horadan also serves as faculty advisor for the club.

Rotaract - a word taken from a combination of Rotary and action - is a Rotary-sponsored service club for college-age men and women. The purpose of Rotaract is to provide an opportunity for individuals to enhance their knowledge and skills in order to assist in their personal development, while also addressing the physical and social needs of their communities through a framework of friendship and community service.

Rotaract clubs are usually community- or university-based and are sponsored by a local Rotary club, making them true "partners in service" and key members of the Rotary family. As one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs of

Rotary service with more than 8,000 Rotaract clubs in some 155 countries and geographic areas, Rotaract has indeed become a worldwide phenomenon.

STC Rotaract will begin their first

"Service Above Self" project during the 2007 Kaolin Festival with a booth selling hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks to raise money for a variety of local community service projects.

## **Augusta West Inducts Paul Harris Fellows**



*During the Sept. 6 meeting of the Augusta West Rotary Club, nine Paul Harris Fellows were inducted into the club. They were, from left, Carl Thornton Jr., Bob Smith, Toni Guisto, Beverly Ussery, Kathy Tuckey, Tony Putnam and Louis Sauls. Beverly Norris,*

*not pictured, was also inducted. Congratulating the new inductees from the podium is Frank Spears, president.*

## **October Abounds with Rotary Activities**

*- continued from page 1*

be mailed to John Ricks at 201 Beach Street, Cochran, GA 31014. You may also communicate with John at [jricks39@yahoo.com](mailto:jricks39@yahoo.com).

Rotarians from Zones 33 and 34 are meeting this week in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. I will join them to receive the latest in Rotary education and to participate in the activities.

Please note the District Governor's official club visit schedule since there are only 25 club visits remaining!

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

## **Eastman Rotary Club Launches Web Site**

The Eastman Rotary Club proudly announces the creation of a web site. The club's web site can be accessed by turning your browser to [www.eastmanrotaryclub.com](http://www.eastmanrotaryclub.com) and contains information about the club's weekly meetings, Rotary International and upcoming events.

## **Eastman Rotary Club Donates Dictionaries**

The Eastman Rotary Club was very happy to donate 312 dictionaries to the



*Eastman Rotary Club Past President Gil Harrington donates books to elementary students in Dodge County.*

third grade students of North and South Dodge Elementary Schools. Each comprehensive dictionary contained a copy of the Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution and biographies of the 43 presidents, as well as many other reference materials. The donation was made as part of a larger project to promote literacy.

# DISTRICT 6920 NEWS

## *Centerville Rotarians Make Literacy Fun*

*The following originally appeared in The Macon Telegraph on Sept. 8, 2007. Alline Kent is the article's author.*

Today is International Literacy Day, in year five of what was proclaimed the Literacy Decade by the United Nations in 2003.

Spurred on by the awareness that there are 860 million illiterate people across the globe, including 100 million children who have no access to schools or education, Rotary International has asked each of its clubs to sponsor a community literacy program.

The Centerville Rotary Club accepted the challenge and was chosen last year as having the best literacy program out of the 65 clubs in District 6920.

In Houston County, with Centerville Rotary's help, literacy is dog-gone fun.

"We developed a program with Centerville Elementary School, a Title I school, to use in conjunction with its after school Mustang Academy," said Jack Steed, who is a member of the Centerville Rotary Club.

The program, called Paws for Reading, connects children who have difficulty reading with registered therapy dogs.

Paws for Reading is a first in the Houston County school system. Students earn the opportunity to read out loud to a therapy dog by having perfect attendance at the tutoring program the week before. The purpose, according to Steed, is to develop the child's reading skills in a non-threatening environment. The dogs are nonjudgemental and offer the student an incentive to participate.

"The program has helped improve the students' ability to read aloud," explained Steed. "Being comfortable reading

to the dogs has motivated the students to attend the Academy where they are also tutored in math. Confidence is built by their ability to read and to read aloud."

Amy St. Clair, a member of the Centerville Rotary Club and of Therapups, organized the program, meeting with school officials and soliciting volunteer Therapups members to participate.

Amy and her therapy dog, Nora, read with students on a weekly basis. Other Rotarians are involved with the school's Awards Day program, at which the club presents each participating student his or her own personal book "pawtographed" by a therapy dog. About 100 children participated last year.

"Recognition is key because some of these students may not have other recognizable academic achievements," Steed said.

The program was so successful that after the first week it was restructured to include a morning for therapy dogs to be available before school each morning in order to reach more students.

"The students just love reading to the dogs," said Jodi Clark, assistant principal at Centerville Elementary. "It is something they wanted to do because it is different and unique."

Clark said the school used the program as an incentive, requiring attendance in the tutoring program.

"To read to the dogs, they had to attend the tutoring program and get that extra push from the teachers," she explained.

Along with Paws for Reading, the Centerville Rotary Club has a book for school libraries program. At its weekly morning meetings, each guest speaker is asked to write words of encouragement regarding reading and learning in a book purchased with club funds. The books are presented to the Centerville Elementary School, Eagle Springs Elementary School and Thomson Middle School.

The club has purchased more than 100 books for their libraries since its charter meeting in 2004.

"The Centerville Rotarians strongly encourage everyone to find ways, no matter how large or small, to help create a literate community, society and world," Steed said.

The number of registered therapy dogs limits the program. Anyone interested in getting their people-oriented dogs registered and participating in the program should contact the school at 953-0400.

## *State Sen. Tolleson Speaks to Cochran Rotarians*



*State Senator Russ Tolleson was the guest speaker at the Cochran Rotary Club's Sept. 1 meeting. Tolleson was the guest of Rotarian Johnny Busch of Bleckley County Farm Bureau.*

*Tolleson spoke about his support of alternative fuels and other pressing issues.*

*(Photo courtesy of Rotarian Brandy Perry, editor of The Cochran Journal)*

## Important Dates

October 27: Membership Seminar, Dublin  
October 27: Club Secretary's Workshop, Dublin

### 2008

January 4-5: College of Governors, McRae  
March 8-9: Presidents Elect Training Seminar, Peachtree City  
April 18-20: District Conference, Macon  
June 5-8: Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Conference, Douglas  
June 7: District Assembly, Dublin  
June 15-18, 2008: Rotary International Conference, Los Angeles, CA

## 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

## Governor's Club Visit Schedule

Thursday, Oct. 18: Richmond Hill, 12:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, Oct. 23: St. Simon's Island, 1 p.m.  
Wednesday, Oct. 24: Glynn County, 7:30 a.m.  
Thursday, Oct. 25: Marshes of Glynn, 7:30 a.m.  
Monday, Oct. 29: Macon, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday, Oct. 30: Cochran, noon  
Wednesday, Oct. 31: Greater Byron, 8 a.m.  
Thursday, Nov. 1: Sandersville, 1 p.m.  
Tuesday, Nov. 6: McIntosh County, noon  
Wednesday, Nov. 7: Jekyll Island, 8 a.m.  
Tuesday, Nov. 13: Nashville-Berrien, noon  
Wednesday, Nov. 14: Millen, noon  
Tuesday, Nov. 27: Effingham Sunrise, 7:30 a.m.  
Tuesday, Nov. 27: Waynesboro, noon  
Wednesday, Nov. 28: Skidaway Island, 7:30 a.m.  
Thursday, Nov. 29: Effingham County, 12:30 p.m.

## October is Vocational Service Month

Vocational Service is the Second Avenue of Service. No aspect of Rotary is more closely related to each member than a personal commitment to represent one's vocation or occupation to fellow Rotarians, and to exemplify the characteristics of high ethical standards and the dignity of work. Programs of vocational service are those that seek to improve business relations while improving the quality of trades, industry, commerce and the professions. Rotarians understand that each person makes a valuable contribution to a better society through daily activities in a business or profession.

Vocational Service is frequently demonstrated by offering young people career guidance, occupational information and assistance in making vocational choices. Some clubs sponsor high school career conferences. Many recognize the dignity of employment by honoring exemplary service of individuals working in their communities. The 4-Way Test and other ethical and laudable business philosophies are often promoted among young people entering the world of work. Vocational talks and discussion of business issues are also typical Vocational Service programs at most clubs.

Regardless of the ways in which Vocational Service is expressed, it is the banner by which Rotarians "recognize the worthiness of all useful occupations" and demonstrate a commitment to "high ethical standards in all businesses and professions."