



Rotary District
6920



THE 4-WAY TEST

“Of the things we think, say or do:
Is it the TRUTH?

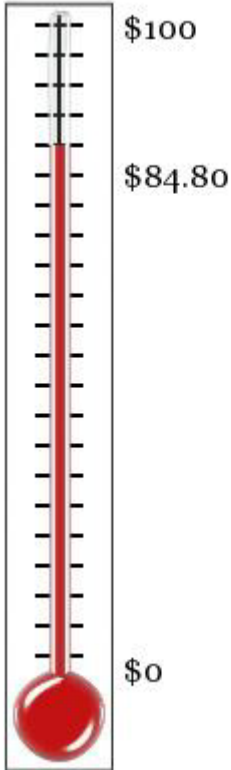
Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?”

John Parkins, District Governor
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Measuring our success!

This thermometer measures the annual funds giving (per capita). Currently, the district is at **\$84.80** per member for the year. Please see page 5 for individual club contributions to this fund.

District 6920's Goals for
2004-05

Earn the Presidential Citation

*Every Rotarian Every Year
\$100 per capita - The Rotary
Foundation*

Grow your membership by 3%

Governor John Says 'Thank You'

The following is a letter to District 6920 Rotarians from DG John Parkins. DG John's tenure ended June 30.

The Rotary Year 2004 – 05 was our Centennial Year - and our theme was “Celebrate Rotary.”

Thanks to all of you, we had much to celebrate in District 6920. As all of us remember, I asked each club to accomplish three goals:

1. Qualify for the Presidential Citation

All 64 clubs in our district qualified. This was accomplished only by 17 other districts (out of 539). We received an award from RI President Glenn Estess.

2. EREY \$100 per capita (Every Rotarian Every Year) in giving to The Rotary Foundation

A total of 37 clubs met this goal. The district average was \$85, with more to be recorded.

3. Grow membership by 3%

Thirty-nine clubs met this goal. The district total was a gain of 1 percent.

Clubs meeting all three goals received “The Governor’s Excellence Award.” Thirty-four clubs earned this award. Those clubs are listed on page 3.

Additionally, any Assistant Governor whose clubs (all of) received the Excellence Award would receive “The Governor’s Leadership Award.” Four Assistant Governors - Paul Donaldson, David Pierce, Hank Smalling and David Smith - earned this award.

Congratulations on a terrific year.

Mary Ellen and I had the time of our lives visiting and working with you. We cannot thank you enough for the kind and warm hospitality. We will remember this experience forever.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as your district governor.

Thank you for the honor.



District Governor John Parkins

DISTRICT NEWS

RI Centennial Chicago Convention Report

By PDG Preston Johnson, District Centennial Chairman

Governor John requested that I write an article for his Governor's Newsletter regarding the June 18-22 centennial convention, in Chicago.

To use an overused word, the convention was *awesome!* To be there was being a part of Rotary history...the celebration of Rotary's 100th anniversary, in the city where it all began...Chicago. Bev and I have been to several R.I. conventions, such as Rome, Italy, where I was elected Rotary International Governor and an officer of Rotary International, and Melbourne, Australia with its "down-under" attractions, and these were exciting locations, but to be in the "home of Rotary" for the centennial convention, with thousands of Rotarians and guests, was special...a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity!

The last attendance count that I received was 41,792 and, above that number, 7,500+- could not attend because of visa problems. A great turnout for a wonderful event!

The McCormick Center, site of the convention, is huge, but the sergeant-at-arms did a splendid job of directing people, in addition to signage in the facility. Shuttle-bus service to and from the Center was outstanding, and if you desired to visit the Navy Pier, the city furnished free trolley rides.

Weather cooperated while we were in Chicago, and it was very pleasant during the convention. The city of Chicago is very impressive with its skyline of interesting and tall buildings, and the Magnificent Mile was, what can I say...*magnificent*, with its beautiful flowers, trees and greenery (and, of course, shopping on each side of the street as far as you can see). Eating was an adventure, with outstanding restaurants of all kinds (walking distance from our downtown hotel). Last, but certainly not least, the people of Chicago went out of their way to be nice and helpful.

The convention itself was well organized, and the audio-visuals were amazing. It did not matter where you were seated, you could see everything taking place. R.I. President Glenn Estess did his usual superb job in carrying out all his responsibilities. Roger Climpson, a Rotarian and Australian TV personality, was our Master of Ceremonies, and did an excellent job and kept the program moving.

A highlight of the program was a speech by Professor Wangari Maathai, who is the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, and Assistant Minister of Environment, Natural Resources and Wildlife. She is from Kenya.

I was very impressed with R.I. President-elect Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar, a member of the Rotary club of Goteborg, Sweden. He gave an excellent talk, using perfect English, and has a delightful sense of humor. We will be in good hands for our next Rotary year to begin our next 100 years of Rotary. Additionally, for the year following Carl-Wilhelm, we will be in good hands again under the leadership of William B. Boyd, R.I. President-nominee and a member of the Rotary club of Pakuranga, Auckland, New Zealand...he was impressive as well during his acceptance remarks.

The incoming Rotary President, President-nominee, and all district governors were elected with no opposition.

After the plenary sessions each day, numerous workshops and symposiums were held on a variety of Rotary subjects. Additionally, we had an opportunity during free times to visit the exhibit section, which consisted of a multitude of exhibits, as well as the time capsule, where I deposited letters from the Dublin and other 6920 Rotary clubs.

In a video presentation, United States President George Bush spoke to the group and congratulated Rotary for its 100 years of service to mankind.

At every Rotary International convention, a Southland Breakfast is held, attended by Rotarians and guests from numerous southern states. It was held at the downtown Hyatt Regency hotel at the early hour of 7:00 AM, and attended by approximately 1,000 persons. R.I. Director Ken Morgan, from North Carolina, presided and did an outstanding job. It was great seeing friends from many states at the breakfast. President-elect Carl-Wilhelm spoke, and there was even a Dixieland band...from Sweden!

Bev and I had the opportunity to tour the Rotary International world headquarters, located close to Chicago, in Evanston. It was very interesting, and the staff was well-organized for the tour.

If you missed the Centennial Convention, or have never attended a Rotary International convention, why not make plans to attend next year's in Malmo-Copenhagen. You'll be glad you did.



CELEBRATE ROTARY! SERVICE ABOVE SELF!

DISTRICT NEWS

Centennial Convention Photos

Provided by PDG Preston Johnson

District Centennial Chair



McCormick Center Scene



PDG Preston Johnson deposits Rotary club letters into the time capsule

Governor's Excellence Award

The clubs which met all three of DG John's goals for the year were awarded the Governor's Excellence Award. The clubs receiving the honor are:

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Augusta | Jones County |
| Augusta South | Kings Bay |
| Augusta West | McIntosh County |
| Brunswick | Milledgeville |
| Camden County | Perry |
| Centerville | Pooler |
| Douglas | Sandersville |
| Downtown Macon | Savannah |
| Downtown Statesboro | Savannah East |
| Eastman | Savannah South |
| Effingham County | Savannah Sunrise |
| Effingham Sunrise | Savannah West |
| Glennville | Skidaway |
| Glynn County | Valdosta North |
| Greater Byron | Vidalia |
| Hawkinsville | Warner Robins |
| Hinesville | Waynesboro |

Attendance Reporting Update

At the District Assembly in May, the request was made for clubs to use and update their information on the new District Database on-line site (<http://directory-online.com/rotary>). This site provides a means of recording the club attendance. Clubs are requested to submit attendance reports to the website **and** continue submitting the monthly Attendance and Recruitment Report to the District Secretary. **This dual reporting is requested for the time being.** There are modifications being considered on the on-line site that will address recruitment issues, and the District is interested in how the clubs respond to the database Website.

Your cooperation is requested.

Joe Converse, District Secretary

DISTRICT NEWS

RYLArians Meet for 17th Year

For the 17th year in District 6920, RYLArians arrived on the South Georgia College campus for a weekend filled with leadership events and fun. Sixty-seven students attended this year's Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program held June 9-12 in Douglas, Ga. The event is sponsored by the Douglas Rotary Club.

According to District 6920 RYLA Program Coordinator Valerie Webster, 67 students representing 35 Rotary clubs in District 6920 attended the four-day event, which featured eight classes and three banquets. Class topics included ethics, personality styles, communication styles, and global issues. Keynote speaker of this year's program was humorist Roddy Gray of Abbeville, South Carolina.

"RYLA began in southeast Asia

in the 1970s and has spread across the world," said Ms. Webster. "Our district adopted this program in 1989. For the first couple of years, we invited students from all three Georgia districts, but the program grew so fast that we scaled down to just District 6920."

RYLA is designed for high school juniors and seniors, although some districts target other age groups. Individuals chosen to attend the all-expense paid seminar discuss leadership skills and learn to put those skills into practice.

Next year's RYLA event will be held June 8 – 11 at South Georgia College, and all clubs are encouraged to send participants. The tuition is \$325 per student. For more information about RYLA qualifications visit <http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net/RYLA/RYLA.html>.

DG Makes Request for Books, Tapes and CDs

When District Governor Dallas Simon makes his official club visits, he has requested that in lieu of gifts for he and his wife Pat, each club give children's books, tapes and CDs that will be donated to the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta. Literacy eradication is one of the goals of Rotary International, RI President Carl Wilhelm Stenhammar and District 6920.

Commitment to Service Award Winners Named

RI President Glenn presented five Commitment To Service Awards at the Dublin Rotary Club on June 1st. RI Glenn asked all Districts to choose five Rotarians with a record of unwavering support for their club and the ideas of Rotary and he wanted these persons to receive the Commitment to Service Award. The award is intended to recognize those Rotarians who have served quietly and consistently throughout the years, and whose efforts may have gone unnoticed beyond his/her Rotary Club."

CRITERIA:

- * Have been members of one or more Rotary clubs for 25 years or more
- * Demonstrate the ideals of Rotary through service
- * Have served in several club committee or board positions
- * Participate consistently in club service activities
- * Add to the fellowship of the club
- * Welcome newer and younger members to the club

The winners for this year are as follow:

- Herb Traub - Rotary Club of Savannah
- Steve Moore - Dublin Rotary Club
- Brad Oliver - Rotary Club of Milledgeville
- J. Fred Gunter, Jr. - Hinesville Rotary Club
- James D. Smith - Waynesboro Rotary Club



DG Dallas Simon poses with the 2004-05 class of RYLArians

Visit www.rotarydistrict6920.net
for the latest news and information

DISTRICT NEWS

Annual Funds Report

The following is a report of the Annual Giving **per capita** for the July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005 period.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ashburn: \$106.67 | Hazlehurst: \$25.00 | Savannah Sunrise: \$167.36 |
| Augusta South: \$50.90 | Hinesville: \$0 | Savannah West: \$69.76 |
| Augusta: \$93.58 | Jefferson Co.: \$45.45 | Savannah: \$109.67 |
| Augusta West: \$81.55 | Jekyll Island: \$17.86 | Skidaway Island: \$292.95 |
| Blackshear: \$80.59 | Jesup: \$0 | St. Simons/Marshes of Glynn: \$50.26 |
| Brunswick: \$100.96 | Jones County: \$121.88 | St. Simons Island: \$124.86 |
| Camden County: \$297.15 | Kings Bay: \$102.22 | Statesboro: \$28.17 |
| Centerville: \$0 | Macon: \$43.24 | Swainsboro: \$22.73 |
| Claxton: \$43.64 | McIntosh Co.: \$116.04 | Sylvania: \$0 |
| Cochran: \$30.85 | McRac: \$0 | Tennille: \$5.26 |
| Douglas: \$92.60 | Metter: \$95.51 | Tift County: \$53.00 |
| Downtown Macon: \$67.96 | Milledgeville: \$125.49 | Tifton: \$25.00 |
| Downtown Statesboro: \$104.78 | Millen: \$49.19 | Valdosta Sunrise: \$104.26 |
| Dublin: \$89.97 | Nashville-Berrien: \$0 | Valdosta: \$71.65 |
| Eastman: \$55.71 | Ocilla: \$0 | Valdosta North: \$114.02 |
| Effingham Co. Sunrise: \$68.09 | Perry: \$136.44 | Vidalia: \$172.92 |
| Effingham Co.: \$55.49 | Pooler: \$133.98 | Warner Robins: \$123.50 |
| Fitzgerald: \$52.63 | Reidsville: \$0 | Waycross: \$70.13 |
| Glennville: \$186.72 | Richmond Hill: \$14.70 | Waynesboro: \$76.92 |
| Glynn County: \$38.83 | Sandersville: \$137.35 | Wrightsville: \$20.24 |
| Greater Byron: \$52.00 | Savannah East: \$101.12 | |
| Hawkinsville: \$51.48 | Savannah South: \$82.32 | |
| | | TOTAL for District: \$84.80 |

District Seminar Slated for Aug. 20

The District Seminar will be held in the auditorium at the Southeast Technical College in Vidalia on Saturday, Aug. 20, 2005. The cost is \$20 per person and is paid at the door.

Registration, coffee, drinks, pastry and greeters will be in place and ready to go at 9 a.m. At 9:30 a.m. the seminar shall begin. Speakers will include The Foundation, Membership

and Public Relations.

Lunch will be served in between speakers.

This seminar is open to all members, but at least each club President, President-Elect, Membership and Public Relation chair should be in attendance. The seminar should conclude no later than 3 p.m.

Dublin Club's Honored Members Grows

PDG Preston Johnson reports that the Dublin Rotary Club has recently added two Kendell Weisigers (\$5,000), two Hue Thomas Fellows (\$2,500) and 10 Will Watt Fellows. Thanks to



all those making these committments to Rotary. Your dedication to Rotary International make a world of difference.

Each club in the district is challenged to match - or exceed - these exceptional achievements.

GRSP Conclave to Meet Aug. 26

The Rotary Club of LaGrange will host the GRSP Conclave slated Aug. 26-28.

During the conclave, GRSP students will gather for the first time to meet each other, their host families and see their cities and schools.

Advanced reservations are required and should be made no later than Aug. 15. To register, go to the district web site at www.rotarydistrict6920.net. A link on the home page will direct you to the on-line registration form.

An itinerary for the conclave is also posted on the district Web site.



Celebrating a Century of Service

Celebrating the Impact of The Rotary Foundation

Posted on the Rotary International Website on June 22, 2005

By Joseph Derr, Rotary International

CHICAGO - The third day of the **2005** RI Convention celebrated the Rotary's humanitarian reach around the globe, paying special attention to the momentum and commitment generated through The Rotary Foundation.

The inspirational program looked at projects ranging from aiding orphans in a Romanian town to the largest public health campaign in history - PolioPlus, which is literally changing world history.

In his keynote address, Director-general of the World Health Organization Dr. Jong-wook Lee praised Rotary's continued commitment to eradicate polio.

"Rotary has provided the vision and the sheer human power - in the form of millions of volunteers and advocates," said Lee. "Because of Rotary, we have completed **99** percent of our task, but to achieve our last **1** percent, we need Rotary's continuing advocacy more than ever... With your energy, support and unparalleled dedication, I know we will make this a reality."

The impact of The Foundation outside the polio campaign has been impressive as well. Over the past decade, Rotary clubs conducted nearly **1.8** million projects, each consisting of about **13** volunteers contributing **140** hours of labor, adding up to more than **25** million hours of work toward improving the lives of others.

The program also took a look at some highly effective community projects. Highlighted were Farmers Feed the Children, a livestock donation program that promotes sustainable development and demonstrates the principle of international cooperation that is the hallmark of Foundation programs, and Sailability, a sailing program that lifts the spirits of quadriplegics in Australia.

The success of these local projects cannot be overstated. "We have people that are full quadriplegics, who are able to sail in a boat by themselves," said Grahame Rayner of the Rotary Club of Sydney, Australia. "It's through Rotary that these types of projects happen, that these kids get an opportunity."

Other projects that demonstrated global partnering of clubs through the vision of The Foundation included a school-building initiative in the slums of Rio de Janeiro funded through matching grants, and a project of the Rotary clubs of Bellvue, Washington, and Patan, Nepal, that has helped **17** schools in Nepal install computers. Tsunami relief and water projects were also presented.

Rotary has provided the vision and the sheer human power - in the form of millions of volunteers and advocates

Thanks to Foundation matching grants and the Rotary clubs of Khartoum, Sudan, and South Austin, Texas, USA, a Sudanese village now has clean water. "Without much money at all we can provide clean water and help these people for years to come," said Awad Abdelgadir, a native of the village who is now a member of the South Austin club. "We aren't just giving money. We're providing some funds for infrastructure, and the villagers there are doing the work. Thank you, Rotary, for helping me realize my dream."

The program included an inspirational speech by Dr. Eric Motley, special assistant to U.S. President George W. Bush, and an alumnus of the Foundation's Ambassadorial Scholarship program. Motley thanked Rotarians for the opportunity, stressing that across the world, alumni of the program are making the world a better place. And former Beatle Paul McCartney and wife Heather congratulated Rotary in a video message on its centennial milestone and thanked Rotary for its work in ridding the world of landmines.

Following a colorful intermission featuring Brazilian rhythm and dance by Windy City Samba Revue, Foundation Chair Carlo Ravizza talked about the impact of the Foundation. "Your giving has made miracles happen. Because of you, five million children can walk today that otherwise would be victims to the crippling disease of polio," he said.

Later, Lee was joined onstage by RI President Glenn Estess, Ravizza, Dr. Julie Gerberding of the Centers for Disease Control, and Rima Saleh of UNICEF in a show of solidarity to the common goal of polio eradication.

A few miles away, thousands of Rotarians packed U.S. Cellular field for a Chicago White Sox game as part of a host-organized event. RI President Estess and wife Mary were on hand to preside over the first pitch, thrown by Estess' grandson Grant, to the cheers of Rotarians from around the world, many experiencing America's pastime for the very first time.