



Rotary District 6920

SERVICE Above Self

Dallas Simon, District Governor

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'Imagine the Possibilities' Partnership Offers Pre-schoolers

The following is an open letter from Shauna von Hanstein, executive director of the Ferst Foundation, regarding the district's partnership with her organization

What an honor to be invited to attend and speak at your Rotary Foundation Seminar in Vidalia last weekend! I would like to express my gratitude to District Governor Dallas Simon and extend my heartfelt appreciation to each of the Rotarians present at the weekend seminar for their outstanding southern hospitality.

As a fellow Rotarian, as well as the Executive Director of the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy, I am quick to **Imagine the Possibilities** that our partnership will create for the pre-school age children in Rotary District 6920! The Rotary theme for the year **Service Above Self** has obviously been taken to heart and will clearly be demonstrated through local club participation in this year's Literacy/Economic Development Project!

The program is very simple and the best part is that the Ferst Foundation is dedicated to supporting your local effort by providing the administrative tasks of data entry, newsletter creation, book ordering and the book mailing at no extra cost! All we need your club to do is help organize the local Community Action Team (CAT). The leadership for this team could be within your club and include extended committees with other clubs or private individuals within your county. Typical CATs include representation



DG Dallas Simon and Ferst Foundation Executive Director Shauna von Hanstein promote the partnership at The Rotary Foundation Seminar Aug. 20 in Vidalia.

from local elected officials, business leaders, public library management, the local US Post Office, literacy groups, school systems and other service-minded individuals – in other words, your current or future Rotarians!

Through this partnership we have a unique opportunity to invest in the education of young Georgians in a way that will have a huge impact in the years to come. Key benefits include:

- Ø The Ferst Foundation Program eliminates the key reason why parents do not read to their child - lack of quality books available in the home.
- Ø It is the only program in Georgia that

provides continual, monthly distribution of books for the critical first five years of a child's life.

Ø It develops the habit of parent and child interaction that continues throughout the educational career of the child.

Since delivering its first book to a Georgia child in 2000, the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy program has produced impressive results. The Morgan County School System has seen scores on their kindergarten readiness tests increase from 46% ready to 90% ready!

Further, Dr. Patricia Stokes, Superintendent of Morgan County Schools, also reports that they have seen their goal of 90% reading on grade level at the end of grade 3 come to pass in grade 2 indicating that there is no doubt that the books from Ferst Foundation was the most influential factor. **Imagine the Possibilities** for your community!!!

Let's make this happen for your pre-school age children - please contact me today and we can establish a date for a meeting in your town with potential CAT members in your area!

Shauna von Hanstein
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SERVICE Above Self

Visit www.rotarydistrict6920.net
for more information on this partnership
and other district projects

More than \$20,000 in District Simplified Grant Funds Available

Dear Fellow Rotarians,
On behalf of Dallas Simon, governor of District 6920, I am pleased to announce that our district has qualified for \$22,033 in District Simplified Grant (DSG) funds to be distributed. The DSG is a tool Rotary districts utilize to support short-term, humanitarian projects that benefit the community. Districts can request up to 20 percent of District Designated Funds (DDF) for a grant to support multiple projects within the district. The district then passes on these grant funds by giving grants to the clubs. The purpose of DSG is to support the service activities and humanitarian endeavors of individual Rotary clubs. Rotary clubs in our district may request up to \$1,375 each for their local project.

All clubs are encouraged to request a DSG if they have a qualifying project. Grants request must comply with the Terms and Conditions of District Simplified Grant Award and Acceptance. A DSG application form must be submitted to District Simplified Grant Chair Jean Iaderosa no later than Sept. 30, 2005 in order to be considered. All DSG grant applications will be reviewed by the District Simplified Grant Committee.

Once the District Simplified Grant Committee has met to review applications, an announcement will be made via e-mail to the president of each club that has qualified for the grant. Checks will be mailed to the attention of the presidents. It is anticipated that funds will be sent to the presidents in early December. Clubs will then be required to expend funds as required in the Terms and Conditions and submit a final project summary no later than March 31, 2006. Remember: it is **VERY** important that you explain clearly how Rotarians are involved in your project.

Thanks! We look forward to working with you.

In Rotary,
Jean Iaderosa, DSG chair

****DSG applications, as well as Terms and Conditions, are available by contacting Jean Iaderosa at rubbygrey@comcast.net**

Shelter Box Program Provides Assistance in Face of Disaster

What is Shelter Box? Shelter Box is a Rotary club global project bringing relief to victims of disaster. The sturdy Shelter Box, a unique green box approximately 3 ft. x 2 ft. x 2 ft., contains a 10-person tent, 10 sleeping bags, a cookstove with pots and mess kits, a 6-month supply of water purification tablets for 10 people, as well as collapsible water jugs, tools and other essential survival equipment. These boxes are assembled and warehoused in Helston-Lizard, Cornwall, UK, ready for shipment in a days notice. You can learn more about this subject by going to the web site www.shelterbox.org or www.shelterboxusa.org.

This month at the District Seminar in Vidalia, the Shelter Box DVD was shown. District Governor Dallas is asking all clubs to consider supporting this worthwhile program by sponsoring one box. Each box cost \$900. This program does not qualify for a matching grant as the final destination of the box is not know until the disaster occurs. So, the entire program is sponsored by individual clubs and districts. Any club wishing to become a sponsor should go to the website and follow the prompts. Each



box contains a certificate with information regarding the sponsoring donor so the recipients are aware of the origin of the aid they receive. Each box carries its own unique number enabling sponsors to be informed at all times just where "their" box has been sent and used. This information is posted on the organizations' websites.

At the seminar in Vidalia, the participants decided to sponsor a box and \$1,226 dollars was collected. As soon as we get "our" number assigned, we will let everyone know via this newsletter. It will be interesting to see where it ends up.

This is an example of an international project that a club can participate in without having to do the paperwork involved in the matching grant program. The clubs can communicate directly with the Helston-Lizard Rotary Club via the website without going through the district. We will have a box on display at PETS, as well as the District Assembly.

Individuals with questions about the Shelter Box program can call Bob Ashley, director of the district's METS program, at (912) 398-1440.

Two New District CART Awards Announced

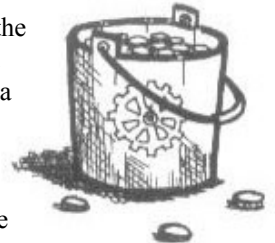
During the 2005-2006 Rotary year, two new annual district awards will be presented at the District Conference which will be held in Augusta May 5-7, 2006.

Throughout the year, clubs will be collecting funds (coins as well as folding money), which will be used to fund research in the fight against Alzheimer's. All of us either have, or will be affected by, a family member or close friend who has experienced Alzheimer's disease. The disease is growing, but so is our fight against Alzheimer's. District 6920 has been very generous in its giving and we want to honor those clubs who truly make a difference and contribute substantial amounts to our Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust (CART) Fund each year.

For the club that contributes the largest total dollar amount to the CART Fund during the year, it will receive the Eugenia Phillips Cart Fund Award. This annual 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, they will receive the Allen Gibson Cart Fund Award. This annual award is named after the father of Wrightsville Rotarian Jeanette Caneega.

Established in 1995, CART has raised over \$1 million for research that will lead to a prevention or cure of Alzheimer's disease. The program was initiated by the Rotary Club of Sumter, then adopted by District 7770 and now has spread to all the Rotary districts in South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia. Through these efforts, the CART Fund has made grants totaling \$1,350,000. The program simply asks Rotarians to donate their loose change at their weekly meetings.



Donated Books Already Being Distributed



DG Dallas' request for books rather than the usual governor's gift has been well received throughout the district. So far, nearly 10,000 books and \$1,525 has been donated and Gayle Bentley, assistant professor of nursing at the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, above right, says the books are already being distributed. In this photo, Bentley gives a box of the books to Reta Thomas with the Augusta Housing Authority who distributed the books to school children. Other recipients of the books include the college's day care center and the MCG School of Nursing which has distributed books through its grandparenting project where grandparents are raising their grandchildren. "Your efforts and Rotary is being appreciated by many," Bentley recently wrote.

District Database Ready for All to Use

The District and Club Database now has something for *everyone*: members, clubs and district officers! **Members** are encouraged to sign-on and update *their own* data (name, address, phone, e-mail, business and spouse information). And, members can view (or print) their club's membership directory (with member photos) in just a couple of clicks.

Club secretaries are able to submit their attendance data, update their club's location and meeting times, maintain their membership roster (new members, changes and terminations), print name badges or club directories (with member photos and send an e-mail to all club members, in just a couple of clicks. In addition, clubs can publish their meetings, events and fund raisers in the on-line club calendar, with district-wide distribution, and publish their club bulletin on-line in just a couple of clicks. In addition, all maintenance to club and member records are automatically forwarded to RI, thus making the reconciliation of the Semi-Annual Report *much* easier!

Then, **district officers** have access to current club and member data, and can publish correct Club Meeting Times & Locations on the district's web site. And now, every club has *their own web page* (linked from district's web page), showing their club's leadership, calendar and membership roster. In addition, the district is now able to communicate current information regarding district events and programs via the district's calendar functions and broadcast e-mail functions to all members with a current e-mail address. **So, are you ready to sign-on?** Just go to the district's web site www.rotarydistrict6920.net, then click ON the [Members ONLY] button. And, if you have any questions, just click on PROBLEMS -or- HELP link for a complete set of "How To Do It" instructional videos (then choose the functions you need help with).



District Partners with GeorgiaCares

GeorgiaCares, a program administered through the Department of Human Resources, Division of Aging services, is a private-public partnership that provides accurate and timely information on Medicare, Medicaid, Long Term Care Insurance, Medicare Supplemental Policies, Medicare fraud, waste and abuse and low-cost prescription savings programs.

GeorgiaCares services are available to seniors and other Medicare beneficiaries across Georgia through 12 local Area Agencies on Aging at no cost to the beneficiary.

The backbone for GeorgiaCares is the SHIP (State Health Insurance Assistance Program), a federally funded Division of

Aging Services program begun 11 years ago. The program has a corps of trained volunteer counselors to provide one-on-one counseling to beneficiaries and their families.

Governor Dallas has agreed to partner Rotary District 6920 with the GeorgiaCares Program. The partnership will be a beneficial and rewarding experience for Rotarians as they provide assistance to seniors who have to choose between paying for prescription drugs or food.

Specific information on prescription assistance is gained through web sites such as www.medicare.gov, www.Rxassist.com and www.needymeds.com

For more information, please call Don Gay, GeorgiaCares Coordinator, at 1-800-669-8387.



"I admire the Rotary promise to solve problems that destroy lives and trample dreams and human potential."

— Her Majesty Queen Noor Al-Hussein of Jordan



Rotary District 6920 Newsletter

Cookbook Project Draws Nearly 1,000 Entries; Books Already in Production

After a very successful gathering of recipes from throughout the district, the cookbooks will soon be on their way to your club. Almost 1,000 recipes were collected which made the job even harder as the cookbook committee tried to make sure that every club was represented, eliminate duplicates, and have a cookbook that was manageable to use as well as be profitable to print. Quite an undertaking considering the

number of recipes.

But, the final stages of publication are already in progress, and the cookbooks should be arriving soon. This district wide fundraiser will benefit many district organizations, but it will also benefit the individual clubs as well. It is a win-win situation for all involved. They will be arriving in time for all of your holiday selling and shopping.

“When we no longer have good cooking in the world, we will have no literature, nor high and sharp intelligence, nor friendly gatherings, no social harmony.”

– Marie-Antoine Careme (1784-1833)

Grilling, broiling, barbecuing - whatever you want to call it - is an art, not just a matter of building a pyre and throwing on a piece of meat as a sacrifice to the gods of the stomach.”

–James Beard, **‘Beard on Food’** (1974)

The fact is that it takes more than ingredients and technique to cook a good meal. A good cook puts something of himself into the preparation — he cooks with enjoyment, anticipation, spontaneity, and he is willing to experiment.”

–Pearl Bailey, **Pearl’s Kitchen**, (1973)

Foundation Seminar Has Large Turnout

The following is reported by Assistant Governor Lloyd Horadan, who also serves as a District 6920 Rotary Foundation Co-Chair

Saturday, August 20, witnessed the largest gathering of District 6920 Rotarians since District Conference. Approximately 140 Rotarians met in Vidalia to hear noted Rotarian and Foundation guru William “Bill” Mulkey provide updates on The Rotary Foundation and its role in supporting the work of Rotary throughout the world. Bill is PDG of District 6900 and is currently serving as Rotary International Annual Programs Strategic Advisor.

Other features of the seminar included the World Community Services and Foundation Grants programs by Dr. Bob Ashley, innovative strategies for funding EREY by District Foundation Co-chair Jim Hazel, membership development by Jan Carolton and Elizabeth Harden, public relations by Paul Moore, as well as a presentation on the district’s Group Study Exchange by Jean Iaderosa and a special literacy presentation by Shauna von Hanstein

Rotarians attending the seminar reacted to a challenge by Dr. Ashley to make contributions in support of disaster relief by contributing more than \$1,200 to fund a disaster relief box on behalf of the District 6920 Foundation Seminar.

A special thank you to the Rotary Club of Vidalia for their hospitality at Friday evening’s pole barn barbeque.



Visit our web site at
www.rotarydistrict6920.net

Club Visit Photos



The Rotary Club of Warner Robins



The Rotary Club of Statesboro

Club Visit Photos



The Rotary Club of Swainsboro



The Rotary Club of Valdosta Sunrise

