



District 6920 Governor's Newsletter

December 2008

Kenan J. Kern, District Governor

Number 6

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SERVICE Above Self

Thanks for the things you have done!

Beth and I wish to thank all our District Directors, Assistant Governors and club presidents in District 6920 for all of their accomplishments in the past five months. Dream Team, you truly shine! We have enjoyed making our official visits to each of the sixty-five clubs and learning about the wonderful projects that you are and will be doing during the 2008-2009 Rotary year. Your efforts are evident in helping reduce Child Mortality through a variety of club projects and follow RI President D. K. Lee's goal for the Rotary year. Thank you for reaching out to "Make Dreams Real".

During the five months of our official visits, I spoke about the Family of Rotary and that I wanted Rotarians and Rotary clubs to pursue the first Object of Rotary. That object is friendship, and it is the rock upon which Rotary Service is built. I initiated the opportunity for clubs to develop friendships through Passing the Governor's Gavel. The gavel has moved about the District, and our hopes to reach all clubs in our District by District Conference time are possible.

We are now into December, and this month's emphasis is centered on Family Month in Rotary. It is a time for us to enjoy the holiday season with our friends and family, to reflect on our accomplishments during the past five months, and to plan ahead and renew our commitment to the second half of the Rotary year.

RI Past President Bill Boyd previously stated, "Like our own family, we can count on the family of Rotary to help when help is needed and to share life's joys and sorrows. Being part of Rotary means being part of the largest extended family in the world. Rotary is an organization of people who care – about their homes, their communities, and each other. Caring is what family is all about." In celebration of Family month, I want to thank my wife, Beth, for her love and support as I visited each Rotary club in our District. Beth's steadfast enthusiasm provided great rapport with the nearly 4,000 Rotarians with which we have shared time together. I was most fortunate to have her at my side. We look forward to continuing as a team through the final six months of the Rotary year.

Kenan J. Kern
District Governor

District Directors:

Bill Booth

RC of Valdosta

Jim Drake

RC of Savannah South

Ron May

RC of Sandersville

Assistant Governors:

Les Arent

RC of Warner Robbins

Alfie Cofield

RC of Claxton

Paul Elliott

RC of Douglas

Charles Green

RC of Valdosta Sunrise

Paula Goodnow

RC of Kings Bay

Ben Harvill

RC of Eastman

Tommy Jefferson

RC of Milledgeville

Jeff Kublin

RC of Effingham County

Doug Lambert

RC of Downtown
Statesboro

Ron Maulden

RC of Brunswick

Bruce Peyton

RC of Savannah South

Joan Puryear

RC of August South

Pat Storino

RC of St. Simons Island

Gary Smith

RC of Fitzgerald

Phil Thacker

RC of Dublin

Tommy Walker

RC of Sandersville

Foundation Month

Past Rotary International President, Frank Devlyn, visited the Rotary Club of Savannah on Monday, November 24, 2008, to speak on behalf of The Rotary Foundation. PRIP Frank, who also served as Chair of The Rotary Foundation in 2004-2006, spoke to a large assembly of Rotarians from the Savannah, Savannah West, Savannah East, Savannah South, Richmond Hill, Savannah Sunrise, and Skidaway Island Rotary clubs.



Savannah Area Rotary leaders and club presidents welcome Frank Devlyn

(L-R) AG Bruce Peyton, DG Kenan Kern, GRSP Chair Jim Drake, Linda Herdina, Donna Jones, PRIP Frank Devlyn, Marty Harrell, Pam Parker, John Billingsley, and David Rosenblum.

Top Three Per Capita In TRF Annual Funds Program Giving Recognized



Bob Griggers and Past President Joy Hurst from Centerville receive the top per capita banner from Governor Kenan.

The Rotary Club of Centerville was recently recognized as the number one contributing club in 2007-2008 with an annual giving per capita of \$517.31 to the Annual Funds Program of TRF. The Rotary Club of Nashville-Berrien received the second highest banner per capita with \$295.90 per capita and the Rotary Club of Skidaway Island received the third highest banner with a \$232.77 per capita. Congratulations to each of these clubs for their significant contributions to The Rotary Foundation in 2007-2008.

Links to Web pages

District 6920
www.rotarydistrict6920.net

Rotary International
www.rotary.org

Zone 33-34
www.rizones33-34.org

GRSP
www.grsp.org

CART
www.cartfund.org

Rotary Leadership
Institute
www.rlitraining.org

Ferst Foundation
www.ferstfoundation.org

PolioPlus
www.rotary.org/foundation/polioplus

Water and Sanitation
www.wasrag.org

Contact Us

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Savannah, GA 31406

Rotarians recognized as Paul Harris Fellows



The Rotary Club of Pooler recently recognized seven new Paul Harris Fellows.



The Rotary Club of Savannah Sunrise had Governor Kenan participate in the recognition of three new Paul Harris Fellows recently during Foundation Month.

(L-R) Neville Stein, Marty Harrell and Gillian Seymour are presented new PHF certificates and medals by Governor Kenan



Nine New Paul Harris Fellows were recently recognized at the Rotary Club of Jesup.

DG Kenan Kern's club visits

Official club visits completed on December 10, 2008.

Governor Kenan and Beth are available for celebrations, presentations, attitude adjustments, and general fun events for the remaining months of the Rotary year.



On to Birmingham, England for the 100th Rotary International Convention

Gates Matching Grant Support Continues!

Club president, Tom Dawson of the Rotary Club of Hazlehurst recently presented Governor Kenan with a club contribution of \$500 to help satisfy the Bill and Melinda Gates Challenge Grant. President Tom stated that this is just the first contribution from the Rotary Club of Hazlehurst to help remove Polio from our world.



Marty Harrell, president of the Rotary Club of Savannah Sunrise recently presented Governor Kenan with a check for \$1,000 toward the Bill and Melinda Gates Matching Grant. Governor Kenan remarked that our District is well on the way to meeting our goals in satisfying our responsibility toward PolioPlus.



Georgia Rotary Student Program News



The Rotary Club of Dublin recently recognized 10 new Will Watt Fellows at their weekly club meeting on November 15, 2008.



Thomas Peace Award Presented to AASU Student

(L-R, GRSP Trustee Ray Pittman, Bill West Skidaway Island, Andrea Sertic, and Tom Thomas)

Andrea Sertic from Croatia was recently selected by the Rotary Club of Roswell, GA to receive the 2008 Barbara M. and Donald L. Thomas Peace Award. Andrea is sponsored by the Rotary Clubs of Skidaway Island, Savannah Sunrise, Richmond Hill and Hinesville in District 6920. Skidaway Island nominated Andrea for this annual award. Andrea attends Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Georgia.



***Wow!
Do you think
Andrea
was excited
with her new
Peace Award
recognition?***

GRSP Proclamation

Senator President Pro Tempore recently presented a resolution commending the Georgia Rotary Student Program for its contributions to international peace and understanding.



Joining with Sen. Eric Johnson at Armstrong Atlantic State University were: (L-R) Andrea Sertic, Croatia; Asgeir Guomundsson, Iceland; Jim Drake, GRSP Chair; Claudia Mancía, El Salvador; Sen. Eric Johnson; Kenan Kern, Governor 6920; and Maria Leive, Columbia.

GRSP Endowment Recognition



The Rotary Club of Augusta South recently honored club member Pam Lightsey as a Will Watt Fellow. Rotarian Pam is President of the Rotary Area Council that serves three Rotary districts in the Augusta, GA and North Augusta, SC area. Club president Mary Schorer and GRSP student Talyssa Tulsie at Augusta State University proudly join Governor Kenan with this GRSP honor.

RLI Savannah!

Over fifty Rotarians participated in the first of many scheduled Rotary Leadership Institute training sessions on November 22 & 23, 2008, in Savannah, GA. The two days of training sessions offered learning sessions to Rotarians in their quests to become more effective Rotarians.



RLI Discussion Leader graduates (L-R) Jim Janyek, Kenan Kern, Casey Farmer, Bill Booth, Lloyd Horadan, Margie Kersey, Jeff Kublin, Alan Soto, with DL Trainer Don Thomas, and D6920 RLI Director, John Parkins.

RLI – Session I Grads



Twenty-five area Rotarians completed Session I of the Rotary Leadership Institute training recently. This class becomes the first group to attend District 6920's initial RLI training program.

RLI – Session II Grads



Twelve area Rotarians completed RLI Session II of the Rotary Leadership Institute in Savannah, GA recently. Many of these RLI participants attended RLI Session I on the prior day.

Future registration for RLI sessions can be made by going to the Sunshine Division's RLI website, www.rlitraining.org. If you are interested in attending any of these opportunities to become a more effective Rotarian, please register for a session NO LATER THAN 10 days prior to the scheduled session.

2009 Training Schedule

January 17 th , Dublin, GA – Heart of Ga. Tech. College	Parts 1,2,3
January 18 th , Dublin, GA – Heart of Ga. Tech. College	Parts 2,3,DL
February 21 st , Waynesboro, GA – Augusta Tech. College	Parts 1,2,3
March 14 th , Jesup, GA – Altamaha Tech. College	Parts 1,2,3
April 18 th , Fitzgerald, GA – East Central Tech. College	Parts 1,2,3
May 23 rd , Savannah, GA – Savannah Technical Institute	Parts 1,2,3
June 27 th , Dublin, GA – Heart of Ga. Tech. College	Parts 1,2,3,DL

GSE TEAM

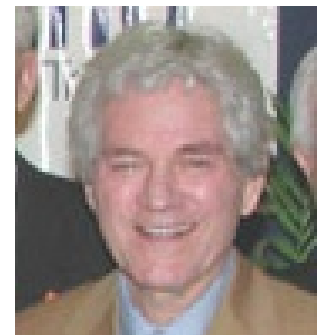
GSE TEAM MEMBERS To be led by John Neely on VISIT to District 4720 - Brazil

Rotarian John Neely, past president of the Rotary Club of Savannah East, has been selected as Team Leader for 2008-2009 District GSE Team. Rotarian Neely previously served with the U.S. Peace Corps in Brazil-Amazon and has fluent Portuguese language knowledge which has led to two prior visits to Brazil. This year's Group Study Exchange will be with District 4720 in the Amazon River area of northern Brazil. Known for its rich biodiversity and natural beauty, the Amazon rain forest harbors nearly one third of the world's species and one quarter of the world's fresh water. The GSE team will have an opportunity to experience this area of the world that holds many great riches. Team selection and training is underway and the four team members will be selected during their training period.



CART FOUNDER RECOGNIZED

Roger Ackerman, founder of the Coins for Alzheimer's Trust (CART) program, was awarded the Order of the Palmetto recently in South Carolina. Roger is a member of the Rotary Club of Sumter, SC in D7770. The highest honor for civilian service, the Order of the Palmetto is bestowed by the governor of South Carolina and recognizes outstanding achievement on a state level.



Congratulations to Roger Ackerman for his dedication and Service Above Self in helping to bring medical research progress to the Alzheimer's disease.

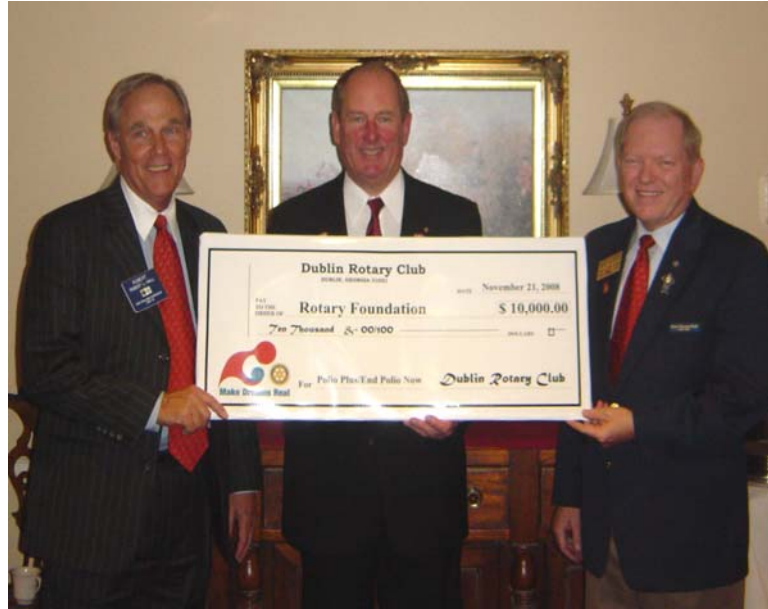
Clubs interested in a program on CART should contact D6920's CART Chair, Kathy Tuckey at 706-731-9060.



All CART Contributions should be mailed directly to:
District Treasurer,
Bruce Montgomery
102 E. 44th Street,
Savannah, GA 31405

70th Anniversary Celebration

The Rotary Club of Dublin recently celebrated the club's long history of *Service Above Self* on Friday, November 21, 2008, at the Dublin Country Club. Club president, Frank Seaton, along with a packed house, presented a noteworthy history of the Dublin club that was enjoyed by those in attendance. Current and past members had the opportunity to relive the 70 years of dedication and service to the community of Dublin, GA, as well as District 6920 and Rotary International.



Robert Hall, Zone 34 PolioPlus Chair and Governor Kenan Kern accept a check of \$10,000 from the Rotary Club of Dublin's President Frank Seaton toward the Bill and Melinda Gates Challenge Grant in support of the PolioPlus campaign. This significant contribution was achieved by the entire membership of the Rotary Club of Dublin in celebrating their 70th Club Anniversary.

Governor Kenan Kern presents the District Governor's Citation to club president, Frank Seaton recognizing 70 years of club service to mankind by the members of the Rotary Club of Dublin.



Pass the Gavel

Progress Throughout District 6920



Marty Harrell, president of the Rotary Club of Savannah Sunrise receives the Governor's Friendship Gavel from Pam Parker, president of the Rotary Club of Savannah West.

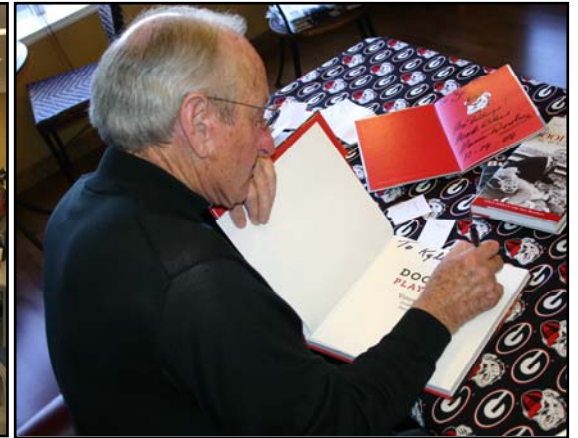
Todd Freesemann, president of the Rotary Club of Pooler passes the Governor's Friendship Gavel to Pam Parker, president of the Rotary Club of Savannah West.



Colonel Todd Freesemann of the Rotary Club of Pooler receives the Governor's Friendship Gavel from Leland Sanders of the Rotary Club of Effingham County.

Coach Dooley speaks and signs books in Gray, GA.

Legendary UGA football coach Vince Dooley visited the Rotary Club of Jones County for a speaking and book signing engagement fundraiser recently for the Ferst Foundation of Jones County. Coach Dooley, a Rotarian in Athens, GA, was not a stranger to the Ferst Foundation. He spoke to over 130 members and guests at the weekly Rotary meeting. Following the weekly meeting, Coach Dooley signed over 400 books and items for a three hour period in the fundraising efforts for the Ferst Foundation for Jones County.



It is Christmas time, and all good Rotarians should be looking for this jolly fellow in the red suit.



If you recognize Santa, send your name to kenankern@comcast.net and you may be a winner!

Happy Holidays!