



District 6920 Governor's Newsletter

March 2009

Kenan J. Kern, District Governor

Number 9

In This Issue

- March is literacy month
- Dolly Parton teams with Rotary International and Ferst Foundation
- Rotary marks Peace Day
- Matching Grant reports
- Matching Grant Update Status
- Contributions to The Rotary Foundation
- Monthly TRF Contribution Report (Interim)
- District Conference Presenters
- Zone Speech Competition Dates
- End Polio Now Exhibit
- Future Vision Plan The Foundation
- RLI Training Schedules

March is Literacy Month

In 1985, Rotary International declared basic literacy to be a pre-condition to the development of peace. More than 800 million people worldwide are unable to read or write creating a lack of skills that makes them especially vulnerable to hunger, disease, and extreme poverty. For a child, knowing how to read can be the difference between healthy self-esteem and none at all. For a teenager, it can mean staying in school rather than dropping out. And for an adult, it often means a steady income, versus a lifetime of struggling to feed a family. Literacy empowers people and is essential for community development as literate populations are more likely to develop economically, live healthier lives, and be more peaceful. Child mortality is also closely linked to literacy rates. When women and girls are educated, they are generally better equipped to access resources and make decisions that improve the lives of their children and families. When President D. K. Lee introduced the 2008-2009 theme last year, he said that "We will **Make Dreams Real** by making sure that more children have a chance to go to school, because it will only be through education that the deadly cycle of poverty can be broken."

Earlier this month, the first ever Multi-District Literacy Conference was held at The Carter Center in Atlanta where Rotarians from all three Georgia Districts joined together to learn and share literacy ideas and projects that have been successful in our Georgia Rotary clubs. District 6920 was represented by seven Rotary clubs during the full day conference. The Rotary Club of Skidaway Island, featured by their club representative, Susan Kleine, shared the success their club has provided with the development of the Lockamy Technology Center in Savannah, Georgia. This technology center has been highly recognized by the county school system and named in honor of Dr. Thomas Lockamy, local school superintendent. Attending the Literacy Conference were:

(L-R) Eric Holmes Sandersville, Susan Kleine Skidaway Island, Kathy Tuckey Augusta West, Meredith Diebold Augusta West, Bob Lemon Augusta West, Shauna von Hanstein, Executive Director Ferst Foundation, Bill Quinn Kings Bay, Robin Ferst, Founder Ferst Foundation, Beth Kern DG spouse, Clyde Taylor, DGE, and Kenan 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

Dolly Parton Teams with Rotary International & Ferst Foundation to Promote Early Childhood Reading

Entertainment legend and philanthropist Dolly Parton announced a groundbreaking partnership between her Dollywood Foundation and Rotary International to promote early childhood reading. The result of the partnership will be a statewide expansion of Georgia's Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy. Preschool children in every county will one day receive age appropriate books to better prepare them for reading and learning success.

In an agreement approved by the leadership of Rotary International and the Dollywood Foundation, Rotary clubs in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom will support the Dollywood Foundation's Imagination Library program, which provides books to children from birth until they enter kindergarten. Through the joint leadership of all three Georgia Rotary District Governors, all Rotary clubs in the state will be encouraged to participate and raise funds for the Ferst Foundation in the expanded program.

Ms. Parton made the announcement at the AmericasMart in downtown Atlanta. Rotary Foundation Trustee John Germ and the founder of the Ferst Foundation, Robin Ferst, along with Governor Ted Propes from District 6900, Governor Gary Moore from District 6910 and Governor Kenan Kern from District 6920, joined Ms. Parton on stage. "We have dreamed of this day since we mailed our first books to children in Morgan County in 1999," Ms. Ferst said.

"We've strived to reach every child under the age of 5 in Georgia and now with Dolly's support and the leadership of Rotary International we are finally within reach of that goal."

Ms. Parton grew up in an underprivileged Tennessee community where many around her lacked the literacy skills she developed through her personal love of books. From that experience she started the Imagination Library, which includes 60 classic childhood books such as "The Little Engine That Could." Ms. Parton's foundation now sends 500,000 books each month to children at risk of falling behind their peers because they lack exposure to reading and age appropriate material at an early age.

Ms. Parton's program has been an inspiration to many, including Ms. Ferst, a fourth generation philanthropist in Atlanta who created the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy in 1999. Ms. Ferst's goal is to emulate Ms. Parton's Tennessee success in Georgia. Rotary clubs will help Ferst expand the Foundation's presence in Georgia from 64 counties now (representing 42,000 books a month) to all 159 counties.

The Ferst Foundation encourages children to dream and learn through reading, promoting family involvement in achieving early school success for children.

"We are thrilled to have Dolly's support and the support of Rotary International," said Midtown Atlanta Rotary club's president Barbara Rose. "We believe Georgia's Rotary clubs are key to providing structured leadership across the state to ensure success. We now have the tools needed to break the cycle of illiteracy in Georgia. Our job as Rotarians is to elevate this issue to a new level of consciousness and activate our communities to address this often hidden menace."



(L-R) John Germ, Rotary International Trustee and Governor Gary Moore of District 6910. Standing behind are Governor Ted Propes of District 6900, Dolly Parton, Shauna von Hanstein Executive Director Ferst Foundation, and Governor Kenan Kern of District 6920.

Links to Web pages

District 6920

www.rotarydistrict6920.net

Rotary International

www.rotary.org

Zone 33-34

www.rizones33-34.org

Rotary History

www.rotaryhistory.org

GRSP

www.grsp.org

CART

www.cartfund.org

Rotary Leadership Institute

www.rlittraining.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

Rotary Marks Peace Day With Ceremony

Members of the Rotary Club of Milledgeville gathered in front of the Baldwin County Courthouse recently to mark its annual *Peace Day* observation. Club members and local residents converged to celebrate Rotary International's World Understanding and Peace Day at the site of the monument donated by Rotary and erected in 1996. The Milledgeville Rotary Club helped Baldwin County become the first Rotary Peace Community in the United States on Sept. 5, 1995. The following year, through the efforts of the Rotary club, The Peace Monument, located at the right front of the Baldwin County Courthouse, was dedicated. Each year, in February, Rotary International observes the Annual World Understanding Month. The Milledgeville Rotary Club combined the Peace Day observance with the 104th Rotary anniversary in the community. Those gathered Thursday listened to music provided by the Baldwin High School Band, and members of the BHS ROTC presented the colors. Rotary president Keith Drinkwater welcomed those gathered. Past president Arthur Gunn gave the invocation and welcomed Rotary District Governor Kenan Kern who introduced the guest speaker for the day, Brig. Gen. Stewart Rodeheaver. While serving in the U.S. Army, Rodeheaver was responsible for large portions of Baghdad, Iraq, during his deployment with the 48th Brigade, which is preparing for an upcoming deployment. Thursday, he spoke of the importance of working toward peace and directly addressed building peace.



(L-R) AG Tommy Jefferson, PE John Ferguson, DG Kenan Kern, BG Stuart Rodeheaver, Pres. Keith Drinkwater, and Peace Day Founder Brad Oliver



General Rodeheaver's theme focused heavily on the nature of relationship building and success in helping Iraq heal, but he also took the time to thank U.S. veterans for their service to their country. "To all of you who have served," Rodeheaver said, "and to all of you who have worn the uniform: *Thank you.*"

"Conducting war is a nation-to-nation business application," Rodeheaver stated during his presentation. "Spreading peace is a person-to-person business application."

Rotary Matching Grant Reports

The Rotary Club of Macon partnered with the Rotary Club of Valdosta to bring needed assistance to an International Program, *Clean Water for Belize*. Valdosta Rotarian Al Turner led the Valdosta club on a joint partnership along with Amy Maley from the Rotary Club of Macon to apply for the purchase of water filters for Belize.



Shown in the photo is Valdosta club president, Carl Cates, presenting a check for \$1,000 to Amy Maley of Macon who spoke to the Valdosta Rotarians on the Belize water needs. Valdosta Chair for this project, Al Turner, proudly looks on. The District and Rotary International will follow these contributions with matching funds to the \$1,000 contribution from

each of the Rotary Clubs of Valdosta and Macon in support of their combined efforts to help bring clean and safe drinking water to the people of Belize.

Matching Grant budget update

Rotary International News -- 12 March 2009

Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation have had to make important decisions in light of the current financial environment. At the January Trustees meeting, a decision was made to reduce the 2008-09 Matching Grant budget in order to conserve The Rotary Foundation's World Fund. As of 2 March, the Matching Grant budget has been fully committed, and the Trustees are unable to approve any additional grant applications.

As a result of the budget reductions, no new **Matching Grant** applications will be accepted in the 2008-09 Rotary year. New applications received by the Foundation will be returned to the sponsors without processing. Applications that were received by the Foundation before the commitment of the available budget will remain at the Foundation and can move forward for processing in the 2009-10 Rotary year. Humanitarian Grants staff are in the process of notifying the sponsors of these applications, and their district leadership, of these updates.

At their April meeting, the Trustees will evaluate the current financial situation and approve a budget for 2009-10. Detailed information about Matching Grant funding will be available after the meeting, and the Rotary International Web site will be updated with all pertinent information. Please visit www.rotary.org for further updates. Thank you for your patience and understanding during these difficult financial times.

DG Kenan Kern's club visits

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



All CART Contributions should be mailed directly to:

**District Treasurer,
Bruce Montgomery
102 E. 44th Street,
Savannah, GA 31405**

Rotarians Contribute to The Rotary Foundation



Governor Kenan Kern recognizes Emmitt Daniel with a Paul Harris Fellow award. Emmitt is a member of the Rotary Club of Claxton and becomes the 34th Paul Harris Fellow member of this Rotary club. Mrs. Peggy Daniel proudly looks on at her husband's award recognition by Governor Kenan and The Rotary Foundation.



Augusta West Rotarian Jenna Smalling recently honored her niece, Lily Lucas on the left as a new Paul Harris Fellow. Lily is a rising college senior at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC. Joining Jenna and Lily is Lily's mother, Peggy Badgett on the right side of the photo.

The Rotary Club of Valdosta had six club Rotarians join the Paul Harris Fellow ranks recently.

Pictured (L-R) Donald Davis, Sam Allen, Dennis Marks, Greg Martin, Richard Stalvey, and Jack Hearn



EVERY
ROTARIAN
EVERY
YEAR

(Interim) Monthly TRF Contribution Report

Club Name	Members 07/01/08	APF Goal 2008-2009	Annual Giving	Restricted Giving	Permanent Fund	Total
Ashburn	19	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Augusta	175	\$13,575	\$5,617	\$1,500	\$0.00	\$7,117
Augusta South	25	\$2,800	\$2,231	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,231
Augusta West	51	\$9,000	\$4,850	\$3,000	\$0.00	\$7,850
Blackshear	24	\$2,500	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Brunswick	98	\$9,000	\$1,300	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,300
Byron	27	\$0.00	\$1,400	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,400
Camden Co.	63	\$6,300	\$7,550	\$700	\$0.00	\$8,250
Centerville	24	\$2,400	\$1,525	\$2,000	\$0.00	\$3,525
Claxton	53	\$0.00	\$3,029	\$2,175	\$0.00	\$5,204
Cochran	37	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Douglas	68	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
DT Macon	117	\$13,500	\$7,935	\$0.00	\$10,000	\$17,935
DT Statesboro	84	\$8,100	\$4,190	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,190
Dublin	139	\$14,100	\$17,500	\$10,000	\$0.00	\$27,500
Eastman	53	\$6,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Effingham Co.	36	\$4,200	\$50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50
Effingham Sunrise	37	\$4,200	\$1,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000
Fitzgerald	52	\$0.00	\$75	\$1,000	\$0.00	\$1,075
Glennville	33	\$3,000	\$3,575	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,575
Glynn Co.	31	\$2,900	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hawkinsville	54	\$5,600	\$3,028	\$500	\$0.00	\$3,528
Hazlehurst	17	\$1,800	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hinesville	38	\$3,900	\$5,375	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,375
Jefferson Co.	16	\$1,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jekyll Island	33	\$3,300	\$0.00	\$475	\$0.00	\$475
Jesup	49	\$5,400	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jones Co.	30	\$3,000	\$0.00	\$349	\$0.00	\$349
Kings Bay	17	\$1,800	\$1,978	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,978
Macon	197	\$20,500	\$23,477	\$20	\$0.00	\$23,497
McIntosh Co.	16	\$1,800	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
McRae	32	\$3,000	\$500	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500
Metter	46	\$0.00	\$1,450	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,450
Milledgeville	91	\$0.00	\$4,467	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,467
Millen	18	\$1,700	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Nashville/Berrien	35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ocilla	35	\$0.00	\$1,967	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,967

Perry	56	\$5,600	\$3,700	\$700	\$0.00	\$4,400
Pooler	28	\$2,900	\$2,329	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,329
Reidsville	13	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Richmond Hill	56	\$5,600	\$0.00	\$2,000	\$0.00	\$2,000
Sandersville	57	\$6,785	\$85	\$1,000	\$0.00	\$1,085
Savannah East	56	\$5,900	\$5,405	\$1,590	\$0.00	6,995
Savannah South	83	\$9,500	\$8,185	\$3,045	\$0.00	\$11,230
Savannah Sunrise	30	\$3,100	\$5,420	\$1,133	\$0.00	\$6,533
Savannah West	52	\$5,300	\$2,812	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,812
Savannah	230	\$0.00	\$1,300	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,300
Skidaway Island	71	\$14,000	\$5,700	\$2,375	\$250	\$8,325
Marshes of Glynn	15	\$1,600	\$0.00	\$625	\$0.00	\$625
St. Simons Island	124	\$13,750	\$10,375	\$1,000	\$0.00	\$11,375
Statesboro	163	\$16,200	\$7,760	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,760
Swainsboro	50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sylvania	42	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tennille	18	\$1,800	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$0.00	\$3,500
Tift County	17	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Tifton	113	\$12,000	\$4,300	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,300
Uptown Macon	34	\$3,700	\$1,245	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,245
Valdosta	104	\$10,300	\$11,131	\$1,000	\$0.00	\$12,131
Valdosta North	68	\$0.00	\$1,650	\$1,000	\$0.00	\$2,650
Valdosta Sunrise	22	\$0.00	\$200	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200
Vidalia	51	\$3,750	\$2,275	\$1,100	\$0.00	\$3,375
Warner Robins	100	\$10,900	\$5,261	\$4,000	\$0.00	\$9,261
Waycross	35	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000	\$0.00	\$1,000
Waynesboro	40	\$5,500	\$1,000	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000
Wrightsville	23	\$2,400	\$1,125	\$1,025	\$0.00	\$2,150
Total (Interim)	3,721	\$294,960	\$186,827	\$46,312	\$10,250	\$243,571

The Monthly Contribution Report above is an interim report as of the first week in March 2009. Clubs that have submitted contributions recently may not see contributions posted as of this interim report.

- The Annual Giving column denotes contributions submitted by clubs and club members that are designated for EREY or SHARE. Fifty percent of these funds will return to the District three years following the year of contribution.
- The Restricted Giving column denotes contributions submitted this Rotary year for PolioPlus.
- The Permanent Fund column denotes contributions that will be held for future use.

Clubs that have not submitted contributions as of this time are reminded that the final date for credit for these funds for the 2008-2009 Rotary year is June 30, 2009. Please make every attempt to encourage your members to meet the District's goals of 100% EREY for this year. Please act accordingly to help meet our annual support to The Rotary Foundation.

Have you registered for the District Conference?

Registration for reduced fees for the District Conference will change after April 30, 2009. You can register on-line and make on-line hotel reservations at the District website: www.rotarydistrict6920.net

An exciting group of presenters will attend the 52nd District Conference. You do not want to miss the Friday opening luncheon when Joe Dittmar will share his experience when he was on the 105th floor of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Joe will share with you how delay meant death on 9/11. Joe's statement on ***The Always Remember Initiative*** will help keep the voices, spirits and memories of the 3,000 vanquished victims that day as he tells his story so that perhaps history does not have to repeat itself.



Mary Evelyn Warren was stricken with polio as a seven month old child. However, she remained a true inspiration to her family and community as she developed into a leadership role in her home, community, and vocational endeavors. Miss Warren will share her enthusiastic life without disabilities or restrictions to become successful in all her achievements. You will leave her Friday evening presentation with an uplifted spirit as she shares her passion for Rotary International's promotion to **End Polio Now!**

The Augusta Children's Chorale will perform Saturday night under the leadership of Linda Leslie Bradberry, founder of the Chorale in 1991. This children's choral group has inspired more than 375 young singers to develop aesthetic interests, musical growth, and character development. Annually, the Chorale extends singer training, education, and cultural awareness through travel opportunities to festivals and clinics, nationally and internationally.



Annual Speech Competition

ZONE COMPETITION

Western Zone

March 28, 2009 (revised)

9:00 AM

East Central Technical College

Zone Chairperson: Josh Larkey: josh_larkey@mchsi.com

Coastal Zone

March 21

9:45 AM

Bulloch County Board of Education

Zone Chairperson: Bob Olliff: bolliff@unitedwaysega.org

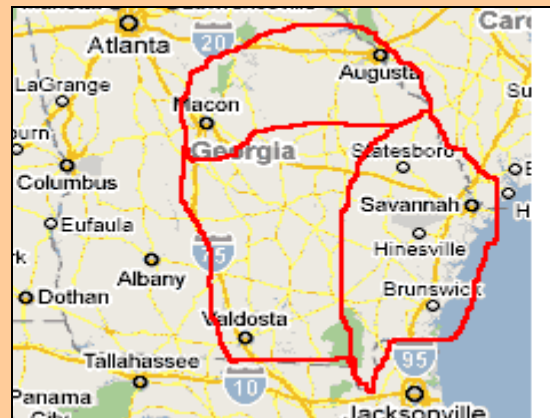
North Zone

April 4, 2008

9:30 AM

Sandersville Technical College

Zone Chairperson: Lloyd Horadan: lhoradan@sandersvilletech.edu



Zone winners from the three District areas will attend the District Conference on Saturday night and present their speech on the 2008-2009 Rotary theme, **Make Dreams Real**.

Zone winners will receive a cash reward of \$1,000 following their visit and presentation to the attendees at the 52nd District Conference.

End Polio Now Exhibit Opens at RI Headquarters

Rotarians and others who visit RI World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA, will find the **End Polio Now** exhibit unveiled recently. This exhibit offers a compelling look at the global effort to eradicate polio.

“This exhibit serves as a reminder to those who live in a polio-free world about the suffering of those who do not,” Rotary Foundation Trustee Vice Chair Ron Burton told a gathering of Foundation Trustees, Major Donors, Rotary representatives to the United Nations, and the senior adviser in the Global Health Program of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Cheryl Scott, as well as the media.

The exhibit features 12 large panels with photographs and text, a continuous video presentation, and displays of items used to promote and carry out National Immunization Days, such as a Rotary volunteer’s cap, Kick Polio Out of Africa soccer ball, and cold box for transporting oral polio vaccine. Also on display are a few of the many awards Rotary has received in recognition of its leadership role in the global effort to end polio.

The last panel — Help Meet the Challenge — highlights Rotary’s US\$100 Million Challenge in response to the Gates Foundation grant for polio eradication. Visitors can use an electronic kiosk in front of the panel to donate to Rotary’s challenge.

Burton called the exhibit, which will run for five years, “a tribute to the will and determination of the world’s 1.2 million Rotarians. . . . This exhibit tells their story — a story of perseverance and hope in the face of financial, political, technical, and geographic obstacles.



Future Vision Plan The Rotary Foundation

- **What changes are being made to the Foundation recognition programs?**
 1. *Paul Harris Fellow medallions will not be provided automatically but will be available for purchase. (Costs not available at this time)*
 2. *The individual donor will be the only person authorized to transfer Foundation recognition points.*
 3. *Foundation recognition points will expire upon the death of the donor or the death of the surviving spouse of a Major Donor (US\$10,000+).*
 4. *Foundation recognition points and recognition amounts will only be transferred for transactions of 500 points or more.*
 5. *New wearable recognition will be issued to Arch C. Klumph Society members.*
- **When will changes to the recognition process take effect?**

The new policies take effect 1 July 2009.
- **When will the new wearable recognition be available?**

The Arch C. Klumph Society pins should be available by late December 2009.
- **Why are these changes being made?**

It has long been the wish of The Rotary Foundation Trustees to simplify the Foundation’s programs and allow more resources to meet donors’ expectations. The Future Vision Plan and these changes are intended to simplify the recognition program and, therefore, make the Foundation a more efficient, timely, and cost-effective steward of the gifts of many Rotarian and non-Rotarian donors.

- **Will club presidents still be able to transfer Foundation recognition points from members' IDs?**
Historically, Rotary club presidents have been allowed to authorize transfers of Foundation recognition points from the IDs of current and former members of their club. Once this change is implemented, only the individual donor may transfer Foundation recognition points from their ID.
- **What does it mean that Foundation recognition points expire upon the death of the donor or the death of the surviving spouse of a Major Donor?**
Because only the donor will be authorized to transfer Foundation recognition points, any remaining points will expire after the donor's death. A surviving spouse of a Major Donor, however, may still authorize transfers on the donor's behalf.
- **What does the new 500 point threshold for transfers mean?**
Though individuals, clubs, and districts may still transfer Foundation recognition points to name new Paul Harris Fellows and present further Paul Harris recognition awards, the minimum transfer from an account will be 500 points. Transfer requests of less than 500 points, or Paul Harris Fellow recognition amounts, would not be processed.
- **What does it mean that Paul Harris Fellow medallions are available for purchase?**
The standard recognition materials will no longer include the current Paul Harris Fellow medallions. This item is optional and will be shipped only by special order. Recognition practices will be assessed on an ongoing basis to ensure the goals of the organization are achieved.



Rotary Leadership Institute – Part 1, Dublin, Georgia

Rotary Leadership Institute

Future Schedules

**April 18, 2009 – Fitzgerald, GA – East Central Technical College,
667 Perry House Road, Fitzgerald, GA 31750, Telephone 229-468-2000
(Parts 1-2-3)**

**April 24, 2009 – Jekyll Island Convention Center, Jekyll Island, GA
(Parts 1-2-3) Held on Friday of District 6900's District Conference
Register at: www.rlitraining.org**

Peach State PETS Draws Huge Crowd



Districts 6900, 6910, and 6920 Presidents-elect, Presidents-nominee, and District Leadership members attended the March 7-8, 2009, Peach State PETS in Peachtree City, Georgia. Among those attending were also RIPE John Kenny and RID Eric Adamson.

Posted below are a few candid photos of the PETS activity:



GRSP Honors RIPE John Kenny and RID Eric Adamson with Will Watt Fellow recognition

