



THE FUTURE OF ROTARY
IS IN YOUR HANDS

ROTARY DISTRICT 6920

Clyde Taylor, District Governor, 2009-2010

November 2009

Governor's Comments

District 6920 has just received approval from The Rotary Foundation for the distribution of \$30,797 in District Simplified Grant funds. These dollars represent the maximum 20% of our DDF allocated to Simplified Grants.

The District competition for these funds was intense and projects submitted greatly exceeded the available dollars. After extensive review of grant requests, 20 clubs were selected to share in the \$30,797. The successful clubs and their projects are listed in the table on page 2 of this newsletter. Congratulations to all and we look forward to hearing about the impact of these grants in the local communities.

District Conference registration is now open on the District web site. Don't wait until the last minute to register. Remember, to qualify for the Governor's Award of Excellence, at least 10 percent of the club membership must be registered and attend. This promises to be a fun time on Jekyll Island with great fellowship and interesting programs. We are fortunate to have outstanding speakers, beginning with Coach Bill Curry for the kickoff lunch on Friday. We will profile some of the speakers in subsequent newsletters.

The Saturday golf outing is open to all and the net proceeds will be donated to METS. The \$65 fee includes cart rental and 18 holes on one of Jekyll's outstanding courses. Get your foursome together now!

Local area Rotarians may invite non-Rotarians to play, provided one person is registered for the conference. The Rotarian is responsible for the \$65 fee for all players.

I have just completed the Governor's official visit to all 65 clubs in District 6920. Sue and I want to express our appreciation for the courtesies and Rotary fellowship we received at each club. Everyone went out of their way to make us feel at home and to ensure that we were aware of the many activities their club was involved in. We have a great district that all Rotarians can be proud of. We look forward to seeing you again as we continue in our Rotary journey.



Happy Thanksgiving

Rotary District 6920

District Simplified Grant Awards

2009-10

CLUB

PROJECT

Augusta South

1. Distribute dictionaries and the Rotary Coloring Book to all students in at least four “at risk” elementary schools.
2. Offer scholarships for the next trip of WWII vets to see the memorials in D.C.

Augusta West

Provide books and dictionaries for all students of one elementary school and one middle school.

Centerville

Working with a local church and youth group, deliver nutritious food and solid education about low-cost food programs available to help prevent hunger and illness.

Claxton

Purchase dictionaries for each third grade student in the Claxton/Evans County area.

Cochran

Restore and update flag pole at Cochran Community Center. Flag pole will fly American and Georgia flags and will fly a Wales National Flag during the days that the club meets to honor its GRSP student who is from Wales.

Downtown Macon

Provide books for almost 400 children through the Ferst Foundation for Children’s Literacy program.

Eastman

As part of the club’s Literacy Initiative, provide dictionaries, sponsor 100 scholarships in the Ferst Foundation, promote Literacy Month with local Interact club, partner with an international Rotary club partner via Project LINK and support their proposed project.

Hazelhurst

Provide funds for the students who participate in the 2009 Christmas events and the 2010 Spring Special Olympic Games for Jeff Davis County, GA.

Hinesville

Through the “Hinesville Rotary Med Assist Project,” purchase or obtain mental health medications for as many as 500 Liberty County/Hinesville residents.

McRae

Provide at least two scholarships for high school graduates in Telfair and Wheeler counties to attend Heart of Georgia Tech College, and provide training materials for participants in a Youth Leadership Academy for high school students and a scholarship for one of those students.

Sandersville

Revitalize 1/2 mile of the fitness walking/nature trail of the Washington County Regional Medical Center, a not-for-profit organization.

Savannah East

1. Provide funds to purchase and install a new stove, oven and sink for the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Savannah.
2. Purchase several sets of school uniforms, provide scholarships to attend summer camp and purchase and install a new washer and dryer in The Greenbrier Children’s Center.

Savannah South

Purchase dictionaries for each third grader in the Savannah Chatham County School District.

Savannah West

Purchase two computers for the Early Childhood Education and Development Center of Wesley Community Centers of Savannah, Inc.

St. Simons Island

Purchase some equipment, furniture and supply needs for The Marine Science Lab at Saint Simons Elementary.

Valdosta Sunrise, Valdosta & Valdosta North

Through the Ferst Foundation, provide an age-appropriate book a month to preschool children throughout Valdosta and Lowndes County.

Warner Robins

1. Purchase and distribute 2,064 dictionaries to all third grade students in the Houston County Public School System.
2. Partnering with the Houston County Community Action Team, a local volunteer group which operates under the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy, purchase books from Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library and distribute them to preschool children in Houston County.

Win a Vacation Trip

Four exciting and interesting trips will be awarded to four lucky winners at the District Conference at Jekyll Island, April 23-25, 2010. Tickets will be available for sale up to the time of the drawing on Sunday morning, April 25, 2010. If additional tickets are needed, please contact the Raffle Chair or your Assistant Governor. Remember, points will be awarded in the Club of the Year Competition for sale of 100% of the initial allotment.

\$25 per ticket or 5 tickets for \$100

The net proceeds from ticket sales will be made available to all District 6920 clubs as a match to individual Rotarian contributions to The Rotary Foundation or the GRSP Endowment.

RAFFLE TICKETS MAKE GREAT GIFTS

RAFFLE TICKET SALES UPDATE

Reported Sales Reflect Numbers Submitted Through Nov. 18, 2009

| <u>Club</u> | <u>Ticket Stubs Received/ Payment Received</u> | <u>Club</u> | <u>Ticket Stubs Received/ Payment Received</u> |
|---------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| Ashburn | 7 - \$150 | Metter | 0 |
| Augusta | 2 - \$50 | Milledgeville | 1 - \$125 |
| Augusta South | 12 - \$175 | Millen | 0 - \$100 |
| Augusta West | 7 - \$150 | Nashville/Berrien County | 0 |
| Blackshear | 19 - \$400 | Ocilla | 0 |
| Brunswick | 1 - \$25 | Perry | 5 - \$100 |
| Byron | 0 | Pooler | 0 |
| Camden County | 5 - \$100 | Reidsville | 0 |
| Centerville | 10 - \$200 | Richmond Hill | 5 - \$100 |
| Claxton | 45 - \$925 | Sandersville | 45 - \$1,050 |
| Cochran | 5 - \$100 | Savannah | 0 |
| Douglas | 0 | Savannah East | 6 - \$250 |
| Downtown Macon | 5 - \$100 | Savannah South | 12 - \$350 |
| Downtown Statesboro | 10 - \$200 | Savannah Sunrise | 5 - \$100 |
| Dublin | 12 - \$50 | Savannah West | 0 - \$100 |
| Eastman | 1 - \$2,000 | Skidaway Island | 1 - \$25 |
| Effingham County | 1 - \$25 | St. Simons Island | 104 - \$2,025 |
| Effingham Sunrise | 0 | Statesboro | 0 |
| Fitzgerald | 1 - \$25 | Swainsboro | 0 - \$875 |
| Glennville | 42 - \$950 | Sylvania | 15 - \$325 |
| Glynn County | 1 - \$25 | Tennille | 1 - \$25 |
| Hawkinsville | 0 | Tift County | 0 - \$100 |
| Hazlehurst | 5 - \$225 | Tifton | 0 |
| Hinesville | 1 - \$25 | Uptown Macon | 0 |
| Jefferson County | 10 - \$250 | Valdosta | 6 - \$125 |
| Jekyll Island | 0 - \$100 | Valdosta North | 1 - \$25 |
| Jesup | 27 - \$575 | Valdosta Sunrise | 0 - \$200 |
| Jones County | 11 - \$325 | Vidalia | 2 - \$825 |
| Kings Bay | 14 - \$325 | Warner Robins | 37 - \$975 |
| Marshes of Glynn | 10 - \$200 | Waycross | 0 |
| Macon | 5 - \$100 | Waynesboro | 25 - \$500 |
| McIntosh County | 0 | Wrightsville | 46 - \$1,100 |
| McRae | 0 - \$100 | TOTAL | 553/\$16,400 |

Bloodmobile Gets New Life Through METS

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Held in Augusta

Earlier this month, one of Sheppard Community Blood Center's bloodmobiles was given a new home with its continued mission to be to change lives.

On Nov. 17, the bloodmobile was retired from service because of its lack of modern technology needed to collect blood optimally. However, thanks to the Rotary Club of Augusta South and METS, the old bus will continue to help others. During the ceremony, the keys were handed over to David Puckett, founder of PIPO Missions, Inc./Limbs and Braces to Mexico, a non-profit organization that provides free prosthetic limbs for indigent, handicapped people in Mexico.

For the past 10 years, David has been traveling to Southeastern Mexico to provide free prosthetic limbs for indigent, handicapped people. He has helped 600 people with their prosthetic needs and provided 1,400 families with medical care, food and clothing. David will convert the bus into a mobile prosthetics and orthotics lab. Before now, he hand carried his equipment to do his life-changing work.

"My clinic has been my suitcase," said David. "Instead of having to fly 2,000 miles back to the lab to fix a problem, I'll be able to do most everything on site. We will be able to help so many more people."

The Augusta South Rotary Club was thrilled to partner with Sheppard to aid PIPO Missions, Inc.

"We are very excited about this opportunity to help David continue and improve his work," said Sheppard CEO and President Kevin Belanger, an Augusta South Rotary Club member.

"This is a great impact and unique," said METS Chair and PDG Dick Hyer. "It is something we have not been able to do before."

*See More Photos
of the
Ribbon Cutting
on Page 5*



This older model bloodmobile was donated to METS by Sheppard Community Blood Center in Augusta. METS Executive Director Linda Herdina then turned the keys over to David Puckett, PIPO Missions, Inc., founder. Following the donation of this bloodmobile, the center held a ribbon cutting and dedication for a new bloodmobile.

Shepard Donates Retiring Bloodmobile to METS



METS Executive Director Linda Herdina hands over the keys of the bloodmobile to David Puckett, founder of PIPO Missions, Inc. Below, David and Linda get settled in the bloodmobile.



Augusta South Rotary Club Member Pam Lightsey, PIPO Missions Inc. Founder David Puckett, Shepard CEO and Augusta South Rotary Club Member Kevin Belanger and METS Executive Director and Savannah East Rotary Club Member Linda Herdina attended the ribbon cutting.



PIPO Missions, Inc.

Positive Image Prosthetics and Orthotics, Inc., expanded medical care outside of the U.S. in November 2000. They established a non-profit charitable arm - PIPO Missions, Inc./Limbs and Braces to Mexico to partner with many hospitals and clinics in Merida, Yucatan and Chiapas, Mexico, in order to provide indigent, handicapped patients free artificial limb and orthopedic brace care. The group's first formal trip to Mexico was in November 2000 and as of September, they have had 52 "trip clinics" and provided prosthetic and orthotic treatment to more than 580 people. In addition, they have provided clothing, corrective orthopedic surgery, medical and general health supplies, bibles, food, toys and other materials to more than 1,350 people, assisting more than 600 families with their life needs.

PIPO collects pre-owned, donated limbs and braces in their Savannah, GA, and Beaufort, SC, offices and consistently has a storage unit full of these braces and limbs ready for refurbishment, repair and/or disassembly for parts reuse. PIPO then uses some of these components and proceeds to "customize" and fabricate new limbs and braces for in-need patients living in the surrounding communities in Southeast Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and Chiapas region. They travel to remote regions to provide help for the "poorest of the poor."



DG Clyde Taylor and his wife Sue were on hand for the ribbon cutting ceremony.

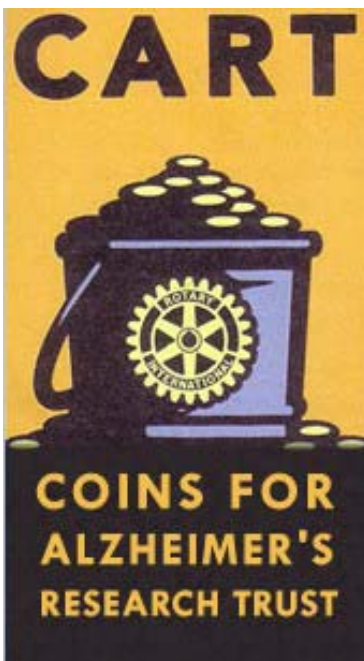


Dublin Rotarians Celebrate Addition of Paul Harris, Will Watt Fellows

The Dublin Rotary Club dedicated the Nov. 20 meeting to the celebration of the Rotary Foundation by recognizing 15 new Paul Harris Fellows. Of that number, eight were new Paul Harris Fellows and seven were multiple Paul Harris Fellows. Committee Chairperson Jeff Davis discussed the vital role of the Rotary Foundation with emphasis upon the eradication of polio and providing safe drinking water throughout the world.

As part of the program, Dublin Rotarian and GRSP District Director Gerald Smith recognized 14 new Will Watt Fellows and one Hue Thomas Fellow. Gerald highlighted the enduring, positive effect of the Georgia Rotary Student Program, both for the students and Rotarians.

The Dublin Rotary Club also remembered the late Dublin Rotarian Dr. Fred Coleman who died within the past year. "Dr. Fred" was a Rotarian and member of the Dublin club for 50 years. Family of Rotary Chairperson Willie Paulk, along with Rotarians Karen Core and Roger Folsom, shared fond memories of Dr. Fred as the club shared this time with members of his family who were in attendance. It was a good day for The Dublin Rotary Club as we are reminded that "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands!"



Keys to CART Success

- * Call for the buckets to either be passed around or donations dropped in immediately following the pledge and invocation.
- * Use your bulletin to announce prior week's collection and year-to-date totals. If not weekly, then monthly.
- * Set goals.
- * Encourage matching and/or challenging gifts.
- * Use CART for memorials.
- * CART is a 501(c)(3) organization (federal ID #31-1466051). Donations are tax deductible.



The District Governor and Assistant Governor visited the Blackshear Rotary Club. Pictured are Blackshear Rotary Club Secretary-Treasurer Ellis Lovett, Assistant Governor Collie Williams, District Governor Clyde Taylor, Blackshear Rotary Club Vice President Brent Waters, Blackshear Rotary Club President Tom Bragg and Blackshear Rotary Club President-Elect Cheryl Williams.

Blackshear Rotary Hosts District Officers

The Blackshear Rotary Club was honored to host Rotary District Governor Clyde Taylor III and Rotary Assistant District Governor Collie Williams as special guests recently. Both men are native Georgians and long time members of Rotary clubs in our district, which has some 65 clubs. With his attendance at the Blackshear Club, Mr. Taylor has now visited all 65 clubs. Taylor grew up in the Brunswick area and is a graduate of Georgia Tech with a degree in engineering. He now lives on St. Simons Island with his wife of 50 years.

Taylor spoke about four main avenues or objectives of Rotary and how they are the underpinning for Rotary clubs all over the world. The first objective is to encourage and foster service through the opportunity for acquaintance, networking and fellowship. He stressed the importance of recruiting and retaining members and pointed out that among the reasons for members leaving are weak club leadership, uninteresting weekly programs and a lack of local service activities. He mentioned that overall membership in the USA and Canada has declined over the past 10 years from a high of 445,000 members. Taylor challenged each of the 65 clubs to recruit at least two new members this coming year.

The second objective represents the opportunity that each Rotarian has to represent dignity and utility of one's vocation as an opportunity to serve society. Rotarians promote and foster high ethical standards in business and professions and promote the recognition of worthiness of all useful occupations.

The third objective relates to the activities that Rotarians undertake to improve the qualities of lives in their communities. Particular emphasis is given to helping children, needy families, the aged, the handicapped and those most in need of assistance. Rotarians strive to promote the ideal of service in their personal, business and community lives. A top priority for Georgia clubs is in the area of literacy. Helping people learn literacy skills and become self-sufficient is one of the most critical tools for fighting poverty.

In the fourth area, Rotarians strive for the advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service. International Service Projects are designed to meet the humanitarian needs of people in many lands, with particular emphasis on the most underprivileged children and families in developing countries. A top priority is and has been to eradicate polio. To that end, over \$550 million combined from the Bill Gates Foundation and Rotary International has been earmarked for this project.

District Governor Taylor thanked members for participating in several key programs, including the Georgia Rotary Student Program that offers scholarships to international students for one year of study in Georgia colleges and universities and the Coins for Alzheimer's Research Trust fund that accomplishes its goals by asking Rotarians to voluntarily empty their pockets of change or whatever amount they wish to donate when they attend weekly meetings. In closing, Taylor reminded the members that the overall success and the future of Rotary is in their hands.



Now That's Service!

Five members of The Rotary Club of Tifton were honored recently for their long service to Rotary. Each of these men has been a member of the Tifton club for 50 or more years; each is a Paul Harris Fellow and each has held various leadership roles over the years. Pictured are Gerald Herring, 1950-2009, past treasurer; Charles Ken, 1955-2009, most senior past president; William I. Bowen, 1959-2009, past president, Paul Harris Fellow+1, Will Watt Fellow; Talmadge Webb, past president and District Governor's Representative for three years. Paul Gaines, 1949-2009, not pictured, has been a member and the club's pianist for 60 years. These are just a few of the ways these distinguished Rotarians have served the goals of Rotary for a total of 274 years!



Above, Ricardo Bravo and Major Indira Donegan, both members of the Martinez-Evans Rotary Club, attended the Vets to Washington luncheon. At right, Chuck and Penny Ballas enjoy the luncheon. The luncheon was held in Augusta on Nov. 5 in honor of those who have participated in the Vets to Washington trips over the past 10 years. The Vets to Washington Project, founded in Augusta, provides trips for World War II veterans and their spouses to view the memorials in Washington, D.C. More than 300 people have traveled to our nation's capitol with the Vets to Washington Project since its inception in 2004.

Vets to Washington Project



Looking Ahead

April 23-25, 2010 - District Conference, Jekyll Island, GA

March 13-14, 2010 - PeachState PETS, Atlanta

June 20-23, 2010 - Rotary International Convention, Montreal, Canada

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www.rotarydistrict6920.net