



# DISTRICT 6920

## Georgia, USA



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*Happy New Year!*

## Training on Future Vision Begins for 6920

Future Vision is the Rotary Foundation's name for our new grant-making model that has been implemented in 20% of Rotary's districts and will be in effect in District 6920 and worldwide on July 1, 2013. On Dec. 9, experts from 6900, under Future Vision now, conducted a workshop for us in Dublin so that we could begin as a district to prepare for changes that will affect the structure and process for grants within our district, as well as for international grants. The terminology changes, the approval process changes and clearly the district's responsibilities change.

The good news is that more of your contributions to the Foundation's Annual Fund will be available for projects inside our district. Further, we will be able to continue what we know as District Simplified Grants, Group Study Exchange and Ambassadorial Scholarships if we elect to use our District Designated Funds to do so.

The more significant changes will be with international grants – called Global Grants under Future Vision. In addition to the expertise that our district has

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# Future Vision to Change How District Handles Some Grants

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traditionally provided to support clubs doing international grants, the district will begin to qualify such clubs and execute a “memorandum of understanding” with each club that wants to participate in a Global Grant. The Founda-



*District Rotarians met earlier this month to learn more about Future Vision.*

tion wants to see grants initiated more by in-country Rotarians to ensure that the grant truly makes sense “on the ground” and its benefits are actually sustained for 5-7 years. We will no longer simply fund a well or a piece of equipment; we will be funding a more comprehensive solution to a problem.

At our Dublin Foundation Seminar in August, we Skyped with our matching grant partner in Bolivia, who is implementing an on-going water well maintenance project, and this type of project is a prime example of the intent of Future Vision. A key aspect of Future Vision is to invest in sustainable projects originated by in-country Rotarians, who focus on addressing the “root cause” of an issue, to assure an impact of the grant that lasts more than just a year or two.

For more information about Future Vision, contact our D6920 Matching Grants Chair, John Neely, at [john.neely@colliers.com](mailto:john.neely@colliers.com), or via phone at (912) 233-7111, ext. 103. You can also learn more about Future Vision by going to the blue “Future Vision” tab listed under the heading of “Global Service” on the district website at [www.Rotary6920.org](http://www.Rotary6920.org).



## Greetings from Governor Gordon

As we are now at the midpoint of our Rotary year and are welcoming in the new calendar year of 2012, this is an appropriate moment for all of us in 6920 to give thanks for all that we receive from being Rotarians and to celebrate how we are making the world a better place at home and around the world. I can attest to the fact that clubs throughout 6920 are providing important service to their communities and I promise you that Rotary is also making a big difference throughout the world with our 34,000 clubs, 70% of which are outside of the United States.

To every Rotary Club and Rotarian in 6920, I offer best wishes for continued success in the second half of our Rotary year and thank you because all that you are doing benefits your community, strengthens 6920 and personally inspires me as I continue as your District Governor.

# Group Study Exchange 6920 to Turkey 2440

*The following seven individuals are going through training; four will be selected to be on the team and the remaining three will serve as alternates. Patrick Roche, not pictured, will serve as team leader.*



*Matthew Parrish*



*James Scott Quarles*



*Joy Thomas*



*Latisha Thomas*



*Johnna Bussell*



*Shabnam Gideon*



*Gabriell Washington*

**Patrick Roche**, a member of the Rotary Club of Macon, will prepare and lead our team. Patrick is a medical doctor who teaches and practices at the Mercer University School of Medicine. He is a founding physician of the Macon Volunteer Clinic where he volunteers.

Dr. Roche spent six months of a sabbatical leave living and working at the Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Deschepelles, Haiti. During that time he identified and helped the Macon Rotary Club complete an international project at an orphans' home there. He has led young men and women on medical missions, and is excited to lead our GSE team.

**Matthew Parrish** is 28 and a Savannah native who is Director of Institutional Advancement for the Savannah Christian Prep School. He graduated from the University of Georgia in 2007.

**James Scott Quarles** is an assistant basketball coach at Augusta State University, where he previously earned his degree on an athletic scholarship. He is our youngest team member at 25 and lives in Augusta.

**Joy Thomas** is working on her doctorate in Public Health at Georgia Southern. Meanwhile, she lives in Macon and serves as the project director of a federal grant to prevent diabetes among the African American community. She hopes to one day teach global health at the college or graduate level.

**Latisha Thomas** works as the Assistant Revenue Director for the City of Savannah. Originally from Brunswick, she attended Savannah State and then Georgia State University, and hopes to compare Savannah to other city governments in Turkey.

**Johnna Bussell** works for Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation as an airframe stress analyst. She is a graduate of Mercer University's Engineering School. She grew up in Garfield, near Swainsboro and now resides in Savannah.

**Shabnam Gideon** works as the baker for the Sentient Bean coffee shop, and is involved in the Savannah Local Food Collaborative. She hopes to learn from traveling to Turkey how issues surrounding food and food access affect the people in that country. She lives in Savannah.

**Gabriell Washington** is from Savannah, went to Georgia Tech and then became an employee at Gulfstream. She has her MBA from Mercer and works as a manufacturing technical specialist for the aerospace company in Savannah.



## *Rotary Club of McIntosh*



*The Rotary Club of McIntosh met at the Parrish house to help with the Empty Stocking Fund Group. Rotarians purchased gifts and helped bag the gifts for needy families..*

## *Rotary Club of Kings Bay*



*The Bold Vision Young Men of Camden County received a monetary donation at their Christmas Campfire Celebration on behalf of the Rotary Club of Kings Bay.*



## *Valdosta RotaCadets*

*Valdosta's RotaCadets enjoyed lunch with Valdosta North Rotarians recently at Valdosta Country Club. This Valdosta North project for elementary kids proved to be a great addition to the weekly program. The youngsters are doing great Rotary work already!*

## *Imagination Library*



*The Valdosta area Rotary Clubs work together to provide books from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to children under age five in Lowndes County. Recently, Georgia Power South Region Vice President Terri Lupo and External Affairs Manager Kevin McCraney presented a \$1,000 check from the Georgia Power Foundation to the Valdosta Rotary Foundation in support of the Imagination Library project to Past President Dennis Marks (L), coordinator of the Imagination Library project in Lowndes County, and Bill Booth (R), Rotary District Director. All are members of the Valdosta Rotary Club.*

## *Rotary Club of Kings Bay*



*Kings Bay Rotarians enjoyed food and fellowship during their Christmas party earlier this month.*

## **METS Update**

Linda Herdina recently announced that the METS shipment destined for the Mother of Mercy Hospital in Tacloban City was loaded into the Missionary Expeditors vessel and left the port of Savannah on Nov. 20. The estimated arrival date in Manila is Jan. 10, 2012. She offered a special thanks to the Rotary Club of Springfield, NJ, for paying for the shipping costs of this container.

## **CART Update**

District 6920 CART Chair Kathy Tuckey recently emailed district leaders to update them on the latest CART news. She noted that the three CART grant reviewers are diligently reviewing the 80 Letters of Intent that have been received by the CART Grant Committee. Eighty scientists/researchers with unique talents have grant ideas and studies that they believe will one day lead to a treatment for Alzheimer's disease.

Last year 64 Letters of Intent were submitted. The grant reviewers will narrow the 80 to the 15 that they believe hold the most promise. Those 15 will be notified and asked to submit full grant proposals.

The final number of grants to be funded will either be two or three, depending on the funds that are generated through the CART-supporting Rotary districts.

If your club treasurer has not yet submitted your CART contributions, please have him or her do so immediately. Club contributions should be mailed to Bruce Montgomery, District Treasurer, at 102 E. 44th Street, Savannah, GA 31045.

"Thank you for all you do for Rotary," said Kathy. "Happy New Year!"





## *Would You Receive a Passing Grade?*

by RLI District Chair, Ted Thompson

Whether you have been in Rotary one month or 35 years, are you satisfied with your knowledge of Rotary? Several years ago, I asked the wife of a Rotary member in our club to come and speak to our club about her practice as a pediatrician and she accepted. She had just completed her residency in Atlanta and I thought this would give her an opportunity to get her name out locally.

She asked her husband, a fellow club member, "So, what is Rotary about?" "How many members are in Rotary?" "Is Rotary only in the U.S. or is it in other countries too?" "What does Rotary do?" "Are you like the Lions Club?" Simple things that we take for granted. To my surprise, her husband turned to me and said, "Can you answer her questions?" It put me on the spot to a certain degree because I had been in Rotary only a few months.

Put yourself in my position. If someone asked you, "What is Rotary?" could you answer them to their satisfaction? We are all members of Rotary but can you explain what Rotary is to someone who knows nothing about Rotary? Shouldn't this be something that is simple to address?

We've all heard about the Four Avenues of Service, right? But, there are not just four, there are now five. The fifth one being "New Generations Service." Surprised?

Future Visions? What is it? It is very important that we understand it because it will affect every district and club in the future and it is coming very soon.

You can find the answers to any of these questions at the upcoming Rotary Leadership Institute Session, Saturday, March 3, 2012, at the Savannah Technical College - Crossroads Campus in Savannah. The cost of the all-day session is \$95 which covers your meals and classroom material. Parts 1, 2 and 3 will be offered. The curriculum is brand new as of January 1, 2012. It is a discussion format guided by a discussion leader. The classes are small, with about 15-20 people in each. We do not lecture. The discussion is among fellow Rotarians from other clubs just like you. This is not just leadership training; it is also about Rotary ideas and experiences.

Please go to [www.rlitraining.org](http://www.rlitraining.org), then RLI Sunshine Division/Registration to register. We look forward to an exciting day in Savannah and hope to see you there!

I welcome requests to speak to your club about RLI. Please call me at 478-232-0969 or email me at [TThomo34@aol.com](mailto:TThomo34@aol.com).

## *Valdosta Sunrise Rotary Club*



*The Valdosta Sunrise Rotary Club members with their donation of gifts to children in need at the Children's Advocacy Center.*

## *Getting to Know ....*

### *Jim Bruce*



*Q: Why are you a Rotarian?*

*A: I wanted to be part of an organization that was fun and that did something worthwhile for deserving people who need help with their lives.*

*Q: How long have you been a Rotarian?*

*A: I joined in 2000. For many years in my career I was traveling too much to be part of any regular club activity. One of the first things that I did after retirement was join Rotary.*

*Q: What skills/experience do you bring to District 6920?*

*A: My career was computer design and managing computer designers. From that background I learned the Internet one step at a time as it was evolving. My experience with web site development and with the use of software programs has been my biggest contribution to Rotary at the club and district levels.*

*Q: What is your current role in/for District 6920?*

*A: Webmaster of the district website which includes the registration for District Conference, RYLA and GRSP Conclave.*

*Q: Where does your passion from Rotary come from?*

*A: I believe Rotary is the best service organization that exists for networking people around the world to work together to overcome their neighborhood problems. Rotary is also a friendly organization with "fun to work with" members.*

*Q: What is your most vivid Rotary experience?*

*A: Seeing the local club members enjoy our club's contributions to our community through scholarships, financial gifts, our Taps at Twilight Veterans Day celebration and our working with kids in fundraising events.*

*Q: What is your greatest wish for Rotary?*

*A: That Rotary will continue to grow with more clubs in Third World countries that will expose those peoples to the way Rotary can make a difference to them and their community through their membership participation.*

## *Looking Ahead*

*February is World Understanding Month. This is a time to highlight Rotary's goal of world understanding and peace.*

## *Hazlehurst Makes Donation*



*Hazlehurst Rotary Club President Dwayne Creamer, left, presents a check to Jeff Davis High Yellow Jackets tennis coach Jacob Johnston. The donation will help enhance the tennis program at the high school. The funds were recently raised from a doubles tennis tournament in which 22 teams from Jeff Davis and surrounding counties competed. Plans are underway to have another fundraiser tennis tournament in late March or early April 2012.*



## *Byron Rotarians Give to Local Toys for Tots*

*Byron Rotary Club Rotarians drew names for Christmas this year. Each member was given a toy he/she would have liked as a child. Once the fun of opening was over, the gifts were donated to Peach County Toys for Tots.*



## *Hazlehurst Rotary Club Awarded Grant*

*The Hazlehurst Rotary Club was recently awarded a grant from the Walmart Foundation's Local Community Contribution Program through the local Walmart store in Hazlehurst. Rotary Club President Dwayne Creamer is shown receiving the grant check from local Walmart Store #1061 manager Danna Dunn, also a member of Hazlehurst Rotary Club. The Foundation awards grant funds to organizations that create opportunities so people can "live better." The Rotarians plan to use these funds to help cover expenses related to the local Special Olympics Games for special needs children and to help purchase smoke detectors for local low-income and elderly residents that will be installed in homes with help from Hazlehurst Fire Department professionals.*



***Visit our website at [www.Rotary6920.org](http://www.Rotary6920.org) or find us on Facebook at Rotary6920 for the latest news and information***