



Rotary

# Newsletter

GARY SMITH, DISTRICT GOVERNOR

## Peace on Earth & Goodwill to Mankind

These are words that will be expressed over and over during the next weeks but they are acts of hope and certainty to which Rotarians profess throughout the year.

We have moved through the American tradition of Thanksgiving and many have celebrated the days with family and friends.

May I just say how thankful I am for the grace and mercies shown to me and for an organization known as Rotary International. I am equally thankful for the many members in the 64 clubs in our district who believe and foster a guiding principle of Rotary - "The advancement of international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service." Such a fundamental belief of Rotary - Peace on Earth. Our Rotarians perform many acts of goodwill not only for people that they know, but also for people that they will never meet. How do they do that? By:

- Providing meals to the hungry
- Providing scholarships to students
- Providing GED testing for adults trying to make their lives better
- Providing coats to those without them
- Providing and reading books to children
- Providing dictionaries to children
- Tutoring and mentoring children
- Tutoring adults
- Teaching adults to read
- Providing clean water
- Helping to provide housing
- Providing safe playgrounds
- Providing prosthetics
- Supporting other charities
- Providing educational opportunities to students from foreign countries
- Promoting peace through understanding
- Providing eyesight to the blind
- Aiding law enforcement and first responders
- Providing leadership training for youth
- Recognizing educators, students and outstanding citizens
- Providing health and sanitation
- Eradicating Polio from the face of the earth
- Selfless actions all year long,
- Service above self.
- Doing good in the world.



Thank you for what you do in your communities and your world, and thank you for being Rotary!

Gary and Sue

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### Meet Your 2013 - 2014 District Leadership Team

Go to: [http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net/Organization/2013-14%20District\\_Team.php](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net/Organization/2013-14%20District_Team.php)

### Meet Your 2013 - 2014 District Committee Chairs

Go to: <http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net/Organization/2013-14%20District%20Chairs.php>

# Here Comes 2014-2015

Thank you Rotary Clubs of District 6920. A record breaking 57 of you have made plans to ensure continuity of club leadership and have named your President Elect. A very successful President Elect session was recently held during the District Assembly. District Governor Elect Ted Thompson (Rotary Club of Sandersville) is putting his leadership team together AND preparing for his training AND planning the training for his leadership team AND working with his District Trainer Frank Seaton (Rotary Club of Dublin) as they prepare for PETS March 1-2, 2014 AND preparing his calendar for 2014-2015. Hopes are that clubs are making the same preparations.

Note to President Elects – go to [www.peachstatepets.org](http://www.peachstatepets.org) now and register for PETS and make your room reservations. Also, prepare yourselves for your assignments that will begin to arrive in the next few weeks.

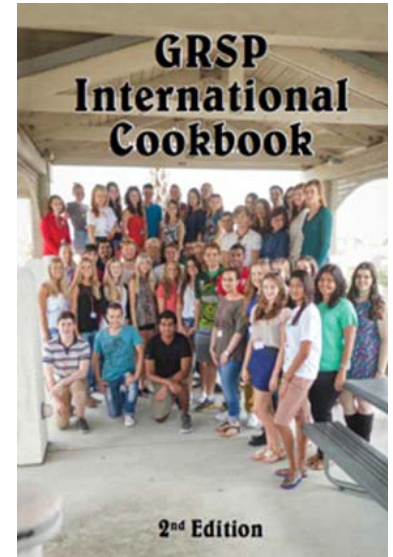
## GRSP Cookbook on Sale Now for \$20

YUM!!! Just in time for the holidays. Serve dishes with international flair this holiday season or wrap some up for presents. Consider sending one to a Rotary friend in another state or country. Contributors are the 2013-14 GRSP class with a sprinkling from host families, GRSP Alumni, GRSP associates and DG spouses.

This was a really fun project for the GRSP students and we thank them for providing tastes from around the world. All proceeds from sales will go to the GRSP Fund. The 1st edition cookbook completely sold out and the same success is expected for this edition. A word to the wise ... purchase early!

To purchase the cookbook, contact your GRSP trustee, club president, district governor or Mrs. Sue Smith at 229-425-2284.

Only 750 printed copies of this cookbook have been printed, so act fast! These cookbooks are available now!



## Dublin Rotarians Celebrate 75 Years



*More than 200 Rotarians and guests attended the 75th anniversary celebration of the Dublin Rotary Club. Among the guests were 30 of the club's past presidents, pictured above.*



# *RI selects PDG Jeanette Caneega for Service Above Self Award*

*by Bob Griggers, DG 2012-2013*

It was my pleasure to be given the opportunity to nominate someone from our District for Rotary International's top award, the Service Above Self Award. It is an honor to be recommended, but truly an honor to be selected. No more than 150 individuals are recognized each year from our 1.2 million Rotarians worldwide. The nominee must have demonstrated exemplary humanitarian



service, with an emphasis on personal volunteer efforts and active involvement in helping others through Rotary. Although Past District Governor Jeanette Caneega has been recognized as a Major Donor for her contributions to the Rotary Foundation, neither this nor her elected and appointed assignments were solely considered for this award.

Jeanette retired in 2002 after 35 years as a high school math teacher, system-wide curriculum director and school principal. She became a Rotarian in 1988 and served as District 6920's first female club president. In 1999-2000 she served as our District's first female District Governor. Jeanette has not only been active in activities and programs of District 6920, but she has been involved in multi-district activities as well. In 2005-07 she served as chair for Peach State PETS.

Jeanette is also very active in her community, having served on their County Development Authority and Red Cross Board. In 2002, her community recognized her as "Woman of the Year." She presently serves as chair for the Board of Equalization and is on the Board of Directors for the Community Bank of Johnson County. She has chaired the Relay for Life and been its keynote speaker twice. She is a lady of faith and an active member of Arline Chapel United Methodist Church where she serves as a Sunday school teacher and chair of the administrative board.

We are honored to have Jeanette as a member of District 6920. We thank her for all of the many things she does for Rotary and those not only in her community, but throughout the world. Congratulations again Jeanette. You make us proud!

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## **PDG Kern Recognized for Meritorious Service**

*by Bob Griggers, DG 2012-2013*

As District Governor, I had the opportunity to recommend one Rotarian from our District for The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service. This is Rotary's way of recognizing individual Rotarians who have demonstrated outstanding active service to the Rotary Foundation.

Some of the examples of eligible service are service on Foundation committees at the club, district, zone or international level. Support of Ambassadorial Scholars, Rotary Peace Fellows, Group Study Exchange teams or vocational training teams are other areas of service. Although Past District Governor Kenan Kern is a Level Two Major Donor, financial contributions to the Foundation, however notable, are not considered for this award.

Kenan currently serves as the Rotary Regional Foundation Coordinator for Zone 34. His area covers 895 clubs in Georgia, Florida and the Caribbean Islands. We are proud to have one of our own, for the first time, serve as the RRFC. Congratulations again Kenan. You are doing a great job and we appreciate you!



**Gary Smith, District Governor**

# Points for Polio Plus Dollars

At the District Assembly that was held on November 16 in Dublin, DG Gary Smith announced a challenge to raise funds for our End Polio Now Campaign. For any new monetary contributions made to the Rotary Foundation Polio Plus Fund between \$100.00 and \$500.00 an equal amount of Recognition Points will be credited to the contributor. Contributions may be made through the club or on-line through RI Direct.

To receive the points credit simply validate with Paula Goodnow that the Polio contribution has been made so that she can initiate the transfer.



## GIVING THANKS ON GIVING TUESDAY

On this day of giving, charities, families, businesses and individuals come together to transform the way people think about, talk about and participate in the giving season. Thank you so much for your continued support of The Rotary Foundation. Above you see the Bitone Centre for Disadvantaged Children in Uganda that has benefited from a grant by the Rotary Club of Kampala-East (Uganda) and Traverse Bay Sunrise Rotary Club (Michigan, USA). Thank you for your support to make projects like this possible and for all you do to improve lives in your community and abroad.

Many thanks,

*Elizabeth Lygar*  
Annual Giving Officer



TAKE ACTION: [www.rotary.org/give](http://www.rotary.org/give)

## Speech Contest Announced

District Speech Contest Chair Jan Horadan has announced the new guidelines and calendar for the 2014 Speech Contest and the addition of a fourth scholarship. Please go to the Rotary District 6920 website to read about the changes for this year. Click the link located in the right hand column, half way down the page.

## Recognitions

We want to recognize the following for their commitment to the Foundation

### Paul Harris Fellows

#### *St. Simons Rotary*

Charles Cansler - PHF+2

Brooke Pridmore - PHF+2

Hamsa Thota - PHF+1

Clint Winne - PHF+1

Ted Wright - PHF+1

Ben Lee - PHF+1

Meghan Lee Hurley - PHF (Daughter of Ben Lee)

Mary Beth Wester – PHF

#### *Sandersville*

Ron May PHF+5

#### *Savannah West*

Osman Bohlat

#### *Fitzgerald*

Gary Smith PHF+6

Caroline Smith (granddaughter of Gary Smith)

### Paul Harris Society

#### *Fitzgerald*

Gary & Sue Smith

### Benefactor

#### *Perry*

Jacob Poole

### Bequest Society

#### *Downtown Macon*

Gary & Ann Lear

### Major Donor

#### *Warner Robins*

Robert Sharpe

#### *Savannah West*

Wick Searcy



# DG Nominations Due by January 11, 2014

*by Bob Griggers, DG 2012-2013*

Applications for the nominee to serve as District 6920 Governor for the Rotary Year 2016-2017 are currently being accepted. Candidates must have served a full term as a club president and be a current member in good standing, in District 6920. They must have a written endorsement from their club and have been a Rotarian for at least seven years by the date they take office (July 1, 2016).

As the Nominating Committee Chairman and a Past District Governor, I would earnestly encourage you not only to consider this opportunity, but to apply today!

This is a wonderful opportunity to really learn what Rotary is and what Rotarians are involved in and accomplishing. You will make many new friends from local to international who will become like your personal family. It is truly a lifetime experience!

Applications should be submitted on the required nomination form and delivered to IPDG Bob Griggers at bobgrig@aol.com or Post Office Box 546, Marshallville, GA 31057, by January 11, 2014. The Nominating Committee will meet on January 25, 2014 to interview applicants.

Thank you for recommending a nominee or considering this opportunity to serve Rotary and make our world a better place. If you have any questions, please contact me by email or at 478-967-2850.

## Clubs Recognized for Contributions



Several clubs were recognized for their contributions to The Rotary Foundation recently. Among them were the Top Per Capita Ranking Clubs -- Rotary Club of Sandersville, \$201.37 per capita; Rotary Club of Skidaway Island, \$198.66 per capita; Rotary Club of Wrightsville, \$188.20 per capita. EREY Clubs recognized were the Rotary Club of Sandersville, the Rotary Club of Glennville and the Rotary Club of Savannah East. The Rotary Club of Sandersville was also recognized as a 100% Sustaining Member Club.

# Matching Grant with Karia Club in Turkey, Jesup and Macon Clubs Completed

When the GSE exchange took place in May 2012 between D-2440 and D-6920, the idea of building a handicapped accessible playground was only a dream for the Karia Club in Bodrum, Turkey. But that happens to be the home club of Ilknur Ozer, the team leader for the visitors who came to our district from Turkey. Once Ilknur spoke of her club's desire to build the playground, the ball started rolling. Last summer, the Rotary Club of Jesup came together with the Macon Rotary Club in helping the Karia Club fund the project. The district designated some funds, and the total was matched by the Rotary Foundation. Total cost of the project was \$20,000. On November 30, the playground was dedicated in Bodrum, where local politicians and Rotarians celebrated together.



*Pictured are Michelle Walzak, McIntosh Rotary Club President-Elect; Sandy McDonald, Empty Stocking Fund Coordinator and Nanci Smith, McIntosh Rotary Club President*

## McIntosh Club Participates in Empty Stocking Fund

It's that time of season to "give unto others in a time of need"! The Empty Stocking Fund program, coordinated by Sandy McDonald, is a community initiative of pooling resources together to provide a wonderful Christmas for children of McIntosh County.

Sandy said she is so appreciative of the community, local and area churches and businesses that give generous donations to help families who are having a difficult time financially. That's where the Empty Stocking Fund becomes available for families in need for making their children's Christmas wishes come true with toys, clothes, games, and lots of other gifts items.

Sandy said what she likes the best are the smiles and tears of joy from the parents and the children!

Gary Smith, District Governor



# Clubs Add New Members

The following clubs have added new members since July 1st.

Augusta - 2  
Augusta West - 4  
Brunswick - 2  
Byron - 2  
Camden County - 3  
Centerville - 1  
Claxton - 4  
Douglas - 2  
Downtown Macon - 7  
Downtown Statesboro - 1  
Dublin - 5  
Eastman - 1  
Effingham County - 1  
Effingham Sunrise - 2  
Fitzgerald - 3  
Hawkinsville - 4  
Hinesville - 2  
Jekyll Island - 1  
Jesup - 3  
Kings Bay - 1  
Macon - 9  
McRae - 4  
Metropolitan Savannah - 4  
Metter - 5  
Milledgeville - 4  
Millen - 3  
Perry - 2  
Reidsville - 3  
Richmond Hill - 2  
Sandersville - 4  
Savannah - 9  
Savannah East - 2  
Savannah South - 4  
St. Simons Island - 7  
Statesboro - 1  
Swainsboro - 1  
Sylvania - 2  
Tennille - 2  
Tifton - 3  
Uptown Macon - 5  
Valdosta - 12  
Valdosta North - 5  
Warner Robins - 2  
West Chatham - 1

**TOTAL - 147 NEW MEMBERS**

# Brunswick Rotary Club Presents \$8,000 to The Rotary Foundation



RRFC Kenan Kern visited with the Rotary Club of Brunswick and was presented with an \$8,000 check for the Rotary Foundation. The check represented the proceeds from the Brunswick Club's first annual Sporting Clays Tournament that was held in September

## Jillian, Bert Guy Recognized as D-6920 Major Donors



Jillian and Bert Guy are recognized as new Major Donors for D-6920. Bert is a past president of the Rotary Club of Camden County and currently serves as Vice Chair for GRSP and as District 6920 Chair for Benefactor and Bequest Society

# Paul Harris Fellows Presented

Robert "Bob" Griggers, Immediate Past Governor, Rotary District 6920, recently presented Messrs. Leon Holmes of Warner Robins and Dan Gatlyn of



*Kenny Kitchens, President, Rotary Club of Centerville (L) and Bob Griggers, Immediate Past Governor, Rotary District 6920, are shown with (L to R) Rotary's newest Paul Harris Fellow, Day Gatlyn (l) and Leon Holmes.*

Macon with Paul Harris Fellowships on behalf of himself and his wife, Brenda Griggers. The Griggers have known both of these gentlemen for many years and have observed them closely and consider them to be a "special breed". They have known them to be full of energy, love, kindness and to be true Patriots who emulate character.

Both retired from military service as Senior NCOs with a combined service of 44

years. They are extremely active in their churches and help those in need.

Presentation of a Paul Harris Fellowship is the Rotary Foundation's means for expressing appreciation for worthy contributions to its many programs. It is named for Rotary's founder, Paul Harris, who started Rotary International in 1905. Individuals can be recognized as Paul Harris Fellows in several ways. The Griggers chose to make a contribution of \$1,000 for each of these gentlemen. In becoming Paul Harris Fellows both join a remarkable company of persons throughout the world, all recognized for their devotion to the ideals of Rotary – Good Will, Peace and Understanding.

# Skidaway Club Funds Shelterbox for Philippines

The Rotary Club of Skidaway Island has paid for a Shelterbox to be sent to the Philippines where a national state of calamity was declared after it was ravaged by Typhoon Haiyan on November 8, 2013.

Thought to be the worst typhoon ever to make land, the storm is believed to have killed at least 10,000 people and has left thousands of survivors cut off from help.

The Rotary Club of Skidaway Island is one of many organizations across the US that has responded to the devastation by sending money to ShelterBox, an international disaster relief charity and global Rotary Club project.

Formed in 2000, ShelterBox supplies boxes of lifesaving equipment tailored to the nature and location of a disaster.

A typical box contains a tent for up to 10 people, blankets, groundsheets, a stove, mosquito nets, water purification equipment, cooking equipment, and even a children's activity pack.

## Kings Bay

Kings Bay has joined with their local Department of Family and Children Services to sponsor several children this Christmas.



## Macon Clubs Present Check to Crimestoppers



*The three Macon Area Rotary Clubs, along with community sponsors and revenue raised through a live auction, made a \$95,350 donation to Macon Regional Crimestoppers, a local nonprofit that assist Central Georgia law enforcement in the fight against crime. Among the Rotarians pictured are Henry Koplin, Warren Selby (Crimestoppers Founder), Downtown Macon Club President Amy Maley and Marie Neel.*