



DISTRICT 6920

Georgia, USA



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RI General Secretary Outlines Priorities

John Hewko, the new General Secretary of RI, announced his five priorities earlier this week in a webinar. They are:

1. **End Polio** and get credit for that accomplishment
 - b. Stop the transmission of the live virus in 4 countries (India polio free for 6 months).
 - c. A three-year period is required for “certification” and immunization must continue for this period.
 - d. Success will set the stage for the next global challenge utilizing the delivery mechanisms developed for Polio Plus
 - e. Polio Plus campaign continues until June 2012 to reach \$200 million and we are at \$190 million now.
2. Bring our new **grant making model called Future Vision** fully operational for July 1, 2013 during the 2012-13 Rotary Year.
3. Create **“Rotary Club Central”** to help quantify the good works of our 34,000 clubs financially as well through volunteer time to demonstrate our significant global impact.
4. **Membership** – including attracting younger members; 70% of our members are outside of the US. A major “branding” exercise is being formulated today to

- Please see “Priorities” on Page 2

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Connect with us on Facebook

Rotary6920

District Website

www.Rotary6920.org



Greetings from Governor Gordon

My “job” as your DG gives me a window into to the personality and good works of each of the Rotary clubs in our district and I consider this to be a privilege.

Rotarians know where urgent needs are and they respond in so many ways. Take the contributions that your club makes in your town and imagine that multiplied 34,000 times for all of our clubs around the world. I am so proud of what Rotarians do throughout District 6920 and across the globe!

District Conference Plans Underway

The 2012 District Conference will be held at the DeSoto Hilton Hotel in Savannah's Historic District May 18-20, 2012. Steve Acuff is conference chair.

In addition to parking in the hotel, low-cost parking in a covered public garage (\$2/day) may be available two blocks away. Negotiations are underway.

Among conference activities are a Saturday afternoon talk on diving for fossils.

The Hilton Savannah DeSoto Hotel is located at 15 East Liberty Street in Savannah. The number for making reservations is 1-877-280-0751.

Attendees must put the three-letter code RDC in the group box when making reservations online. The group code is entered in the group/convention box after you put in the dates you wish to attend. Anyone having a problem getting the group rate should contact Michelle Holland, sales manager, at 912-443-2004.

The deadline for making reservations at the group rate is Friday, April 20, 2012.



Priorities Include Polio Eradication, Expanding RI's Global Role

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increase Rotary's visibility and profile our good works.

5. Expand RI's **role in the global development** debate (ties to John's history with the US's global aid)

Other topics he addressed include the following:

“One Rotary” – refers to looking at Rotary as one organization not divided between Rotary International and Rotary Foundation which now have their own Boards of Directors.

E-Clubs will continue to grow and will be encouraged inside each district.

Use of social media will be encouraged to facilitate conversations among Rotarians using webinars, Facebook and Twitter to bring Rotarians together around the world.

Website Traffic Picking Up

Our website - Rotary6920.org - has had 1,256 visits (or 40 on an average day) in its first month. A total of 616 individuals, 85% of whom were from Georgia, visited the site. They spent, on average, 3½ minutes looking at three different pages on our site.

Of our visits, 166 came from Macon, 144 from Savannah, 89 from Augusta and 63 from Dublin . . . and the list goes on . . . 26 from St. Marys and 16 from Statesboro.



District 6920 Facebook Page Sees Increase in Users



Our Facebook page - Rotary6920 - now has 152 Friends and I hope you join up by clicking “Like” soon.

Since August 5, our 168 active monthly users have made 11,323 views of information there.

Half of our users are over 55 years old and another 18% are 45-54. Only 17% are under the age of 35. Males are 58% of our users.

Our readership is growing as shown by the fact that 40% of our users are making their first visit to our Facebook page.

Clubs that have posted on our Facebook page include Valdosta, McIntosh, Savannah South, Valdosta North, Byron, Nashville-Berrien, Sandersville, Kings Bay, Valdosta Sunrise, Augusta West, Perry, Dublin, Jesup, Milledgeville, Richmond Hill and Wrightsville.

Everyone is encouraged to use Facebook and can do so without signing up for a Facebook account. To view the District Facebook page, simply turn your web browser to www.facebook.com/rotary6920.

Skype Another Way to “Shrink” District



As I reported last month, we must utilize the tools of the Internet to “shrink” our district; the activity level on our Facebook page continues to grow and we see folks from throughout the district frequently using our website. And now we have taken another step by using Skype for me to meet with club leaders.

Three clubs in Valdosta were our pilot because they are the last ones that I will be meeting with – when the year is half over. With Skype, I sit in my office on Tybee in front of my computer and can talk to and see those whom I am meeting with in Valdosta, and they can hear and see me. Using Skype I was able to learn about these clubs and to share my suggestions early in the Rotary year.

Director Bill Booth suggested we use Skype after seeing how we used it to connect with a Rotarian in Bolivia during the district Seminar.

We will do more meetings using Skype in the future based on our positive initial experience with these three clubs in Valdosta.

- DG Gordon

Will Watt Fellow Award Presented



Valdosta Sunrise Rotarian Rob Kellner, center, was presented the Will Watt Fellow Award last month. Congratulations, Rob!

Bill Bruce Presented Paul Harris Fellow



AG Diane Richardson presented Rotarian Bill Bruce with his Paul Harris Fellow Award last month.

McIntosh Club Presents Goodies to New Teachers

McIntosh County Rotary Club was at the New Teachers Breakfast to present them with goody bags to welcome them to the school system and to wish them luck. Pictured left to right are Irene Bates, Jackie Mull, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Diane J. Richardson and School Superintendent Dr. William Hunter, all Rotary members.



Getting to Know

Paula Goodnow



Q: Why are you a Rotarian?

A: For selfish reasons: I get great pleasure from helping other people.

Q: How long have you been a Rotarian?

A: All my life, but I joined Rotary in 1999

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

A: Communications is my speciality.

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

A: District Chief of Staff

Q: Where does your passion from Rotary come from?

A: My father, who is a self-made man. He grew up in hard times, was a bad kid and turned his life around because he wanted to, not because he had to.

Q: What is your most vivid Rotary experience?

A: The look on my daughter's face when I made her a Paul Harris Fellow at Dallas Simon's district conference.

Q: What is your greatest wish for Rotary?

A: For it to continue to grow year after year in order to help those in need.

Clubs Reminded to Focus on Youth During New Generations Month

In September, Rotary celebrates New Generations Month, reminding clubs of the ongoing need to provide positive influences for youth and equip tomorrow's leaders.

The history of Rotary's work with youth dates back to the 1920s, when many clubs took part in an international event known as Boys' Week.

The first Boys' Week was held in New York City in May 1920 by the Rotary Club of New York and other local organizations. The event was part of an effort to promote youth development in the areas of education, citizenship, health and hygiene, and vocation.

By the mid-1920s Boys' Week activities were being held in almost 600 locations across 25 countries. In 1928, the number of participating cities and towns had grown to about 3,000, drawing a larger audience that included girls.

By the late 1920s, the United States established a National Boys' Week Committee. Rotary clubs were encouraged to support their local Boys' Week events as a way to achieve the goals of the Boys' Work program.

In 1934, Boys' Week became known as Youth Week, and in 1936, Boys and Girls' Week.

The RI Board of Directors voted to discontinue Rotary's official sponsorship of Boys and Girls' Week in 1956 in order to support new youth efforts, but it encouraged clubs to continue participating in local youth service initiatives. Rotary went on to create other programs for young people in the following decades, including Interact, Rotaract and Rotary Youth Exchange. District 6920 has a total of 21 Interact clubs and 6 Rotaract clubs.

In 2010, New Generations Service became Rotary's fifth Avenue of Service. Rotarians recognize the positive change that youth and young adults implement through leadership development activities, community and international service projects, and exchange programs that enrich and foster world peace and cultural understanding.



About Interact

Interact is a service club for youth ages 14-18. Clubs benefit from sponsorship by individual Rotary clubs, which provide support and guidance.

Interact has a membership of over 250,000 youth in more than 11,000 clubs worldwide. It's one of Rotary's fastest growing programs. District 6920 has 21

Interact clubs.

Interact clubs are self-governing and self-supporting and can be either school or community based.

Interact's name is a combination of the words *international* and *action*. With clubs in over 120 countries and geographical areas, Interact is truly an international phenomenon.

Interact's global youth network is dedicated to community and international service. Every Interact club project, great or small, has a lasting impact on society worldwide.

Brazil, India, the Philippines and the United States boast the highest number of Interact clubs.

Isn't it time for you to:

- * *Reach out to a community in need?*
- * *Work with youth in another country to develop a service project?*
- * *Learn about the customs and culture of a faraway place?*
- * *Serve your local community?*

About Rotaract

Rotaract is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young men and women ages 18 to 30. Rotaract clubs are either community or university based, and they're sponsored by a local Rotary club. This makes them true "partners in service" and key members of the family of Rotary.

There are 6 Rotaract clubs in District 6920.

As one of Rotary's most significant and fastest-growing service programs, with more than 8,400 clubs in about 170 countries and geographical areas, Rotaract has become a worldwide phenomenon.



How does it work?

All Rotary efforts begin at the local, grassroots level, with members addressing their communities' physical and social needs while promoting international understanding and peace through a framework of friendship and service.

What are some other opportunities available to Rotaractors?

Rotaractors may also:

- * Work together with Interact clubs or mentor Interactors
- * Participate in Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
- * Become Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholars or Group Study Exchange team members
- * Seek membership in their local Rotary club after their Rotaract membership ends.

*Please see the District's list of Rotaract and Interact clubs
and their sponsors on the following page*

6920 Rotaract & Interact Clubs & Contacts

Age: Interact 12-18, Rotaract 18-30

Interact

	Sponsor	School	Rotary Contact
1	Augusta	Academy of Richmond County	Kevin Wade
2	Augusta	West Westside High School	Kelli Simon
3	Brunswick & St. Simons	Glynn Academy	Bill Gauthier, Bill Gussman
4	Camden County & Kings Bay	Camden County High School	Neil Moore, Paula Goodnow
5	Claxton	Claxton High School	Joy Collins
6	Claxton	Pinewood Christian Academy	Dan Hughes
7	Dublin	East Laurens High School	Preston Johnson
8	Eastman	Dodge County High School	Ed Sanders
9	Effingham County	South Effingham County High	Dinah King
10	Effingham Sunrise	Effingham County High School	Solomon Smith
11	Glennville	Tattnall County High	Tammy Waters
12	McIntosh County	McIntosh County Academy	Diane Richardson
13	Richmond Hill	Richmond Hill High School	Ray Pittman
14	Sandersville	Brentwood School	Julian Diaz
15	Sandersville	Washington County High	Julian Diaz
16	Valdosta	Georgia Christian School	Chris Roan, Bill Kent
17	Valdosta	Lowndes High School	Chris Roan, Bill Kent
18	Valdosta	Valdosta High School	Chris Roan, Bill Kent
19	Valdosta	Valwood School	Chris Roan, Bill Kent
20	Waynesboro	Burke County High School	JD Smith
21	Waynesboro	Edmond Burke Academy	JD Smith

Rotaract

	Sponsor	School	Rotary Contact
1	Augusta South & Augusta West	Augusta State University	Pam Lightsey
2	Augusta	Paine College	Kevin Wade
3	Dublin	Middle Georgia College	Preston Johnson
4	Downtown Macon	Mercer University	Linda Brennan
5	Sandersville	Oconee Fall Line Technical College	Lloyd Horadan
6	Valdosta	Valdosta State University	Chris Roan, Bill Kent

Visit our website at www.Rotary6920.org
for the latest news and information

Clubs Encouraged to Activate District and Club database

When RI Direct is activated for a club then all of their changes made in DaCdb go directly to RI to update their database.

We want every club to do this using the attached instructions. To date, 19 clubs in our district have already done this.

DaCdb now has the ability to automatically update member changes in the RI database. This is called RI “direct connect.” Currently, only “changes” to existing records are being updated directly in the RI database. The update occurs in the RI database within a few minutes of the user “clicking” the UPDATE button in the DaCdb record being updated (versus a few days using the current email notification procedures.)

There is a two-step process to incorporate the RI “direct connect” interface “option” for your club. First, you must log into the RI Member Access Portal (MAP) and EDIT your club to select DaCdb as your interface partner. Then, after you have completed the first step in MAP, just log into DaCdb and EDIT your club data to select “RI Direct Connect” as the interface option for your club. Both of these steps must be completed in the correct sequence to activate the RI “direct connect” interface option for your club. And, once these two steps are successfully completed, it is an automated process to interface directly into the RI database for changes entered into the DaCdb database.

NOTE: Only the current Club President, Club Secretary or Club Executive Secretary (club officers of record at RI for the club) can make these interface option selections in the RI database (using MAP). So, each CLUB must log into RI using the MAP process and make the selection of DaCdb as their interface partner. Also, the DCO in the district cannot make these changes for the clubs in the RI database.

Step I: Choose DaCdb as the Club Partner in the RI database

1. A current club officer accesses the Rotary website (www.Rotary.org) and then clicks on the Member Access Portal link (MAP).

Note: If you have any problems logging into the RI database via the Member Access Portal, then you must contact RI for assistance, as they have no capability to help you log into the RI database.

2. Next, key in your email address and RI assigned password IF you have previously logged into the RI database; otherwise, if this is your first time, you must register (and RI will send you the password in a few hours so that you can log in.)

3. After logging in, click on the “Update Club Data” link. Only club officers will see this link.

4. Scroll down to the bottom of the Club data screen and select DaCdb from the list of interface partners. SAVE your selection.

5. That’s it! You have made DaCdb as your interface partner with RI, for “direct connect” option in your club. Now complete Step 2 (below) to complete the selection process in DaCdb.

Step II: Choose RI-“Direct Connect” in the DaCdb database

1. A current club officer logs into the DaCdb database. Then, just click on the “My Club” tab and then click on the “Edit” link.

2. In the “Information” tab, open the Rotary Interface selection window and choose RI “Direct Connect.” Finally, click the UPDATE button to complete your selection.

3. Congratulations! You have now completed the two steps necessary to activate the interface to update your member record changes directly in the RI database.

Looking Ahead: October is Vocational Service Month, a time to highlight Rotary’s contribution to the Second Avenue of Service