

November 2014

Ted Thompson, District Governor

**ROTARY DISTRICT
6920**

Dr. James Metts Presented with Service Above Self Award

Three past district governors of Rotary District 6920 recently presented Dr. James C. Metts with the Rotary International Service Above Self Award for his many years of service to others. PDGs Bob Griggers, Lynn Hadwin and Kenan Kern recognized Dr.

Metts for his voluntary humanitarian medical service both here and abroad.

PDG Griggers, who nominated Dr. Metts, cited his 53 years of membership in the Rotary Club of Savannah, his 10-year effort in the organizing of medical teams to conduct medical missions of mercy to the Republic of Haiti and British



Honduras and his 36-year volunteer leadership in sustaining Savannah's Community Cardiovascular Council, which reduced the area stroke death rate by 72%. All of these volunteer activities involved Dr. Metts giving of his time, talents and funding, thus, exemplifying Rotary's cornerstone tenant of Service Above Self.

In nominating Dr. Metts for his Rotary International Award, Gov. Griggers also cited Dr. Metts' early participation in the Rotary Polio Plus campaign, providing thousands of doses of Polio vaccine to the children of Haiti. This Rotary program is today very close to eradicating Polio from every nation in the world.

During his 53 years of service in the Rotary Club of Savannah, Dr. Metts was also a Paul Harris Fellow and a Will Watt Fellow, further demonstrating his generosity to help others.

Throughout the world, there are no more than 150 Service Above Self Awards presented each year. In accepting the Service Above Self Award, Dr. Metts simply said, "Gentlemen, I am humbled by this recognition. Thank you!"

At A Glance:

Upcoming Events

District Governor Club Visits

DG Thompson will be making his official club visits to the following clubs during the month of November: St. Simons Island, Kings Bay, Hazlehurst, Swainsboro, Tift County, Jones County and Sandersville.

Rotary Zones 33-34 Institute 2014

Tues., Nov. 18-Sun., Nov. 23, 2014
Ashville, NC

Rotary International Assembly

Sun., Jan. 18-Sat., 24, 2015
San Diego

College of Governor's Meeting

Saturday, Jan. 31, 2015
L'il Ocmulgee State Park

District Leadership Training

Fri., Feb. 6-Sat., Feb. 7, 2015
Location: To Be Announced

President Elect Training - PETS

Sat., Feb. 28-Sun., Mar. 1, 2015
Atlanta Airport Renaissance Concourse
Hotel

Blackshear Receives 100% PHF Banner

District Governor, Ted Thompson, presented what he described as "a long overdue presentation" from 2010-2011 for the Blackshear Rotary Club in earning the distinctive honor of becoming a 'Rotary Foundation 100 Percent Paul Harris Fellow Club'. Thompson said, "it was recently discovered that this presentation

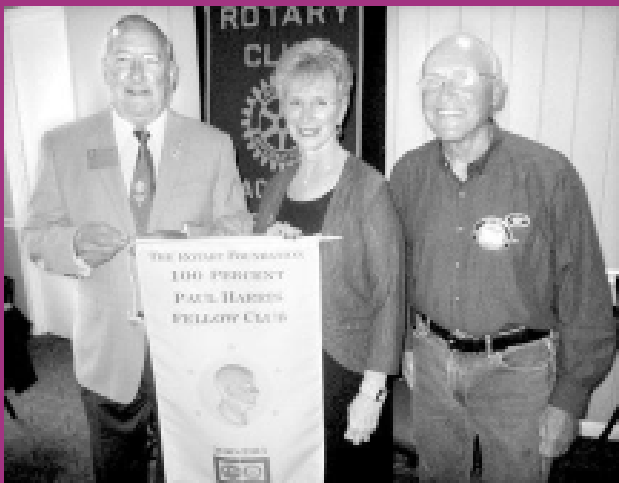
-Please see "Blackshear" on Page 2

Blackshear Club Gets Overdue Recognition

-Continued from Page 1

was never made when it should have been and he was here to right that wrong’.

Thompson read a congratulatory letter from June 16, 2011 and presented the banner to Cheryl Williams who was Rotary President at the time of the accomplishment and current Rotary President, Harold Rozier. Williams thanked the District Governor and the club members for helping accomplish this goal.



Pictured are Thompson, Williams and Rozier.

Claxton Club Hosts Rotary Day Event

Earlier this Rotary year, The Rotary Club of Claxton joined with their local Chamber of Commerce’s Patriots Day event and hosted a luncheon at the Veterans’ Community Center to honor the memory of so many whose lives were sacrificed in the horrible attack on September 11, 2001. The club, led by President Joy Collins, used the event as the club’s first “Rotary Day,” where members of the community are invited to a special Rotary Club meeting and asked to consider being a part of the local club.



Clubs Must Follow Global Grants Application Procedure

Dear Club Presidents and Global Grant Chairs,

It has been brought to my attention that some of you or your club members are applying for Global Grants on-line before first applying for approval from the District Global Grant Committee. This information is automatically sent to the folks at the Rotary Foundation. However, before starting this process, the club should contact the District Global Grant Chair for advice and guidance, PDG Gordon Matthews at gordon.matthews@earthlink.net. A potential problem with going on-line immediately is that the international partner may think the District somehow endorses the project, and the amounts of District Designated Funds requested may be way out of line. The club and the GG Chair should jointly fill out the Global Grant Application which is then submitted to the District Global Grant Committee. If it is approved by the committee, then the club can fill out the on-line form with the guidance of the Global Grant Chair.

There is a limited amount of District Designated Funds available for Global Grants and the Global Grant Committee is responsible for designating the amount applied to each Grant. You can download a 2014-2015 Global Grant Application from the District Website at district6920.net, fill in the applicable information, and mail or email to PDG Gordon Matthews. Once the application is reviewed by the Global Grants Committee, you will be notified of the results. If you skip this step in the application process, your Global Grant application can’t be approved.

Thank you for your cooperation in this application process and for your interest in a Global Grant.

Ted Thompson, District Governor

Kings Bay Members Receive Certificates, Wings



The Rotary Club of Kings Bay was happy to present Past President Anne Orr and Club Secretary Kathy Ordway with their Benefactor Certificate and Wings.

Savannah East Hosts Literacy Fundraiser



The Rotary Club of Savannah East's annual literacy fundraiser netted over \$6,000, half of which was awarded to the Royce (Adult) Learning Center and half to Savannah Technical College's GED scholarship program. Accepting the award during the District Governor's visit to Savannah East is Brent Stubbs from Savannah Tech. Also pictured is Club President Gena Taylor.

Ocilla Rotarians Donate \$1,000 to Fight Against Meningitis

Two Ocilla Rotarians attended a recent meeting of the Fitzgerald Rotary Club and received make-ups. They then revealed the purpose of their visit.

The Rotary Club of Ocilla decided to do more than sell ALL of their District Raffle Tickets by having their own club fundraiser for Meningitis Awareness. A check for \$1,000.00 was presented to IPDG Gary Smith for the continued fight against Meningitis.

Pictured below are Past Assistant Governor and Ocilla Rotarian Horace Hudgins, IPDG Gary Smith and Past Ocilla Rotary President Craig Pate.



Effingham County Holds Rotary Day Event

Effingham County Rotarians recently held their Rotary Day event in conjunction with the county's largest two-day festival, Oktoberfest. The weather was great and the fellowship even better. The club helped raise awareness of what Rotary is and made several new contacts. Wesley's balloon animals were a huge hit!



Perry Rotarians Raise \$7,000 for Improvements at Centennial Park



The Perry Rotary Club recently held a golf tournament and raised over \$7,000 which will go towards improvements to the City of Perry's Rotary Centennial Park. Past President Jacob Poole and his team, pictured above, came away as the winners of the tournament.

Time with Ted

A monthly feature focusing on timely information from DG Ted Thompson.



As you have heard, clubs will receive a new, simple invoice from Rotary this January. The balance owed will reflect the membership data in Rotary's database on 1 January, and clubs will no longer be able to adjust the balance after receiving the invoice. That's why it's crucial that your club officers report membership changes as they occur, so that they are billed correctly. If your Club Secretary has not entered your Club Goals for 2014-2015, please remind them to do it now at www.rotary.org/myrotary.

Valdosta North Recognizes, Encourages Local Educators

Valdosta North Rotary hosts Lunch with Leaders and Second Annual Teacher of the Year Banquet. Lunch with Leaders presented award-winning public education advocate, Jamie Vollmer. Vollmer spoke to community stakeholders and businesses about the changes in public education and the impact it has on students, families, crime rates, property



values, taxes and economic development.

The Second Annual Teacher of the Year Banquet was another sold out success. Teachers of the year for both

Lowndes County and Valdosta City School Systems were celebrated, recognized and honored with personal gifts, funds to use in the classroom and a car for the year from a local sponsor. Both school systems were presented \$12,000 and \$10,000 checks from Valdosta North Rotary Club to be earmarked for their classrooms. Educators and local business sponsors listened to Vollmer, the event's keynote speaker, as he touched on public education that EVERY child deserves and needs, changes in public education impacting students and causing bias, separation and lack of efficient effective education with classes being added without the addition of time to learn more.

PDG's Wife Presented with Replacement President's Pin

The Family of Rotary Committee, chaired by Yvonne Robertson, is a committee that does nice things for former Rotarian's and/or their spouses.

The Dublin Rotary board recently approved a project that they felt was deserving to be a Family of Rotary project. Joe Durant was Dublin Rotary president, in 1975-76, and served the club well during his year. He and Ruth Durant attended all of the Jekyll Island district conferences, and their presence was enjoyed by all. They always enjoyed walking at night with the group, looking for sea-turtles laying eggs and/or making their way back to the safety of the water. Of course, devouring the delicious Dublin-cooked shrimp was something they always looked forward to.

Unfortunately, Joe died at a relatively young age, and has been missed over the years by many. Joe and Ruth both loved Rotary, and Ruth misses those "Rotary Days."

She mentioned to past district governor Preston Johnson, who was president of Dublin Rotary the year before Joe, that she made a discovery that she could not find Joe's president's pin, which had a diamond in it. Preston pointed out that the president's pin did not have a diamond, and is passed each year from outgoing president to the incoming. He indicated to her that it had to have been a Past President's pin that she missed so much.

Preston thought that this would be a good Family of Rotary project, and discussed it with president Bubba, who took the idea to the Dublin Rotary board, who approved it. Chairperson Yvonne Robertson was contacted and on August 26, 2014, at a presentation ceremony, Yvonne, with appropriate words, presented the Past President's pin to Ruth, who was VERY appreciative to the committee and Dublin Rotary.



Pictured left to right are Past District Governor Preston Johnson, Rotary President Bubba East, Mrs. Joe Durant and Family of Rotary Committee Chairman Yvonne Robertson.

Richmond Hill Raises \$2,500 in Polio Fundraiser

The Rotary Club of Richmond Hill and Georgia Game Changers raised over \$2,500 to help the sun set on polio at a fundraising 5K race at J.F. Gregory Park on Oct. 4.

A total of 65 people raced the 5K course. Rotarians Byron Atkinson, Laura McGee and Ray Pittman won their age and gender group categories in the Pacing for Polio race and Atkinson led the children in a fun race of their own. Rotarians Linda Bowers, Rich de Long, Ashley Roberts, Byron Atkinson, Lesley Francis and Teresa Merritt formed the committee which worked hard to make the evening a success. Prize giving and an after-race party took place at the Station Exchange where popular local country/Southern rock band Exit 76 performed.

The money raised from the race will be donated to Rotary International's campaign to completely eradicate polio from the planet. Race sponsors, in addition to Georgia Game Changers,

included Boost by Design, The Suites at Station Exchange and Station Exchange at Home, Lesley Francis PR, Life Moves Dance Studio, Megateeth Fossils, Southeastern Bank, Wards Auto Painting and Bodyworks, Fish Tales, Interline Mortgage Services, Coastal Endodontics and the Coastal Empire Beer Company. After-race refreshments were provided by Jalapenos of Richmond Hill



Lesley Francis, President of the Rotary Club

of Richmond Hill said, "This year Rotary's theme is to 'Light up Rotary' and we are delighted with the success of our first Pacing for Polio race. The awards ceremony and after-race party was great fun and it was wonderful to reach out to people in our community and tell them more about Rotary. Our club is focusing on future generations this year and polio is a disease which cripples children. Raising money for this cause is very important and is a focus for Rotary International this year because the eradication of polio from the planet is very close and every cent raised to fight polio will be matched by the Gates Foundation. If polio is not completely eradicated, it could return from the three countries in Africa and the Middle East where it is still endemic and return to other countries such as the USA where eradication has been successful and the vaccination program is established."

Milledgeville's Super Raffle Making a Real Difference

The Rotary Club of Milledgeville's 2014 Super Raffle boosted local businesses, while funneling funds raised back into numerous community service projects. The Super Raffle replaced the traditional auction fundraiser. Former Rotary Club President Laura Thompson said the change worked.

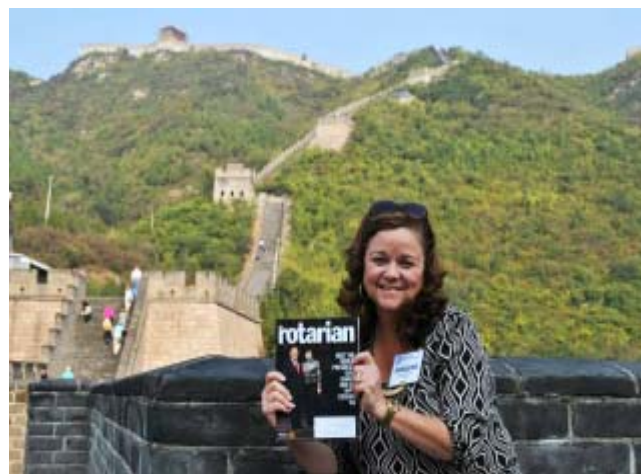
The organization spent \$20,000 with local vendors for 52 prizes given out each week of 2014.

"That supports shopping local, which we are proud of," Thompson said.

Georgia Lottery Cash 3 Friday midday drawing numbers are used to match raffle tickets. If raffle ticketholders' numbers match up, they win the item listed for that date. Prizes included a Big Green Egg, Yeti cooler, chainsaw, grills, golf clubs, TVs, spa packages and car washes for a year.

All 1,000 tickets sold, netting Rotary \$30,000. Local service projects such as The Dictionary Project, Christmas baskets, teddy bears and the literacy fair directly benefit from that money. Rotary supports various community nonprofits as well.

Perry Rotarian Takes Rotary Magazine on Visit to China



Perry Club Rotarian Darlene McLendon is photographed with *The Rotarian* at the Great Wall of China during her recent trip abroad.

Rotary Club of Savannah Helps Make All-Accessible Playground Possible

The Rotary Club of Savannah is helping the city break ground on an all-accessible playground in Forsyth Park, a project totaling \$342,000. The club is excited to provide this one-of-a-kind playground to our region. The money was raised through internal sponsorship, a grant from the Alan Gaynor Fund and AMBUCS and through the Herb Traub Fund.

The playground will be accessible to all children, including those who have wheelchair limitations and other specialized conditions.

The design includes nine slides, 16 climbers, and eight swings. The equipment can support a capacity up to 300 children. The ground will be covered with rubber matting and mulch.



Gilbert R. Tharp Global Grant Scholarship

The late Rotarian Gilbert R. Tharp, a former member of the Rotary Club of St. Simons, established an endowment with the Rotary Foundation. The earnings from the endowment will enable a student from Rotary District 6920 to study abroad. To be eligible the student must already have a Bachelor's Degree.

The individual must meet all of the eligibility related to the new Global Grants for scholarships, including pursuing a career in one or more of the Areas of Focus and graduate level studies or research lasting one to four years. Please review the Global Grant Scholarships supplement to The Rotary Foundation's Grants Management Manual located on the district website at www.district6920.net.

Global grant scholars plan to pursue a career in an area of focus, and their graduate-level educational goals should support this career interest. Pursuing a career in an area of focus means the scholar has a long-term commitment to measurable, sustainable change. Be sure that a candidate's previous work or volunteer experience, academic program, and career plans are strongly aligned with one of the six areas of focus.

If you know someone who is interested in being a candidate for this scholarship, please have them contact the Global Grant Scholarship Chair Nancy Shumaker at nwshumaker@yahoo.com.

Macon Rotarians Host Rotary Day Event at Mercer Game



About 100 Rotarians and family members from the three Rotary Clubs in Macon combined their talents and cooking skills, even enlisting the help of the Rotaractors, to make their Rotary Day a total success with a tailgate party

and multiple announcements about Rotary at the Mercer football game on October 11. Governor Ted was happy to attend and show his support.

Vidalia Inducts New Members, Recognizes PHFs

It was an honor to be asked to induct two new members and recognize three multi-Paul Harris recipients when we visited the Vidalia Rotary Club on October 22. Keep up the great work Vidalia!



Committee Accepting Nominations for District Governor

The District 6920 Nominating Committee is now accepting completed application forms for Governor of District 6920 for Rotary Year 2017-2018. Application deadline is January 16, 2015. All nominations must be submitted on the District Governor-Nominee Application Form which can be downloaded from the District website.

Fully completed application forms accompanied by a recent photograph should be directed to IPDG Gary Smith, Chair, District 6920 Nominating Committee, 412 West Central Avenue, Fitzgerald, Georgia 31750-2442. Questions may be directed to gdsmith1@mchsi.com or 229-425-2285. Nominees may also attach resumes or other information thought to be pertinent. Information below is provided for reference. More detailed information may be found online in the Rotary International Manual of Procedure (2103) and the Rotary International By-laws.

Qualifications

At the time of selection, the nominee will be called governor-nominee-designate and will assume the title of governor-nominee on 1 July two years before serving as governor. The governor-nominee must:

- 1) Be a regular member of a club in the district (RIB 15.070.1.)
- 2) Have full qualifications for membership in the strict application of the club membership provisions, and have a classification whose integrity is without question (RIB 15.070.2.)
- 3) Have served as president of a club for a full term or be a charter president of a club having served the full term from the date of the charter to 30 June, provided that this period is for at least six months (RIB 15.070.3.)
- 4) Demonstrate willingness, commitment, and ability, physically and otherwise, to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the office of governor as provided in RI Bylaws section 15.090. (RIB 15.070.4.)
- 5) Demonstrate knowledge of the qualifications, duties and responsibilities of governor as prescribed in the RI Bylaws, and submit to RI a signed statement acknowledging a clear understanding of them. This statement shall also confirm that the Rotarian is qualified for the office of governor and willing and able to assume the duties and responsibilities of the office and to perform them faithfully (RIB 15.070.5.)

In addition to the qualifications of governor nominee, a governor, at the time of taking office, must have completed seven years of membership in one or more clubs and have attended the governors elect training seminar and International Assembly. (RIB 15.080.)

Greetings for a Happy Thanksgiving

With all the colors of fall upon us, the expected cooler temperatures, the smell of smoke in the early evening, the quietness of the early mornings and the anticipation of having Thanksgiving at Grandma's house for you younger folks, and for us older members, when we were kids. Charolette and I want

to wish all the members of the clubs in District 6920 a very Happy Thanksgiving and hope all of you enjoy everything good that comes with the holiday season - except the extra pounds!



~Ted & Charolette Thompson

November is Rotary Foundation Month

The Rotary Foundation supports Foundation programs such as Education Programs, Humanitarian Programs and Polio Plus Programs.

Education Programs

Scholarships

Vocational Training Teams (VTT)

Peace & Conflict Studies

Rotary Centers for International Studies - six worldwide:

Chapel Hill, NC, & Duke University, England, Australia, Thailand, Sweden and Japan

Humanitarian Programs

District Grants

Global Grants

Polio Plus Programs

Polio Eradication

Polio Plus Partners - Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Contributions from Rotarians and clubs make it possible for the Rotary Foundation to fund these programs. These EREY contributions to the Annual Fund and /or a contribution to the Endowment or Permanent Fund (through a major gift, bequest society, and benefactor contribution) fuels our Rotary Programs. If you would like more information on making a contribution contact District Rotary Foundation Chair Ron May. at ron.may1947@yahoo.com.

World Polio Day October 24, 2014

PDG Bob Griggers, District Polio Chair

World Polio Day was established by Rotary International over a decade ago to celebrate the birth of Dr. Jonas Salk, who discovered the polio vaccine. His discovery has enabled us to reduce polio worldwide by 99%. As you may recall, only Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan are the remaining Polio endemic countries. This day is an opportunity for the global polio eradication community to renew its promise of a polio-free world to future generations.

You are encouraged to watch the 90 minute Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) "World Polio Day: Making History". It will be held before a live audience at 17:30 Chicago time at the Northwestern University Center for Global Health, Chicago campus. (This program will also be taped for later viewing.)

Rotary is the catalyst for the Polio Eradication effort. Our chief role is fundraising, advocacy, awareness raising and mobilizing volunteers. Since 1985, Rotarians have donated countless volunteer hours and contributed over \$1.3 billion to immunize more than 2 billion children in 122 countries. But there is still work to be done! Please think outside of the box! Let's do everything possible to raise money for the Gates Foundations "2-1 Match" through 2018. For more info: rotary.org/endpolio.

Clubs Present BIG Checks to District Governor



Thanks for the BIG checks Macon Rotary Club and Vidalia Rotary Club! Pictured are (top photo) Macon Rotary Club President George Lee with DG Ted and (below) Vidalia Rotary Club President Brian Fabacher with DG Ted.

2014-2015 Committee Chairs

Annual Giving - John L. Neely
john.neely@colliers.com

Awards - Renee Fontenot
reneefontenot@gcsu.edu

Bequest Society - Pam Lightsey
plightsey@gru.edu

CART - Kathy Tuckey
ktuckey@comcast.net

Chief of Staff - Paula Goodnow
paula@rotary6920.org

District Foundation/Fundraising - Ron May
ron.may1947@yahoo.com

District Grants - Les Arent
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District Newsletter - Deborah Steele
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District Trainer - Frank Seaton
fseaton@tjscpa.com

District Treasurer - Bruce Montgomery
hbmontgomery@bellsouth.net

District Webmaster - Jim Bruce
jim@oatland.org

Family of Rotary - Ron Maulden
rmaulden@thebrunswicknews.com

GRSP - Gerald Smith
ggerald.smith@gmail.com

Global Grants - Gordon Matthews
gordon.matthews@icloud.com

GSE - Justin Godchaux
justingodchaux@gmail.com

Interact/Rotaract - Julian Diaz Jr.
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Literacy - Jeanette Caneega
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Membership - Alfie Cofield
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**PETS Curriculum Chair/Council on
Legislation/RI 2017 Convention -
Lloyd Horadan**
lhoradan@oftc.edu

**Paul Harris Society/PETS District Rep -
Gary Smith**
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Polio Plus - Bob Griggers
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Public Relations - Elizabeth Jordan
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**Rotary Foundation Major Donor -
Albert Reichert**
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Rotary Leadership Institute - Blair Train
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RYLA - Charles Johnson
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Scholarships - Nancy Shumaker
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Silent Auction - Laura Thompson
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Speech Contest - Jan Horadan
jhoradan@gmail.com