

September 2014

**Ted Thompson, District Governor**

**ROTARY DISTRICT  
6920**

## *Rotary Day*

The Sandersville Rotary Club observed the District 6920 Rotary Day on Saturday, August 16, by spending the morning at the public Farmer's Market on the courthouse square in Sandersville.

Rotary members set up an information table among the vendors and also had doughnuts, pastries, and juice to give out to everyone that stopped by. They placed Rotary informational material on the table and passed our Rotarian magazines to many of the people that they came in contact with that day. Members also walked around the market and passed out information cards and gathered contact information from many of the people there.

"It was nice to get out and identify yourself with Rotary and share the ideas and achievements that our club and Rotary International have done in the community," said Sandersville Rotary Club President Jason Prince. "We shared with people things that we have done in the community and invited many of the people to come out to a meeting and see what Rotary is about.

"A good time was had by all and it was great to get out and have a nice meet and greet with our community," added Jason.

## **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 September: Savannah, Effingham Sunrise, Savannah Sunrise, Richmond Hill, Savannah East, Perry, Centerville, Warner Robins, Byron, Hawkinsville, Metter, Glennville, Reidsville, Augusta and Augusta South.

#### ***100 Year Anniversary Celebration***

Mon., Sept. 22, 2014

Augusta, GA

\*This special meeting will celebrate 100 years of Rotary in Augusta.

#### ***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



*The Sandersville Rotary Club observed the District 6920 Rotary Day recently. Pictured are Jason Prince, Club President; Ron May, District Foundation Chair; Cara Lewis, newest member of the club; Governor Ted; Alan Helton, Treasurer, and Herschel Scott, President Elect*

# Tifton Inducts New Members

As a proud PDG looked on, the Rotary Club of Tifton added to its roster recently. Andy Borem, past president of the Tifton Rotary Club, welcomed Lee Jones and Jean Courson, also a past president of the club, welcomed Laurel Gamage.

Lee is a doctor of veterinary medicine and is employed with the UGA College of Veterinary Medicine Tifton Diagnostic Laboratory. Laurel is director of operations and clinical support at Veritas Laboratories, LLC, and is the daughter of Immediate Past District Governor Gary Smith and his wife Sue.



*Past Presidents Andy Borem, far left, and Jean Courson, center, and Immediate Past District Governor Gary Smith, far right, were on hand for the induction of new members Lee Jones and Laurel Gamage.*

# Four Clubs to Have Rotary Day at Mercer Game

Three Macon clubs and the Jones County club will have a large Rotary Day event Saturday, October 11 at the Mercer football game in Macon. All Rotarians are invited.

Pre-game festivities start about 1 p.m. and kickoff for Mercer vs. Austin Peay is at 4 p.m. There will be a large Rotary tent right outside the stadium featuring hotdogs and burgers, corn hole games, prizes, Rotary giveaways and fellowship among Rotarians and guests.



If you want to attend the game, tickets can be purchased online at [tickets.mercer.edu](http://tickets.mercer.edu). We plan to have discount ticket prices for Rotary members. Details will be shared with District 6920 club presidents as soon as available.

Come join us for football fun on Saturday, October 11 as we celebrate Rotary Day in Macon at Mercer University. For further information, contact George Lee at [ghlengineering@gmail.com](mailto:ghlengineering@gmail.com) or Tom Woodbery at [twoodbery@gmail.com](mailto:twoodbery@gmail.com).

# Clubs Host Joint Rotary Day Event



*On Saturday August 16th the Valdosta North Rotary Club, Rotary Club of Valdosta and Nashville-Berrien Rotary Club gathered for Family Day at McKey Park. Fellow Rotarians and their families joined together for fellowship, fun and food. We welcomed GRSP student, Randi Eyde to our Rotary family and are excited to have her with us!*

# Three Brunswick Rotarians Honored as Paul Harris Recipients



*On July 24, 2014, Governor Ted was honored to pin three Paul Harris recipients at the Brunswick Rotary Club noon meeting. Recipients were Rob Dunagan, Mike Murphy Sr. and Kip Turner. Congratulations to all of you!*

## Time with Ted

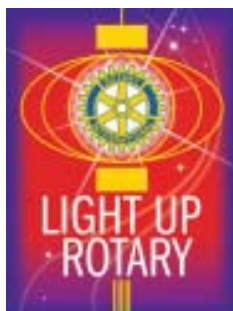
*A monthly feature focusing on timely information from District Governor Ted Thompson.*



Now that the month of August is behind us Charolette and I have visited 26 Rotary clubs to date and have enjoyed every moment. This is an exciting time for us to get to know so many great folks and to hear the many goals and plans of the Club Presidents and their Board of Directors. There seems to be so much enthusiasm and energy in these clubs.

Thanks to all of you that have honored us with personal gifts and monetary contributions to PolioPlus.

Keep up the good work and let's all continue to "Light Up Rotary!"



## Augusta Rotary Club Presents Check to Greater Augusta Partnership for Literacy



A check presented to the Greater Augusta Partnership for Literacy by the Augusta Rotary Club in the amount of \$2000.00 allowed 60+ children attending the Georgia Regents University Daycare Center to register for books from the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

Pictured are (back row, left to right) Curt Roberts, Jim Osborne, David Steele, Past President Kevin Wade, Tom Kiernan and Immediate Past President John Whitwell. Also pictured are (front row, from left) Greater Augusta Partnership for Literacy Vice Chair Pam Lightsey, Susan Jernigan, chief of staff to President Dr. Karla Leeper; Center Director Nancy Webb, Dee Bruker and Greater Augusta Partnership for Literacy Chair Ricardo Bravo.

## Savannah Club Inducts First African American Female as President

Of the seven Rotary Clubs in the immediate metro Savannah area, the Rotary Club of Savannah East recently inducted the first African-American female Club President in Savannah Rotary history. Ms. Gena P. Taylor is the director of the Greenbrier Children's Center, established in 1949 as an orphanage but which now offers



myriad services to Savannah's children who may be runaway or homeless, victims of abuse or abandonment, and to parents in need of day care on a sliding scale.

Born in Savannah, orphaned as a young child, and raised by her grandparents, Ms. Taylor and her two brothers benefited

from a stable and loving home environment. Giving back to the community was encouraged by her large extended family. She was educated in Savannah's public schools, then received a Bachelor's Degree in Professional English at South Carolina State University, with a minor in Broadcast journalism.

While working towards her Master's in Public Administration at Savannah State, Ms. Taylor served as the university's Writing Center and Plato Computer Center Director. Active in numerous volunteer endeavors, she also served as the Coastal Services Director for Lutheran Services and as Allocations Director and Vice-President of Community Planning for the United Way. She's been at Greenbrier for 10 years. Despite being separated at an early age from two older sisters, Ms. Taylor maintains a very close and loving relationship with all of her family members.

Her spirituality is strengthened through the nondenominational community at Overcoming By Faith and her involvement with Top Ladies of Distinction. She is also currently training for the 2014 Rock n' Roll Marathon.

# Kings Bay Rotarians Donate to Salvation Army



*Rotary Club of Kings Bay recently made a sizeable donation of clothes, shoes and other items to the Salvation Army.*

# Savannah West Makes Donations



*DG Ted is pleased to accept a check from Savannah West for Polio Plus and a donation in Charolette's name to Bethesda Academy from Savannah West Rotary President Andrew Clark. Thank you Savannah West.*

# Macon North Rotary Club Inducts Members

*District Governor Ted Thompson and his wife Charolette made their official club visit to the Macon North Club last month. During his visit, DG Ted had the honor of inducting three new members and one transfer from another club. New inductees are Ashley Sillay, Kevin Parker, and Curt Reynolds and Mallory Jones as a transfer from another Macon club.*



# DG Receives 'Big Check' from Savannah South

The Rotary Club of Savannah South is proud to be the first club in the District to meet the goal set by DG Ted Thompson to donate \$1,500 to PolioPlus and challenges other clubs to continue the fight to eradicate Polio. The club made the presentation when DG Ted Thompson and his wife, Charolette, visited on August 5.



Before the meeting, the club's board of directors met with the DG Ted to discuss plans for the year. With a continued emphasis on education and literacy, the Rotary Club of Savannah South will focus on its signature project - support of the Savannah Early Childhood Foundation. In addition it will distribute dictionaries to all 3rd graders in the Chatham County School System, volunteer at the Savannah Children's Book Festival, and support the Live Oak Public Library's Summer Reading Program.

The \$1,500 given by the club to Polio Plus will be

matched by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation two to one. Thus, the clubs \$1,500 donation becomes a \$4,500 donation. This is enough money to vaccinate 7,500 children against polio. Making the presentation to DG Ted is Club President Doyle Kelley.

# Fun, Fellowship Highlighted Foundation Seminar



On Sat., Aug. 2, 2014 Rotarians from all over District 6920 came together in Sandersville on the campus of OFTC for a day of training in order to qualify for grant money available to their clubs. Rain didn't seem to dampen spirits nor keep people away, the room was filled to capacity. Several Rotarians were recognized as Bequest Society members: Herschel Scott, Sandersville; Doug Foran, Savannah Sunrise; Pam Lightsey, Augusta South. Sandersville Rotary Club walked away for the third year with the Blankenship cup for the "most giving per capita" for the year 2013-14.

The whole room was able to join in a birthday wish to PDG Lloyd Horadan after being surprised during the training session with a cake from his wife Jan and a chorus of "happy birthday to you...." from the entire group.

## Register Now for RLI

Don't forget that you can now register for the 2015 District 6920 RLI sessions. They are a great opportunity to learn more about Rotary and your part in making your club and Rotary International great and to meet fellow Rotarians from around the District and learning from them.

Sessions will be held:

- ◆ **Saturday, January 17th at the Campus Crossroads Savannah Technical College in Pooler**
- ◆ **Saturday, March 14th at the Dubose Porter building on the Oconee Falls Technical College campus in Dublin**

Register at [www.rlitraining.org](http://www.rlitraining.org). You can also register for any sessions outside of District 6920 if they fit your schedule. Out of District sessions are another great way to meet and learn from Rotarians just like you.

Yours in Rotary,  
Blair Train, District 6920 RLI Chair

## Arthur Receives PHF



*Congratulations to Celinda Arthur, Statesboro Rotary Club, for her new Paul Harris. Making presentation are Club President Gary Johnson and Governor Ted.*

# Touring Fort Stewart



*DG Ted and Charolette were honored to have a V.I.P. tour of Fort Stewart with special tour guides, Protocol and Public Affairs, Mr. Pat Young and CW3 Streeper. DG Ted and Charolette were picked up at 7:30 a.m. on August 19 by Hinesville Rotary Club President Brigitte Shanken, boarded a van and were blown away all morning with the tour, which culminated at the Winn Army Community Hospital. Col. Kirk Eggleston was the group's tour guide at the hospital. DG Ted and Charolette said, "We were thankful for this insight into Fort Stewart, for the extra care and caring by everyone involved and generally for the wonderful morning. Thank you Hinesville!"*

# DG Ted Receives Green Jacket During Dublin Club Visit



*On Friday, August 15, Governor Ted made his official visit to Dublin Rotary Club where he received the very coveted "green jacket". Just look at that smile! Pictured with Ted is Robert "Bubba" East, President of the Dublin Rotary Club.*

## 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**  
javelin73@cox.net

**District Newsletter - Deborah Steele**  
dsteele76@comcast.net

**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.**  
julian@jdiazjiriargroup.net

**Literacy - Jeanette Caneega**  
j.caneega1541@gmail.com

**Membership - Alfie Cofield**  
alfiecofield@gmail.com

**PETS Curriculum Chair/Council on Legislation/RI 2017 Convention - Lloyd Horadan**  
lhoradan@oftc.edu

**Paul Harris Society/PETS District Rep - Gary Smith**  
gdsmith1@mchsi.com

**Polio Plus - Bob Griggers**  
bobgrig@aol.com

**Public Relations - Elizabeth Jordan**  
ecjordan19@gmail.com

**Rotary Foundation Major Donor - Albert Reichert**  
apr@awrlaw.com

**Rotary Leadership Institute - Blair Train**  
btrain@gshg.org

**RYLA - Charles Johnson**  
charles.johnson@spsc.edu

**Scholarships - Nancy Shumaker**  
nwshumaker@yahoo.com

**Silent Auction - Laura Thompson**  
laurat@exchangebankshares.com

**Speech Contest - Jan Horadan**  
jhoradan@gmail.com