

Subject: READ NOW: DISTRICT 6920 NEWSLETTER, February, 2022

From: Rotary District 6920 <mailservice@DACdb.net>

Date: 2/3/2022, 5:41 PM

To: jim@oatland.org



DISTRICT 6920 NEWSLETTER

February, 2022

This is: Peace & Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

Dear Changemaker Jim,

WELCOME to your February District 6920 Newsletter.

Please take a moment NOW to read it & Learn about Clubs, Projects & Rotarians across Central and Coastal Georgia!

Club Presidents: Please promote the Newsletter in your clubs.

Together: WE ARE: ROTARY DISTRICT 6920



Message from Governor Ed;

Greetings, Changemaker Jim, - and all My Fellow Rotarian Changemakers !!

Whisk!!! Whoosh!!! Just like that, it's February, 2022 and the FUN continues.

This month's commentary will be brief because many exciting things are highlighted overall.


In a bit of personal news - as i write this - I'm isolated at home with a (so far mild) case of Covid! I'm looking forward to being out of quarantine and back on the road as of next Monday night!

I am 'triple vaxed' - but well aware of all the places I go and the people I meet as your DG, before I set out on several days of Club Visits - I always test at home - - and Monday morning - the test was positive!

SO - I've been home for the week - and getting a lot of rest - but I've also been working with Heather Kellen on the District Conference, and tackling a bunch of other Rotary things. Sometimes God hands us a favor - and this week of 'retreat and work' (and a bit of time off) has been a gift to me. AND - I even made one club visit - - by attending the 'virtual' Augusta West club meeting!

Here's our BIGGEST NEWS: The District 6920 Conference registration is wide open.

Check out the information below - and register EARLY to take advantage of everything.

We have put together an exciting agenda which we'll publish mid-month, but rest assured that we hope to see many of you in Augusta from April 29-May 1.....I FEEL GOOD!!!  



As we charge into the second half of this Rotary year, I want to encourage you to continue doing your club activities enthusiastically as we "Serve To Change Lives."

Every time I leave from a club visit, you cannot imagine how much more energy I take to the next stop with the collective service projects in District 6920.

We've been talking about this for awhile now - - and clubs are doing a great job of tracking their volunteer efforts and lives impacted. You cannot believe the numbers! I am so excited about the total number of lives all of us across District 6920 have changed in the last few months.

The District Citations should reflect the overall magnitude of your commitment to Service Above Self.

Oh - - and to my UGA fellow Rotarians - WELCOME to the "3rd National Championship Club".

Remember the Tiger !



In closing, again - please remember to register for our conference. You will have another powerful Rotary experience in Augusta.

Finally, but most importantly, please keep Andy Lohn's family in your prayers. He was a dedicated Rotarian and genuine leader. His legacy will live forever.

Yours in Rotary,





Andy Lohn

In Memoriam

Our Dear Friend in Rotary - Andrew William Lohn, of Savannah, passed away on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 at the age of 61 after battling leukemia.

He leaves behind his beautiful bride of 31 years, Anna-Fay (Wiggers) Lohn, and beloved daughters, Katherine Reid Lohn and Caroline Moffett Lohn.

Andy was fiercely dedicated to Service Above Self and served not only his Rotary Club of Savannah South, where he was a Past President, but many organizations in the Savannah area.

Additionally, he served as a part of the District Leadership for many years, including as District Governor Elect. He was never too busy to lend a hand, or a word of friendship and encouragement to those around him. He took joy in meeting people and forging new friendships wherever he went.

He was also a volunteer fireman with Southside Fire Department - Skidaway Island, and served as an Elder at Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church.

He was a proud member of the German Heritage Society and the German Friendly Society

of Savannah.

Born in Denver, Colorado, Andy earned his Undergrad Degree from Bob Jones University, his Law Degree from Georgia State University College of Law, and his LLM from The University of Alabama School of Law. A member of the Georgia and Alabama Bar associations, Andy practiced law in Savannah at the firm of Meyer & Sayers.

Andy's family has suggested remembrances be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society or Rotary International.

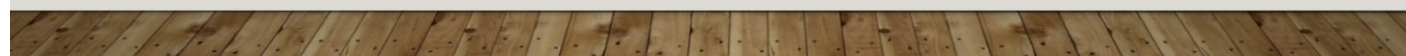
It is fitting that the RI Theme for this year - which would have been 'his' year as Governor - is '[Serve to Change Lives](#)'.

THAT is something Andy did throughout his life, with every breath he took.

Thank you Andy - for your friendship, for the joy you brought to every room you entered, and for being a great part of our District 6920 family.



SEC. A. TOP PRIORITIES: DISTRICT NEWS & EVENTS



ATTENTION ALL CLUB PRESIDENTS ELECT: PEACH STATE PETS

Each year ALL incoming Rotary Club Presidents - in EVERY ROTARY CLUB WORLD-WIDE - are required to attend training in their district, called PETS: President-Elect Training Seminar.

In Georgia - all 3 of our Districts come together for a JOINT training experience - which allows for sharing of effort, speakers and resources - and is a TON of fun for the PEs and all!

Peach State PETS 2022 is coming up FAST on **February 26-27** at the Renaissance Concourse Hotel (Airport), Atlanta, GA.

Officers, Leadership, and Presenters from all three Georgia Rotary Districts - will take part in informing and providing crucial information to the new **incoming Rotary Presidents for the 2022-2023 year.**

This is a reminder to make your reservations (room and meal) as soon as possible before the rooms at the Renaissance become fully booked.

Each year at PETS, someone is in an adjacent hotel due to the rooms at the Renaissance being booked fully.

Don't let that be YOU this year!

<https://peachstatepets.org>

CLUB PRESIDENTS ELECT - - HAVE YOU REGISTERED?

If not - - please do so NOW. You must attend PETS in order to serve as Club President !

Online Registration Closes February 17th, 2022, but again please make your reservations as soon as possible.

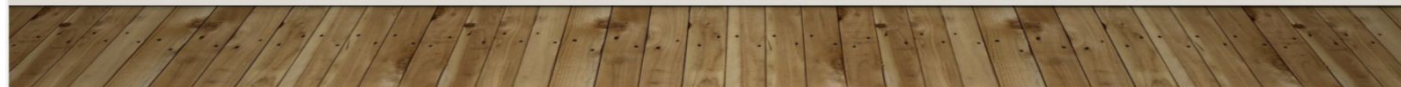
If you have any questions - please feel free to give me a call.

Ed Davis

Rotary District 6920

District Trainer – 2022-2023

Cell – (478) 361-9855



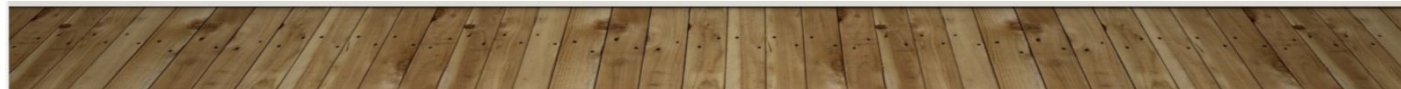
DISTRICT 6920 ASSISTANT GOVERNOR TRAINING - Saturday Feb 5

As most of you know - within our LARGE District - a group of dedicated Assistant Governors serve as the local liaison and first point of help between Clubs and District.

Assistant Governors help in a myriad of ways - to help their assigned Clubs get all the support they need - and to make sure the District leadership remains fully aware of everything going on in every Club and community, across District 6920.

These dedicated Rotarians are tapped by the Governor - and work as part of the District Leadership team. As such, they form their own 'fraternity' and support each other. Each year, the Assistant Governors receive special training, updates and info for the incoming Governor's year. Led by DGE Heather Kellen, this year, AG training is happening on Saturday February 5, at the Houston County Board of Education Annex in Macon. It will include a full day of information, training, and getting to know one another.

Many thanks to our wonderful Team of Assistant Governors - and to all those who are helping make this important day a success.



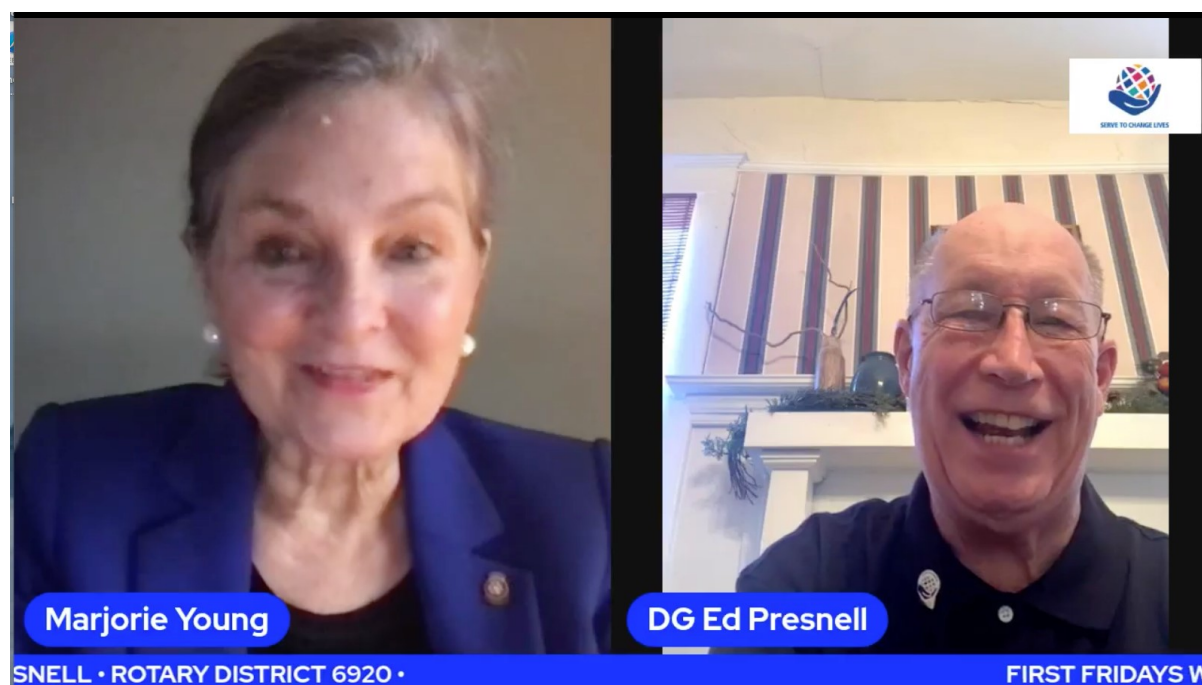
Rotary First Friday LIVE with the Governor

BE SURE To Watch This Friday, February 4 at NOON. Click [HERE](#)

Each month Governor Ed (sometimes joined by guests) discusses things happening in our District and around the world in ROTARY.

Rotarian Marjorie Young (Dist. Comm. Chair) - facilitates this informative and fun conversation.

Join in LIVE - or watch the recording any time you like (using the link above or by going to our District Facebook Page).



DISTRICT AWARDS CITATION GUIDELINES & CHECKLIST Info

Attn ALL CLUBS - - how are you coming on your Club Citations and Awards???

The Citation Worksheet for District 6920 clubs to work on this year is **Incredibly EASY to Use**

The Goals are EASY to Achieve!

Click [HERE](#) to view and download the Worksheet.

Instructions for completing the form are on the form, page 2.

If anyone asks, this is the only worksheet that needs to be filled out to achieve Bronze-Silver-Gold club status this year.

WOOO WOOO: There is no multi-tab excel worksheet to complete.

Remember: EVERY CLUB can achieve these goals! This is the year we could have 100% Club Success!

Let's Go For It !!!

Yours in Rotary Service,
Amy Maley



DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2022

REGISTRATION IS OFFICIALLY OPEN!

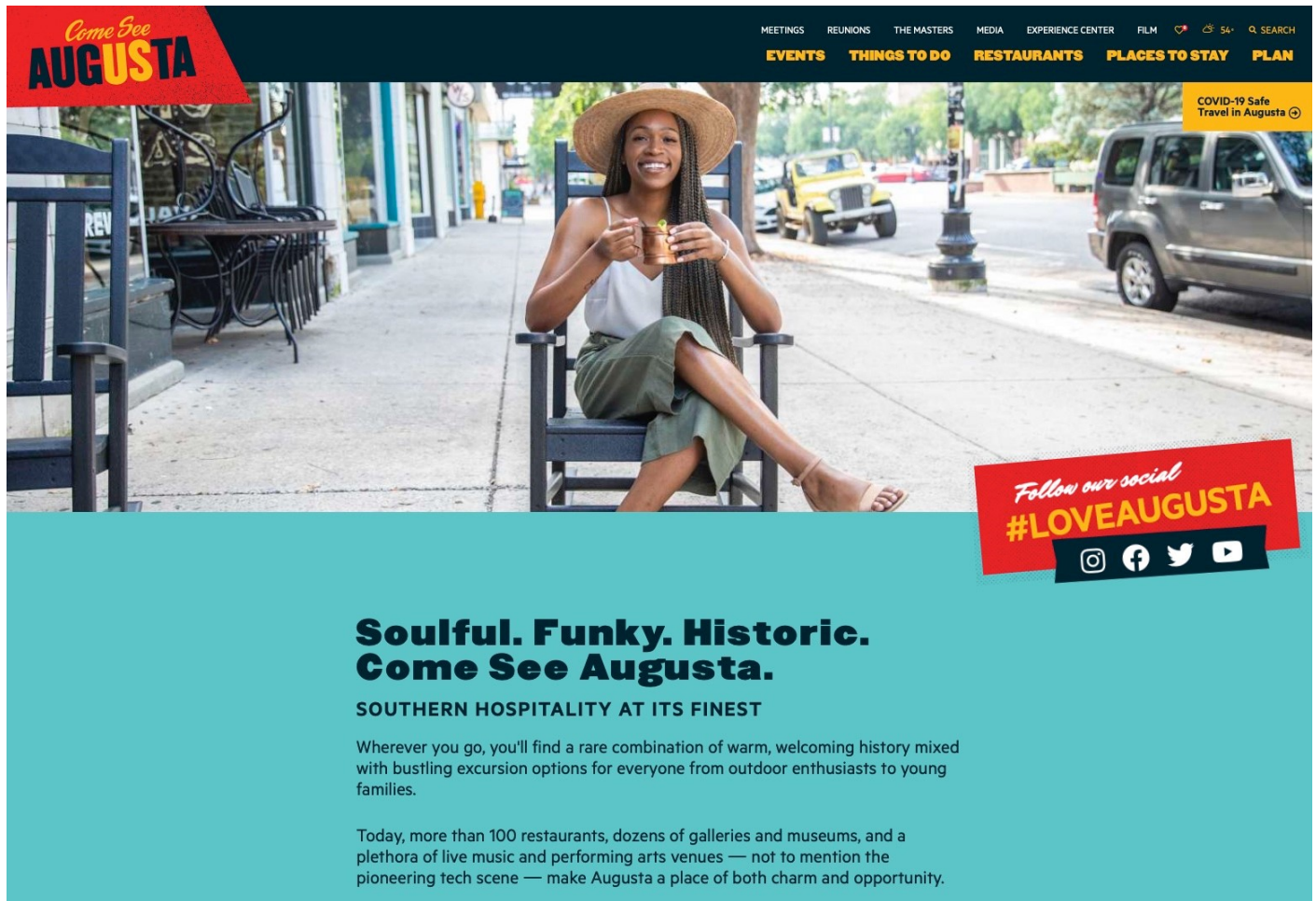
Click [HERE](#) to register and make your hotel reservations.

The dates are April 29 - May 1 at the Augusta Marriott Conference Center and Hotel.

Here's a look at why a Weekend adventure to Augusta will be a highlight of your year:

Check out the Visitor's Center website: [Augusta Awaits](#)

"Whoaa! I Feel GOOOOD !!!"



Come See AUGUSTA

MEETINGS REUNIONS THE MASTERS MEDIA EXPERIENCE CENTER FILM COVID-19 Safe Travel in Augusta SEARCH

EVENTS THINGS TO DO RESTAURANTS PLACES TO STAY PLAN

Follow our social
#LOVEAUGUSTA

**Soulful. Funky. Historic.
Come See Augusta.**

SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY AT ITS FINEST

Wherever you go, you'll find a rare combination of warm, welcoming history mixed with bustling excursion options for everyone from outdoor enthusiasts to young families.

Today, more than 100 restaurants, dozens of galleries and museums, and a plethora of live music and performing arts venues — not to mention the pioneering tech scene — make Augusta a place of both charm and opportunity.

The DATES are: **April 29th-May 1st, 2022**

Join us at the Augusta Marriott Convention Center where Rotary FUN, FELLOWSHIP and FOCUS AREA LEARNING will ALL be on the agenda. Save the date now - more information will follow -- hope to see ya'll in Augusta!

Cheers,
 Kelly Knitter
 2022 District Conference Chair
Kelly.Knitter@gmail.com / (808-499-8025)
 Augusta West Rotary Club



HERE'S ANOTHER EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITY THROUGH ROTARY

Have you ever attended an RI Convention? If not - - you'd be amazed - thousands of fellow Rotarians from across the Globe come together each year to celebrate Rotary and make new friends. It is FUN. This year - it's in Houston, Texas.

Easy travel, and easy on the pocket book.



LIMITED TIME ONLY: Save on the 2022 Rotary International Convention

In response to questions and concerns raised by members worldwide, we are pleased to announce that the Rotary International Board of Directors has confirmed that the 2022 Rotary International Convention will be an **in-person** event 4-8 June in Houston, Texas, USA. We are excited to offer a special registration rate of US \$495 through 28 February.

In addition, the Board has determined that all participants, including Rotary International preconvention participants, must either be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 ([as defined by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)) OR provide a negative result from a COVID-19 test taken no more than 72 hours before their arrival at the convention.

Check convention.rotary.org for updates as we continue to determine what safety protocols are necessary, based on the current CDC recommendations for safe gatherings.

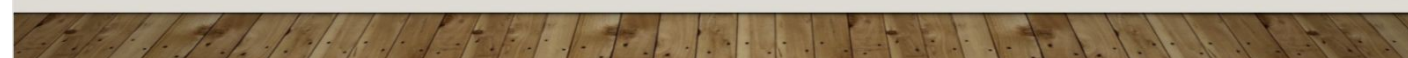
Don't delay, because this special registration offer expires **28 February**. You'll have the opportunity to cancel for a full refund, minus a \$50 per person administration fee, until 30

April.

REGISTER TODAY



SEC. B. DISTRICT PROJECTS: INITIATIVES & PLANS



MEMBERSHIP:



LOOKING FOR MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT INSPIRATION ????

[Click Here](#) for a list of **100 WAYS TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS**

To whet your appetite - - here are the TOP TEN on the list:

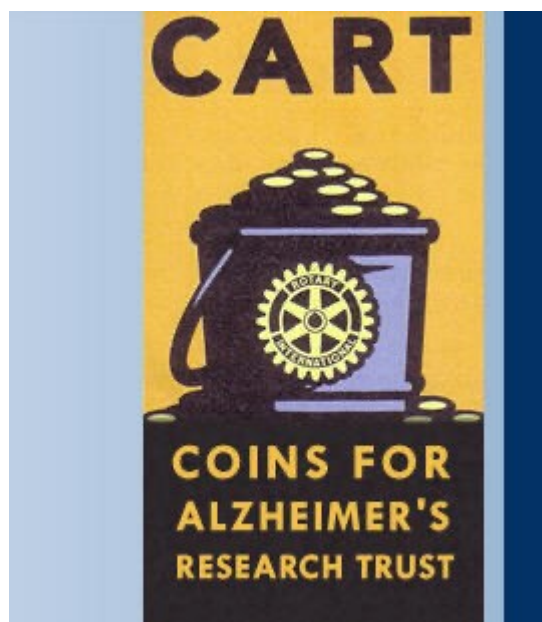
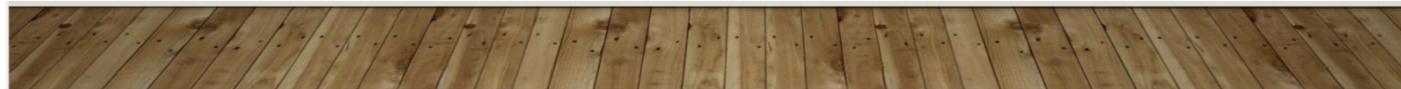
1. Ask someone
2. Bring a guest to a meeting
3. Advertise in newspapers & cable TV
4. Have a clear club goal & strategic plan
5. Letters or personal contact with local businesses
6. Contact with the Chamber of Commerce

7. Bookmarks inserted in library books
8. Public meetings at malls, outdoors etc.
9. Booth at malls, fairs festivals etc.
10. Pamphlets in doctors' offices, libraries
11. Host an Open House

Question: Does your club have a membership brochure focused on Rotary and YOUR club? If not - - this might be the place to begin as you ramp up your membership initiative. You can easily create a two-sided 'flyer' - - Describing the Service and Fun Opportunities through membership in YOUR Club, and the work of Rotary International and the RI Foundation on the back side. throw in a few photos - and Then have it printed on glossy paper at your nearest office store - (1000 are surprisingly inexpensive) VOILA - something you can place in any handy location - any time. and when you host your club open house - - there it is - info people can take with them.

Alfie Cofield, Dist Membership Chair

alfiecofield@gmail.com



CART News:

CART is happy to announce that six Alzheimer's researchers have been chosen from a group of 30 to submit proposals for research grants to be funded by CART.

We need to raise the funds to finance the grants. The goal for this year is \$1 million and we are just little over two-thirds of the way there.

The amount of money from contributions to CART from March of 2022 until mid-March of 2022 will determine how many of these proposals we will be able to fund and for how much.

Let's not leave any possible prevention, treatment, or cure for Alzheimer's on the table due to lack of funds!

If your club has money it has not submitted through the CART Online Contribution Portal, please submit all funds by March 15.

Individuals may contribute directly through the portal, also.

This date is in line with our March 31 deadline for funds to be counted for District awards recognition.

Thank you for you very generous support of CART! Questions?

Contact Glenda Kessler, D6920 CART Chair Rotary Club of Camden County



FOUNDATION NEWS:

District Grant update

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

As January comes to a close, we have 7 of the 42 District Grants completed or in the final review process!

Pmails went out this week to all clubs with approved grants reminding them that they need to complete their final report and upload cancelled check(s) so they may receive reimbursement from DDF funds.

I am happy to report this method of funding the grant after the final report is complete has been a great success. Additionally, there is still \$6700 in uncommitted DDF funds.

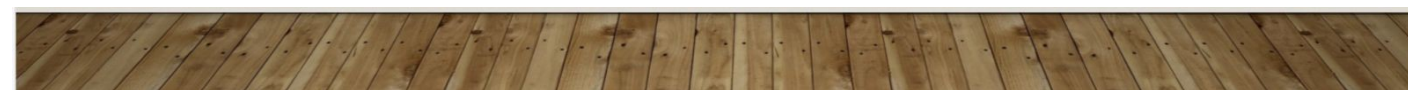
Since the timeline for a second round of grants is limited, our District leadership has decided that these funds will be distributed to all of the grants that are currently approved.

As a result, your club should anticipate about an additional 10% of DDF funds for your grants. Your Grants team of Hamsa Thota, Joy Hurst and I will adjust your budget tab and equitably distribute these remaining funds.

It is truly inspiring to see the impact each of your clubs is having in your communities.

Please continue this effort to "Serve to Change Lives".

Yours in Rotary Service,
A. Hunt Thornhill
District 6920 Grants Chair



ROTARY PEACE CENTERS

Dear District Officers, Clubs and Rotarians,

The [2023 Rotary Peace Fellowship application](#) is now available, and we need your help finding the next cohort of global peace and development leaders.

As a district leader, you play a critical role in promoting the Rotary Peace Centers programs to potential candidates. These resources can help you, and others, recruit candidates:

- Take the [All About the Rotary Peace Fellowship](#) course to learn about qualification requirements, eligibility restrictions, the application process, and more.
- Send emails to your contacts with the [fellowship announcement](#) attached.
- Use our [referral form](#) to tell us about potential candidates, and we'll follow up with them.
- As we grow our [certificate program](#), we are particularly seeking qualified candidates for our peace centers at Chulalongkorn University (Thailand) and Makerere University (Uganda). The one-year program is intended for working professionals and requires 11 weeks of on-site participation. We are looking for candidates with a minimum of five years of relevant work experience (the average age for this program is 42). Graduates receive a post-graduate diploma in peace studies upon completion of the program.

Candidates have until **15 May** to submit applications to The Rotary Foundation.

This year we are expanding our endorsement process to ensure an equitable process for districts and candidates. District Rotary Peace Fellowship Subcommittee Chairs who complete the required endorser training will be assigned up to 5 candidates to interview for endorsement consideration. Any additional applications from your district will be assigned to Rotarians your district identifies to become trained Rotary endorsers or they will be redirected to trained endorsers in another district. The endorser training will be available in the Rotary Learning Center in mid-March. Trained Rotary endorsers have until **1 July** to submit endorsed applications to The Rotary Foundation.

Send any questions about the fellowship program to rotarypeacecenters@rotary.org. Thank you for your dedication to the Rotary Peace Centers and your help educating Rotary

members and your community about the fellowships.

Sincerely,
Rotary Peace Centers program

Rotary Peace Centers are made possible by the generosity of donors.

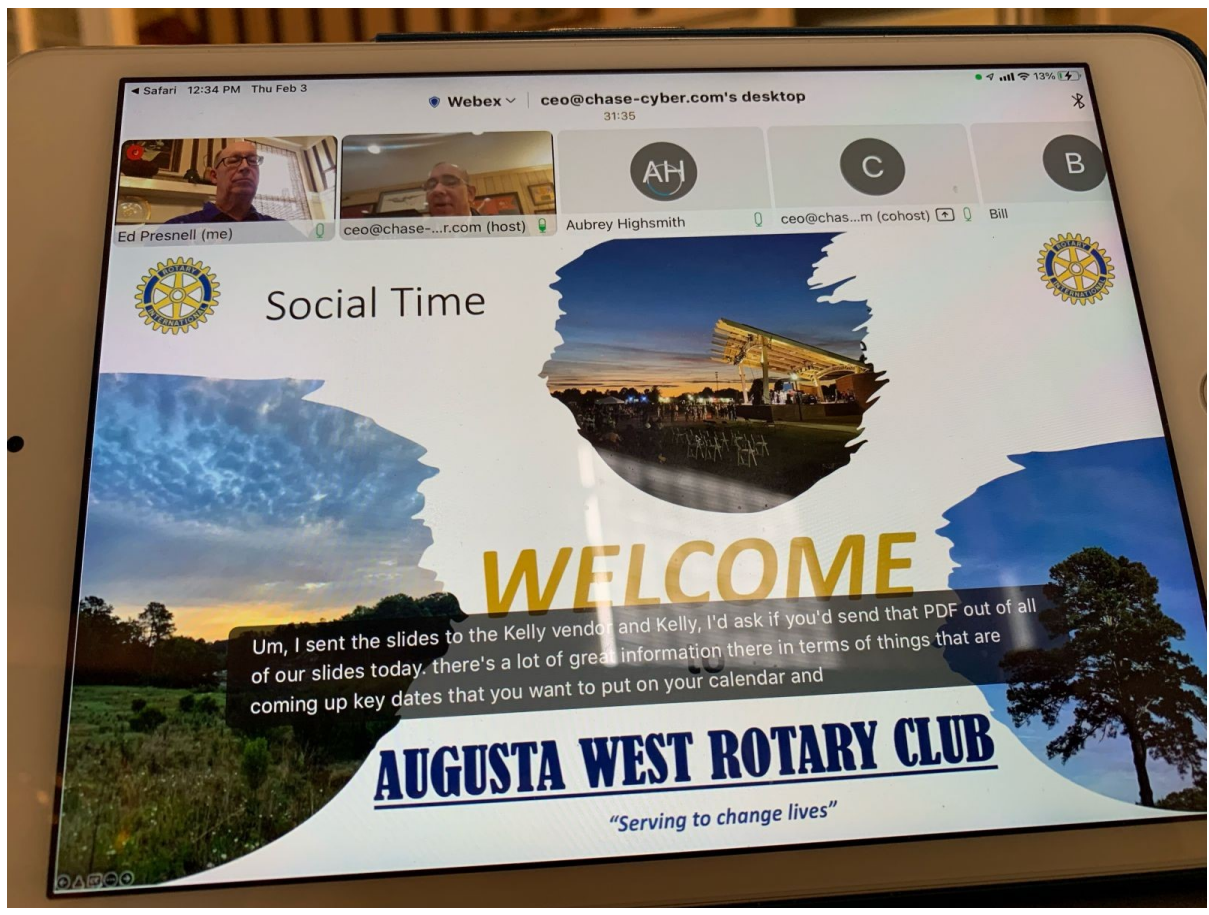
If you have any questions regarding the Rotary Peace Fellowship Program, please reach out to District Foundation Chair Hamsa Thota for more help and information

SEC. C. CLUBS & MEMBERS: CLUB NEWS & EVENTS

Governor Ed's Travels:

NEWS FLASH: DG Ed Attended his first Club Visit in February - VIRTUALLY - - with the Augusta West Club!

This allowed him to keep on track and charged up - - even while burning off his own case of Covid!



CLUB NEWS:

Sylvania Club welcomed 3 new members in January - including (pictured below) Paul Patel, Allison Willis, and Dorian Atkinson.



**Kudos to the Nashville Berrien Club for finding a great way to both SERVE and CREATE A PRESENCE in their Community.
The Club Sponsors this great Baseball field - while reminding players and families of all ages - of SERVICE ABOVE SELF!**





Charlene Hutchinson ▶ Rotary District 6920

November 1, 2021 · 🌐

Ocilla Rotary Club participated in Dictionary Give Away to 3rd Graders





Augusta West Rotary Club

January 25 at 7:34 AM · 🌐

President Welton, and Augusta West Rotary Club,
Congratulations on receiving ShelterBox HERO recognition for
Rotary Year 2021-2022.




Rotary Club of Camden County, GA is at Camden Middle School - Kingsland, Ga.

January 25 at 12:00 PM · Kingsland · 🌐

We are getting ready for our annual Stuff the Bag food drive! A huge shout out to the Camden County Middle School School Future Business Leaders of America Club who volunteered their time in preparing thousands of bags to head out to Camden County!



Rotary Club of Centerville, GA
Community Organization

 [Send message](#)

Rotary Club of Centerville, GA

1d · 

Rick Franklin is proud to have 3 generations Paul Harris recipients.



Effingham County donated stuff animals to the Sheriff's Department



SEC. D. YOUTH: GRSP, RYLA, ROTARACT, INTERACT

ROTARACT NEWS:

Glynn County Non-Profit: [Keep Golden Isles Beautiful](#)
 - names as their Community Partner of the Year / Non-Profit –
[THE COLLEGE OF COASTAL GEORGIA ROTARACT CLUB](#)

Here is the **(AMAZING)** Press Release as Issued by the Organization - -
WARMEST CONGRATS to the [College of Coastal Georgia Rotaractors](#) from EVERYONE in
 District 6920 !

"**Keep Golden Isles Beautiful** is fortunate to work with a multitude of community partners towards a cleaner and greener community. This support and volunteer effort is crucial for community betterment efforts, projects and initiatives.

One of those very valued and important groups is the recipient of our 2021 COMMUNITY

PARTNER OF THE YEAR, NON-PROFIT award, the **COLLEGE OF COASTAL GEORGIA ROTARACT CLUB**.

Under the wing of Rotary, Rotaract clubs offer young people ages 18 and older opportunities to develop leadership and professional skills, exchange ideas with community leaders and have fun through service.

With almost 11,000 Rotaract clubs worldwide, KGIB is fortunate that one of those very clubs is housed at the College of Coastal Georgia under the purview of advisor Brian Weese.

CCGA's Rotaract club has been an active and dedicated member of KGIB's Adopt-A-Highway program since April of 2013, where groups commit to cleaning a one-mile stretch of roadway at least four times a year.

In that time, Rotaract students have spent 450 hours removing 1,968 lbs of trash from a highly visible section of roadway near their school.

This gung-ho group also rolls up their sleeves at KGIB Marsh Madness cleanups, helping remove trash from the valuable salt marsh during the month of March.

Benefitting from CCGA Rotaract Club students are other annual KGIB efforts, such as the Plogging cleanup that combines jogging and picking up trash, the Brunswick City-wide cleanup, the annual Electronics Recycling & More event and KGIB administrative office tasks. As with any other KGIB volunteer group, each group contact is responsible for communicating with their members and our staff, making sure volunteers know where and when events are happening, completing annual paperwork and reporting event statistics.

Since 2013, our student Rotaract officer contact has changed 8 times. Whereas this usually poses a challenge for other volunteer groups, KGIB staff are routinely impressed with the organizational skills of the CCGA Rotaract Club, the leadership of its officers and the professionalism of its members.

With their boundless enthusiasm, community commitment, tireless energy and can-do attitude, it is no wonder that today we honor the CCGA Rotaract club as KGIB's 2021 COMMUNITY PARTNERS OF THE YEAR / NON-PROFIT. CONGRATULATIONS CCGA ROTARACT CLUB!"



Front row, left to right: Mayor Cornell Harvey, Monica del Cid, Olivia Terry, Logan Hildreth, Deborah McCauley-Craig and Lea King-Badyna.
Back row, left to right: Tim Bane, Zack Gowen and Clement Cullens. **Not pictured:** Gail Chandler, AJ Salinas, Jennifer Hatcher and Mike Hatcher.



PHOTO CAPTION: Celebrating community and honoring volunteers was the focus of Keep Golden Isles Beautiful’s recent Volunteer Recognition breakfast.

With a staff of just two, the 40+ year-old educational non-profit depends on volunteer effort, community/government partners and financial supporters to further community betterment activities, projects and initiatives.

Ten community volunteer and partner awards were presented for the calendar year 2021: **Community Partner of the Year/Non-Profit, College of Coastal Georgia Rotaract Club**; **Community Partner of the Year/Profit, Georgia Sea Grill**; **Outstanding Public Service/City Government, Deborah McCauley-Craig**; **Outstanding Public Service/County Government, Timothy Bane**; **Outstanding Elected Official, Mayor Cornell Harvey**; **Environmental Steward of the Year, Jennifer & Mike Hatcher**; **Horizon Award, Logan Hildreth**; **Shining Star Award, Monica del Cid**; **Hinery Adopt-A-Highway Volunteer of the Year Award, Gail Chandler**; **Bootsie Mason Award of Excellence, Clement Cullens**.

Each recipient received a custom-made award hand crafted from scrap wood and bicycle parts created by Terry Trowbridge.



Georgia Rotary Student Program Names New Program Director



Georgia Rotary Student Program is excited to announce Katheryne Fields as its inaugural Program Director for Georgia Rotary Student Program, a critical leadership position that was identified by GRSP's strategic plan.

GRSP Chair Bert Guy shared the news at GRSP 75th Gala in Thomasville in January. Fields spent the past year as the marketing and development director for the organization.

Guy said, "Katheryne has demonstrated excellent communication and organizational skills. She has proven her passion for the program and served as a resource for GRSP. I am certain she will continue to lead, collaborate, maintain and build relationships to enhance the fundraising and branding initiatives within GRSP's Strategic Plan."

In her new role, Fields will work closely with the GRSP chair, officers, directors, trustees, GRSP Foundation, Georgia Rotary Clubs, colleges, host families plus GRSP students and alumni promoting the cause of world peace through higher education. Her duties will include assisting students, overseeing office administration, software modernization plus raising funds and awareness for the organization.

Fields spearheaded the GRSP Foundation's Generations of Generosity Campaign in 2021, raising more than \$160,000 for the GRSP Peace Plaza and Will Watt Memorial Fountain, which was recently dedicated in January in Thomasville.

"I am very honored and proud to be a part of this great program that partners with Georgia Rotary Clubs to provide one-year ambassadorial scholarships to international students to attend colleges and universities in the state," Fields said. "I look forward to building on this incredible 75-year legacy that has already impacted our state and other countries around the world."

Guy said the search committee for this position reviewed more than 160 resumes and participated in interviews with many outstanding applicants for the program director position. Fields brings more than 20 years of writing, communication, marketing, business, strategic planning and corporate events experience, with five of those years in higher education and non-profit foundations. Fields holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication from Berry College. She is a member of Daybreak Griffin Rotary Club in Griffin, where she and her husband Dale, an avid golfer, reside.

Fields will begin her new role effective February 1 and can be reached at kfields@grsp.org

Bert Guy

Program Chair

Georgia Rotary Student Program

P.O. Box 61327

Savannah, GA 31420

912-322-2672 (Mobile)

www.grsp.org*Bringing Nations Together Since 1946*

GRSP Celebrates 75 Years, Dedicates Peace Plaza & Will Watt Memorial Fountain

Georgia Rotary Student Program celebrated 75 years with a gala January 21 and dedication January 22 in historic Thomasville, home of GRSP founder Will Watt for the GRSP Peace Plaza and Will Watt Memorial Fountain.

GRSP Chair Bert Guy said, "When we reflect on the past 75 years, we are aware of the many leaders who played a vital part in the history of GRSP. GRSP is credited for connecting many smaller Georgia colleges with international students, often their first in the college or town." The gala featured a spotlight on student success and GRSP Foundation Fellow award recognitions for Trustees. Johnny Dukes, Rotary Club of Valdosta North; Michael Emanuele, Rotary Club of North Atlanta; Al Homebroek, Rotary Club of Lawrenceville; William "Billy" Kidd of Rotary Club of Hartwell; Gerald Smith, Rotary Club of Dublin and William 'Bill' Smith, Rotary Club of Brookhaven, were honored for their distinguished service, presented with resolutions and named Trustee Emeritus.

The GRSP Foundation partnered with the Rotary Club of Thomasville and the Courtyard® by Marriott® Thomasville Downtown in the GRSP Peace Plaza and Will Watt Memorial Fountain. The landmark will preserve the history of the program and provide a permanent marker for GRSP. Former GRSP Chair Emeritus and Treasurer J. Terry Gordon initiated the Generations of Generosity fundraising campaign, which raised more than \$160,000 for the project. The Rotary Club of Thomasville led the way with more than \$60,000 in contributions.

GRSP Foundation Chair Joe Jones recognized donors to the project, including a 1965 Alumnus from Israel who graduated from Georgia Tech, Dr. Shlomo Barnoon. Barnoon made a donation in memory of GRSP Chair Emeritus Hue Thomas, Jr of the Rotary Club of Savannah and Founding Committee Member Kendall Weisiger, an Atlanta Rotarian whose support of international students through the Rotary Education Foundation of Atlanta was merged into GRSP. Barnoon considered Thomas and Weisiger to be a visionaries who

inspired him to support more than 300 international students of his own.

The Rotary Club of Thomasville made a \$1,000 contribution in honor of Jeremy Emmett, the chief executive officer of Southern Lodging, the Thomasville business that owns the Courtyard Thomasville Downtown. Emmett was named as Will Watt Fellow, which was presented at the dedication ceremony.

Will Watt III, grandson and namesake of GRSP Founder Will Watt, addressed the crowd, which included more than 20 members of the Watt family. He said Will Watt Sr.'s house at 714 North Dawson Street had an open-door policy for the Georgia Rotary Student Plan, the initial name for the Georgia Rotary Student Program.

"There are some wonderful pictures from the Thomasville newspaper of him enjoying the company of the kids," Watt said. "He even served as a stand-in 'Father-of-the-Bride' for one student who couldn't return to her country to get married due to civil unrest that had just broken out. So he walked her down the aisle and she was married here in Thomasville."

Guy closed the weekend with a toast stating, "We honor the legacy of our Founder Will Watt and the more than 3,692 alumni from 108 countries who have shared in the success of this program. We lift our glasses to honor the program that provides leadership, scholarship, excellence and service."

To read Will Watt III's full remarks, get a glimpse of the weekend in photographs by GRSP District 6920 Director Milton Heard, review resolutions and view the full Generations of Generosity Donor List in the GRSP 75th Commemorative Program, visit www.grsp.org/history.



More than 20 family members of Georgia Rotary Student Program's Founder Will Watt joined GRSP leadership, students and Trustees to dedicate the GRSP Peace Plaza and Will Watt Memorial Fountain dedication.



GRSP leadership, including Vice Chair J. Michael Sweigart, Chair Emeritus Ronnie Waller, Chair Bert Guy, Chair Emeritus Dennis Still, Secretary Lorri Christopher, Trustee Emeritus Al Homebroek and GRSP Foundation President Joe Jones highlighted the 75 year success of the program at the gala.



Will Watt III honors the legacy of grandfather Will Watt Sr. at GRSP Peace Plaza and Will Watt Memorial Fountain dedication.

SEC. E. TOOLS: CITATIONS, RESOURCES, FACEBOOK, RI NEWS, CONTACT US, & LINKS

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFO AND LINKS:

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Your Club & District on-line Database DACdb: <http://www.dacdb.com> or [CLICK HERE](#)

Our District Website: <http://www.rotarydistrict6920.org/> or [CLICK HERE](#)

Our District Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Rotary6920> or [CLICK HERE](#)

Our District Twitter Account: <https://twitter.com/RotaryDist6920> or [CLICK HERE](#)

Rotary International Website: <https://www.rotary.org/en> Or [CLICK HERE](#)

Rotary International Foundation: <https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary/rotary-foundation> Or [CLICK HERE](#)

My Rotary: <https://my.rotary.org/en/> or [CLICK HERE](#)

(My Rotary is a place FULL of tools for Rotarians and Clubs - you'll need to register seperately for an 'account' - - but OH what a Treasure trove of info, videos, PR materials - awaits!)

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