



From Our District Governor

From Excellence to Greatness

By André Marria
Aristotle once said: "Excellence is never an accident. It is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, and intelligent execution; it represents the wise choice of many alternatives, choice, not chance, determines your destiny."

As we begin our new Rotary Year, let us keep in mind how awesome we are as individuals in this district!!! It will take our combined efforts to 'Create Hope in the World,' to move us from Excellence to Greatness! We can and will do it!!!

I am so honored to work with you in making this a reality. I have my "Boots on the Ground." I ask you to revisit your "Why" in Rotary as we embark on this journey. I challenge you to develop a plan of action which focuses on continuity. In doing this, you have the roadmap and guide to reach your destination.
[more]

LEADERBOARD Check out the full district scoreboard

Here are the clubs that are leading the way in our district for membership, annual fund and polio plus.

Category	NET MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL FUND	POLIO PLUS
I	Fayetteville	North Atlanta	Brookhaven
II	North Columbus	North Fulton	Vinings Cumberland
III	Marietta	Dunwoody	Carrollton-Dawn Breakers
IV	Roswell	Roswell	Peachtree City

Key Dates

- Saturday, June 6th, 2026 **Americus RYLA - DISTRICT 6900**
- Saturday, June 6th, 2026 **Americus 2026 Rotary Sheffield Gala**



Foundation News

Lottery Raises \$170,000 to Help End Polio

By George Granade
You may remember that Darren Jones, brother of our immediate past RI President Jennifer Jones, created a painting entitled "Imagine One's Dream" that was the visual inspiration for her year as President. Each district received a copy of the print to use to inspire continued support of Polio Plus. In our district, Rotarians had the opportunity to win the print by donating \$100 to Polio Plus - and were encouraged to do so at each of my official visits during the year. Congratulations to **Julia Houston, Rotary Club of Atlanta**, for winning this beautiful artwork. And congratulations to you - the lottery raised over \$170,000 for Polio Plus when the drawing was done. [more]



GRSP Update

GRSP Conclave Slated Aug. 18 in Macon - Reserve Your Spot Now!

By Katheryne Fields

Rotarians and guests are invited to Conclave to welcome the Georgia Rotary Student Program Class of 2023-24 in Macon August 18-20. Conclave is hosted this year by District 6920 and under the direction of the Rotary Club of Macon, the Rotary Club of Macon North and the Rotary Club of Downtown Macon with Rebecca Grist and GRSP 6920 Director Milton Heard as co-chairs. Registration is now open for Conclave, please visit the GRSP Calendar at <https://grsp.org/calendar-of-events>

Hotel Forty Five, historic-boutique hotel in downtown Macon, has a block of rooms set aside for Conclave participants who will need lodging with July 18 as the deadline to reserve the special rate. [more]



Expand Your Rotary
Thinking

RLI Opportunities Abound in 2023

By Stephanie Windham
The 2023-2024 Rotary
year will be filled with
opportunities to Learn,
Share, and Grow
through Rotary
Leadership Institute.
Here are some dates
and locations to
remember:

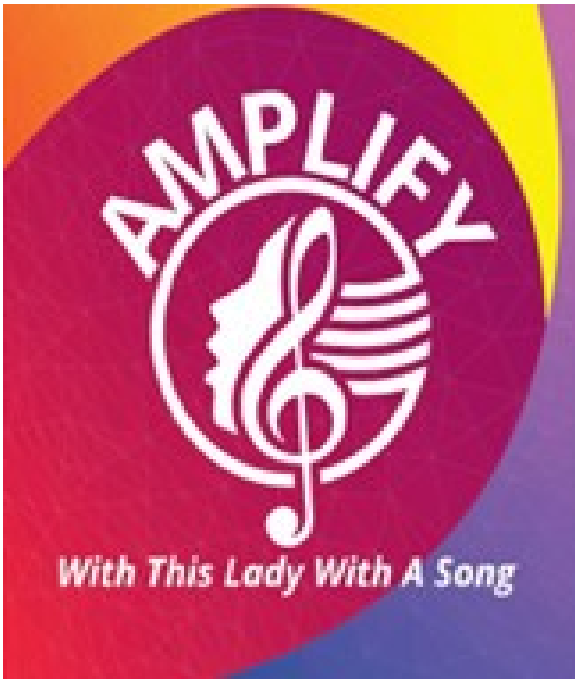
- July 22, 2023 -
Graduate Course in
Transforming Your Club
- Midwest Food Bank,
Peachtree City, Georgia.
- August 12, 2023 -
Parts One, Two and
Three - Cooper Lighting,
Peachtree City, Georgia.
- August 26, 2023 -
Parts One, Two and
Three - PCOM Georgia,
Suwanee, Georgia.
- October 14, 2023 -
Parts One, Two and
Three - Ben Robertson
Community Center,
Kennesaw, Georgia.

Expand your Rotary
knowledge and network
by attending RLI in
Georgia. The RLI
Sunshine Division also
offers opportunities
across Florida and the
Caribbean, as well as
virtual opportunities via
Zoom. For more
information and to
register for an online or
in-person event, go
to <https://rlitraining.org/>
[more]



Developing
Future
Leaders
**Good
Times
at
RYLA!!!**

By Jaclyn
Donovan
Summertime
in District
6900 mean
it's time for
the Rotary
Youth
Leadership
Awards,
better known
as RYLA!!
RYLA is
designed for
young adults
with proven
leadership
ability and a
commitment
to
community
service. The
District 6900
RYLA camp
was hosted
by the Rotary
Club of
Americus
June 17-21
on the
campus of
Georgia
Southwestern
State
University
and included
104 students
sponsored by
over 40
clubs.
[more]



District Conference 2024
**Register Now for
the 2024 Rotary
District 6900
Conference in
Jekyll Island,
Georgia**

By Stephanie Windham
District Conference returns to Jekyll Island, Georgia March 21-24, 2024. Join us as we Amplify Rotary and feature the Lady with a Song, none other than our District Governor André Marria. While cooler temperatures are still lingering around most of the country, Jekyll Island averages around 73 degrees during the month of March, with low humidity. It's perfect weather for walks on the beach, outdoor activities, and fun for the whole family! This island features a mix of calmness and curiosity with its white sandy beaches, natural beauty, and tons of greenery. This city also houses almost 33 historic structures. There is something for everyone on Jekyll Island.

DGE André is a Lady with a Song, and this conference will be filled with music, laughter, fun, and fellowship. Let's celebrate all the ways our clubs make Rotary BIGGER, BETTER, AND LOUDER! Make your plans to attend District Conference March 21-24, 2024 at the Jekyll Island Convention Center in beautiful Jekyll Island, GEORGIA. We look forward to seeing you there!The conference will be at the beautiful Jekyll Island Convention Center, and several hotels have room blocks reserved through February 21, 2024. Jekyll Island is booming, so you are encouraged to book your hotel room NOW! Once our room blocks are sold there is no guarantee that additional room nights will be added.
[more]



Rotary New Year **Peachtree City Rotarians Join 50th Annual July 4 Parade**

By Holly Davanzo
Along with over 115 other participants, **Rotary Club of Peachtree City** President Amy Benton participated in her first "official" event of the new year with the 50th Annual Peachtree City July 4 Parade! While a majority of the participants are decked out in red, white and blue golf carts for the three-mile route, PTC Rotarians ride in and walk alongside two of our Dragon Boats! The club is ready to kick off our new year! DG Andre challenged each of her presidents to choose a music genre to represent their club and/or community and to help share the theme through the next year as we "Amplify Rotary". In order to share our story of the oldest and largest service organization in our community, President Amy Benton has chosen to focus on 1967 - our charter year! [more]



Club News
Sandy Springs Celebrates Local Teachers

By Rollin Richmond

In May, the **Rotary Club of Sandy Springs** held a special celebration, recognizing one teacher from each of the 11 schools serving our community as Teachers of the Year. Chartered in 1972, the club just celebrated 50 years of serving the community ...
[more]



Club News
North Fulton Supports Local Foster Children

By Mike Mudd
The **Rotary Club of North Fulton** has a long history of working with children both in our community and around the world. This year, we wanted to focus on children in our community who have been placed in the Foster Care system. A committee was formed with past presidents Mike Mudd, Kristi Crockett and James Marosek ...
[more]

New Satellite Club

Atlanta Southern Crescent Adds Its First Satellite

By Claudia Merti

The Rotary Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent is proud to announce that we have formed our first Satellite Club - the Satellite Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent/Clifton-Emory. The approval came from Rotary International on June 30 and the Club started with 9 members. The new members are Yamin Farhat, Karina Hatcher, Pia Valeriano, Vivek Singh, Jeevan Markam, Kamlesh Patel, Djebo Gourmanon, Anpuj Achari, and Angelii Abroi Duggal.

[more]



Membership

What's Your Membership Strategy?

By Jackie Cuthbert

As we enter 2023-24, with a continued focus on growing our membership, we'd like to make the newsletter a place where we can learn from each other about successful strategies for recruiting, engaging and retaining new members.

While the idea we're sharing this month comes from the **Rotary Club of North Atlanta**, the pictures you see here ... [more]



Club News

East Cobb Supports Local First Responders

By Aaron Strimban
In June, Guy Gebhardt of the Rotary Club of East

Cobb delivered 14 boxes of Patak Meat's brats, knockwurst, sauerkraut and all the trimmings to station 14 of the Cobb County Fire Department for distribution to all three battalions which staff East Cobb's seven fire stations. The Club regularly supports Cobb County's first responders. [more]



Club News

Dunwoody Kicks Off 40-Year Celebration with Fourth of July Parade

By Jackie Cuthbert

There is a famous quote that embodies yesterday's Fourth of July celebration in Dunwoody - "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass ... It's about learning to dance in the rain."

Dunwoody Rotarians turned out yesterday morning despite the rain to continue a 30+ year tradition of being part of the city's annual parade or and Fourth of July Festival with its hot dog stand. President Jack Sparks and his family joined other Dunwoody Rotarians to "dance" in the parade that started just as the deluge began. His family also hosted the revival of the club's "float building party" on the Saturday before July 4. [more]



Club News
**Roswell
After
Hours
Holds
Comedy
Night**

By Becky Nelson
Roswell Rotary's
After Hours Club
(RRAH) hosted a
Comedy Night
recently at
Lucky's Burgers
& Brews as a
fundraiser for the
Max Gruver
Foundation. The
club sold 125
tickets, raising
over \$2,500 for
this "close-to-
home"
organization
focused on
educating
college/university
settings and
legislators of the
tragedies that
happen when
hazing goes too
far. It was a
Successful &
Beautiful night to
listen to multiple
stand-up
comedians,
socialize and do
good night.
NOTE: The RRAH
Club meets at
6:30 pm every
1st & 3rd
Tuesday evening
in the loft at The
Artillery Room on
Canton Street.
Everyone is
welcome to
attend and learn
more. [more]



Final Thought From
the Editor

Thomasville President Captures What We're All Thinking

By Jackie Cuthbert
When Mary Beth
Donalson, 2023-2024

President of Rotary
Club of Thomasville,
gave her opening
remarks to kick off
the new Rotary year,
she could have been
speaking for all the
presidents of the
Rotary Clubs in
District 6900: "I
stand here before you
now as the 103rd
President of the
Rotary Club of
Thomasville, I look
around the room
today at the faces of
past leadership and
think about the ones
who have passed on, I
am humbled and
honored that this club
has chosen me for
this role. I think you
will find our upcoming
year will be full of
exciting projects,
engaging community
service as we live the
Rotary International
theme for this year,
Create Hope in the
World. This club
creates hope in this
community every
month with its
produce market,
every quarter
honoring our local
heroes who serve,
and having a heart for
our seniors. I know
this year we will
continue to create
that hope with all we
have planned and am
excited to be leading
the charge."

Our projects, histories
and members are
different but we all
look to create and
nurture a Family of
Rotary that Creates
Hope for the World.
Happy New Year!
[more]