

**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	<b>Fayetteville</b>	<b>North Atlanta</b>	<b>Brookhaven</b>
II	<b>North Columbus</b>	<b>North Fulton</b>	<b>Vinings Cumberland</b>
III	<b>Marietta</b>	<b>Dunwoody</b>	<b>Carrollton-Dawn Breakers</b>
IV	<b>Roswell</b>	<b>Roswell</b>	<b>Peachtree City</b>

## Key Dates

Saturday, June 6th, 2026	<b>Americus RYLA - DISTRICT 6900</b>
Saturday, June 6th, 2026	<b>Americus 2026 Rotary Sheffield Gala</b>



Governor Steve makes the leap at Alpharetta's Polar Plunge fundraiser!

From Our District Governor

## Here's to Water, Service and Camaraderie!

By Steve Ivory  
Happy Belated Birthday, Rotarians! Rotary just celebrated its 121st birthday on Feb 23! I want to thank each of you for making an impact in the world. Your service projects and generosity to polio plus are making differences in so many lives. In fact, our district just exceeded over \$906K total giving and we are well on our way to exceed \$1M this year.

In this month's March Rotarian Magazine, President Francesco Arrezzo discussed how critical water is to connect communities. Rotary Foundation has invested over \$230M in projects on this area of focus!

Speaking of water, **freezing water** that is, I participated in the Alpharetta club's annual Polar Bear Plunge and helped them raise over \$230K in donations to help them make a big community impact. Overall the event raised over \$800K and was a master class in partnering up and making an impact in the community! I highly recommend other clubs look at this as a fundraiser in your area and "R&D" it \*(("Rip it off and duplicate it!"). Great work!!

Read on for more about how we're doing on membership, service projects, and events set up for camaraderie and fellowship - including our upcoming District Conference at Lake Lanier Island. Thanks for all you are doing! [more]



District  
Conference  
2026

**Come  
for  
Rotary;  
Stay  
for  
Fun!**

By Lisa  
Carlisle  
Looking for  
inspiration,  
connection  
and fun,  
your 2026  
District  
Conference  
is designed  
to balance  
meaningful  
Rotary  
content  
with  
relaxation  
and  
fellowship.  
Join us April  
16-19, 2026  
at Lake  
Lanier  
Island for all  
this and  
more! You  
can  
**register  
now on  
the  
District  
6900  
website !**  
[more]

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*Rotary's Founders: Gustavus "Gus" Loehr, Silvester Schiele, Hiram Shorey and Paul Harris*

Our Rotary  
Foundation

## **A Lot to Celebrate: Alpharetta Giving, Rotary's Birthday and PELS!**

By Bob Hagan

It's always fun to  
trumpet out

extremely good  
news. Therefore,

with great  
pleasure, I want

to congratulate  
The Rotary Club

of Alpharetta on  
becoming a

million-dollar club  
in Foundation

giving. It is truly  
quite a feat!

Achieving this in  
43 years as a

club is a  
tremendous

achievement.  
They have made

an outstanding  
difference as a

club, for our  
district and

Rotary

International. A  
hearty and

deserved  
congratulations!!

As it would  
happen, I am

writing this  
newsletter on

February 23,  
2026. A perfect

date to do so as it  
is the anniversary

of our founding.  
Happy 120th

Birthday Rotary!!  
[more]





RYLA Update

## **LUCKY to have RYLA!**

By Jaelyn  
Donovan  
It's getting  
closer to  
RYLA time!  
With all the  
talk this  
month about  
"lucky"  
things and  
"being lucky"  
we thought  
we'd share  
why we think  
anyone who  
goes to RYLA  
is the  
luckiest of all  
for the many  
positives  
they gain  
from the  
experience -  
from  
personal  
development  
to teamwork,  
collaboration,  
meeting like-  
minded  
people and  
so much  
more! Take  
time to read  
the rest of  
the RYLA  
story - so  
that the  
students you  
care about  
are lucky  
enough to  
share in the  
RYLA  
experience  
this June  
6-10. All the  
information  
about  
registering  
students and  
paying for  
their RYLA  
experience  
are in the  
rest of this  
story.  
[more]

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Our Rotary  
Foundation  
**Why We  
Give:  
Enduring  
Impact,  
Fellowship  
at Work**

By Lee

Hollingsworth

As we consider  
giving money to

The Rotary

Foundation, it's

important to  
consider how that

money enables  
us to do good in

the world and the  
lasting

relationships and  
friendships it

builds. Here's an

example of just  
that ... In 2022,

the **Roswell**

**Rotary Club**

partnered with  
the Rotary Club

of Panama

Nordeste on a

Global Grant

bringing clean  
water to remote,

underserved

communities in

Panama. The

project delivered  
lasting

lasting—and

lasting

friendships.

Recently, we

were able to help

those friends

again.

Your

contributions to

The Rotary

Foundation can

make a

difference here at

home anywhere

around the world

to make lives

better. Think

about how you

can help. And be

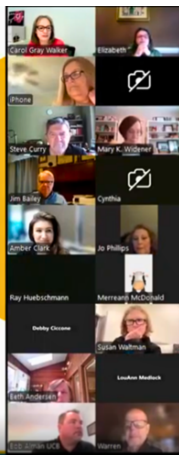
sure to read the

rest of this story.  
[more]

Together, we're building character — one essay, one student, and one life lesson at a time.

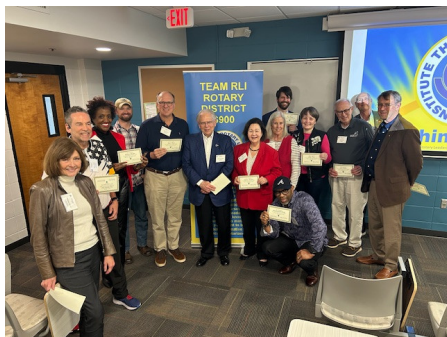
## School-Level Essay Judge Kick-off Training

2025-2026



## Laws of Life Partnering with Kennesaw Capstone and Judging 2026 Essays

By Carol Gray Walker  
Georgia Laws of Life is proud to partner with Kennesaw State University's College of Computing and Software Engineering through its Capstone Program to analyze workflows and implement a new CRM system that will strengthen our management of school partnerships, Rotary engagement, and statewide growth. At the same time, we are on the road to selecting State Winners in this year's Laws of Life Essay Contest. Read on and stay tuned for late March/early April contest results. [more]



## Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) RLI Movement Continues to Grow

By Tracy Van Norman  
2026 has continued to get off to a strong start for RLI, as 23 more members joined the District 6900 RLI movement in Marietta on February 21. There was a spirit of enthusiasm throughout the day despite the bad weather, as members learned, shared, and had fun. Members increased their Rotary knowledge while also increasing their leadership skills. Join us to enhance your facilitation skills, connect with peers, and enjoy a full day of learning and networking at the next onsite event, which will be announced soon. Don't want to wait? You can access RLI online at [RLIsunshine.org/course-information/course-schedule/](https://RLIsunshine.org/course-information/course-schedule/) to secure your spot! [more]



Our Rotary  
Foundation

## **Paul Harris Society Welcomes New Member**

By Lauri Young  
Governor Steve  
welcomed

### **David Lighten of the Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County**

to the  
Paul Harris  
Society (PHS).  
Members of the  
PHS commit to  
making a \$1,000  
annual  
contribution to  
The Rotary  
Foundation to  
further its work  
of changing lives  
every day.  
[more]



**ROTARY MEANS  
BUSINESS  
FELLOWSHIP**  
District 6900

Fellowship Opportunity

## **Rotary Means Business**

By Carter Stout  
Rotary Means Business  
(RMB) is a global  
fellowship that  
encourages Rotarians  
to support one  
another's professional  
success through  
business referrals and  
mentoring. Watch the  
newsletter for  
upcoming events. If you  
want to get involved,  
please contact Carter  
Stout at 770.349.8201  
or  
[cstout@stoutkaiser.com](mailto:cstout@stoutkaiser.com)



Membership  
**Welcome  
to the  
New  
Rotaract  
Club of  
Southern  
Crescent!**

By Steve Ivory  
We are pleased  
to announce  
that our district  
chartered a  
new Rotaract  
Club, **Rotaract  
Club of  
Southern  
Crescent**,  
sponsored by  
the **Rotary  
Club of  
Griffin!**

A heartfelt  
thank you to  
faculty sponsor  
Dr. Shannor  
Huff for his  
leadership and  
dedication to  
empowering  
these  
outstanding  
students. We  
were honored  
by the presence  
of Dr. Irving  
Clark, President  
of Southern  
Crescent  
Technical  
College, along  
with many  
proud parents  
and supporters  
who joined the  
celebration.  
[more]

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Club News

## **Alpharetta Polar Plunge Raises Big Money**

By Gail LaFleche  
The **Alpharetta Rotary Plunge**, held on February 7, raised \$230,000 for club community projects and almost \$800,000 for the 235 causes that participated in the plunge. The temperature was only in the mid 40's when scores of fundraisers, many in costumes, braved the cold by jumping into the Wills Park Pool. Organizations that benefited that day included the Lionheart Life Center, Meals by Grace, Jafuta Foundation, Champions Community Foundation and many more. The costumes included superhero outfits, penguins, and a Bavarian theme. More than 1,635 donors contributed that day.  
[more]

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*Brookhaven Rotarians joined other community groups for February's Arbor Day tree planting event cohosted by the Murphey Candler Park Conservancy and Brookhaven's Tree Canopy Preservation team*

Club News

## **Brookhaven Accepting Grant Applications**

By Linda Hatten  
The **Brookhaven Rotary Club** is excited to announce a new program designed to provide grants, through the Brookhaven Rotary Foundation, to local organizations that support the city of Brookhaven community. Club President Jennifer Yanulavich adds, "If you know of a Brookhaven non-profit organization that may have a need for financial support, you can be their Rotarian champion! Even if you're a Rotarian outside of Brookhaven." Please feel free to share this information with qualified organizations who may be interested. [more]

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Club News

## **North Fulton Brightens Seniors' Valentines Day**

By Lisa Gelber

**North Fulton Rotarians** were thrilled to share our hearts and our hands at the Crabapple Senior Center in February. The morning kicked off with helping participants create beautiful individual floral arrangements to take home, followed by crafting Valentine-themed garland to decorate the center. These creative activities were not only fun, but also great for stimulating the brain. [more]

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Club News

## **Alpharetta Celebrates Annual Golden Gala**

By Gail LaFleche  
The **Rotary Club of Alpharetta**

held its second Annual Golden Gala on February 13 at the American Legion; it was a huge success. Over 120 seniors attended and enjoyed music, dancing, line dance lessons, refreshments, raffles and more! The guests wore their favorite party attire and joined their friends for this free event that included fun and community. They were honored at this event because Aging is not something to hide - it is something to celebrate!  
[more]

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Club News

## **Rotary Club of Columbus Completes Meaningful Project in Meeting**

By LeighAnn  
DiCesaris

The **Rotary Club  
of Columbus**

recently transformed its regular gathering into a hands-on act of service, demonstrating what it truly means to live out Rotary's motto, Service Above Self. Most recently, Rotarians paused their usual weekly meeting agenda to work side-by-side filling hygiene bags for neighbors in need. The completed bags will benefit three local organizations making a direct impact in the community: Valley Rescue Mission, Stewart Community Home, and Home for Good. [more]

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Club News

## **Atlanta West End Strengthens Youth Through School Snack Initiative**

By Jared Evans

The **Rotary Club of  
Atlanta West End  
(AWER)** has

launched and  
delivered multiple  
rounds of food  
support to students  
at Booker T.

Washington High  
School, ensuring  
that students have  
access to  
nourishment during  
school breaks when  
resources might be  
stretched thin at  
home. This initiative  
puts Rotary's Youth  
Service Avenue into  
action in a very  
tangible way.

Through the Booker  
T. Washington  
Snack Initiative,  
AWER members  
have already  
completed two  
major deliveries of  
food and gift cards  
this Rotary year,  
with a third delivery  
scheduled for Spring  
Break in April 2026  
and another planned  
for the last day of  
school in May.

[more]

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Club News

## **Roswell Hosts Conference for Emerging High School Leaders**

By Becky Nelson  
**Roswell Rotary Club** hosted the annual Leadership 20/20 1-day conference this February with approximately 70 emerging student leaders from Roswell High School attending. Without a doubt, this over 30-year tradition was a quiet yet steady testament of collaboration between Roswell HS, Roswell HS PTSA and the Roswell Rotary Club.  
[more]

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Club News  
**Buckhead  
Pairs  
School  
Kids and  
Shelter  
Dog  
Projects**

By Shelley Hammell  
The **Buckhead Rotary Club** brought two of its signature projects together in a Valentine's Day effort to benefit shelter dogs and children who have experienced homelessness themselves. Rotarians visited The Boyce L. Ansley School to make dog and cat toys with the students, grades K - 6 and write Valentine's Day messages for the animals at LifeLine Animal Project, and the club purchased more than 20 crates for the animals in the shelter. [\[more\]](#)

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Club News

## **Dunwoody Rotarians Help Anchor Place Respite Celebrate Valentine's Day**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
Anchor Place  
Respite Care in  
Dunwoody held a  
very special  
"Harmony and  
Hearts"  
community  
Valentine's Day  
celebration for  
caregivers and  
their family  
members living  
with memory  
issues - all with  
some help and  
support from  
**Dunwoody  
Rotarians** . Past  
President Louise  
Barden helped  
with event  
planning and  
Charlie and Anita  
Augello provided a  
tasty Italian lunch  
from the East 48th  
Street Market.  
[more]

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**SPREADING VALENTINE'S DAY JOY!**

The Rotary Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent delivered 50 valentines for the residents and staff of the Jonesboro Senior Assisted Living on Saturday, February 7th.

President, Mahli Lowder, and Rotarian, Dawn Hartman, enjoyed delivering the valentines and loved seeing the joy they brought. ♥

**Rotary Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent**

**50 valentines delivered to residents & staff!** ♥

Club News  
**Atlanta Southern Crescent Delivers Valentines**

By Claudia Merti  
 The **Rotary Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent** delivered 50 Valentines for the residents and staff of the Jonesboro Senior Assisted Living. President Mahli Lowder and Rotarian Dawn Hartman enjoyed delivering the valentines and loved seeing the joy they brought.

ShelterBox | Rotary

**SHELTERBOX IMPACT**

**2025**

**ROTARY IN FOCUS**

Club News  
**Alpharetta Named as Shelter Box Hero**

By Clark Savage  
 The **Rotary Club of Alpharetta** has been recognized as a *ShelterBox Hero Club* for its outstanding commitment to providing emergency shelter and essential supplies to families displaced by disaster and conflict worldwide. For more information about ShelterBox, its Rotary origins, and how Rotary Clubs can become Hero Clubs, visit <https://shelterboxusa.org/> [more]



Club News

## **North Cobb ... From McKenna Farms to Kennesaw to Women's Extension**

By Jose Gonzalez

**North Cobb Rotarians** have been on the move in February - refreshing a closet at McKenna Farms' therapeutic play area for children with special needs, serving dinner at the Women's Extension for its recovery program, partnering with Kennesaw State University Rotaract Club to package food for needy community families. And they still found time to enjoy fellowship at an International Potluck and attend Rotary Leadership Institute training in Marietta. [more]

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Club News  
**Griffin  
Daybreak  
Joins  
Read  
Across  
America**

By Kathyne  
Fields

**Griffin  
Daybreak  
Rotarians**

Kathyne  
Fields, Cresta  
Barber and  
Nicki Gore  
jumped at a  
chance to share  
some of their  
favorite stories  
with new mini  
BFFs at  
Moreland Road  
Elementary,  
part of the  
club's  
partnership  
with Griffin  
Spalding  
Schools to  
participate in  
Read Across  
America.  
[more]

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Club News

## Columbus Installs Peace Pole

By LeighAnn  
DiCesaris

The **Rotary  
Club of  
Columbus**

hosted a Peace  
Pole Dedication  
Ceremony this  
February at the  
Columbus Public  
Library in

Columbus,  
Georgia — a  
permanent  
symbol of our  
commitment to  
peace, goodwill,  
and

understanding  
here at home  
and around the  
world. Inscribed

with messages  
of peace in  
multiple

languages, the  
Peace Pole

reflects the  
shared values  
that define our  
community:

inclusion,  
service, and  
unity. It stands

as a reminder  
that while peace  
is a global

mission, it  
begins right  
here in

Columbus. This  
dedication

reflects our  
continued  
commitment to

building a  
stronger, more  
united

Columbus for  
generations to  
come.

[more]

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## FAMILY OF ROTARY

Our membership cares deeply about the needs and concerns of our members. We don't want to miss an opportunity to reach out in friendship when such concerns arise. The chairperson of this committee is Lynne Lindsey and all news should be directed to her at [lynnehlindsay@outlook.com](mailto:lynnehlindsay@outlook.com)

Club News

### **Roswell's Family of Rotary Committee**

By Becky Nelson  
With a heart for service, **Roswell Rotary Club** has a heart for each other too. We are a strong club that gets inside and behind a message or a need with full vibrato. Walking in partnership with this sense of service to our community, our district and our world, is a sense of intense caring for each other. Past President Lynne Lindsay has been the point person for our Family of Rotary Committee for years.  
[more]

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