

District 6900 Newsletter

August 2010



Casey's Calendar

Watch for sightings of Governor Casey this month as he travels the roads of District 6900. And check out special events/dates in red.

AUGUST

- 2 Henry County (lunch)
- 3 Jackson-Buttes County (lunch)
- 4 Griffin Daybreak (breakfast)
- 5 Dallas-Paulding (breakfast)
- 5 Bremen (lunch)
- 6 Atlanta West End (lunch)
- 10 Dougherty County (lunch)
- 11 Cordele (lunch)
- 12 Camilla (lunch)
- 12 Character Ed Fundraiser (see p. 4)
- 14 Dog Days Run (East Cobb, see p. 8)
- 15 September newsletter deadline
- 16 Sandy Springs (lunch)
- 17 North Fulton (lunch)
- 18 Johns-Creek (lunch)
- 19 Northlake (lunch)
- 20 Dunwoody (breakfast)
- 21 District Foundation Seminar (see p. 2)
- 23 Douglas County
- 24 Meriwether County
- 26 WestPoint
- 30 Coweta-Fayette
- 31 Smyrna

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Vinings (lunch)
- 2 South Cobb (lunch)
- 7 Thomaston-Upson (lunch)
- 8 Harris County (breakfast)
- 9 North Atlanta (lunch)
- 14 North Columbus (lunch)
- 15 Columbus (lunch)
- 15 First Foundation fundraiser (see p. 4)
- 16 Muscogee-Columbus (lunch)
- 17 October newsletter deadline
- 20 Buckhead (lunch)
- 21 Rockmart/Polk County (lunch)
- 22 LaGrange (lunch)
- 23 Griffin (lunch)
- 30—October 3: Zone 33/34 Institute

Hot, Hotter and Hottest!

The only thing hotter than the weather in July in Georgia is District 6900 Rotary Clubs. It has been a real treat to see all of the good projects and motivated clubs as I've begun my visits around the District. We're off to a great start! Clubs are embracing the need to become Bigger, Better, and Bolder. A focus on membership development and retention has been a central and common theme as I've visited the clubs. Our District stands ready to support the needs of the clubs in these efforts.



District Governor
Casey Farmer

As this edition goes to production, we are preparing for our upcoming District Foundation Seminar on Saturday August 21, 2010 at the Columbus Convention Center. We have a phenomenal lineup of programs and speakers for the day. Scheduled to join us that day will be Zone 34 Regional Foundation Area Coordinator PDG Brent Williams of District 6970 North East Florida, along with our Zone 34 Assistant Regional Foundation Area Coordinator PDG Kenan Kern of District 6920. Visiting from the Rotary Foundation will be Zone 34 Major Gifts Officer Debra Lowe. So you see, we will have a real covey of experienced Rotary Foundation folks available to answer and questions you might have and discuss most any topic you would like to regarding the Rotary Foundation.



The Rotary Clubs of Clayton County and Lake Spivey held a reception honoring Governor Casey at the National Archives building in Morrow. They presented Casey with a local painting from the Arts Clayton Gallery. Pictured: Lake Spivey President Cindy Kelly, Rotarian Linda Summerlin, First Lady Missy and Governor Casey, and

and exceeding the Foundation Goals your club established earlier this year for the Rotary Year 2010-2011 will assure the ability to sustain the level of program participation.

(continued on page 2)

As the deadline draws near for the applications for District Grants, we are proud to say that we're well on the way to having 100% participation in District Grants from our member clubs. These projects, so far, range from Dictionaries for Third graders to supporting a local special needs Olympic event. Rotarians are becoming Bolder. Your support of the Annual Program Fund this year will dictate three years from now the level in which we will be able to fund the District Grants. Meeting

August is a wonderful time also to plan your trip to Callaway Gardens next spring, specifically the weekend of April 29- May 1st, 2011.

It just so happens that you will be among many Rotary friends that same weekend as we celebrate Rotary's Field of Dreams at our Annual District Conference. A special committee has been formed to formulate ways in which we can make the District Conference Bigger, Better, and Bolder. You will not want to miss this event.



Governor Casey visits the Rotary Club of Alpharetta.

As I've visited the clubs over the past month, I've urged them to send in their reports on the projects they've accomplished to our District Newsletter Editor Jackie Cuthbert. I will continue to do so as I visit the remaining clubs. This is your newsletter. I hope you enjoy the individual club reports contained within. Let's share the good works and news from around our Great District as we are Building Communities Bridging Continents.

Your Friend in Rotary Service,

Casey Farmer



**Rotary District 6900 Foundation Seminar
Columbus Convention & Trade Center
Saturday, August 21, 2010, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Featuring ...

- Big buffet breakfast to start the day**
- Workshops on all aspects of The Rotary Foundation**
- Mid-morning snacks & beverages**
- Hints and tips on fundraising**
- Special session for Club Treasurers**
- District and Global Grant procedures and opportunities**

Who should attend ...

- Club presidents and presidents-elect**
- Foundation chairs and committee members**
- Projects chairs and committee members**
- Treasurers**
- All other interested Rotarians**

**Registration now available on the district website.
Cost \$35 per person (what a deal!)**



*Amazing Gardens ...
Butterfly House ...
Rotary Fellowship ...*

*District Conference
Callaway Gardens
April 29 - May 1, 2011*

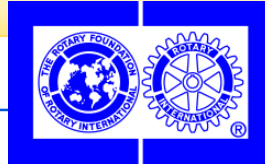


Welcome to New Zone Rotary Foundation Coordinators

Foundation Trustee Chair, PRIP Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar recently announced that **PDG Brent Williams (right)** from District 6970 will serve as Zone 34 Rotary Regional Foundation Coordinator (RRFC) starting July 1, 2010. PDG **Kenan Kern** from District 6920 (bottom right) will serve as Zone 34 Assistant Rotary Regional Foundation Coordinator (ARRFC) beginning July 1, 2010. Brent will be responsible for the promotion of the programs of The Rotary Foundation as well as assisting with fund development throughout Zone 34. ARRFC Kern will provide similar assistance for Georgia Rotary Districts 6900, 6910, and 6920.



Beginning with the new Rotary year, the RRFC & ARRFC will team with the Zone Rotary Director and the Zone Rotary Coordinator (RC), who is new to the three member team group. Collectively, the three team group will be available to meet all of the clubs' and districts' needs and inquiries within their specific zone.



Shaping the Future of The Rotary Foundation

The year has started and the projects have begun. As you should be aware, we have extended the date for your District Grant applications. You must turn in your District Grant requests no later than August 31st. This date will not be extended again. Also, if you are working on a Global Grant, the District has already submitted the first grants and we have already received approval on one of the grants. You will get more information on this at the upcoming Foundation Seminar in Columbus.

The Foundation Seminar is August 21st at the Columbus Iron Works and you should all plan to come. Registration is open and we would appreciate early registrations. If you have not attended a Global Grant session and would like to apply for a Global Grant, the session is mandatory. We have interesting speakers and many interesting breakout sessions (please see the District Website for detailed information).

Last year was a great year for the District. It set a new record for clubs involved in Matching Grants. This was only made possible through your generosity in prior years. The District exhausted all of the District Designated Funds that were accumulated from prior years. This was done because you requested so many excellent projects. We now have to start rebuilding these reserves to enable us to again have successful grant years when the economy is in a slump. This year will be a great year because of your generosity three years ago. Your District Grants will be the largest we have ever had. Not only will we provide \$1500 to

each club that requests a grant, we will start a special literacy project in South Georgia that will be funded for the next three years.

We need every Rotarian to give every year (EREY). Governor Casey is asking you to become 100% Paul Harris Clubs. I am asking you to do what you can. If you are a Paul Harris Society member, can you give some extra this year; if you are a Major Donor, can you step up to the next level now or over the next three years? If you are a Rotarian that gives \$100 a year, can you make it \$150 per year? Every little bit will help build the District stronger. If you are a member of a large club and are not giving between \$150 and \$200 per year to the Annual Fund, you are below the District average. While we need all Rotarians to give, the large clubs have the biggest influence.



Last but not least. The newest and youngest Paul Harris fellow in the District is Jessica Woulfin, born July 16th at 7:58 a.m. I would write more but Les and I are busy shopping for her.

Thank you for your support

Bill Woulfin
District 6900 Foundation Chair



Remembering William Shaw

We celebrate the life of William Shaw, Past President of the Rotary Club of North Atlanta, who passed away July 10. Bill was a Major Donor to The Rotary Foundation. Fellow Rotarians said, "Bill exemplified the true spirit of giving and service above self" and "his deeds served so many here in this country and abroad."

Ferst Numbers to Remember: 9/15 and 10241040

The **Rotary Club of Windward** is committed to promoting literacy and education in the community. On Sept. 15, the club will spearhead a Barnes & Noble Book Fair to raise funds for the Rotary-sponsored Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy.

Here's how you can help: if you use the unique **Rotary ID #10241040** when purchasing items at any Barnes and Noble store location on Sept. 15th — or for any online purchase between Sept. 15—20, a donation will be made to Ferst. Ask your friends to join you as well.

The Ferst Foundation will celebrate its 10th anniversary in September by delivering Book #2,000,000 to its 100,000th preschool child in Georgia. With 71% of Georgia's children reading below proficiency, by helping Ferst Foundation send books to children, one district can truly make a difference in childhood literacy!

Quitman Club Starts Generously

One of the first official acts of the **Quitman Rotary Club's** new President, Corey Cottles, was to bring two new Paul Harris Fellows forward for recognition. Rotarians Sandra Cooper and Laura Harrison were praised for their dedication to the Foundation and the ideals of Rotary by AG Don Robinson, who presented each with their pins and certificates. President



New Paul Harris Fellows Laura and Sandra with President Corey and Past President Eddy.

Corey has expressed to his club his desire to see the Club head towards 100% PHFs. They have a good start!

LaGrange Names Citizen of Year

The **LaGrange Rotary Club** named Andrea Lovejoy "Citizen of the Year" at its annual banquet. The award goes annually to a non-Rotarian who is making a positive impact within the community.



President Jerry Fulks congratulates Andrea Lovejoy.

Andrea recently retired as editor of the *LaGrange Daily News*, ending a 31-year local newspaper career. She joined the newspaper as a part-time feature writer in June 1978, was named city editor in 1985 and editor in April 1995.

The newspaper, its staff members – and Lovejoy – received dozens of awards

under her leadership, including four straight General Excellence awards, the highest recognition conveyed by the Georgia Press Association. Her writing, especially personal columns and editorials, was recognized year after year in GPA and Associated Press competitions.

Lovejoy was active in industry leadership roles, including many years as a member and a term as president of the AP News Council, advisory body of Georgia's AP newspapers. She also served as a member of LaGrange College's Leadership Council from 2001 to 2007 and recently received an honorary Doctor of Humanities from the College.

A native of Hancock County, Mrs. Lovejoy earned a degree in social work from Georgia State University. She moved to LaGrange in 1973 when her husband, Bill, took a job with Milliken and Co. Her husband and two children, Liza Fritchley and Kyle Lovejoy, were present for the award announcement at the annual Rotary banquet.

A Party with a Purpose

Join **Dunwoody Rotarians** and GRDCEP Board member Don Griffing at a fundraiser for the newly formed Georgia Rotary Districts Character Education Program non-profit organization. The event will be held at the **Ravinia Club, Two Ravinia Drive, Dunwoody, GA on Thursday, August 12 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM**. This free event will include complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction, and features Rotarian **Don Griffing** as the evening's special bartender. For more information or to RSVP, email georgialawsoflife@gmail.com, or call Susan Mason (404.367.9453) or Don Griffing (678.615.2566). Bring a friend!!





Bridging Time to Bainbridge's Start

As a new year begins, President Emily Yent has put a heavy emphasis on remembering the past history of the **Bainbridge Rotary Club**. The Club began in 1937 upon sponsorship by the Thomasville Club. Bainbridge Rotary proudly displays the gavel given by then District 69 DG Joel C. Harris, Jr. to the first president Ramsay Simmons Sr.



PDG Mayo Livingston, Sr., 1960-1961

Notable as well are memories of PDG Mayo Livingston Sr. who served then District 690 in 1960-1961.



Bainbridge Club History Room Librarian

These memories are facilitated by the Club Archives carefully maintained in cooperation with Bainbridge College. Fortunate for current club members, one can walk up to the shelves and pull a file to scan the activity of almost any club year since 1936. Also available for research are past banners, scrapbooks, District Directories, attendance charts etc. One particularly interesting item is the pro and con discussion of the proposed division of District 165 back in January 1940. At that time all clubs in Georgia appear to have been member clubs of one District.

What a great resource for the Club and the District!

Share Your Special Stories - especially schools and Junior Achievement



Email your news for the September "Back to School" newsletter to cuthbert@mindspring.com by August 15.

Happy 50th Clayton County!



DG Casey Farmer and PDGs Ted Propes and Roy Strickland were among the more than 200

attendees at the 50th Anniversary Celebration for the **Rotary Club of Clayton County** earlier this summer. Clayton County celebrated its 50th Anniversary with an "Evening Under the Stars" at the National Archives amphitheater in Morrow, GA. The celebration featured a lobster dinner and continued with "Let the Good Times Roll," a Spoletto Award winning cabaret featuring Robert Ray, Marsha Dupree, and Shawn Megorden. The show included music from the 1950's through present day.

A Star-Spangled Evening in Roswell!

On July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress approved a Declaration of Independence, explaining the reasons for the resolution of Independence that they'd approved 2 days before. Even though the official signing wasn't done until August of that year,



down through the ages the Fourth of July has been celebrated as the official start of the United States of America.

Every family has their Fourth of July celebration rituals.

Cookouts, watching parades or baseball games, listening to patriotic music, and wearing red, white & blue are just some of the ways the day is celebrated. However, the most well known way to celebrate the 4th of July is with a huge pyrotechnic display.

Roswell Rotary once again sponsored Roswell's 11th Annual July 4th Fireworks Extravaganza and the event did not disappoint. The music started at 6 pm with Back Trax and finished with Banks & Shane later in the night. Roswell Rotary had a tent set up with a large spread of food and beverages. It was a night full of fun and fellowship.



North Cobb 's 2010 Cobb Pigskin Preview a Huge Success

The **Rotary Club of North Cobb** hosted the 5th Annual Cobb Pigskin Preview on July 13 at the Cobb County Civic Center with over 350 people attending the annual dinner - almost twice the number attending in past years. This year, the club decided grow the event by co-hosting with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes - drawing more booster club members and Friday night football fans.

The event is designed to kick off the Cobb County high school football season. All the head coaches from Cobb County's public and private high schools are invited to and North Cobb Rotary awards its "Coach of the Year Award" for the prior season. This year's program featured Chuck Dowdle, the former Sports Director of WSB-TV and Coach Dan Reeves, the former head coach of the Atlanta Falcons and Denver Broncos.



The Coach of the Year Award was presented to McEachern High School's Kyle Hockman (Powder Springs) who led his team to an undefeated 10-0 regular season in 2009—one that was tempered by a first-round playoff loss against Brookwood. Also speaking at the banquet was Tim Freeman, coach of the new Chattahoochee Tech football program that will be making its debut this fall. Freeman briefly outlined the plan for the new program, which includes playing as a club team in the National Club Football Association's inaugural season before becoming a full-fledged junior-college program in 2011.

Talks by Chuck Dowdle and Coach Reeves highlighted the evening – focused on the importance of high school coaches in the development of young men both on and off the fields. They both cited examples of how their own high school coaches had a life time impact upon them. Coach Reeves told a number of antidotes from his long career as a college and NFL player and a NFL head coach. He stressed the importance of never quitting and being honest to one self. His talk was both humorous and inspirational. The crowd enjoyed the event and it is the hope that the event will become event larger next year with our local newspaper, the Marietta Daily Journal, becoming even more involved with the event.

In addition to a great evening of football, food and fellowship, the event raised approximately \$10,000 and the North Cobb Rotary Club will be presenting a \$4,000 check to the city of Acworth's Horizon Athletic Field for Special Needs Children. Horizon Field is the only one of its kind in North Atlanta and is used by Special Needs athletes throughout Cobb County. North Cobb Rotary has been involved with the project from its inception to its opening last year.

To take a look at the event and hear some of Coach Reeves' remarks, you can go to the North Cobb Rotary website at www.northcobbrotary.org, where a four-minute video of the event is posted.

A Fireside Chat Highlights Harris County Meeting

The June 30th meeting of **Harris County Rotary Club** was extra special as Robert Prather addressed to club as President Franklin Roosevelt (FDR). FDR has a special relationship with Cason Callaway, founder of Callaway Gardens, & President Roosevelt owned the Little White House in Warm Springs, GA. Harris County Rotary Club meets at Callaway Gardens is about 17 miles from the Little White House.





Building Communities: District Rotarians Support Local Children's Projects

Henry County Starts its 25th Year

The **Rotary Club of Henry County** started its 25th anniversary year off right, at its annual Pass the Gavel night in late June.



Incoming president Kerry Arnold receives the gavel from immediate past president James Withers

Incoming club president Kerry Arnold announced a signature project for this Rotary year. "We have committed to providing the new Haven House facility with a play ground. With SPLOST funding being tight, the

playground was removed from the facility's project budget but we feel it is imperative the playground be included for the children. Therefore, our Club has committed to not only raising the money for the playground but also supply a good portion of the labor to install the playground."

North Fulton Finds Treasure

The **Rotary Club of North Fulton** enjoyed lunch



with 40 four and five year olds at the North Fulton Child Development Association Summer Camp. After lunch, the Rotarians joined the children for a Treasure Hunt in the CDA's large playground. Over the past 10 years, the club has scheduled one of its meetings as lunch with the children who attend the camp. After the Treasure Hunt, the club members were treated to short program from Child Care Director, Nitza Vega-Lahr, and learned about the CDA scholarship program and CDA's budget constraints .



Bridging Continents: District Rotarians Bring Water to Africa



Thanks to a partnership between the **Rotary Clubs of Marietta Metro, Meriwether County and West Point** , more people in Nigeria have access to clean water. In this World Community Service Project, our host club was the Rotary Club of Lagos Central, Lagos, Nigeria, some of whose members are pictured in the photos.

The project provided clean water to four communities (total of about 24,000 people). In each community, a borehole well was dug. Pumps were then installed so that the water could be pumped in to elevated storage tanks. The water is then filtered through a purification system and is available to the community residents from a bank of spigots.

In addition, water committees were formed in each of the recipient communities. Committee members were taught how to maintain the wells, pumps, tanks, and spigots. As well, residents of the recipient communities received general health and hygiene education.



Donation Funds Computers at School Serving Low Income Students



When the new school year begins next month, all 7th grade students at KIPP Metro Atlanta schools will have their own home computers, thanks to a \$9,000 donation by the **Rotary Club of Buckhead**. Club president Means Davis presented a ceremonial check to David Jernigan, Executive Director for KIPP Metro Atlanta, at a recent Rotary meeting.

"You have been so generous in your support," Jernigan told the club, "and we are so grateful for your interest in continuing to partner with KIPP."

The first computers were distributed in March at an event that included computer training for parents of the students, most of whom are eligible for free or reduced lunch. "It was an incredible event, with all the parents there, they were so appreciative," said Richard Taylor, the Buckhead Rotarian spearheading the club's ongoing relationship with KIPP.

KIPP schools are public charter schools that serve mainly low-income students. They have achieved remarkable success using a special curriculum that includes long days and many weekends. They balance the extra class time with extra field trips, often to

places around the world. Charles King, a senior at the Darlington School, went to Ghana while coming up through the KIPP organization. "As I look out into this crowd," King said, "I recognize how many individuals and organizations come together to support the important work at KIPP." Tom Pritchard, KIPP board chair, added, "The need that they have for resources is overwhelming, but they do so much with what they've got."



Charles King, KIPP student

A Valued School Relationship

Since the **Windward Rotary Club** was chartered in 2002, students and teachers of the quarter from Creekview Elementary, Webb Bridge Middle, and Alpharetta High School are VIPs in this club. Recently, Kim Delbridge, a sixth grade teacher at Webb Bridge Middle School was recognized as Windward Rotary's

Vocational Teacher of the Year. Club members agree Ms. Delbridge's dynamic leadership in and out of the classroom provides an inspiring example to others pursuing the teaching vocation.



She demonstrates Rotary's 2010-2011 theme "Building Communities and Bridging Continents. As president of the Pi Beta Phi Alpharetta Alumnae Chapter, Ms. Delbridge also presented a gift to the Windward Club! Books collected during a Literacy Walk were given to current club President Margi Urquhart. These books will be used as Speaker gifts throughout the year, autographed by the weekly presenters, and then donated in their honor to Manning Oaks Elementary School Media Center.

Kudos to Rotary Club of East Cobb

When the **Rotary Club of East Cobb** inducted its new board, the morning was filled with congratulatory remarks towards outgoing Club President Kurt von Borries. Kurt's dedication and commitment led to the club its first Club of the Year award—and Kurt received the Sheffield Award for Leadership. The Rotary Club of East Cobb excelled in many areas including its support of the Rotary Foundation, placing second behind the Smyrna Club which places in the top 5 worldwide. Locally, the Club raised over \$30,000 for East Cobb charities during its annual 5k Dog Days Run. Learn more at www.dogdaysrun.com



The newly elected East Cobb Board Members will continue where the previous Board left off. Other scheduled programs include mentoring for Brumby Elementary, AIDS Awareness for Wheeler and Walton High Schools, and the Georgia Rotary Student Program.