



DISTRICT 6900 NEWS FOR JULY, 2018

 From the District Governor
Have Fun and They Will Come!
 By Court Dows
 It is my honor to serve as your District Governor for 2018-2019. We can look forward to building and improving our membership, our clubs and our district to further benefit the "Object of Rotary" in the communities and world we serve. This year I look forward to meeting, serving and working with each of you, while we build Teamwork and Race to the Checkered Flag and the Winner's Circle in every community and Rotary Club in District 6900. Our district theme is "Have Fun and They Will Come." At the finish line, we hope to have many new members, make a difference in the lives of many people, and have fun doing it! [\[more\]](#)


 Message from Our RI President
Be The Inspiration
 By Court Dows
Our new RI President, Barry Rassin, is from our Rotary Zone 34. I wanted to share his message with each of you. [\[more\]](#)

 RYLA
Inspiring Our Youth: Having Fun, Building Friendships and Serving the Community
 By Jaclyn Donovan
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The Rotary Foundation
Happy Rotary New Year!
 By Margie Kersey
 The new year has begun - congratulations on your new Rotary position! Every year is a new opportunity to be an inspiration to the world. The Rotary Foundation is your tool to create change and do good in the world. This year is no different except it is your chance. Take this opportunity to step up and make a difference! [\[more\]](#)

 Update on Warm Springs Project
Annual Report for Friends of Ann Johnson and Adopt a Cottage Program Roosevelt Warm Springs
 By Steve Stanfield
 When I last reported to you, we had reached an agreement with Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GA DNR) - The Little White House - to put the Polio Eradication Museum - in memory of Past District Governor Ann Johnson (first female District Governor of Rotary District 6900 - and in all of Georgia) at the outdoor pool at Warm Springs, Georgia. [\[more\]](#)

 *Jur most recent District 6900 RLI participants ... students and trainers all learn through their RLI experience.*
 Rotary Leadership Institute
Mark Your Calendars and Plan to Be Inspired
 By Elwyn Gaisert
 At RLI, our purpose is to give you the necessary tools and skills to be better Rotarians. As in every endeavor, the more you know about anything, the more interesting it becomes. Rotary is most assuredly one of those areas that the more you put into it, the more you get out of it. RLI can make that possible for you. Graduates of RLI are more likely to remain in, and be a bigger part of Rotary, than any other demographic. Check out what's happening with RLI's Sunshine Division and our District 6900 opportunities for this Rotary year [\[more\]](#)

 *Above - Lynn Clarke and Anita, her first GRSP student. Below - Magu from Brazil, Class of 2017-18*
 GRSP Update
Sharing Memories, Investing in the Future
 By Lynn Clarke
 This year Georgia Rotary Clubs will host 47 students from 13 countries, attending 23 schools in Georgia. District 6900 will be hosting 21 students from Brazil, Pakistan, Columbia, Turkey, Germany, Scotland, Sweden, England, Denmark, Zimbabwe and Nigeria. Of those, 15 are female and six are male. 42 of our 68 clubs are hosting a student for next year. [\[more\]](#)

 Global Scholar Update
D6900 Global Scholar Interns in Beirut
 By Jackie Cuthbert
 Find out what Global Scholar Kate Keator is doing with her summer ... [\[more\]](#)


Rotaract News
Four Cobb Clubs Partner to Sponsor Rotaract at Kennesaw State
 By Dave Schwickerath
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 Congratulations!
Ray McKemie Honored for Foundation Work
 By Jackie Cuthbert
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 *New DG Court Dows, now PDG Alec Smythe, PDG Cheryl Greenway, Past RI Director Robert Hall, PDG Fran Milberg, PDG Bob Hagan and now DGE Jim Squire at our district's special dinner*
 RI Convention
D6900 Rotarians Enjoy Their Time in Toronto
 By Jackie Cuthbert
 More than 60 District 6900 Rotarians and family members attended this year's Rotary International Convention in Toronto, Canada. We were treated to amazing entertainment and speaker's - including Former First Lady Laura Bush and many more. [\[more\]](#)

 *Boys and Girls Club grant recipients with Decatur Rotary's Community Grants Chair*
 Club News
Decatur Rotary Foundation Community Grants Recipients
 By Betty Spiker
 In May, the **Decatur Rotary Club** presented \$18,000 in grants to non-profit organizations based in DeKalb County that focus on youth literacy and at-risk youth in DeKalb County. [\[more\]](#)

 Club News
Dunwoody Supports Shelter for Domestic Violence Victims
 By Dottie Toney
 Members of the **Rotary Club of Dunwoody** recently served dinner to women and children who are residing in a Partners Against Domestic Violence home for those who have been abused in their domestic settings. [\[more\]](#)

 *DG Court Dows with Emory-Clifton President Pia Valeriano and AG Lorri Christopher*
 Club News
Emory Clifton Kicks Off the New Rotary Year
 By Alan Janssen
 Striving to build on the success of its first year that included receiving a Service award for distributing over 2,000 pairs of shoes to Filipino children, the **Rotary Club of Emory-Clifton** installed new officers on June 18. Chris Brand, the ... [\[more\]](#)

 Club News Beyond the District
Jasper Rotarians Soar Happiness with Xylophones
 By Dale Covington
 Marietta Rotarian Dale Covington was on hand when members of the **Rotary Club of Jasper (Rotary District 6910)**, led by Regina Cates Martin, gathered in Rotary's section of Roper Park to dedicate completion of a Children's Music Park. [\[more\]](#)

Upcoming Key Dates

Friday, August 3rd, 2018	Alpharetta Governor Visit
Tuesday, August 7th, 2018	Moultrie Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 7th, 2018	Moultrie Governor Visit
Wednesday, August 8th, 2018	Emory-Druid Hills Governor Visit
Thursday, August 9th, 2018	North Atlanta Governor Visit
Sunday, August 12th, 2018	Welcome Party: 2018-2019 RYE Students
Tuesday, August 14th, 2018	Meriwether County (Warm Springs) Governor Visit
Wednesday, August 15th, 2018	Harris County Governor Visit
Wednesday, August 15th, 2018	LaGrange District Governor-Court Dows
Wednesday, August 15th, 2018	LaGrange Governor Visit
Thursday, August 16th, 2018	West Point Governor Visit
Thursday, August 16th, 2018	Rotary Youth Exchange - Informational Session for Parents and Students
Friday, August 17th, 2018	Newnan Governor Visit
Friday, August 17th, 2018	Rotary Youth Exchange Inbound Orientation
Saturday, August 18th, 2018	District Finance/Planning and Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, August 21st, 2018	Fayette Daybreak Governor Visit
Tuesday, August 21st, 2018	Lake Spivey / Clayton County Governor Reception
Wednesday, August 22nd, 2018	Lake Spivey / Clayton County Governor Visit
Wednesday, August 22nd, 2018	Rotary Youth Exchange - Informational Session for Parents and Students
Thursday, August 23rd, 2018	Atlanta Airport Governor Visit
Friday, August 24th, 2018	Atlanta West End Governor Visit
Monday, August 27th, 2018	Henry County Governor Visit
Tuesday, August 28th, 2018	Barnesville Governor Visit
Wednesday, August 29th, 2018	Griffin Daybreak Governor Visit
Thursday, August 30th, 2018	Griffin Governor Visit

From the District Governor

Have Fun and They Will Come!

Court Dowis, District Governor 2018-2019



DG Court at Rotary Club of Newnan Firewoods Event with President Cathy and AG Ed Outlaw

It is my honor to server as your District Governor for 2018-2019. We can look forward to building and improving our membership, our clubs and our district to further benefit the "Object of Rotary" in the communities and world we serve.

This year I look forward to meeting, serving and working with each of you, while we build Teamwork and Race to the Checkered Flag and the Winner's Circle in every community and Rotary Club in District 6900.

Our leadership team - including everyone from Club Presidents, President-Elects to Club and District Chairs for Social, Service, Foundation, Polio, and more - and our Assistant Governors, DGN Kirk Driskell, DGE Jim Squire and myself - are here as your 'Pit Crew" to be sure you are the best-prepared and best-supported clubs in Rotary International.

Have Fun and They Will Come!

This is our motto for District 6900 2018-2019. Our Race Winning Strategy is to have more Rotary members, more community service projects and more Foundation and Polio Giving for additional Global Grants, thus providing "Service Above Self" throughout our communities and the world.

So here in July 2018 let's start our Race with a drive for more members:

- Invite friends/business associates/vendors to your monthly club socials
- Invite these same folks to participate in a community service project
- And invite them to your club meeting. Just think about it.....prospective members who know your members (from the social) and know what Rotary does (from the service project), will definitely cross that finish line and join your club !!!

Share Your Successes and Stories

Jackie Cuthbert has done an outstanding job of editing and producing our monthly newsletter for many years. And I wish to thank her very much ! This year I ask that it be used as our official way of communicating with the members, learning about activities and projects scheduled throughout the District.

- First I am asking each and every (yes, every) District Leadership Chair submit a monthly article to update, encourage and or share best practices for his or her Leadership responsibility. To name just a few: Membership, Foundation, Polio, Public Image/Social Media, Literacy, GRSP, RYE, Vocational, Service, Stop Human Trafficking, RLI, Veteran's Affairs and more.....
- Next am asking Club Presidents (or appoint someone) to Boast, Bragg, Show-off what your club has done or plans to do each month....be sure to send pictures of everyone having FUN as we build our clubs and serve the community!!

The newsletter deadline is the 25th of each month (with a couple of holiday exceptions). Your stories and questions about the newsletter can go to cuthbert@mindspring.com.

See You Soon!

I am looking forward to starting my club visits on July 16 and meeting each of you very soon. For my schedule Please, Please contact our District Secretary Carol Lipphardt at carol@lipphardt.org, if you wish

for me to attend your social or club event.

Thanks for all that you do!!

Court Dowis

DG 2018-2019

Posted by Court Dowis, Jr.

July 5, 2017

Message from Our RI President

Be The Inspiration



BE THE INSPIRATION

Our new RI President, Barry Rassin, is from our Rotary Zone 34. I wanted to share his message with each of you.

This year, I ask each of you not only to seek that inspiration within yourselves, but to be the Inspiration for others. Work to build clubs and districts with Rotarians who find meaning in their service, who know they are having an impact, and who are inspired to do even more. Lead with passion, lead by example—and lead Rotary to a future even stronger than its present.

You and I, and every district governor, club president, and Rotary officer around the world, have been chosen this Rotary year. We've been chosen by our fellow Rotarians, who believed that we were the best people to do the work that now lies before us. In the twelve months ahead, I intend to work as hard as I

can, as well as I can, and I know that you will do the same. We are all in this together—and together, we will Be the Inspiration.

Yours in Rotary,

Barry Rassin

Rotary International President, 2018-19

Posted by Court Dowis, Jr.

July 7, 2018

RYLA

Inspiring Our Youth: Having Fun, Building Friendships and Serving the Community



If it's summertime in District 6900 that 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** and held June 2 - 6 on the campus of Georgia Southwestern State University and once again hit the high mark of 132 students sponsored by over 50 clubs.

Through RYLA, these young people from different backgrounds - home, educational, religious, and lifestyle - are brought together to work, learn, and discuss the issues that exist within their generation. They have the chance to learn and challenge themselves through team activities, large group activities, and candid, round-table discussions. RYLA programming includes individual personality profiles, conflict resolution styles, and ropes course activities designed to encourage teamwork, communication, and trust. New to the schedule this year was the addition of a service project which allowed the students to experience the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self" firsthand - over 300 paracord bracelets were hand-made by the students and will be donated to Operation Gratitude for care packages being sent out to members of our armed forces.

One of the recurring themes of RYLA is the student who accomplishes a feat he/she would have never dared to imagine before coming to camp. The most memorable of these culminating events are always the board break, allowing students to break through fears to reach goals, and the Trust Fall from a 5-foot platform into the waiting arms of teammates. And just as in recent years, most of the students who were very hesitant to spend the weekend with 130 strangers became the friends who did not want to part ways at the end. This speaks volumes to the benefit of RYLA and the positive changes it can create in young lives.

Even more telling of the long-lasting influence of RYLA is the fact that 90% of the counselors were once RYLA participants themselves - they believe in it enough to commit the time and energy to make RYLA the best experience possible. Over 70 Rotarians assisted with RYLA in some capacity, with most contributing on the club level with the nomination and selection of student participants while others provided transportation to and from RYLA, and the brave few who agreed to serve as chaperones in the dorms. Special guests this year were DG Alec Smythe, DGE Court Dowis, DGN Jim Squire, and DGND Kirk Driskell who joined us for several days volunteering as chaperones and spending time with the student teams.

RYLA aims to help students discover their potential and develop the skills needed to be leaders in their communities, careers, and everyday lives. And they achieve these goals while having fun, building friendships, and creating memories that will last a lifetime. We're already looking forward to 2019 and we hope to see you there!

PHOTOS:









Posted by Jaclyn Donovan
July 7, 2018

The Rotary Foundation

Happy Rotary New Year!

The new year has begun - congratulations on your new Rotary position! Every year is a new opportunity to be an inspiration to the world. The Rotary Foundation is your tool to create change and do good in the world. This year is no different except it is your chance. Take this opportunity to step up and make a difference!

We are introducing the Winner's Circle this year in honor of Governor Court's racing life. You can join him in the winner's circle (and earn a ribbon for your club banner) by completing some challenges. First, your club must enter your goals into Rotary Club Central. As of today, only 50% of the clubs in 6900 have taken the time to do this. Make sure you are one of them! Once you have entered your goals, complete three challenges:

- **Number one - Become a 100% Paul Harris Fellow club.** Even if you have accomplished this goal

in the past, achieve it again. We all know you have added new members to your club who have not become Paul Harris Fellows yet. Make it a goal for your club.

- **Number two - Become a 100% Sustaining Member club.** This means every member of your club gives at least \$100 to The Rotary Foundation this year.
- **Number three - This challenge is multiple choice.** You only have to accomplish one of the following three items: 1) *Become a 100% Benefactor club.* This means all of your club members leave at least \$1.00 to the Foundation in their estate. Did you know that no club in our district has ever achieved this? You could be the first! OR 2) *Achieve \$25 giving per capita to PolioPlus this year.* This means that your club's total polio plus giving averages out to \$25 per member, even if only one person gives the full amount. OR 3) *Add 4% net new members in your club by June 30, 2019.*

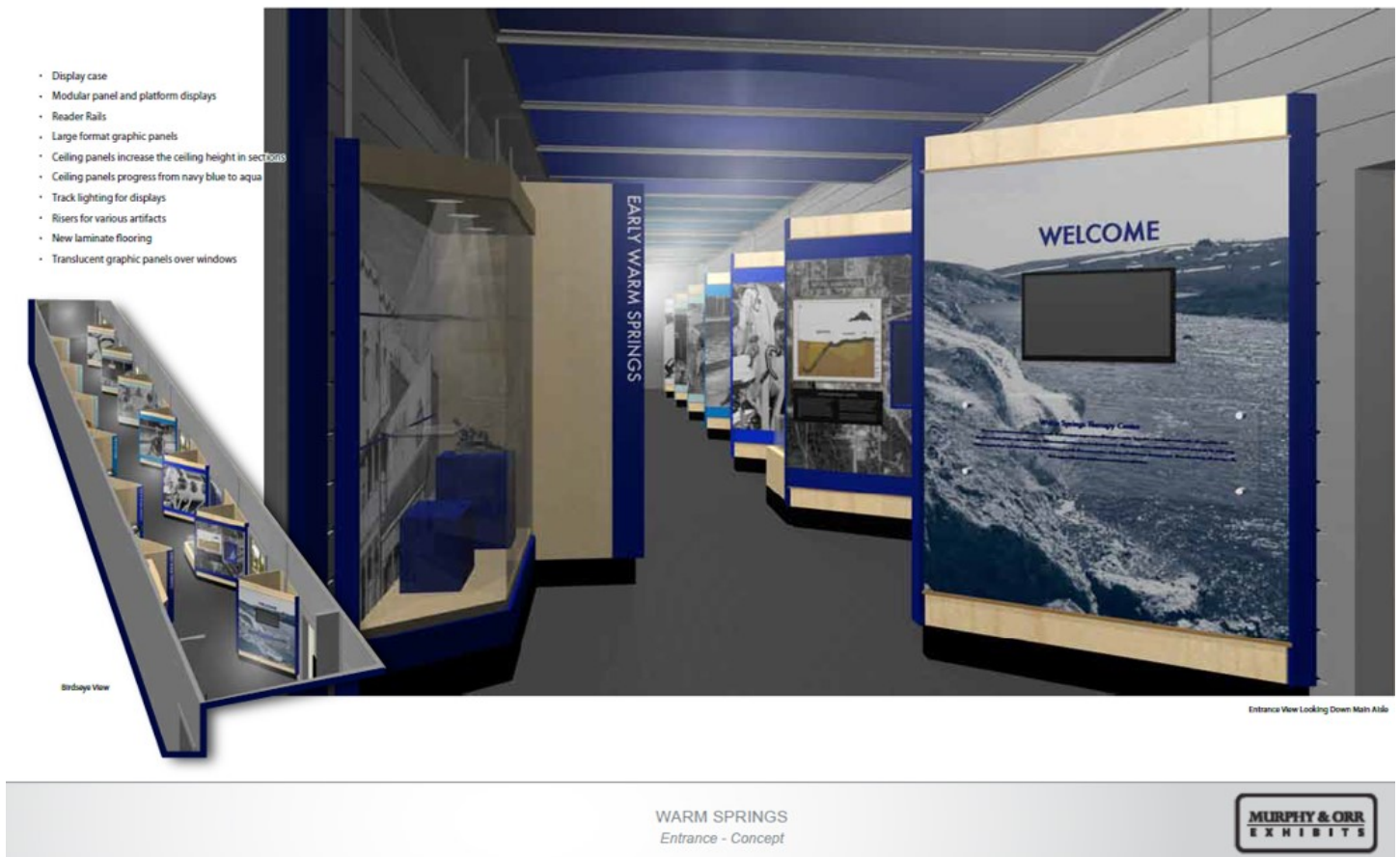
All of your district grant proposals are in and we are awaiting funding from the Foundation so you can begin working. But in the meantime, be looking for Global Grant opportunities that you can get involved in this year. These opportunities include projects in the six areas of focus as well as scholars and Peace Fellows. Remember, The Rotary Foundation belongs to you. It doesn't work unless you do. Find those projects. Find those scholars. Support the Foundation. And inspire the world!

Posted by Margie Kersey
July 5, 2018

Update on Warm Springs Project

Annual Report for Friends of Ann Johnson and Adopt a Cottage Program Roosevelt Warm Springs

from PDG Steve Stanfield



When I last reported to you, we had reached an agreement with Georgia Department of Natural Resource (GA DNR) - The Little White House - to put the Polio Eradication Museum - in memory of Past District Governor Ann Johnson (first female District Governor of Rotary District 6900 - and in all of Georgia) at the outdoor pool at Warm Springs, Georgia. Since my last report the following has happened:

- A Memorandum of Agreement has been signed between Georgia Department of Natural Resources and The Roosevelt Warm Springs Development Fund to guide the project to completion
- The design of the museum by the firm of Murphy & Orr - Rotarians from Lake Spivey Clayton County has been approved by our steering committee and GA DNR
- A mid project review was held at the Little White House with representatives from GA DNR, The Roosevelt Warm Springs Development Fund, and Murphy & Orr - the design, layout, and displays were approved at this meeting
- Rotary International has been in communication with us and is assisting in the verification of the information about the eradication of polio to be used in the exhibits
- Funds are sufficient for the completion of the museum, but more funds might be raised for pool restoration at a future date
- Estimated date for completion is for December of 2018, with a grand opening for donors and guest scheduled tentatively for late December or January of 2019

Further, I am please to report that the Director of Roosevelt Warm Springs has designated two cottages for renovation and repurposing. One cottage will be used for the Autism Spectrum Program and the other for the Vocational Assessment Program. Plans for their new use have been drawn and the State of Georgia Department of Vocational Rehabilitation has committed funds to assist with the cottages - the remainder of the funds necessary will be provided by the RWS Development Fund. Any remaining Rotary and Friends

of Ann Johnson donations - not used on the museum and pool -- will be used for cottage repurposing.

We appreciate your assistance and support of this memorial to Ann. We will keep you informed of Grand Opening dates and events. We look forward to seeing all of you at the museum and pool near the first of the year.

Posted by Steve Stanfield
July 7, 2018

Rotary Leadership Institute

Mark Your Calendars and Plan to Be Inspired



Our most recent District 6900 RLI participants ... students and trainers all learn through their RLI experience.

As Rotarians, you are all leaders, some in your community, some in your profession, and some in life in general...

At RLI, our purpose is to give you the necessary tools and skills to be better Rotarians. As in every endeavor, the more you know about anything, the more interesting it becomes. Rotary is most assuredly one of those areas that the more you put into it, the more you get out of it. RLI can make that possible for you. Graduates of RLI are more likely to remain in, and be a bigger part of Rotary, than any other demographic.

RLI is a great place for newly inducted Rotarians to quickly learn about the “Object of Rotary”. Club Officers can build on their Rotary Knowledge to enhance their club experience. Club Presidents can expand on the skills gained at their President Elect Training Seminar. Long time Rotarians can re-kindle the old Rotary flame, and at the same time share their experiences with the other participants.

In Georgia, we are part of RLI's Sunshine Division - led for this Rotary year by our own PDG Margie Kersey. I am the chair for District 6900.

Here are our District 6900-hosted RLI dates for 2018-2019.

- Barnesville, GA ... October 20, 2018 Gordon State College
- Thomasville, GA ... January 19, 2019 Southern Regional Technical College

Seriously consider RLI as part of your Rotary Journey. And contact me if you have any questions.

PHOTOS:





Posted by Elwyn Gaissert, II
July 7, 2018

GRSP Update

Sharing Memories, Investing in the Future



Above - Lynn Clarke and Anita, her first GRSP student. Below - Magu from Brazil, Class of 2017-18

GRSP Class of 2018-2019

This year Georgia Rotary Clubs will host 47 students from 13 countries, attending 23 schools in Georgia. District 6900 will be hosting 21 students from Brazil, Pakistan, Columbia, Turkey, Germany, Scotland, Sweden, England, Denmark, Zimbabwe and Nigeria. Of those, 15 are female and six are male. 42 of our 68 clubs are hosting a student for next year. The other Districts will also be hosting students from France, Sri Lanka and Turkey. From our District, we are sending one student to UGA, two students to Columbus State, two students to Georgia Southwestern, two students to Kennesaw, five students to Oglethorpe, one student to North Georgia, two students to Clayton State, one student to University of West Georgia, three students to Valdosta, one student to LaGrange and one student to Georgia State University.

This is a good time of year to take a look at your student's "suitcase" to be sure that they have the things that they need to make their stay in a dorm a pleasant one. It is very easy to just recycle everything that your student from last year had, but it is a gift to your new student to take a look at what you have and throw out a few things that may have become worn out over the years. Some students take excellent care of the items in their suitcase, but others ... well ... not so much.

Also, be sure to write your student over the summer before they arrive to be sure that there are no miscommunications about their arrival. You want as many people as possible at the airport to welcome them. As I look through the pictures of students over the 20 years plus that I have been involved with GRSP, it is fun to reminisce about how excited the student was to see so many American faces beaming at them with their welcome signs and flags. How wonderful would you feel, if you were met at the airport by so many people!!!!

For those of you with young children, invite your student to your home for a meal or even out to a restaurant with the kiddies. The students enjoy this and your children will learn about the world through the eyes of young people living the dream of spending a year in Georgia, but with remembrances of home.

On a Personal Note

This summer I was lucky enough to travel to Scandinavia for a couple of weeks with my grandchild, who is 13. I wanted to see all of my students, but as I count my Scandinavians, I knew that it was just not possible. I was able to spend an entire day with the very first student that I hosted, who happened to be from Denmark. My granddaughter and I were able to meet Anita's two children and her husband and to talk about old times and new times. This is a picture of us standing on her balcony in Copenhagen.

Many of us host families have had the wonderful experience of seeing our students in their own environment. We have attended weddings and have become GRSP grandparents over the years. We have had our students' families visit with us and some of us have been lucky enough to visit them. Would I have had the chance to spend a week in a vacation home on the coast of Sweden had I not hosted a student? Would I have been able to pick strawberries with the locals on a "pick your own farm" in Sweden, if I had not hosted a student? Would I have dined in Sweden with friends for lunch under a hot June sun? Would I have walked nearly 10 miles in one day to see major sites in Copenhagen with a local? Would I have eaten in a Mexican Restaurant and been invited to a party for a newly graduated doctor that was a previous GRSP student? Probably not ... unless I had hosted a GRSP student. Think about it!

Goodbye to the Class of 2017-2018

Many of us said goodbye to our students from last year just in the last couple of weeks. We have a couple of students that will be staying in the States either on another scholarship or as summer interns, but for the most part they have all returned home. One of our students, Maria Augusta "Magu" Ferreira de Assis Moura, from Brazil, attended Clayton State University. She wrote in the GRSP Yearbook:

For a year and a half leading up to and during the application process, GRSP was all that I wanted. I didn't think I was going to get it though, so when I did I couldn't really believe it. Even when I finally arrived in the U.S. parts of me still didn't think it was real. Little by little, it all became true. A lot wasn't like I thought it was going to be..... Being able to visit different states in the country, and getting to know different places in Georgia was great, as was learning a bit more about American culture every single day.

This was undeniably an amazing opportunity to be able to study subjects I wasn't going to learn back in my home country. I have definitely learned and grown so much as a person due to this incredible year. I am incredibly grateful to everyone who made this opportunity possible for me: my host families, my trustee and last but not least families that weren't assigned as my host families but did welcome me as one of them. I had the best time with all of them.

The most absolutely amazing part of this year is the friendships I have made with other GRSPs from all over the world that I am going to cherish for the rest of my life. It was incredible now even during our first get-togethers I was able to tell that these friendships will last forever. I will never forget each and every one of you, especially all of our crusty moments! I have learned about different cultures from completely different places in the world, tried different types of food and just bonded with other amazing kids! Now I have a place to crash anywhere in the world, and my home is always going to be open to those whom I spent this year with.

Gratefulness is the word I want to finish this with. I am grateful for all I experienced, everyone I met, and everything I was able to do. Thank you, GRSP, for the best year of my life.

Magu - Brazil

Clayton State University

PHOTOS:



Posted by Lynn Clarke
July 7, 2018

Global Scholar Update

D6900 Global Scholar Interns in Beirut

by Kate Keator



Kate is providing a regular update on her global scholar experience. The photos include (at the top) a photo from a "very interactive" mediation training session; the rest are from Lebanon, Beirut, where Kate is currently doing her internship.

The rest of the Basic Mediation Training at the New York Peace Institute was absolutely wonderful and built upon the skills I had learned in my Applied Conflict Resolution Skills course at the University of Bradford. The trainer, Brad Heckman, has worked in the field of international mediation as well as community mediation for the past 25 years and has great insights and techniques. I really enjoyed the training and feel more confident as I pursue international mediation as a profession.

I have just completed my first week interning with the NGO Search for Common Ground. I am really looking forward to working with them over the next 10 weeks since they do great work around peacebuilding and conflict transformation among communities in Lebanon as well as inside Syria. I am working with the Programs Department which means I help with writing grant proposals and editing final reports (which I did this week), research new opportunities and write concept papers, and help out various projects on written material. It's an ideal chance to get to know all the projects that Search in Beirut works on and learn about their approaches to conflict. Next week I'll be meeting with the team that works on mediation efforts in Syria and brainstorming on ways I can support them due to my prior work on the Syrian conflict. Really looking forward to it!

PHOTOS:



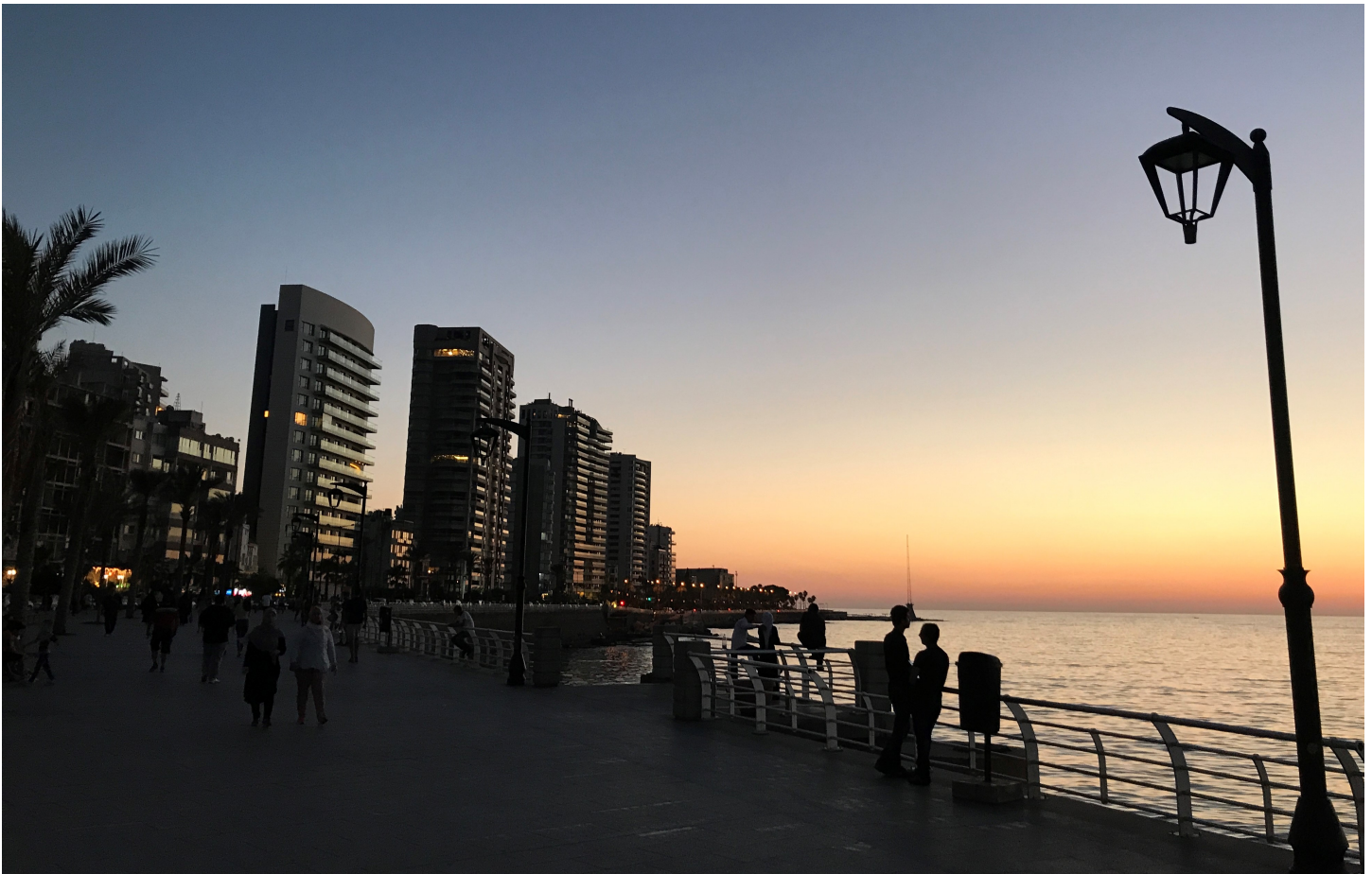
إهداء إلى
عدائي السلام في العالم
تصميم : دوري حتي
رسم فني : روميرو بريتو
مشروع : جمعية بيروت ماراثون
٢٥ نيسان ٢٠١٧



**A TRIBUTE TO THE
#PEACERUNNERS OF THE WORLD**

Design By: **Dori Hitti**
Artwork By: **Romero Britto**
Project By: **Beirut Marathon Association**
25 April 2017





Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
July 7, 2018

Rotaract News

Four Cobb Clubs Partner to Sponsor Rotaract at Kennesaw State

The Rotary Clubs of **Marietta, Marietta Metro, East Cobb and North Cobb** are partnering to sponsor the Rotaract Club at Kennesaw State University for Rotary Year 2018-2019. Incoming Club Presidents Jesse Evans (Marietta), Jim Bunda (Metro), Anne Marie Pitts (East Cobb) and David Schwickerath (North Cobb) are committed to supporting the KSU Rotaract Club both financially and by their clubs' involvement.

Each club will encourage their members who have kids enrolled at KSU to get involved in Rotaract. KSU Rotaract will invite each KSU GRSP student to join. Each Rotary club will dedicate a member to serve as KSU Rotaract Liaison to help and assist the Rotaract Club. Each Club will invite Rotaracters to come to weekly meetings as they can, meet the Club members and participate in respective Club projects.

Jesse, Jim, Anne Marie and Dave encourage the other Cobb County Rotary Clubs to get involved as well.

If you are interested, please contact Linda Golian-Li at 808-315-5787 or lgolianl@kennesaw.edu.

The mutual partnership reflects great cooperation between the four clubs!

Everyone is working toward a very successful KSU Rotaract year!

Posted by Dave Schwickerath
July 7, 2018

Congratulations!

Ray McKemie Honored for Foundation Work



Rotary
**Ray
McKemie**
2017-2018



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD
THE TRUSTEES OF THE ROTARY FOUNDATION
BESTON THIS HONOR TO:
GEORGE "RAY" MCKEMIE
IN RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING EFFORTS
TO PROMOTE THE FOUNDATION'S MANY PROGRAMS
DEDICATED TO INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING
The
Rotary
Foundation  2017-2018

In our year-end awards celebration, District 6900 had the honor to present the Rotary International Foundation "Distinguished Service Award" to Past District Foundation Chair **Ray McKemie** from the **Rotary Club of Pelham**! This prestigious RI Foundation Award is only provided to those Rotarians that make Truly Exceptional efforts for the Foundation!

Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
July 7, 2018

RI Convention

D6900 Rotarians Enjoy Their Time in Toronto



Now DG Court Dowis, now PDG Alec Smythe, PDG Cheryl Greenway, Past RI Director Robert Hall, PDG Fran Milberg, PDG Bob Hagan and now DGE Jim Squire at our district's special dinner

More than 60 District 6900 Rotarians and family members attended this year's Rotary International Convention in Toronto, Canada. We were treated to amazing entertainment and speaker's - including Former First Lady Laura Bush and many more.

Dr. Jessie Legros of the **Rotary Club of Dunwoody** facilitated one of the breakout sessions on Undetected Bias. The session was so popular that people were turned away from both sessions in the 300-seat breakout room and RI scheduled a third session which drew another 300 people.

Barry Oxford from the **Rotary Club of Carrollton-Dawnbreakers** arranged a special dinner that the District 6900 Family could attend at a Brazilian Steakhouse! Everyone enjoyed the evening.

You can join the fun next year in Hamburg, Germany - June 1 to June 5. Registering now will save you money!

Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
July 7, 2018

Club News

Decatur Rotary Foundation Community Grants Recipients



Boys and Girls Club grant recipients with Decatur Rotary's Community Grants Chair

In May, the **Decatur Rotary Club** presented \$18,000 in grants to non-profit organizations based in DeKalb County that focus on youth literacy and at-risk youth in DeKalb County. The 2018 recipients included:

- *Friends of Refugees* - Focus: Use funds to purchase books for literacy program which assists refugee families with children by providing them with one book a month for eight months; amount will pay for eight books each for 50 families.
- *Clarkston Community Center* - Focus: Use funds for purchasing design software for use in Art and Entrepreneurship program focused on teaching refugee children how to make furniture from recycled materials some of which will be donated to newly arrived refugee families, summer program.
- *Global Village Project* - Focus: Use funds to support school for newly arrived refugee girls 11-18 years old.
- *DeKalb Library Foundation* - Focus: Use funds to buy materials for Mobile Makerspace Kits for use in DeKalb Public Library STEAM programs for children 8-15 years old, amount will pay for 5-6 kits.
- *REAP* - Focus: Use funds for Summer Reading Camp for 40 economically disadvantaged City of Decatur students in 1st to 5th grade and to train 15 City of Decatur teachers in reading instruction, amount will pay for four students for a two week camp experience
- *Gentle Spirit Church* - Focus: Use funds to purchase supplies for personal hygiene kits to be distributed to homeless persons. Amount will cover cost for 290 kits.
- *Boys & Girls Club* - Focus: Use funds to operate Book Club at Decatur Boys and Girls Club, will involve 75 children, amount will pay for materials for four book bins.
- *Shalom International Ministry* - Focus: Use funds to create a self-directed Learning Center for 26 refugee and immigrant children from the Clarkston area.
- *Decatur Housing Authority* - Focus: Use funds for STAR Academic Summer Camp for 70 children 3rd to 8th grade from the Decatur Housing Authority residences, amount will pay for all supplies and instructors for camp.
- *Our House* - Focus: Use funds to purchase supplies and instructional materials for Early Childhood Education Program focused on preparing homeless children for kindergarten, six week summer program.
- *Decatur Makers Club* - Focus: Use funds to expand Girl Makers Club which provides STEM related education to middle school girls by involving them in hands on creative programs, funds will allow for expansion of Club to students living in the Decatur Housing Authority residences and Clarkston

area.

The Community Grants Committee included Rotarians Mark Burnette, Liz Grofic, and Art Rosser.

Posted by Betty Spiker

July 7, 2018

Club News

Dunwoody Supports Shelter for Domestic Violence Victims



Members of the **Rotary Club of Dunwoody** recently served dinner to women and children who are residing in a Partners Against Domestic Violence home for those who have been abused in their domestic settings. The polite and appreciative residents enjoyed strawberries, grapes, apricots, cheeses, crackers, green salad, macaroni and cheese, mixed vegetables, potato salad, grilled chicken, apple pie, lemon pie, and blueberry pie - and had seconds if they wanted them. In addition, each mother was given a \$20 Target gift card, and each child received a gift bag with an age-appropriate toy. The project was organized by new President Rick Woods and member Dr. Jessie Legros.

For the new Rotary year, the club will make a donation to PADV in honor of the speakers at its weekly meetings.

Club News

Emory Clifton Kicks Off the New Rotary Year



DG Court Dowis with Emory-Clifton President Pia Valeriano and AG Lorri Christopher

Striving to build on the success of its first year that included receiving a Service award for distributing over 2,000 pairs of shoes to Filipino children, the **Rotary Club of Emory-Clifton** installed new officers on June 18. Chris Brand, the President of the Dekalb County Rotary Council presided over the event with DG Alec Smythe (outgoing) and Court Dowis (incoming) and AG Lorri Christopher in attendance. Also joining the event were Tony Tai, Director of Development at the Republic of China (Taiwan) Counsel in Atlanta, Didi O'Connor, Chairman of Makabayan Georgia, Inc., Nenette Smith, President of Filipino-American Association of Greater Atlanta, and Meg Bhuiyan, Chairman of Kalayaan Committee 2018.

Dr. Victor Coronado, MD of Bridge to Health and adjunct faculty at Emory University Rollins School of Public Health presented a fascinating update on the research on Human Microbial Biomes and the implications for human health. Shortly after the presentation Dr. Coronado and Dr. Koko Djo-Roy of the

CDC became the latest inductees to the club.

The club is off to a rapid start for the new Rotary year with two major projects of international importance. The first project will provide backpacks/school supplies to indigenous school children in Palawan, Philippines. The club is also sponsoring "The Polio Symposium" on Saturday, September 29 at the Shriner's Auditorium that will feature national and international polio experts from CDC, Emory and UNICEF, including Rotary's Carol Pandak on the progress and challenges to meeting polio eradication.

Posted by Alan Janssen
July 7, 2018

Club News Beyond the District

Jasper Rotarians Soar Happiness with Xylophones



Marietta Rotarian Dale Covington was on hand when members of the **Rotary Club of Jasper (Rotary District 6910)**, led by Regina Cates Martin, gathered in Rotary's section of Roper Park to dedicate completion of a Children's Music Park. Eight colorful xylophones—accurately tuned, imaginatively fashioned and permanently secured - mark the Club's completion of phase one of this fabulous public project exciting local children and adults alike. The Music Park can be found west of the tennis courts and behind the main activities building.

District Governor David Cooper honored the RC of Jasper and President Regina with District 6910's Significant Achievement Award for 2018.

PHOTOS:



Posted by Dale Covington
December 31, 1969 7:00pm
