

DISTRICT 6900 NEWS FOR MARCH, 2022

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From Our District Governor  
**Spring into Action**  
 By Mary Ligon  
 t's almost spring - daffodils, tulips and all the trees showing new energy and growth! In District 6900, we are about to enter the fourth quarter of our Rotary Year - and I hope we will use the energy and enthusiasm of spring into all we are trying to accomplish.  
 While there's work ahead of us, I'd like to start by inviting you to a party! Please join me and District Rotarians for a Jolly Holiday in SanDestin - at our District Conference April 28-May 1. Our conference committee has planned for lots of fun and fellowship - and a celebration of all we've accomplished so far this year. Read more below and [register now!](#)  
 On a more serious note, many of you have asked how Rotary is responding and what you can do to help the Ukrainian refugees. We have included information on three possibilities here - one from The Rotary Foundation through its disaster relief program, one from ShelterBox and the third from Buckhead Rotarian Radu Zernoveanu Jr., whose father is a Rotarian in Romania working on a supply chain effort to support the refugees.  
 As you know, membership growth remains our number one internal priority this Rotary Year - as we look to "Grow More to Do More." [\[more\]](#)
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Ukraine Relief  
**The Rotary Foundation, Shelter Box and More**  
 By Mary Ligon  
 More than 2 million people have fled Ukraine and are in dire need of emergency aid. The United Nations estimates that number could grow to as many as 5 million people displaced. Rotary clubs in Europe and around the world have stepped up their relief work, some working on the ground to help displaced families. This article talks about ways to contribute through The Rotary Foundation's Disaster Relief Fund and Shelter Box. The next newsletter article talks about supporting specific effort of the Rotarians in Romania and the Republic of Moldova.  
[\[more\]](#)
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**Support Romanian and Moldovan Rotarians as They Respond to Needs in Ukraine**  
 By Mary Ligon  
 We are deeply concerned about the situation and people in the Ukraine. Thanks to our Buckhead Rotarian Radu Zernoveanu we have information for action. Radu's father is a Rotarian in Romania. Due to this relationship, we have very current information on the needs and process for sending support. [\[more\]](#)
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District Conference Update  
**Register Now for a Jolly Holiday with Mary!**  
 By Court Dawis, Jr.  
 Join District 6900 from April 28 to May 1 for a Jolly Holiday with DG Mary "Poppins" Ligon in Sandestin! Enjoy our entertainment and the great meals we have planned. Dress up in your best Mary Poppins gear to laugh and have fun at the Thursday Evening ticketed event - *Poppins Pony Prix followed by a Progressive Dinner in the Hospitality Suites* for all ticket holders. See the [attached Conference Newsletter](#) for more details.  
 Rotarians may register now by going to [www.Rotary6900.org](http://www.Rotary6900.org) site, be sure to use your log-in to the website so we capture your name for registration, then select the green or the gold tab that will direct you to Conference registration, Room Reservations and all the detail a Practically Perfect Rotarian could want ... Register Now!!  
[\[more\]](#)
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Membership  
**The Zone 34 Competition Continues!**  
 By Jaclyn Donovan  
 Remember that the Zone 34 Membership Competition is still going through the end of June. If you do the stuff that helps grow a club, you get points:  
 · 1 point for each new visitor  
 · 5 points for each new member induction  
 · 5 points for a Member Retention Program  
 · 10 points for each Rotary Social Recruiting Event  
 · 20 extra points for doing all four of the above  
 The more your club does, the greater chance it has to win recognition and - more importantly - grow its impact. The details are in the [attached flyer](#) and you can contact your District Membership Chair with any questions. [\[more\]](#)
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**District Training Assembly**  
 By Jackie Cuthbert  
 Join us in-person on March 26 at the Columbus Trade Center (Ironworks) for training sessions covering the key elements of Rotary. Registration will open at 10 am, program starts at 11 with box lunches. There will be 2 breakout sessions and ... [\[more\]](#)
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GRSP News  
**Oslo Scholarships Awarded!**  
 By Katherine Fields  
 Georgia Rotary Student Program Chair Bert Guy announced Sarah Grace Thompson of Peachtree City and Nicole Emily Kincaid of Columbus as two of five college students from Georgia selected to represent GRSP with scholarships offered by the Rotarians of Oslo, Norway for the International Summer School at the University of Oslo. Thompson, who is a student at Berry College, and Kincaid, who attends Columbus State University, will represent District 6900 with the endorsement of GRSP 6900 District Chair Ian Bond and his scholarship committee.  
 The six-week program from June 27 to August 5, 2022 includes air fares from Atlanta-Oslo and return to Atlanta, a field tour to Bergen (administered by the University of Oslo), room, board, 12-credit hours of undergraduate coursework, administrative fees at the International Summer School at the University of Oslo plus visiting for one week with Norwegian Rotary host families. [\[more\]](#)
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Rotary Means Business  
**Join RMB March 15 for Fellowship and Networking**  
 By Johnathan Clark  
 Rotary Means Business 6900 will meet next Tuesday, March 15, for another wonderful event of friendship, networking, and business building. We will meet at Pure Taqueria in Brookhaven. For the latest information check out our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/RMB6900> [\[more\]](#)
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**Roswell Rotary Invests in City's Legacy**  
 By Becky Nelson  
 Roswell has five pre-Civil war homes that provide not only a "living history" for tourists and residents but also have been found by the exploding movie industry! These homes were not burned to the ground when Sherman marched through in 1864 because both Roswell King (a Roswell founder) and General Sherman were Masons. Therefore, the homes were spared and open to visitors today. Bulloch Hall needed some sprucing. Over two weekends, more than 20 Roswell Rotarians pressure-washed, repaired and painted the fence while others reshaped the landscape with pruning, weeding and general clean-up. It was a work project with our families and prospective members included.  
[\[more\]](#)
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Club News  
**Lake Spivey/Clayton County Couple Honored by Clayton State University**  
 By Claudia Merti  
 Recently Clayton State University honored Dr. Manjeet and Mrs. Lata Chinnan for their exceptional financial support of the Clayton State University Athletic Wall of Fame. Lata Chinnan was a world class competitor as a member of the World Cup Field Hockey team in India. She has a pavilion named for her at one of the Athletic complexes in India. There is also a movie about the championship year of Lata and her teammates. She is a Board member at the University and is heavily involved in the Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County and the community.  
[\[more\]](#)
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Club News  
**East Cobb Dog Days Benefit Community**  
 By Joe Mayes  
 The Rotary Club of East Cobb held its Annual Give Back Banquet - honoring the sponsors of the Club's 5-K Dog Days Run and presenting grants to 22 Cobb County non-profits. The 16th annual Dog Days Run was held last August. Over the years, with the help of some incredible community sponsors, the club has donated more than \$500,000 to local and international service projects!  
[\[more\]](#)
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From Facebook  
**Supporting Our Communities**  
 By Jackie Cuthbert  
 See what Rotarians in **Camilla, Thomasville and Bainbridge** have been doing to serve their communities. [\[more\]](#)
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From Facebook  
**Atlanta West End Rotarian Honored**  
 By Jackie Cuthbert  
**Atlanta West End Rotarian Richard Gerakitis** personifies "Service Above Self." We are so proud that his profound commitment to our community is being recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism.  
[\[more\]](#)

**Upcoming Key Dates**

Tuesday, March 15th, 2022	<a href="#">Dallas-Paulding County Dallas-Paulding County Official DG Visit</a>
Tuesday, March 15th, 2022	<a href="#">Rotary Means Business - District Vocational Committee</a>
Saturday, March 26th, 2022	<a href="#">District Training Assembly 2022</a>

From Our District Governor

## Spring into Action



It's almost spring - daffodils, tulips and all the trees showing new energy and growth! In District 6900, we are about to enter the fourth quarter of our Rotary Year - and I hope we will use the energy and enthusiasm of spring into all we are trying to accomplish.

While there's work ahead of us, I'd like to start by inviting you to a party! Please join me and District Rotarians for a **Jolly Holiday** in SanDestin - at our **District Conference April 28-May 1**. Our conference committee has planned for lots of fun and fellowship - and a celebration of all we've accomplished so far this year. Read more below and [register now!](#)

On a more serious note, many of you have asked how Rotary is responding and what you can do to help the Ukrainian refugees. The District is looking at its options and we have included some information here for clubs and individuals regarding contributions to The Rotary Foundation through its disaster relief

program, ShelterBox and a third option that we posted on the district blog about a week ago from Buckhead Rotarian Radu Zernoveanu Jr., whose father is a Rotarian in Romania working on a supply chain effort to support the refugees.

Please consider how you might want to help, and also keep The Rotary Foundation in mind as part of your overall giving plan - it is our charity of choice and your gifts to the annual fund - even at the \$100/year EREY level - makes the work we do in our communities and the world possible.

As you know, membership growth remains our number one internal priority this Rotary Year - as we look to "Grow More to Do More." How healthy is your club? How are you **adapting** to **enhance participant engagement** so that you are able to **expand your reach** and **Increase your impact** in the community. Check out this list of District 6900 clubs who have more members than they did at the start of this Rotary year! There's still time to grow your club - and our membership committee is ready to support you.

As always, thanks for all you do to make your communities and the world better places!

**PHOTOS:**

Club Name	Members 7/1/21	Members 3/1/22	Net Change YTD	% Change
Johns Creek-North Fulton	29	45	16	55.2%
South DeKalb County	22	31	9	40.9%
Polk County	13	17	4	30.8%
Fayetteville	13	15	2	15.4%
Camilla	41	47	6	14.6%
Carrollton-Dawn Breakers	62	71	9	14.5%
North Fulton	24	27	3	12.5%
Bremen	18	20	2	11.1%
Meriwether County (Warm Springs)	18	20	2	11.1%
Stone Mountain	37	41	4	10.8%
North Cobb County	61	67	6	9.8%
Fayette Daybreak	11	12	1	9.1%
North Columbus	36	39	3	8.3%
Muscogee-Columbus	24	26	2	8.3%
Midtown Atlanta	73	79	6	8.2%
Griffin Daybreak	25	27	2	8.0%
Forsyth-Monroe County	13	14	1	7.7%
Moultrie	55	59	4	7.3%
Henry County	28	30	2	7.1%
Atlanta Airport	16	17	1	6.3%
Alpharetta	146	155	9	6.2%
Atlanta Metro	36	38	2	5.6%
Peachtree City	112	118	6	5.4%
Emory-Druid Hills (DeKalb County)	19	20	1	5.3%
Griffin	97	102	5	5.2%
South Cobb	21	22	1	4.8%
Paulding County	49	51	2	4.1%
Marietta	78	81	3	3.8%
Tucker	29	30	1	3.4%
Douglas County	30	31	1	3.3%
Vinings Cumberland	61	63	2	3.3%
Lake Spivey/Clayton County	33	34	1	3.0%
Decatur	74	76	2	2.7%
La Grange	112	114	2	1.8%
Thomasville	125	127	2	1.6%
Roswell	221	224	3	1.4%
Columbus	279	282	3	1.1%

Posted by Mary Ligon  
March 10, 2022

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Ukraine Relief

## The Rotary Foundation, Shelter Box and More



ROTARY.ORG

**The Rotary Foundation creates channel for direct humanitarian support in Ukraine region**

More than 2 million people have fled Ukraine and are in dire need of emergency aid. The United Nations estimates that number could grow to as many as 5 million people displaced. Rotary clubs in Europe and around the world have stepped up their relief work, some working on the ground to help displaced families.

In response to the deepening humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, The Rotary Foundation has created an official channel for donors around the world to contribute funds to support the relief efforts underway by Rotary districts and has designated its Disaster Response Fund as the main avenue for contributions. The Rotary Foundation Trustees have decided to prioritize contributions made to the [Disaster Response Fund](#) until 30 April 2022 to support disaster response grants for districts affected by these events. Individuals and clubs are welcome to make contributions to this fund,

ShelterBox, our project partner for disaster response, is in communication with Rotarians in Eastern Europe to explore how it may offer support with temporary transitional housing and other essential supplies. You can make a contribution to ShelterBox on its website - at [The Ukraine Crisis Explained - ShelterBox USA](#).

You may also donate directly to relief efforts underway in Rotary District 2241 (Romania and Republic of Moldova). Read the article directly below this for more specifics on that opportunity.

Posted by Mary Ligon  
March 10, 2022

# Support Romanian and Moldovan Rotarians as They Respond to Needs in Ukraine



We are deeply concerned about the situation and people in the Ukraine. Thanks to our Buckhead Rotarian Radu Zernoveanu we have information for action. Radu's father is a Rotarian in Romania. Due to this relationship, we have very current information on the needs and process for sending support.

### **Current Refugee Situation in Ukraine**

- the queues to cross borders are longer than 30 miles
- the weather in Ukraine is treacherous (freezing temperatures, snowing, windy)
- the refugees are mostly comprised of women, elderly, and children as young as newborns (who are being born in refugee camps)
- the Ukrainians have created refugee camps close to the borders
- in the cities directly affected by the war, they are lacking food, clean water, personal products, medication, medical supplies, medical equipment

### **Rotary Response in D2241**

Rotary Districts 2241 and 2232 (Ukraine & Belarus) have created an efficient supply chain process as follows:

- District 2241 Rotary Clubs along the border are in direct contact with Rotary Clubs in Ukraine (some of them are sister clubs) and are centralizing the needs of the Ukrainian population and of the refugees
- Based on the centralized needs, the D2241 RCs acquire the needed products and are delivering them in trucks to club representatives in Ukraine (as can be seen in the attached pictures)
- from there, the Ukrainian clubs are redistributing the items to clubs across Ukraine and targeted population
- in D2241 they have fundraised so far approximately \$50,000 from clubs and Rotarians

### **Financial Needs**

- The refugees are expected to arrive at the borders in waves. Up to now, there are close to 1M refugees who left Ukraine.
- The first wave that is now approaching its end, was comprised of people with better means (people with cars, money, specific destinations to relatives and friends, etc.).
- Another wave that is already approaching that is estimated to be ~5M refugees is expected to be comprised of people with much higher needs.
- The population that is not fleeing has an ever-increasing need of food, water, personal products, medication, medical supplies, and medical equipment
- Because of the above, the financial needs of D2241 are increasing every day in order to respond to the needs expressed by the Ukrainian clubs.

### **Rotary International Response**

There is a coordination committee assigned by RI Board and General Secretary John Hewko: RID Katerina Kotsali-Papadimitriou, RPIC Mykola Stebljanko, and PDG Vira Syryamina. They are in constant contact with the districts that are responding to the crisis and are advising on when and how the money should be used inside Ukraine.

### **Rotary District 6900 Response**

Our district will collect funds and forward what we receive. If you want to participate this way, send your check payable to **Rotary District 6900 Charitable Fund** and mail to Teri White at P. O. Box 55, Coolidge, GA 31738. Be sure to put **Ukraine** in the memo field to designate the use of the funds.

Or you may send funds directly to:

Rotary District 2241 Fundraising Account

Contact Name: DG Adrian Luca, +40 744 610543, [lucaadrian61@yahoo.com](mailto:lucaadrian61@yahoo.com)

Account Name: ASOCIATIA Rotary International District 2241

Fiscal Code: 19103694

USD Account Number: RO22BTRL01302205M6501800

EUR Account Number: RO88BTRL01304205M65018XX

SWIFT: BTRLRO22ARA

Thank you for being People of Action and Serving to Change Live

## **PHOTOS:**











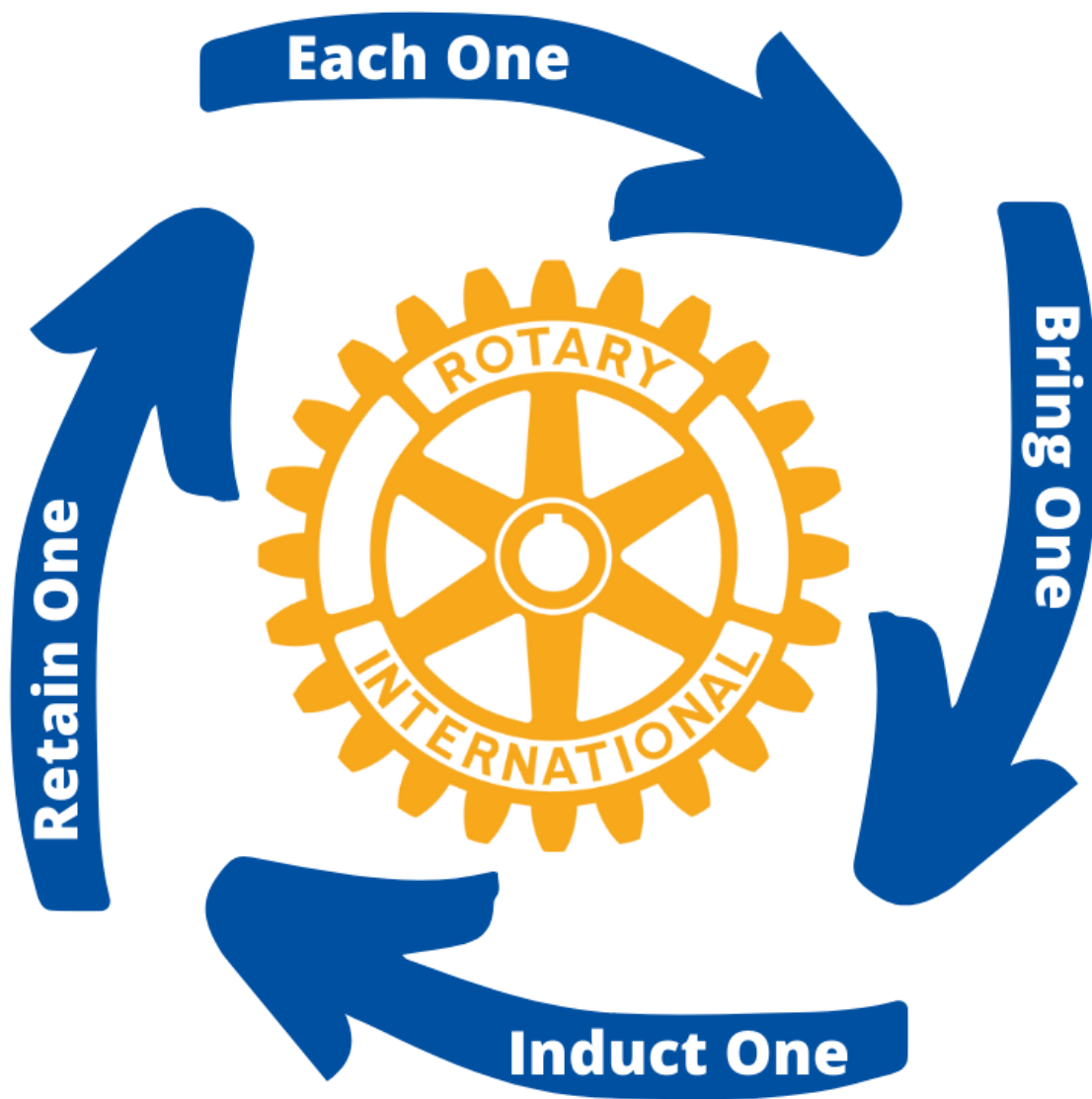


Posted by Mary Ligon  
March 3, 2022

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Remember that the Zone 34 Membership Competition is still going through the end of June. If you do the stuff that helps grow a club, you get points:

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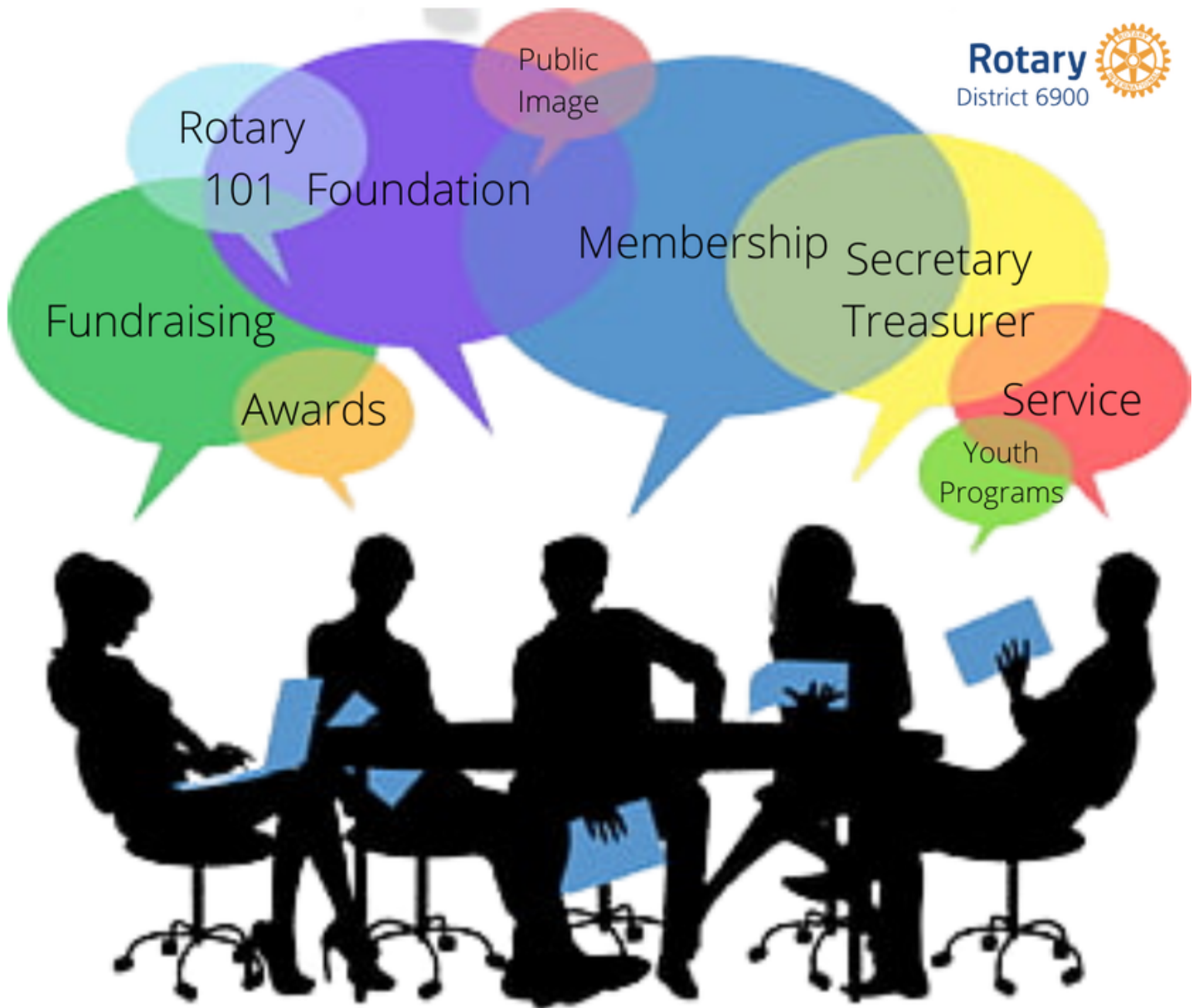
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contact your District Membership Chair with any questions.

Posted by Jaclyn Donovan  
March 2, 2022

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## District Training Assembly



# District Training Assembly

Saturday, March 26 - 11 am - 3 pm - Columbus, GA

Join us in-person on March 26 at the Columbus Trade Center (Ironworks) for training sessions covering the key elements of Rotary. Registration will open at 10 am, program starts at 11 with box lunches. There

will be 2 breakout sessions and we will conclude at 3 pm.

Breakout topics will include Foundation grants, Membership, Rotary 101, Awards, Public Image and more. There are topics for every Rotarian!

The cost is \$35 per person; you can [register now](#). Note: Many clubs register as a group; check with your Club President or President-Elect.

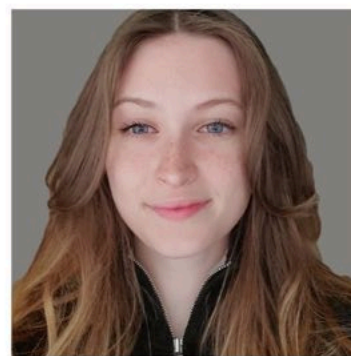
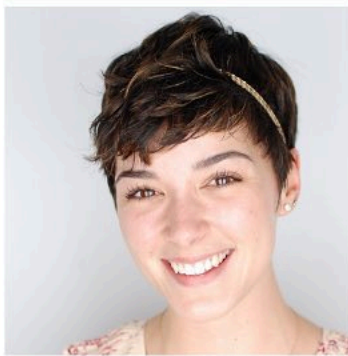
Posted by Jackie Cuthbert

March 10, 2022

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GRSP News

## **Oslo Scholarships Awarded!**



## International Summer School 2022 Scholarship Recipients

From top left: Emily Rogers (6920); Sarah Thompson (6900); Camille Calkins (6910); Morgan Parker (6910) & Nicole Kincaid (6900)

[www.grsp.org](http://www.grsp.org)



Georgia Rotary Student Program Chair Bert Guy announced Sarah Grace Thompson of Peachtree City and Nicole Emily Kincaid of Columbus as two of five college students from Georgia selected to represent GRSP with scholarships offered by the Rotarians of Oslo, Norway for the International Summer School at the University of Oslo. Thompson, who is a student at Berry College, and Kincaid, who attends Columbus State University, will represent District 6900 with the endorsement of GRSP 6900 District Chair Ian Bond and his scholarship committee.

The six-week program from June 27 to August 5, 2022 includes air fares from Atlanta-Oslo and return to Atlanta, a field tour to Bergen (administered by the University of Oslo), room, board, 12-credit hours of undergraduate coursework, administrative fees at the International Summer School at the University of Oslo plus visiting for one week with Norwegian Rotary host families. The recipients of the scholarships must pay their travel expense to and from Atlanta airport, and provide their own personal spending



money.

Thompson said her college experience has encouraged her to balance work, academics and her social life. She is the daughter of Richard and Jennifer Thompson. Her father is a member of the **Rotary Club of Peachtree City**. In a letter of recommendation for Thompson from the HackBerry Lab Director Zane Cochran wrote, "One of her greatest qualities is her ability to connect personally with the students she helps and is able to teach difficult concepts by leading students on a pathway of discovery, rather than just telling them answers."

Kincaid stated her desire to study foreign languages as well as political science and economics sparked her desire to apply for the international scholarship. She is the daughter of Kent Kincaid and Melody Johnson and recommended by Rotarian Eric Spears of the **Rotary Club of Columbus**. In a letter of recommendation for Kincaid, Coordinator of International Education at CSU Brooke Quarterman wrote, "Ms. Kincaid's various community service involvement includes participating in Columbus State University's Day of Service, caring for the animals of PAWS Humane, and providing her expertise and attention to Solid Rock Church's Nursery. While her commitment to her church and community are evident, she doesn't let it get in the way of her academic achievements. Having been on both the President's and Dean's list, it's no surprise that Ms. Kincaid is part of Honoris Causa, Columbus State University's very own Society for Honors Scholars. All while pursuing these educational and co-curricular opportunities Ms. Kincaid found the time to work as a Public Policy Research Assistant and at Chipotle in preparation for an opportunity to study abroad."

Posted by Katheryne Fields

March 2, 2022

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Membership

## Welcome New Members



Welcome to 43 new members who joined 26 of our District 6900 Rotary Clubs in the last month - based on additions to the district database! Also welcome a few of the new members who were featured on their club Facebook pages.

- Atlanta Brasil - Stacey Pereira
- Alpharetta - Phil Van Gelder, Eduard Fatakhov, Mark Broyles, Ioana Radu, Terry Conrad, Jacqueline Jenna
- Atlanta Metro - Courtney Hannula
- Barnesville - Bianca Romero, Chris Cox
- Blakely - Tammy Kilgore
- Carrollton - Susan Welch
- Buckhead - David O'Shea
- Columbus - David Haygood, Sr., Ben Taylor
- Decatur - JoAnna Zackery
- Douglas County - Chad Harris
- Forsyth-Monroe - Nickolaus Hubbard
- Henry County - Frank Fenn
- Johns Creek North Fulton - Tricia Quidley, Brian Weaver, Ping Chen
- Marietta - Otis Brumby, III
- Marietta Metro - Dalton Heiney
- Meriwether County - Melissa Trujillo
- Midtown - Jane Lafferty
- Moultrie - Jeremy Hatcher, David Buckridge
- Newnan - Mike Rohling
- North Cobb - Michele Sutcliffe, Robert Shippey, Jr., DeEnna Walters
- North Columbus - Jay Cannon, Sasha Pagano
- Peachtree City - Heidi Becker
- Pelham - Vince Frosteg, Christian Drake
- Roswell - Ted Williams
- Sandy Springs - Jori Kasher, Michael Lindstrom
- Stone Mountain - Janette Janssen, Isam Vaid, Alan Janssen

Posted by Jaclyn Donovan  
March 2, 2022

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Rotary Means Business

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Posted by Johnathan Clark  
March 9, 2022

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## **Roswell Rotary Invests in City's Legacy**



Roswell has five pre-Civil war homes that provide not only a “living history” for tourists and residents but also have been found by the exploding movie industry! These homes were not burned to the ground when Sherman marched through in 1864 because both Roswell King (a Roswell founder) and General Sherman were Masons. Therefore, the homes were spared and open to visitors today. Bulloch Hall needed some sprucing. Over two weekends, more than 20 **Roswell Rotarians** pressure-washed, repaired and painted the fence while others reshaped the landscape with pruning, weeding and general clean-up. It was a work project with our families and prospective members included.

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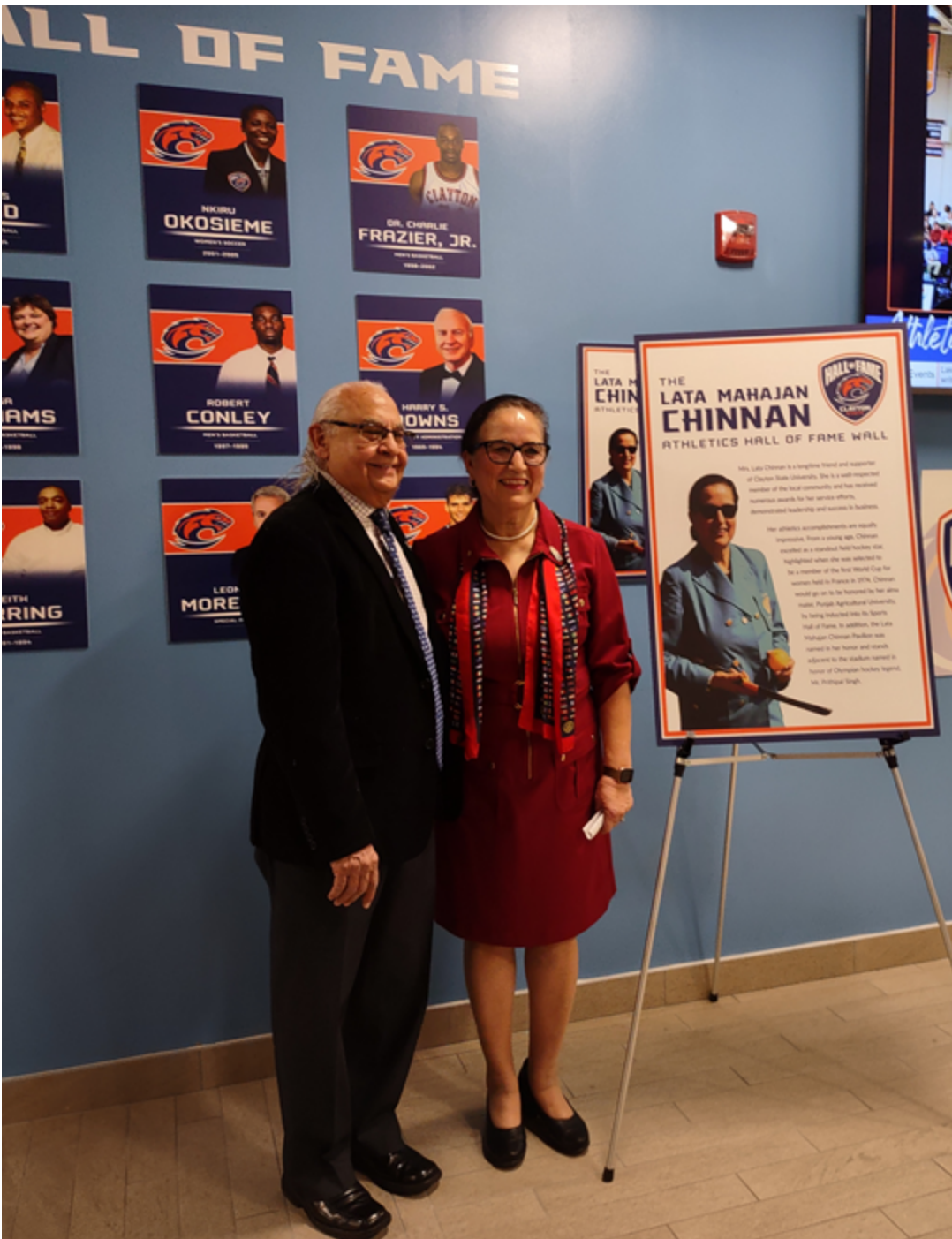


Posted by Becky Nelson  
March 2, 2022

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Posted by Claudia Mertl  
March 9, 2022

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## East Cobb Dog Days Benefit Community



The **Rotary Club of East Cobb** held its Annual Give Back Banquet - honoring the sponsors of the Club's 5-K Dog Days Run and presenting grants to 22 Cobb County non- profits. The 16th annual Dog Days Run was held last August. Over the years, with the help of some incredible community sponsors, the club has donated more than \$500,000 to local and international service projects!

Posted by Joe Mayes  
March 10, 2022

From Facebook

## Supporting Our Communities





The **Rotary Club of Camilla's** recent "Viva La Rotary" event allowed the club to donate \$5,500 to the Mitchell Baker Service Center, a local day service program that serves more than 100 adults with developmental disabilities.

**Thomasville Rotarians** hosted a Valentine's Day party for local seniors. And **Bainbridge Rotarians** installed a new Free Little Library.

**PHOTOS:**



Posted by Jackie Cuthbert  
March 10, 2022

From Facebook

## Atlanta West End Rotarian Honored



**Atlanta West End Rotarian Richard Gerakitis** personifies "Service Above Self." We are so proud that his profound commitment to our community is being recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Chief Justice's Commission on Professionalism.

Established in 1998, the awards honor lawyers and judges in Georgia who have made significant contributions to their communities and who demonstrate the positive contributions of members of the Bar beyond their professional work. All honorees are members of the State Bar of Georgia.

In addition to his professional practice, Richard currently serves on the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, HR, Culture and Diversity Committee, and the Compensation Committee for the Metropolitan Atlanta YMCA and been a Rotarian for 38 years.

Posted by Jackie Cuthbert  
March 10, 2022

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