



From Our District Governor

## Facing Challenges; Adapting to Change; Delivering Hope

By Kirk Driskell  
As we welcome in 2021 with a renewed sense of hope, encouragement and goals it is without question they will intersect with the challenges of COVID-19. I can honestly say that I was praying we would be in further along in restoring our "normal" lives. This pandemic is serious as it affects the health and lives of many with little known about it. Uncertainty is uncomfortable and is inconvenient as we have to adapt our plans. Uncertainty is a part of life and how we react to it will direct our paths. Our intentions do not determine our destination; our actions do. [more]

### LEADERBOARD Check out the full district scoreboard

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

Category	NET MEMBERSHIP	ANNUAL FUND	POLIO PLUS
I	<b>North Atlanta Professional Alliance</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 **Americus RYLA - DISTRICT 6900**
- Saturday, June 6th, 2026 **Americus 2026 Rotary Sheffield Gala**
- Monday, June 22nd, 2026 **RI President Francesco Arezzo Visits D6900!**

12-16 June 2021  
ROTARY VIRTUAL CONVENTION

2020  
ROTARY VIRTUAL CONVENTION

PAST &  
FUTURE

2021 ROTARY CONVENTION NOW VIRTUAL

2021 VIRTUAL

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL  
CONVENTION

#Rotary21

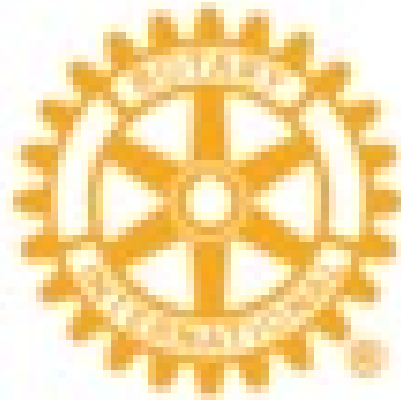
Rotary 

RI Convention and  
District Conference  
2021

## Rotary International Convention Goes Virtual; District Conference Cancelled

By Jackie Cuthbert  
Since our last  
communication with  
you, COVID  
conditions have  
continued to forecast  
difficulty with  
ensuring Rotary can  
safely hold large  
gatherings. [more]

The  
**Rotary**  
Foundation



The Rotary  
Foundation  
**2020-2021  
District  
Grants  
Upcoming  
Deadline**

By Gillian Leggett  
The time to close out all District Grants for 2020-2021 is near. If you have an open District Grant ALL documentation is to be uploaded to the district website, reviewed, and ACCEPTED by the District Grants team no later than March 31, 2021. If you have a grant that is currently in overdue status, documentation is to be uploaded immediately. Thank you to those clubs that have already uploaded their spending documentation.  
[more]

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Rotary  
Leadership  
Institute  
**Our Own  
PDG  
Margie  
Kersey  
Named to  
New RLI  
Board**

By Stephanie Windham  
Under the direction of Michael McGovern, Rotary International Chair and Past Rotary International Vice President, Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) International will seat its inaugural board of directors this month. The RLI Board includes two Rotarians from the RLI Sunshine Division (covering Florida, Georgia, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean) including our own PDG Margie Kersey (pictured with husband Ron) and PDG Timothy Schuler of District 6950. [more]



GRSP Update  
**Celebrate  
75 Years of  
GRSP This  
August in  
Thomasville**

By Scott Rich  
A tremendous project is underway in downtown Thomasville, Georgia to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Georgia Rotary Student Program. To be located at the main entrance to a strikingly new downtown hotel, Rotary Districts 6900, 6910 and 6920 have the opportunity to name the main hotel entrance plaza and fountain in honor of the 75th GRSP anniversary year, 2021. You can join in the celebration and see the fountain when the **Rotary Club of Thomasville** hosts the 75th Anniversary GRSP Conclave in August 2021. The event is scheduled for August 20-21 ... mark your calendar now and watch for details. [more]



GRSP  
**Katheryne  
Fields  
Named GRSP  
Marketing  
and  
Development  
Director**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
Georgia Rotary  
Student Program  
(GRSP) Chair Bert Guy  
recently announced  
Katheryne A. Fields as  
the inaugural  
Marketing and  
Development  
Director. In her role at  
GRSP, Fields will work  
to strengthen the  
program's strategic  
initiatives, fundraise  
and market the  
student scholarship  
program throughout  
the state. In the role,  
Fields will be working  
... [more]



Club News  
**Vinings  
Down Hill  
5K Run  
for the  
Kids Sets  
Records  
During  
Pandemic**

By Ross  
Henderson  
On January 27,  
2021, the  
**Vinings  
Cumberland  
Rotary Club**  
gathered  
virtually to  
celebration its  
donation of over  
\$100,000 to 17  
charities  
specifically  
targeting  
children's  
projects. All this  
raised by a 66-  
member Rotary  
Club with  
money during  
the pandemic in  
the August  
2020 Vinings  
Down Hill 5K  
run for the Kids.  
[more]



Club News

## For Club's 100th Birthday, the Gift is Trees ... to the City

By Carol Jones

It's not every year that an organization celebrates its centennial anniversary. May 2021 will mark the **Rotary Club of Thomasville's** 100th birthday - and the club intends to celebrate all year long. Rotary Past President Jeff Zoller (pictured with President John Brown) summed up the core spirit of the club and its membership when he said, "Over the past 100 years, the Club and its members have made significant and diverse service contributions to the city, with innumerable members involved in service projects to youth and the community. Members have served in diverse leadership roles within the business, education, medical, and government spheres, including members who have served in city, county, and state governments."  
[more]



Serving During  
the Pandemic

## District Clubs Join to Distribute Masks and Sanitizer

By Jackie  
Cuthbert  
Our District was  
approached to  
help facilitate  
getting  
thousands of  
masks and  
bottles of  
sanitizers  
distributed to  
non-profits and  
others that our  
Clubs support!  
Thanks go to the  
**Emory Clifton  
Rotary Club**  
and the Georgia  
Center for non-  
profits that  
secured the  
donation, and  
Chris Brand and  
FODAC for  
helping  
coordinate this  
effort.  
[more]

MANY THANKS  
TO OUR  
FRIENDS AT  
THE  
**ROTARY CLUB**  
FOR PROVIDING  
US WITH  
LUNCH!

WE APPRECIATE  
YOUR SUPPORT!

EMERGENCY  
DEPARTMENT STAFF

**St. Francis**

EMORY HEALTHCARE



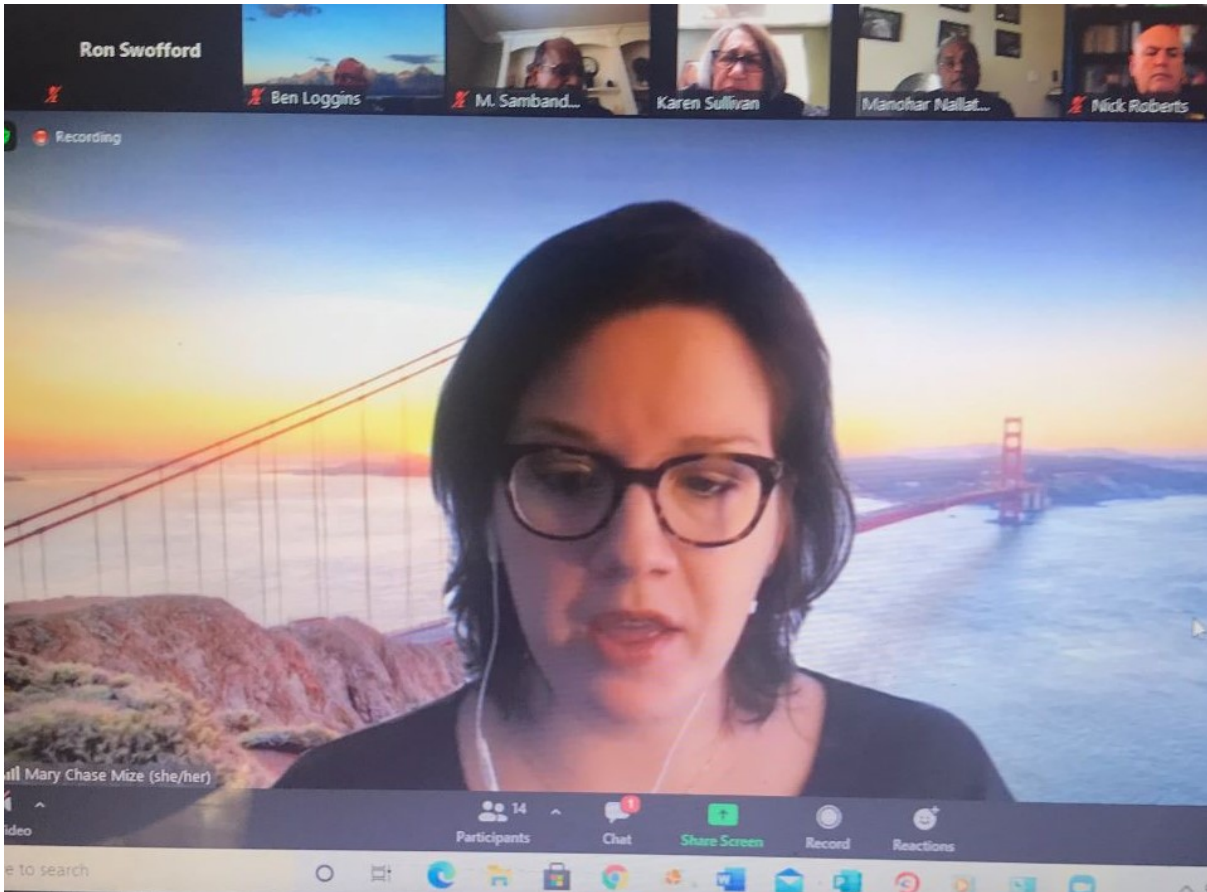
## Serving During the Pandemic **Columbus Shares Lunches with Hospital Workers**

By Julie Bond  
Even though the **Rotary Club of Columbus** isn't meeting in person, the great work of Rotary continues. Having both in person and virtual meetings for a few months, the Board decided that because with case counts and hospital occupancy rates are still much higher in January than where they were in December, the club would suspend the in person meetings. It was also decided to give the meals that we would have had at the Trade Center (where we would normally meet) to those in the Health Care community and frontline workers in our community battle against COVID-19. This step would also benefit the trade Center by providing work for their food services team, a win-win! [more]



Our Rotary  
Foundation at  
Work  
**District  
Grant  
Supports  
Jacobs  
Ladder  
Taste of  
Love  
Kitchen**

By Trummie Patrick  
Jacobs Ladder offers tailored services to children of all ages with Autism, ADHD, Brain Injury, CP, Down Syndrome, Learning Differences, or any developmental syndrome. Their interpersonal Whole Brain Model of Care is individually customized and daily implemented in loving environments to ensure every child and young adult reaches their full potential, no matter the neurological or behavioral challenges faced. The District Grant awarded to **Roswell Rotary** and the **Rotary Club of Milton** funded a much-needed commercial oven for the Taste of Love kitchen.  
[more]



Club News

## Graduate Student Focuses on Assisting Seniors; Preventing Suicides

By Ron Swofford  
In January, members of the **Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County** were treated to a special presentation from Mary Chase Mize, a PhD candidate at Georgia State University (GSU). What made the program special? First, her description of a new way Rotarians can serve their communities. And second, her background - Ms. Mize received her undergraduate degree from Mississippi State University in 2013, with scholarship assistance provided by her hometown Rotary Club, the Rotary Club of Somerville Tennessee. [more]



Serving During  
the Pandemic  
**Americus  
Delivers  
Protective  
Equipment**

By Angela Smith  
Thanks to Karen  
Beaver at the  
Georgia Center  
for Non-profits  
and Chris Brand  
with FODAC, the  
**Rotary Club of  
Americus** was  
able to distribute  
PPE to  
organizations and  
agencies  
experiencing a  
critical need  
during the post-  
holiday spike in  
COVID-19 cases.  
Americus  
Rotarians  
delivered 5,500  
masks (including  
4,000 KN95) and  
nearly 300 bottles  
of ... [more]



From Facebook  
**Making a  
Difference in  
Our  
Communities**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
Our clubs have been busy in the community! **Milton and Alpharetta** supported a Meals on Wheels for Pets program for the local Senior Program, while **Buckhead Rotarians** were working with Livable Buckhead and Doc's Healing Hives to create a bee habitat. **Marietta Metro** participated in the Keep Cobb Beautiful tree chipper program, **Emory Druid Hills** sponsored a program on COVID-19, and **North Cobb** worked with the Ladies of KSU to collect coats, hats, gloves and scarves. See more about these projects. [more]



From Facebook  
**Serving Up  
Thanks to  
First  
Responders and Health  
Workers**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
As we continue to work through the pandemic, here's how the **Rotary Clubs of Barnesville, Moutrie, Thomaston Upson and Thomasville** have served up their thank you's to first responders and health care workers. [more]



From Facebook  
**Making a Difference in Our Education; Inspiring Youth for the Future**

By Jackie Cuthbert  
Our clubs continue to inspire youth and support education.  
**Peachtree City** has been sponsoring new Interact Clubs, while **Paulding County** supports the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, **Cordele** participates in the Growing Garden program, **East Cobb** supports AVID at Wheeler High School, and **Carrollton** provides technology for special needs students. Be inspired by their ideas. Two of these clubs used District Grants from the Rotary Foundation to fund their projects. [more]

From Our GRSP Alumni

## **Open Letter to District 6900 Rotarians from GRSP Class of 1996-97**

By Angela Smith

Carolina Mateus was Carl and Judy Tott's GRSP student in 1996 when Carl was Americus Rotary President. Carolina married their son Glenn a number of years later. In Carolina's text to Carl following a group chat with her GRSP class, she stated "After the situation in DC on Wednesday [January 6, 2021], the GRSP class of 1996-97 decided to write a letter to GRSP headquarters mentioning our love and deep belief in US democracy and thanking the program for shaping us to be ambassadors of peace as we moved into our adult lives. After sending the letter, many other GRSP classes joined in signing it and we have since received warm responses from Rotarians." Carolina shared the information and following letter with Carl.

[more]

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A Closing Thought From Our District Chaplain

### **It Starts with Thinking for Ourselves ...**

By Gregory Adams

Shackles on our minds and bars around our hearts will imprison our souls. That's why it is so important not to allow any one person to control the way we think.

I remember when I was a child, my parents would often time tell me, Greg think for yourself. It's funny now, but I understand why they were telling me to do that. And I'm sure a ... [more]

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