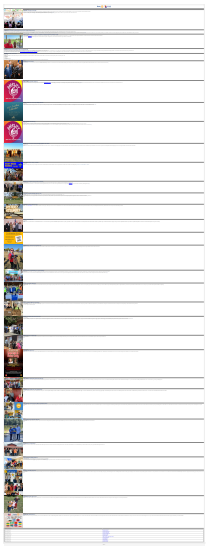
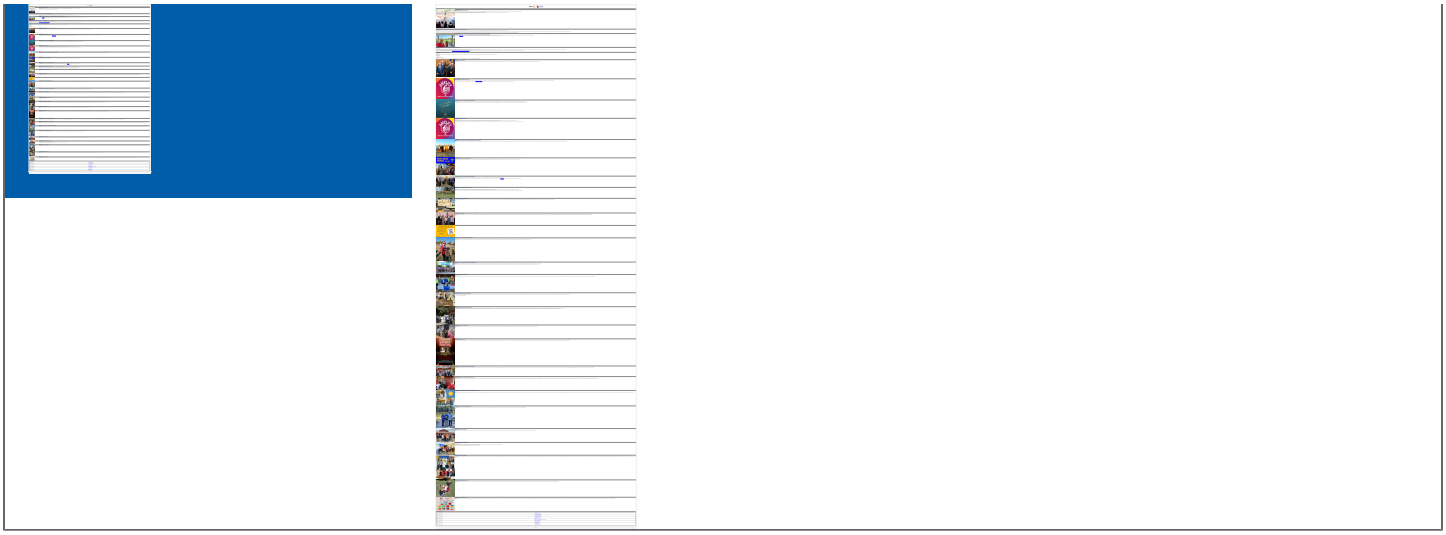
Rotary
District 6900



November 1, 2023



From Our District Governor

Thanks for Creating Hope in the World

“There is nothing impossible to they who will try” Alexander Great



Governor Andre' addresses the students of M. Agnes Jones Elementary School as part of her official visit to the Rotary Club of Atlanta West End

Thank you District 6900 for having the right attitude and embracing our challenge to “Creating Hope in the World! You have done that through your actions, your attitudes, and behaviors in your club and communities!!! The projects that you have implemented, continued, and planned are exceptional.

I enjoyed our “boots on the ground “work, serving the community, celebrating the 100th Anniversary in LaGrange! attending plays, listening to Big Band Music, not to mention the receptions, fellowships, and did I mention food? Thank You!!

Then there is the Work to be done. Membership, Foundation, Public Image, and Mental Health to remove the stigma. We will cover these topics during our weekly conversations.

I've listened to your plans for growth, struggles of how to remove those obstacles, and problem solved with many of you. I am truly appreciative of the challenging, yet exciting work you are preforming, making this place in which we call home, our clubs, vibrant and more appealing to ourselves, and communities we serve. You are focused on the right thing, **relationships** as your highest priority!

We do all of this by Keeping our **Passion, Purpose and Plan** as our major thrust, ensuring that our meetings are engaging, exciting, full of energy and welcoming.

I ask that for the next several months you keep **Membership and Foundation a primary focus**. We need both to do meaningful service projects. I am appreciative of each and every one of you. I love your "Can Do" attitude. Always remember.

"It is our attitude at the beginning of a difficult task which, more than anything else, will affect its successful outcome." **William James**

Keep That Can Do Attitude, and we will always be on Top!

Posted by André Marria
October 27, 2023

The Rotary Foundation at Work

D6900 Awards More Than $91,000 in Special One-Time Grants to Address Alzheimers Needs

District 6900 Rotarians transform their communities to support individuals suffering with Alzheimer's and other forms of Dementia and the Caregivers

As Rotary International focuses global attention on Mental Health and its worldwide impact, local Rotarians are creating local projects and support programs here in Georgia to addressing the challenges and life-style disruptions these cognitive conditions bring to patients as well as their families, friends and caregivers.

Supported by a generous major donation to The Rotary Foundation targeting Alzheimer's Disease, plus every Rotarian's contribution three years ago, District 6900 is awarding special one- time only Community Grants totaling more than $91,000 in Alzheimer's relief support to 10 clubs performing seven different projects. Each of these Rotary Clubs submitted plans developed specifically to address needs they discovered through researching their own communities. District 6900 will also award a global grant or possibly two to allow our Clubs to address the Alzheimer's challenges on a wider basis.

Congratulations to everyone participating in these pilot projects. The **Alpharetta, Americus Atlanta Airport, Carrolton DawnBreakers, Carrolton at Noon, Bremen, North Columbus, Sandy Springs, Marietta and North Cobb Clubs** won D6900's first Alzheimer's Disease Community Grants. Read on for a brief description of each of their projects.

Alpharetta – Grant provides education on the diseases as well as current best practices for treatment and comfort to the caregivers, families and members of the communities. Caregivers will be offered much needed "Respite Days" once per month with leisure activities offered by the club to 120 caregivers. While the Caregivers enjoy their day, their loved ones will receive the care they need through professional care giving services offered through businesses associated with the Alpharetta Club. The Grant also supports two information training seminar days with guest Speakers.

Americus – "Caring for Me, Caring for You"- developed at the Rosalynn Carter Institute – Grant Offers 5 part interactive training (5 weeks, 2 hours each week) to all Rotarians and members of the community at large. Participants may become "Dementia Friends" and advocates in the community.

Atlanta Airport – Rotarians are supporting their community's low income seniors living either independently, or in care facilities, and are struggling to afford day to day personal care items, clothing, medical and cleaning supplies through "Daddy's Closet."

Carrolton Dawn Breakers, Carrolton at Noon & Bremen Clubs – In partnership with "The West Georgia Council on Aging" – This Grant will help sponsor three annual social events for Senior Citizens to enjoy and come together – Thanksgiving, Valentine's and Spring Fling. In addition, Rotarians will add 27 classes per month in the most effective memory care services - exercise, art, music and movement. The classes will be provided to citizens living in three senior housing facilities plus Memory Care facilities in the West Georgia area. All equipment and supplies are included in the Rotary services.

North Columbus – Rotarians from North Columbus are giving social events including live music, dancing, snacks and Ice Cream to residents and guests of three senior living and memory care facilities in the area. Entertainment provided by the Club's Member musicians and band.

Sandy Springs – Club members will support programs of music and art therapy offered at the Dorothy Benton Center, a multi-level senior complex for residents 55+ years of age. The Center's Adult Day Care and the Rotary Club of Sandy Springs will offer safe and socially interactive classes in art, crafts and music therapy as well as Holiday and Birthday events. A portion of the Grant will improve the sound system and provide instruments.

Rotary Clubs of Marietta and North Cobb – Rotarians, in partnership with "Aloha to Alzheimers" a 501c3 organization in the area, will provide community classes and free viewing of "A Day in the Life." This interactive film and experience gives attendees a chance to learn firsthand what a person suffering from Alzheimer's Disease may see, think and feel daily. Rotarians are also supporting added day care classes and furnishing supplies, including totes and tee shirts, for "Heart Strings," serving 250 more seniors in the Cobb area.

We will continue to publish individual progress reports as we proceed through this year and hope there are many additional Grants in our future.

Posted by Anne Glenn
October 28, 2023

Special Speaker Opportunity

Satellite Cub of Stone Mountain Passport Invites You to Freedom Series

November 6 - Herb Elfring, Pearl Harbor Survivor

The **Satellite Rotary Club of Stone Mountain Passport**, in partnership with RLI Sunshine Division, is sponsoring a series of Zoom meetings called the Freedom Series. Each quarter we will be presenting a very special speaker ***at no charge*** for attendees. This is a Public Image event (not a fundraiser). We can only host 1000 attendees and it is open to Rotarians, non-Rotarians, and all interested people. It is being promoted with VFW, American Legion, and several home schooling organizations – as well as Rotarians. We want to increase awareness of Rotary, RLI, and our Veterans.

All of the speakers are nationally known. First up is Herb Elfring, one of the few remaining Pearl Harbor survivors. The event will take place via Zoom on November 6, from 2-3 PM Eastern time. We will also be hosting one of the few remaining Tuskegee Airmen and the POW who was held the longest in captivity.

Please share the information with the Rotarians and any other groups you think may be interested. We look forward to see you and your Rotarians November 6!

The Rotary Satellite Club of Stone Mountain Passport and The Rotary Leadership Institute – Sunshine Division Present

The Freedom Series

(a Four Part Speaker Series, via Zoom, Focusing on Our Military Veterans)

November 6th, 2023 – 2 pm to 3 pm Eastern

Herb Elfring – Pearl Harbor Survivor

You won't want to miss the first of four speakers in our "Freedom Series" presented by The Rotary Satellite Club of Stone Mountain Passport and the Sunshine Division of Rotary Leadership Institute.

Our featured speaker, Herb Elfring, is one of the few remaining survivors of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Attend via Zoom, and listen as he recounts his harrowing ordeal on that fateful day of December 7, 1941 and beyond.

Due to high demand, we are requesting that all attendees preregister for this event. This event is

presented at no cost to you due to the sponsorship of the Passport Club and RLI Sunshine-Division. You may register by clicking on the following link and providing your name and email address. A zoom link will be sent to you, via the email you provide, 24 hours prior to this historic moment.

Please click on the link or cut and paste into your browser to register: **https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084BAFA62CA2FFC52-44754886-herb**

We look forward to seeing you online and experience all the things that Herb shares with us.

Yours in Rotary Service,

The Rotary Satellite Club of Stone Mountain Passport (passport.rotary6900.org)

Rotary Leadership Institute, Sunshine Division (rlitraining.org)

(For issues with registration, please contact margie@callkbs.com or gkleggett@att.net)

Posted by Margie Kersey
October 27, 2023

Membership

"The Winners' Circle" - We See You!!!

Join me in congratulating Clubs who have inducted a large number of Members into Rotary this quarter. They have extended their new members the hands of fellowship, friendship, fun, and an opportunity to make a lasting change in their clubs, community, and the world!

Thank You to:

- North Cobb 11
- Thomasville 10
- Alpharetta 10
- Carrollton Dawn Breakers 9
- Peacthree City 8

By this time next month this list will change. Please help your club join our "Circle of Winners" and be recognized for extending others an opportunity to join our awesome Rotary Fellowship!

Posted by André Marria
October 28, 2023

Club News

LaGrange Celebrates 100 Years



Special guests (from L to R): PDG Jim Squire, Past RI President Mark Maloney, DG André Marria, PDG George Granade and Past RI Director Robert Hall

Wednesday, September 27, 2023 was the actual 100 Year Anniversary for the **Rotary Club of LaGrange**. In celebration of the occasion an Anniversary Gala Event was held downtown LaGrange at Del'Avant the night before. The keynote speaker for the event was Rotary International Past President Mark Daniel Maloney (2019-2020). Mark was accompanied by his wife Gay.

The event was attended by 128 individuals and included additional RI and District 6900 representatives, including Past RI Director Robert Hall and his wife Charlene, District Governor André Marria and husband Walter, District Trainer Tracy Van Norman and his wife Beth, PDG George Granade and his wife Jill, PDG Jim Squire, Assistant Governor Susan Ferguson and husband Charlie, and PAG Sheri Cody. The club's current president, Paul S. "Tripp" Penn served as the evening's Master of Ceremony.

Maloney took the time to give a review of Rotary through the years, pointing out the progress of the organization while emphasizing the role of the Rotary Club of LaGrange played during those years. Maloney's comments were both enlightening and and even humorous and was well received by his audience.

Dr. Willie T. Edmondson, LaGrange Mayor and LaGrange Rotarian, presented President Penn with an official proclamation that highlighted the Rotary Club of LaGrange's contribution to LaGrange over the past 100 years.

The evening was enjoyed by all and was an elegant celebration for the Rotary Club of LaGrange's 100 Year Anniversary.

PHOTOS:



Evening's Keynote Speaker Past RI President Mark Daniel Maloney (far left) and his wife Gay were given a warm welcome by District Governor André Marria and her husband Walter (second row) and Rotary Club President Tripp Penn (far right) and his wife Megan



The planning committee started meeting last May to plan this event.

Posted by Barb Henigin
October 28, 2023

District Conference 2024

Where to Stay for 2024 District Conference

Several hotels have room blocks reserved for us through February 21, 2024. BUT OUR BLOCKS ARE SELLING OUT QUICKLY!!! When making your reservation, please be sure and reference Rotary District 6900. We have still have room blocks available with the Courtyard by Marriott and The Residence Inn, which have a free island-wide shuttle; Hampton Inn & Suites; Seafarer Inn & Suites; Holiday Inn Resort;

and the Beachview Club Hotel.

We have a new room block at Villas by the Sea. Attendees can make a reservation online at **www.villasbythesearesort.com**. The Group Login code is R-6900. Villas by the Sea is offering a selection of Mini Villas, Studios, and 1-bedrooms at the following nightly discounted prices:

- Mini Villa Islandside $161-188
- Studio Islandside $161-188
- 1-Bedroom Islandside $188-215
- 1-Bedroom Oceanside/no view $197-224
- 1-Bedroom Oceanview $215-242

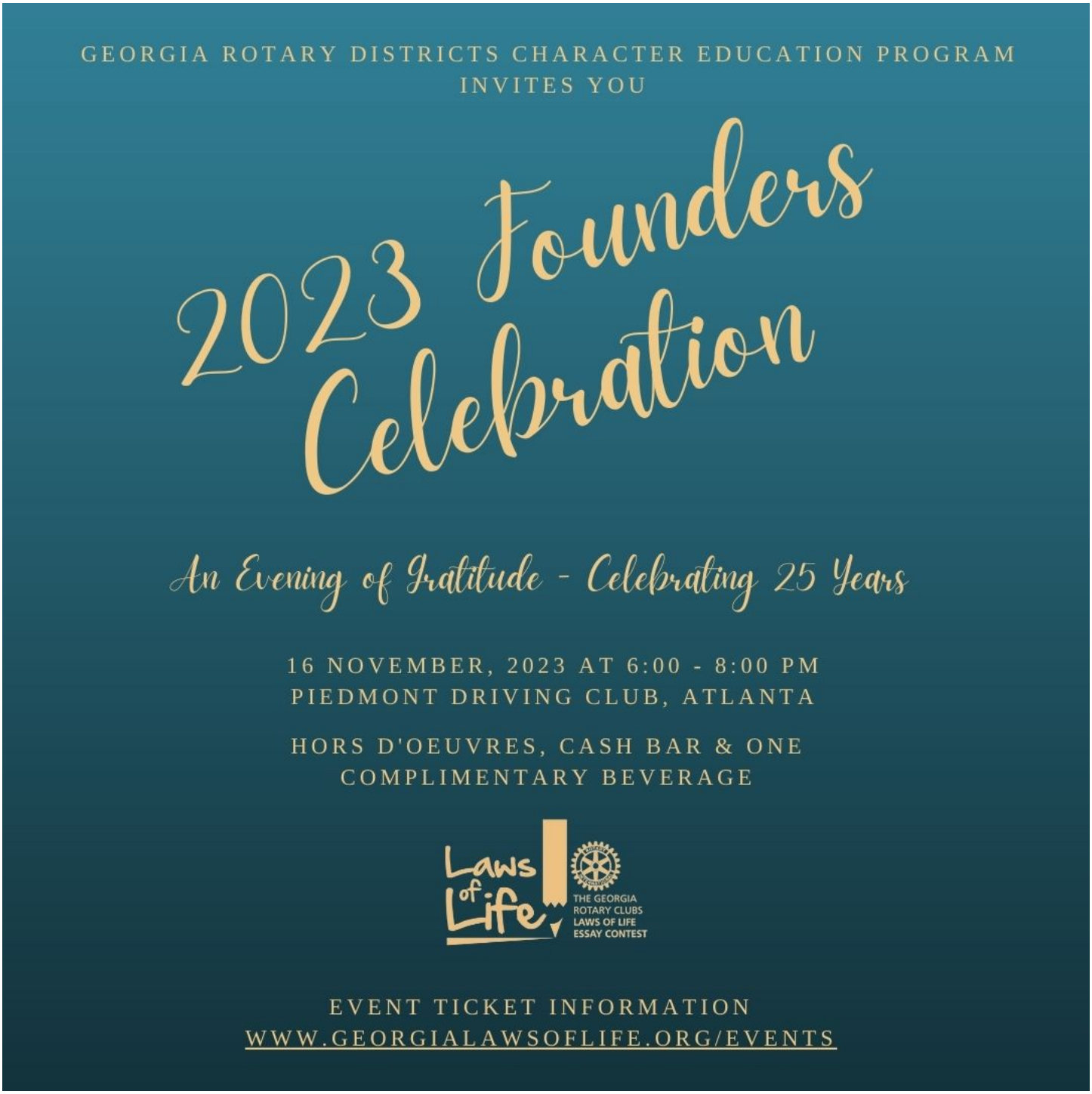
These prices do not include taxes/resort fee. The higher rate is for Friday-Saturday.

There are other hotels on the island, as well as short-term rentals and camping opportunities, but as of right now only the hotels listed here are offering reduced rates for conference attendees. These room blocks will fill up quickly, so make your reservations early! As of now our blocks with The Westin and Home2Suites have SOLD OUT. Be on the lookout for emails – we will let you know if additional rooms open up or additional hotels offer room blocks.

Posted by Stephanie Windham
October 30, 2023

Laws of Life

Join the Celebration: 25 Years of Essays Making a Difference



With our third Founders Celebration, An Evening of Gratitude, we will celebrate 25 years of the Georgia Laws of Life Essay Contest. Join us at the beautiful Piedmont Driving Club in Midtown Atlanta on November 16 as volunteers and patrons celebrate the students and teachers who are the foundation of the contest.

Delight in stories first-hand from state-winning student writers. Honor the experiences of devoted teachers. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar and musical entertainment from the Midtown High School Ensemble as you mix and mingle with all who endeavor to help this simple, yet powerful contest transform student lives.

While providing high schools with an effective, cost-free character education program, the Georgia Laws of Life Essay Contest changes students' lives for the better. As students reflect on the values and principles that matter most to them, something magical happens. Through the power of the pen, students begin to see themselves and others with a new perspective. Frequently, the contest nudges students not just to articulate their ideals, but to live out their "best versions" of themselves – lives full of courage, compassion, and gratitude.

Each year, more than 40,000 Georgia students write a Laws of Life essay, and the contest presents over $20,000 in cash awards to students and teachers.

We feel gratitude for the support for the contest from Rotary clubs and Rotarians across the state. We hope you'll join us to celebrate 25 years of outstanding student essays. For ticket information, visit our **Give Lively ticket page**. If you can't attend the event, you can join the celebration by **making a $25 donation in honor of 25 years** of the contest.

Posted by Linda Hatten
October 28, 2023

GRSP Update

GRSP Scholars Tour Historic Savannah, Visit Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum



GRSP scholars toured historic Savannah the mid-October with Rotarians from Savannah area clubs for the Hue Thomas, Jr. Weekend. They visited the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum for an interactive experience World War II from both the European and American perspectives. Thankfully the sun appeared in the afternoon on the second day as they toured the Tybee Island Lighthouse and spent time playing games on the beach. The night ended with a Low-Country Boil hosted by the Hussey family.

Alice Löfving of Sweden, who is sponsored by Gwinnett County and Gwinnett Sunrise Rotary Clubs, District 6910, attends Georgia Gwinnett College. She said she enjoyed the military museum and the ability to create her own dog tag.

“Most of us went swimming and played fun games at the beach,” she said. “The weather wasn’t the best but that didn’t matter, we all had each other! Something else we all seemed to enjoy was

the Low-Country seafood boil! That was amazing. Just as amazing was the kind Rotarian I stayed with during the weekend! She told me all about Savannah, her life and we exchanged numbers. I will definitely make sure I update her on my year here in Georgia."

The coastal weekend is named in memory of Thomas, honoring this past GRSP Chairman who guided the program through 35 years of growth. He was a member of the Rotary Club of Savannah.
Students will travel to Alpharetta in November.

PHOTOS:




GEORGIA QUEEN



Posted by Katheryne Fields
October 30, 2023

Mark Your Calendar

Rotary Means Business -Tuesday, November 21



Looking for a networking opportunity that gives you meaningful connections with service-minded individuals in an international community? Join us for Rotary Meets Business on the third Tuesday of each month. Our next meeting: Tuesday, November 21, 6-8 PM, at Iron Hill Brewery – Perimeter.

Posted by Carter Stout
October 30, 2023

RLI Update

Congratulations Graduates! Next Up: January in Thomasville



In October, the **North Cobb Rotary Club** hosted an RLI event at the Ben Robertson Community Center in Kennesaw, led by President Nancy Prochaska. 25 members increased their Rotary knowledge by taking Parts 1 and 2. With enthusiasm in abundance, all members received their Certificates of Completion and are looking forward to taking the next step in their RLI journey. Many thanks go out to Discussion Leaders Don Martin, Peter Gleichman, Renee Welch, who came from District 6910 to join Mandy Timmons and yours truly to lead the classes. And thanks also to Audley Knight for filling in as Registrar for the event.

The next in-person session will be on January 13, 2024 in Thomasville, GA at Southern Regional Technical College. Parts 1, 2, and 3 will be offered, along with a Graduate Class. You can sign up online at **RLItraining.org**. If you have any questions, please email tracy.vannorman@gmail.com.

PHOTOS:



Posted by Tracy Van Norman
October 27, 2023

Service Opportunity

Join the HAVE Foundation Honduras Wilderness Team

Come see the Original Vince Dooley Field in Our March 2024 Service Trip!



The Honduras Wilderness Team was started by Atlanta Rotarian, Bob Hope, in 1999. The team has made the annual trip there each March since. The next trip will run March 2-9, 2024.

It is the official international trip of the Rotary Club of Atlanta, but is **open to anyone**, not just Rotarians. Invite your family, friends and teenaged children. We had over 12 members last year who ranged in age from 12-19. Only around 30% of last year's 54 member team were Rotarians.

T he trip starts around 12 noon, March 2nd, at the airport in Comayagua, Honduras (XPL). Team members are responsible to make their own air arrangements. We will overnight in Juticalpa, then travel the rest of the way to our home for the week in the beautiful and rural Agalta Valley, in central Honduras. Our work is from Sunday afternoon to Thursday. Friday we return to capital, Tegucigalpa, and then onto Comayagua on Saturday for our return home.

We have a wide range of work, most of it supporting the schools. We paint murals in classrooms, teach music/sports/and even improv. There is also work in the clinics, mixing concrete floors in homes with dirt floors and building water filter systems for the families. There is work for all age and skill levels.

The $950 in-country fee covers virtually everything once we leave the airport until we return to the airport the following Saturday. Meals, hotels/ dorms, transportation, security are all covered. You cover your extras.

The accommodations at the ranch are simple, but comfortable. There are large dorm rooms with eight twin beds (no bunks) storage for personal items and power for chargers, plenty of clean water, etc. Each dorm room has a bath, each with two showers, heads and lavatories. Think Summer camp for big people! There is internet available in the dining hall and cell phones work throughout most of the country.

Come join the Wilderness Team for fellowship, fun and lifelong friendships both here and in Honduras.

We are now taking reservations with a $200 refundable deposit (until Dec. 15th) to hold your place. We sold out all spaces last year.

If you are interested or just have any questions, please call or email: Paul Ray, Rotary Club of Alpharetta, 901-412-4434 email: paulray60@gmail.com

Posted by Paul Ray
October 29, 2023

Registration For District Assembly Is Open

Friday, March 22, 2024 - Jekyll Island



We have combined **District Assembly** with the District Conference weekend this year. This gives you a weekend of your life back! If you will serve in club leadership for the 2024-25 Rotary year plan on arriving Thursday night and join us Friday morning for a leadership development and vibrant club workshop. District Assembly will start with lunch on Friday, followed by breakout sessions to help your club become *irresistible* in your community.

For more information visit the **District Assembly page** or to register visit the **District Conference page** and add Assembly to your registration.

Posted by Gordon Owens
September 20, 2023

Club News

Americus Hosts Sheffield Gala



The **Americus Rotary Club** was honored to host the 2023 Sheffield Gala & Auction for District 6900, celebrating the newest Sheffield Leadership Award winners and recognizing all past winners in attendance. The Gala was attended District Leadership (DG Andre Marria, DGE Gordon Owens, DGN Steve Ivory, PDGs Bob Hagan, Steve Stanfield, Marion Franklin, Mary Ligon, & George Granade, and many Sheffield Leadership Society members. Emily Sheffield Hollingsworth and her husband Lee were present and recognized as special guests for the evening.

Congratulations to the 2023 Class of Sheffield Leadership Award Winners: Vickie Butler (Rotary Club of Fayetteville), Patricia Goodman (Rotary Club of Cuthbert), Michelle Hanchey (Rotary Club of Johns Creek North Fulton), Terri Hilderhoff (Rotary Club of Vinings Cumberland), and Cedric Hill (Rotary Club of Columbus).

The Sheffield Leadership Award, established in 1994, is presented by the Rotary Club of Americus in honor of three Past District Governors – all from the same family and the Americus Rotary Club. It honors John West Sheffield (District 39, 1926-27), John W. Sheffield (District 690, 1961-62), and Langdon Sheffield (District 690, 1975-76), who have each served this Rotary District as District Governors.

The award is presented annually by the District Governor to the D6900 club presidents (from each of the club size categories) who best exemplify the extraordinary leadership traits represented by the Sheffield family and execute their responsibilities in an exceptional manner.

The Rotary Club of Americus wishes to thank all who attended and made the event such a special evening!

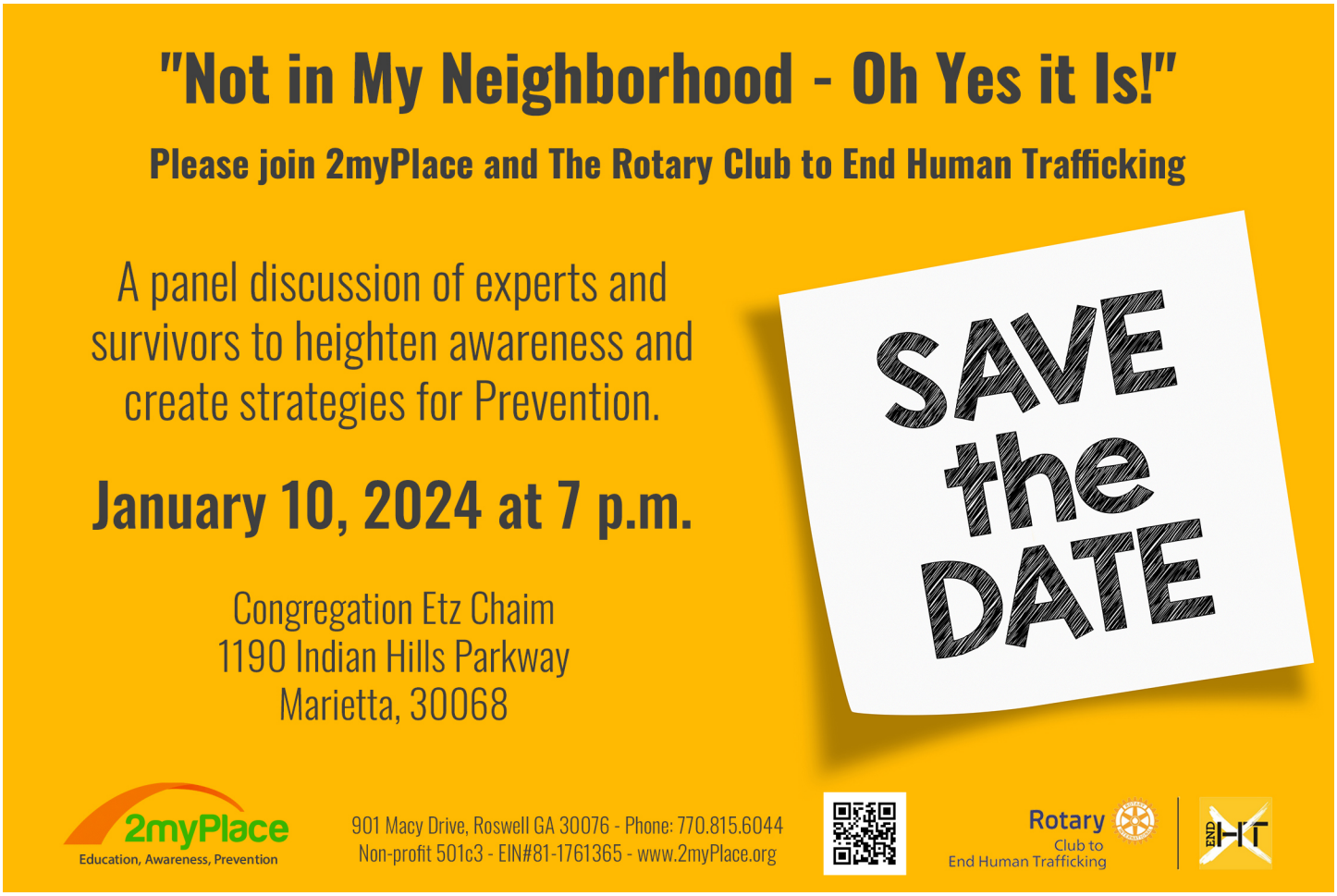
PHOTOS:





Posted by Angela Smith
October 28, 2023

End Human Trafficking Event



Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
October 29, 2023

Rotarian Competes with Successful Dragonboat Team



Past President Pia Dina Valeriano, a member of the new **Clifton-Emory Satellite of the Rotary Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent** is a member of a very successful Dragonboat team. In September, Pia and her team went to Nashville, TN - winning gold and beating the NYC police Dragonboat team and the Friends of South Africa Vuvuzela team.

The Mekong Dragons practice in Stone Mountain Lake twice a week and Pia has been with that team for a few years now. The team is diverse in age (19 - 63) and nationality (Filipinos. Laotian, Cambodian, Chinese, Peruvian, Israeli, black/Caucasian/Hispanic Americans). There are more than 35 members coached by Vilay Rajbout and there are several couples in the team. Her husband, retired from the army, is also a member of the team.

Last year, Pia joined the Mekong ladies and competed in the Peachtree City Dragonboat race hosted by the Rotary Club of Peachtree City and her team won gold. This year her team missed competing in the Peachtree City event because of another race conflict.

Congratulations to this awesome team!

PHOTOS:



Posted by Claudia Mertl
October 28, 2023

Club News

Alpharetta Hosts Its 26th Annual Mayor's Corporate Challenge



With beautiful weather and an atmosphere of excitement, the **Rotary Club of Alpharetta** hosted its 26th Mayor's Corporate Challenge 5K on September 21st. The downtown Alpharetta race mustered over 1,000 runners for the 5K and nearly 100 children for the Kid's Fun Run. Prior to the 6:30 pm start, families enjoyed music, food trucks, a business expo, and bouncy houses for the kids.

This year, the club raised $120,000 for charities like North Fulton Community Charities, the Drake House, Habitat For Humanity, Stand-up for Kids, Homestretch, Foster Care Georgia, and the YMCA. Sponsoring corporations LexisNexis Risk Solutions, Datascan, Wellstar, Fiserv, Chemence, Axis, Wheels, and Morgan Stanley set the pace with teams of dedicated runners.

PHOTOS:


MAYOR'S
CORPORATE
CHALLENGE
1168
Rotary


ALL DAY



Posted by Clark Savage
October 30, 2023

Club News

Peachtree City Supports Challenge Air



Challenge Air for Kids & Friends exists to build confidence and self-esteem in children and youth with special needs through the gift of flight. Rotarians from **Peachtree City** were so thankful to volunteer and sponsor this event! This type of program is near to our hearts as we love supporting our special needs adults in our Rotary Community Corps! Special Needs children were given timeslots throughout the day to participate in a flight from Peachtree City's Falcon Field with pilots that donated their time and their planes for the event. The joy in the eyes of these children (and their parents and families) was simply amazing!

Posted by Mandy Timmons
October 30, 2023

Club News

Interact Club Brings Halloween to Local Shelter



The **North Cobb Rotary Club's Interact Club at Kennesaw Mountain High** met yesterday to elect officers and do a Halloween service project. The students discovered that the local Live Safe shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault is currently housing 30 children. It is unlikely that these kids will be able to go out for traditional Trick-or-Treating, so the Interact

students decided to take Trick-or-Treating to them! They designed fun bags, stuffed them with candy, and arranged for delivery.

A good time! A good cause! That's Interact!

PHOTOS:



Posted by Nancy Prochaska
October 28, 2023

Club News

Elementary School Hosts Atlanta West End DG Visit



M. Agnes Jones Elementary School principal Robert Williams, STEAM specialist Lisa Colbert and Mikaela Zimmerman hosted **Atlanta West End Rotary Club** members as we welcomed our District Governor André Hadley Marria for an official club visit in late September. Her official club visit included addressing the students, engaging with them in Q&A, dedicating a greenhouse provided through a Rotary Foundation District 6900 District Grant and a tour of the school.

The club also welcomed its Assistant District Governor - Cynthia Edwards - and Mr. Walter Marria, life-long partner of our District Governor and her husband for more than 50 years. The program was led by STEAM specialist Lisa Colbert, who manages the school's garden, and Mikaela Zimmerman, a science specialist. The program began with a warm and most gracious welcome by the school's principal, who

expressed deep appreciation for the club's investment of time and money.

When DG André addressed the students and larger AWER/M. Agnes Jones audience, she emphasized her deepest gratitude for teachers because it was teachers who urged her to go to college opening the way for many opportunities and positions of responsibility. It was in part through her teachers and education that she learned a part of her success in life is to be taken with a Passion, finding a Path, and being centered on Purpose. Governor Maria is a noted and accomplished singer, so she took the occasion in front of the students to sing a cappella: “I Believe the Children are Our Future, Teach Them Well, and Let Them Lead the Way, Show Them All the Beauty They Possess Inside, Give Them a Sense of Pride, Let the Children’s Laughter Remind Us of How We Used to be ….” DG André challenged the children and all adults to foster a world of generous people and all becoming good at donating of money and time for the benefit of others, because our world greatly needs it. She emphasized that we all need to be building our own legacy of justice and treating others nobly. AWER members keenly felt that our District Governor to be a genuine humanitarian.

The formal program concluded with a dedication of the greenhouse donated to M. Agnes Jones Elementary School’s STEAM program and funded by the club and a District 6900 grant. The greenhouse supports a growing understanding of botany - which the students showed in their knowledge of and caring for plants – no doubt reinforcing their awareness of plant systems and ecology. One second grade student said while leading a part of a tour of the garden, “I really like seeing plants in their various formative stages.” (Emphasis added)

AWER members then toured the school – led by Mss. Colbert and Zimmerman, meeting other teachers and students, seeing the faces of scores of eager children and talking with many of them, and observing with gratitude the array of resources available to them. Most apparent was the remarkable devotion of the teachers, enabling their students’ curiosity to grow and as a consequence the advancement of science in their minds.

PHOTOS:


40
60
80
100
120



Posted by Neil Shorthouse
October 29, 2023

Club News

Griffin Rotarians Join in Pizza for Polio



The **Rotary Club of Griffin** and the **Griffin Daybreak Rotary Club** partnered with Slices Pizzeria in Griffin to celebrate World Polio Day with Pizza for Polio. Slices is donating a portion of its lunch proceeds to The Rotary Foundation for PolioPlus. The law firm of Beck, Owen & Murray, home to four Griffin Rotarians, enjoyed Pizza for Polio in recognition of World Polio Day.

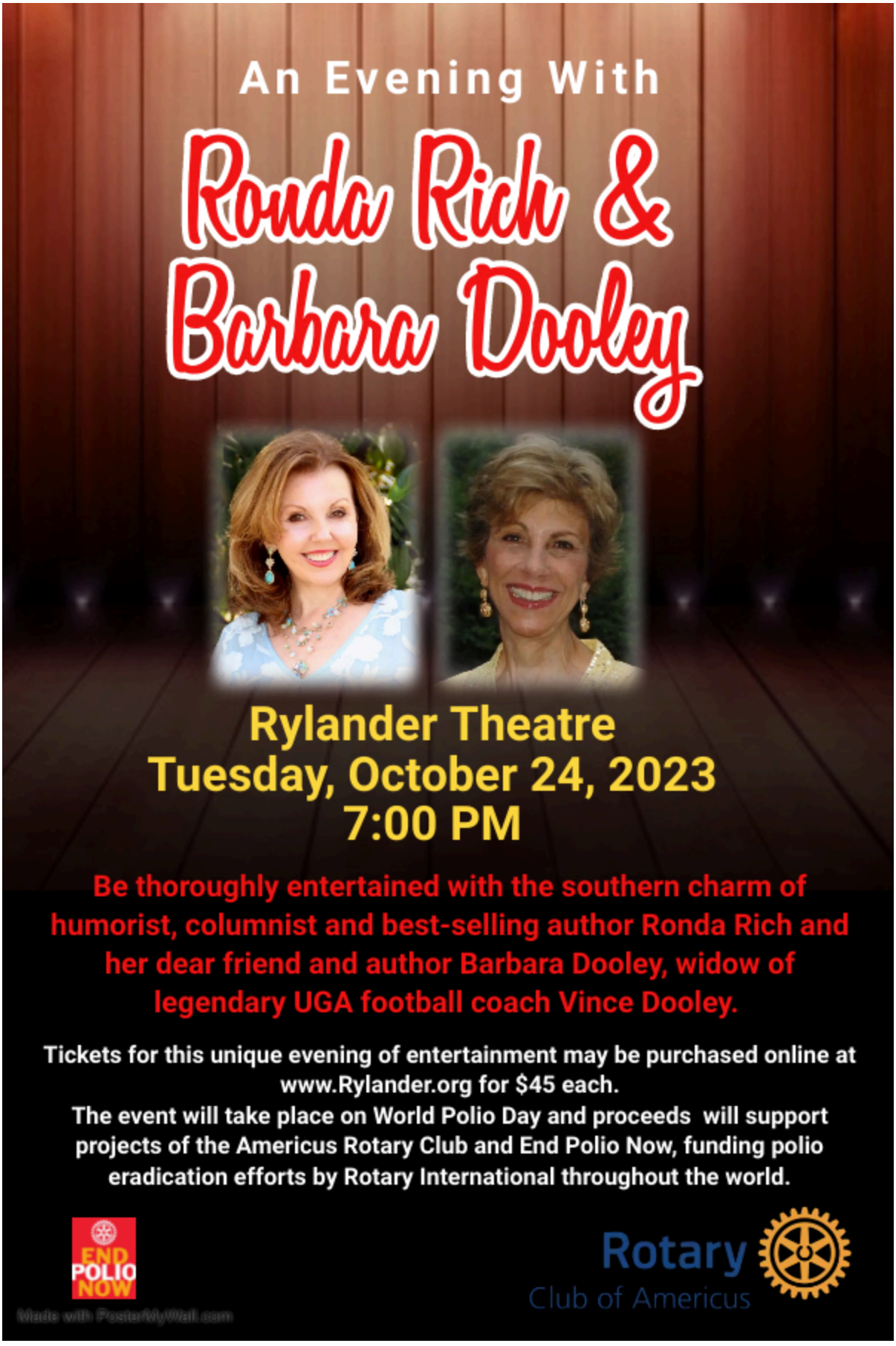
PHOTOS:



Posted by Stephanie Windham
October 29, 2023

Our Rotary Foundation

More Special Polio Plus Events ...



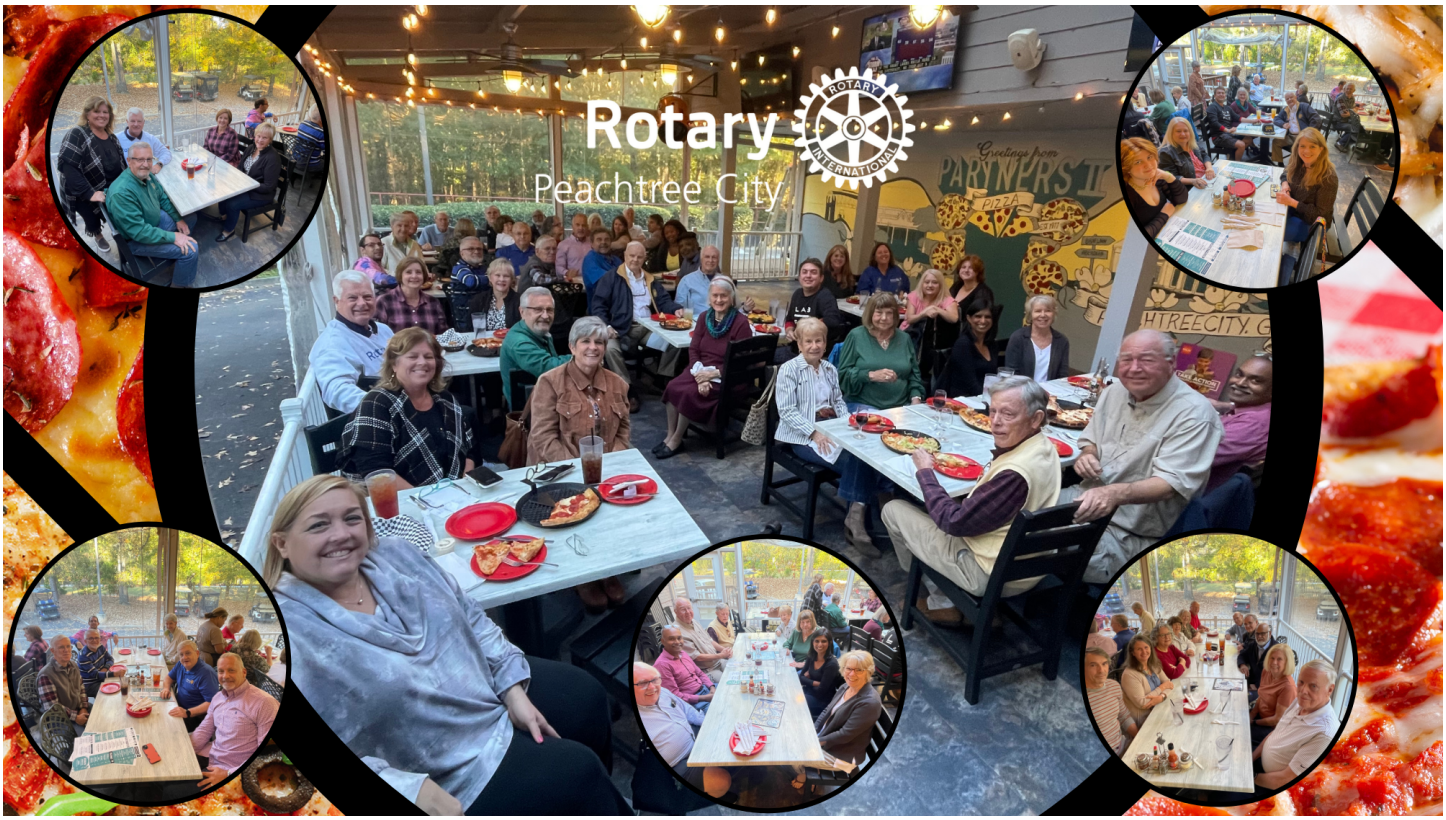
As part of World Polio Day activities, the **Americus Rotary Club** welcomed Ronda Rich and Barbara

Dooley to the historic Rylander Theatre for a special evening of humor and storytelling to bring attention to Rotary's pledge to eradicate the disease. The Rotary Foundation and Polio Plus are slated to receive proceeds from the evening's ticket sales. Polio is a cause near and dear to Ronda, who sits on the Roosevelt Warm Springs advisory committee, and to Barbara who has worked with her late husband Vince Dooley to raise money for Rotaries polio eradication initiative for many years.

The **Rotary Club of Peachtree City** hosted 2 FUNdraisers for Polio Eradication during the month of October. Fundraiser #1 was our seasonal Foundation Football program. Each member participating pledges $1 per point scored by their football team throughout the season. Teams range from PeeWee leagues to High School, College and Professional. For the month of October, all funds are donated to the Polio Fund through the Foundatoin. Fundraiser #2 was our monthly Dine Around – "Pizza for Polio" – where we partnered with 2 branches of a local pizza restaurant to donate 10% of their proceeds on #WorldPolioDay to our Rotary Foundation. The week prior to World Polio Day, we celebrated at our weekly meeting by sharing Polio Facts with our members and recognizing 5 new Major Donors for our club. We were happy to have PDG Raymond Ray, PDG George Granade, AG Janice Wallace, D6900 Foundation Chair Anne Glenn and DGN Steve Ivory in attendance to help with that recognition and to share about Polio and the Foundation with our members. In total, we raised over $3,700 for Polio throughout the month!

The **Rotary Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent** met with Jeff Turner, Chair of the Clayton County Commissioners, to receive a World Polio Day Proclamation.

PHOTOS:





Posted by Jackie Cuthbert
October 29, 2023

Club News

North Cobb Hosts 36th Mountain Top Boys Home Barbeque



For the 36th year in a row, the **Rotary Club of North Cobb** has hosted the annual Mountain Top Boys Home barbeque, at their home in Sugar Valley, GA. Every year we gather with the boys and the community and hear of the remarkable successes they achieve! Currently there are 14 boys living onsite, though they were able to help 34 boys over the last 12 months. Counselors and staff provide the guidance and direction they need to accomplish schoolwork and life goals. They are in the midst of a major remodeling of the Family Reunification Center. The pictures tell the story -good food, good fellowship, great day!

PHOTOS:


PIEDMONT
INJURY LAW
Superstitious


DOG BISCUITS
NORTH COBB
ROTARY


North Cobb
Rotary

Posted by Nancy Prochaska
October 29, 2023

Club News

Thomasville Holds Fireside Chat: Fun, Food and Answers!



Last month's Fireside Chat with the **Rotary Club of Thomasville** was a blazing success! It was an evening filled with lively conversations, camaraderie, and wisdom-sharing. Our leadership team and esteemed long-standing members stepped up to answer our new members burning questions in a relaxed and engaging atmosphere. The unpredictability and on-the-spot nature of the chat sparked experiential stories that left us all inspired. From the heartwarming to the humorous, we covered it all! And, of course, what's a Fireside Chat without some delicious dinner and cocktails?

PHOTOS:




REDHILL
LAND GROUP



Posted by Shanna Derby
October 29, 2023

Club News

North Fulton Hosts Treasure Hunt for Children's Development Academy



The **Rotary Club of North Fulton** has a long-standing relationship with Children's Development Academy, a non-profit preschool that provides a high quality preschool education to students who may not otherwise have the benefit of formal early learning. Most recently, Rotarians organized a treasure hunt for the 3 and 4 year old students by hiding over 300 "treasures" on the playground. The children had a great time hunting for these treasures and then Rotarians joined them for lunch afterwards. In addition to the treasure hunt, Rotary Club of North Fulton also provides books (signed by our lunch meeting speakers) so that each child can select a book to take home from the birthday box. This supports the literacy efforts and the vision of the preschool: Best Start. Brightest Future. Every Child.

Posted by Lisa Gelber
October 29, 2023

Club News

Atlanta Southern Crescent Sponsors Duck Derby



The Rotary Club of Atlanta Southern Crescent, courtesy of Wrecker 1, sponsored the Duck Derby for the “Nothing But the Truth” organization. This organization packs and distributes bags of food each week for children who would not otherwise have a meal over the weekend. The children take the food home with them.

PHOTOS:



Posted by Claudia Mertl
October 29, 2023

Club News

Roswell Celebrates Family Farm Day



Celebrating the 11th Anniversary of Family Farm Day, **Roswell Rotarians** and their families enjoyed a day out at Gary Garrett's farm. We shot skeet, we panned for gold in the Etowah, we rode 4-wheelers and a hay trailer and we ate! We ate really well while we got to know each other better. Always a good day to play in the dirt with the dogs and all the farm tools.

Posted by Becky Nelson
October 29, 2023

Club News

Griffin Daybreak Busy Making a Difference



Griffin Daybreak Rotary has been busy learning from guest speakers and by providing support in the community.

The club donated laptops and I-Pads to the Spalding County Fire Department to aid in communication during emergency situations. Pictured here are Rotarians and Fire Chief Glenn Polk with the new equipment.

We also recently read to students in Griffin-Spalding County Schools for Pearls, Pumps, and Books Day. Pictured reading are Club President Katheryne Fields, Cindy Jones and Susan Thaxton.

PHOTOS:


Science
States of Matter
Review Slides


There are 12 inches in one foot.
There are 3 feet in one yard.
12 in = 1 ft
24 in = 2 ft
36 in = 3 ft


Corral Time
Lunch
Recess
Math
Science
Social Studies

Posted by Debby Daniel-Bryant
October 28, 2023

Club News

Meriwether County Hosts Cotton Fair



In October, the **Rotary Club of Meriwether County** found itself immersed in community events such as the Cotton Fair - a great display of teamwork as everyone came together to share their individual talents to get the job done. We had negotiators, carpenters, shoppers, transporters, financial advisors, and most of all plenty of experts ready and willing to get things going. We dealt with changing times and new rules with diligence and professionalism. The footlong hotdogs and candy apples were their usual hit. This is always a great bonding experience for club members as we work together but this year we were blessed

with a new twist – the addition of our Interact Club members from the middle and high schools. This was a great opportunity for these young people as well as a great help to our club.

Posted by Dawn H. Woodard
October 28, 2023

Club News

Americus Brands Rotary Eclipse Glasses

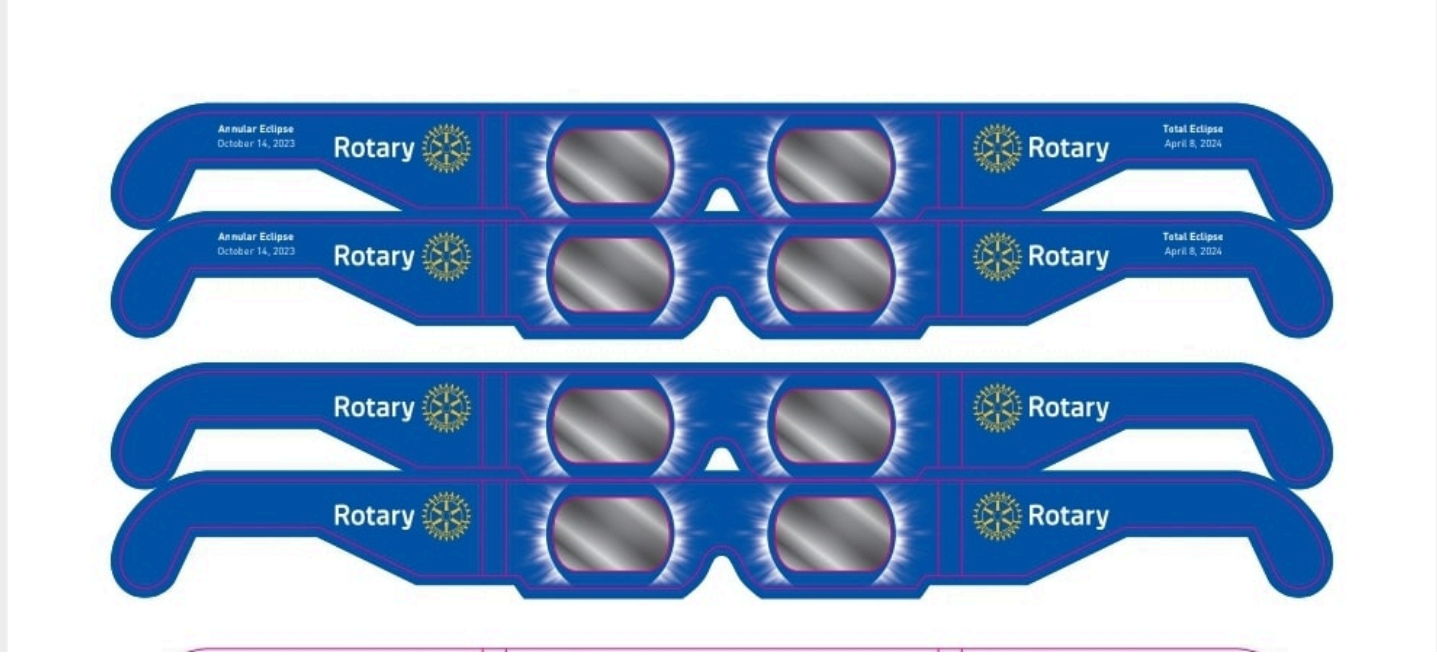
With Double-Header Eclipses Slated, It Was An Opportunity to Do Something Different



With two solar eclipses within seven months of one another (the first on October 14, 2023 and the second on April 8, 2024), the **Americus Rotary Club** branded American Paper Optics, made in America, ISO certified eclipse glasses and made them available for purchase to its members and the community for their clubs, businesses, churches, families and friends. Proceeds from the sale of the glasses provided eclipse glasses to our local first responders and students.

PHOTOS:

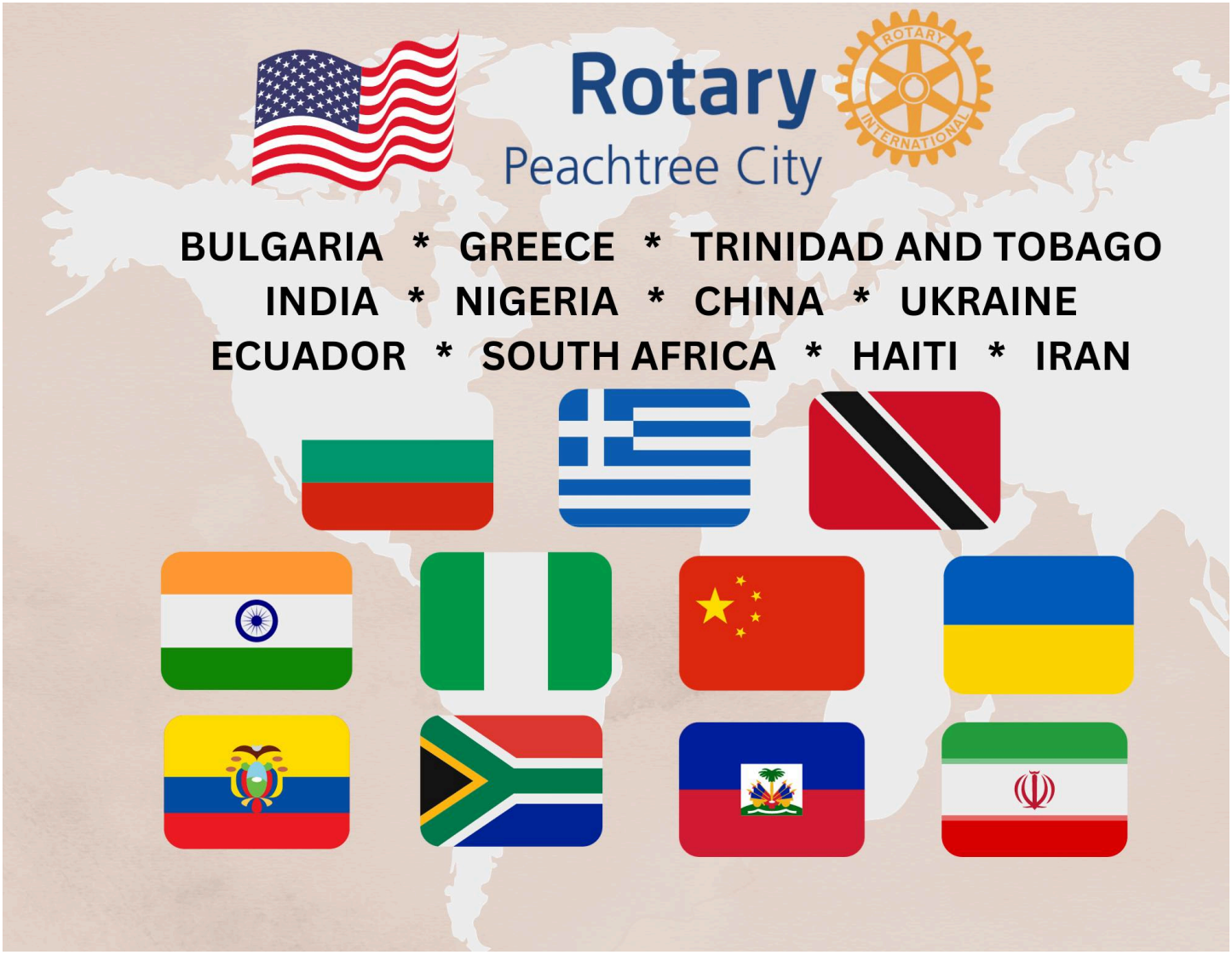




Posted by Angela Smith
October 28, 2023

Club News

Peachtree City Celebrates Diversity



The **Rotary Club of Peachtree City** had a great time celebrating our diverse cultures (and National Dessert Day)! We have 12 nationalities among our members and had 10 of those represented for the event - along with several regions and traditions across the US! From Europe and Asia then to Africa, South America and the Caribbean! So much fun tasting a little bit of 'home' for these members! Members shared their recipes and their traditions associated with each before we all dug in to enjoy! Pretty sure there was no need for dinner that night with over 30 'samples' of desserts to fill us up! Thanks to President Amy and her husband Jeff for always being great hosts and allowing us to visit their beautiful home.

Posted by Mandy Timmons
October 30, 2023