

DISTRICT 6900 CONFERENCE

“Have Fun and They Will Come”

April 25-28, 2019

Sandestin, Florida



BE THE INSPIRATION

Rotary
District 6900
Conference



Join me in San Destin
April 24-28, 2019
Register at rotary6900.org



Smokey and the Rotary Bandit

NOTES, DISCLAIMERS AND REMINDERS

General Information

1. Conference registration and room registration links are active and linked to the district website. Conference registration will close at midnight on **Monday, April 22, 2019**.
2. Please be sure to book your hotel rooms as soon as possible to guarantee availability. Hotel reservations are the responsibility of the registrant. Reservations must be made on or before the cut-off date of **Saturday, March 16, 2019** in order to be eligible for the group rate. To make hotel reservations, please go to the Rotary District 6900 website and click on room registrations which links you directly to the Grand Sandestin Hotel. Our Rotarians are strongly encouraged to register within our Sandestin room block. Booking outside the block may result in higher fees for future conferences.
3. A special conference registration rate of \$240 will be in effective until January 15, 2019. The rate increases to **\$260 on January 16, 2019** and **\$290 on March 16, 2019**.
4. Please encourage all members to visit the district website for up-to-date conference information. All conference newsletters can be found on the conference website after they have been distributed.
5. To register for the district conference, please go to <http://www.rotary6900.org/v2> and click on the “REGISTRATION FOR CONFERENCE” tab. Should anyone require additional assistance with the online registration you may contact PDG Margie Kersey at margie@callkbs.com or phone: 404-630-5298 or 404-680-7336. Questions regarding check payments may be directed to Exec Director Carol Lipphardt at carol@lipphardt.org.

6. Cancellations: In order to request a refund, cancellation or changes in registration you must submit your request in writing to Conference Co-Chair Bill Woulfin, bwoulfin@gmail.com. All refunds for registration fees will have a \$25 processing fee per person registered. **No refunds** after **March 31, 2019**.
7. Please remind your members to wear their badges at all events. Credentials will be required to gain access to all conference functions. Credentials are available only to paid registrants. Your badge is your ticket for conference events and designated meals.
8. Spouse/Guest Registration: If registered, your spouse/guest will be able to participate in **all** conference events and meals. Their badge is their ticket for conference events and designated meals.
9. Attire for all events is **resort casual**. If you have a tendency to get cold, please bring a sweater or jacket with you to the **General Sessions**. Please feel free to wear your **favorite "Smokey and the Bandit" attire or Rotary shirt** for the Thursday and Friday General Sessions.
10. Some Rotarians like to display their recognition pins (GRSP, Paul Harris, Major Donor, etc.). Encourage your members to bring their recognition pins and proudly display them.
11. We are giving away one major door prize at each general session. The Sgt. at Arms Committee will give tickets at each general session at the door. You must be present to win one of the significant "Green Prizes" MONEY/CASH!
12. **House of Friendship A/K/A PIT CREW LOUNGE** will open for club set-up from 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm on Thursday, April 25 and 8:00am-3:00pm on Friday, April 26. The "PIT CREW LOUNGE" opens to everyone at 3:00 pm on Friday, April 26. Displays may be taken down through 8:00 pm Saturday evening and no later than 10:00 am on Sunday.
13. **House of Friendship A/K/A PIT CREW LOUNGE**: We encourage you to utilize the "Have Fun and They Will Come" theme while displaying pictures, news articles and other items of interest that will exhibit your club's accomplishments this Rotary year. Please bring duct tape, scotch tape, thumb tacks, electrical extension cords (if electricity was ordered) and anything else you may need to prepare your display. If you have not reserved your table and, please do so immediately.
 Crew Chief Elwyn Gaissert - egassiert2@comcast.net 678-468-0811
 Pit Crew North District Mickey Rogers – mrogers728@gmail.com 770-378-2597
 Pit Crew Mid District Robin Custard – robin.custard@smimail.net 678-524-6481
 Pit Crew South District Gerard Kwilecki - gkwilecki@bellsouth.net 229-416-5947
 Tables **cannot** be ordered on sight! Displays should be taken down no later than 10:00 am on Sunday morning.
14. For clubs that host **GRSP** students, their registration fee includes food and hotel room for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Please note their fee does include accommodations for Thursday, but there is limited space. For students who plan to arrive on Thursday, you must coordinate with George Siggins. The students must be in Sandestin by Friday at 1:00 CST. Their activities include the following: (a) *GRSP Parade of Flags* rehearsal on Friday from 2:00 pm–3:00 pm and (b) *GRSP Parade of Flags presentation*, on Friday

night. On Friday night, the GRSP students will assemble in the Pit Crew Lounge beginning at 6:20pm.

15. **If your club is one of the clubs sponsoring a "hospitality suite" on the third floor of the Grand Sandestin Hotel, please prepare a sign (18x24) with your club's name on it. Please display the sign outside your door.**
16. **The Hospitality Suites** will open at the following times: (1) conclusion of Thursday night pre-conference event (2) conclusion of Friday night's general session and (3) after dinner on Saturday night. All Rotarians are encouraged to visit and socialize with fellow Rotarians.
17. This year numerous club awards will be presented at the President's luncheon. Presidents should display them in the Pit Crew Lounge. Assistant Governors please check these tables at the end of the conference to make sure that your clubs did not leave anything behind.
18. RESORT PRIVILEGES: Your room key at the Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort allows you access to the Tram Service and entitles you to complimentary use of the fitness center, 2 bicycles for 4 hours, one hour of canoe or kayak rental, one hour of boogie board (two boogie boards per reservation). Also, enjoy an hour of tennis court time daily (based on availability).
19. KidZone is Sandestin's adult-supervised children's activity program. Club KZ offers fully-supervised programs of indoor and outdoor activities for children ages 4-12 (children must be potty-trained), from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The cost is \$55 per child and includes a day of nonstop fun and entertainment, and a yummy lunch. Registration begins at 9:00 am and activities start at 10:00 am. "Children's Evening Out" with dinner, movies, and activities is offered from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., for \$65 per child. A minimum of 3 children must be signed up for day/evening programs. ***Preregistration is required for both programs*.**
For more information call 850-267-7000.
20. For those individuals seeking childcare services for 3 years of age or under during day camp hours please contact Kids Only [850-225-2001](tel:850-225-2001). If you are looking for an evening sitter, The Sandestin Club KZ staff will be happy to provide one for a fee.
21. If you have a deceased member from your club since our last conference (April 19, 2018), please send their name and a picture to Carol Lipphardt as soon as possible. The absolute cutoff date is April 22, 2019. Unfortunately, we will not be able to add any deceased member to the "Memorial to Departed Rotarians" slide show after the cutoff date nor can anyone be added onsite at the conference. A memorial tribute to our departed Rotarians will take place in the Sunday General Session.
22. This year numerous club and individual awards will be presented throughout the conference. You will want to be at all general sessions!
23. Gov. Court will be available for pictures immediately following each General Session.

Thursday, April 25, 2019 Highlights

24. Smokey and the Rotary Bandit are hosting a “Rotary Big Wheel Grand Prix” and Dinner on the Grand Lawn at the Grand Sandestin Hotel. This is a pre-conference ticketed event and is open to all Rotarians and their guests. The cost of the event is \$65.00 per person and includes dinner.
25. Governor Court Dowis and District Trainer Anthony Slaughter are looking for teams of four to race in the “Rotary Big Wheel Grand Prix”. If you want to race, we’ll find you a team! Go to the district website and sign up today! Cost is \$100 for team of four or \$25 for an individual. This fee is for racing only.

Friday, April 26, 2019 Highlights

26. The Fishing Rodeo will be held on Friday morning. This is a pre-conference ticketed event and is open to all Rotarians and their guests. The cost is \$225 per person. Participants will meet and depart from the Grand SanDestin lobby at 6:00 am. This is a four-hour tour with lunch and non-alcoholic beverages.
27. Governor Court is hosting a luncheon in honor of all the 2018-19 Club Presidents, Assistant Governors, and Directors from 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm on Friday, April 26th in the Bayview Room located at Bayside Inn. Awards will be presented at this important luncheon. **Presidents, AGs and Directors, please mark your calendars for this event.**
28. Friday night’s reception is in honor of all the Rotary Clubs in District 6900 and is hosted by Gov. Court and Annette Dowis. It will run from 4:30 pm – 5:45 pm.
29. This year’s conference theme night is **“Have Fun and They Will Come”**. The clubs are encouraged to dress in their favorite “Smokey and The Bandit” character. Characters includes: **Bandit, Buford T. Justice “Smokey”, Carrie “Frog”, Cledus Snow “Snowman”, Junior Justice, Little Beaver, Little Enos, Big Enos, Hot Pants, and Brandford**. Clubs will be judged as they enter the conference center after the Friday afternoon reception. The clubs will enter into the main hall as a club. For your convenience, club signs will be provided at the Leadership Luncheon.
30. The First General Session – **“Rotary Salutes America”** starts on Friday, April 26th at **6:05 pm** and should conclude around **8:00 pm**.
31. **SPECIAL MUSIC PRESENTATION AND FEATURED SPEAKER:** Janine Stange
32. If your club has a past recipient of the **“Sheffield Award”** please make them aware they will be asked to stand on Friday night when that award is presented. Past recipient’s names will be displayed on the front screens and conference program booklet.
33. If your club has a past recipient of The Assistant Governor Award titled **“Follow Me Award”**, please make them aware they will be asked to stand on Friday night when the winner is presented from the podium. Past recipient’s names will be displayed on the front screens and conference program booklet.
34. If your club has a past recipient of the **“Rotarian of the Year Award”**, please make them aware they will be asked to stand on Friday night when that award is presented.

Past recipient's names will be displayed on the front screens and conference program booklet.

35. **FEATURED SPEAKER:** Douglas Greenlaw, National Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart of the USA

Saturday, April 27, 2019 Highlights

36. The Second General Session – **“The World Belongs to Rotary”** starts on Saturday, April 27th at **9:00 am** and should conclude around **11:00 am**.
37. The beach party luncheon begins at noon at Finz Pool Deck, Finz Restaurant. Shuttle service will begin outside the Grandestin Hotel at 11:30 am.
Featured entertainment: The USA Advanced Aerobatic Team perform at the beach.
38. “DGE Reception” in celebration of DGE Jim and Donna Squire will take place on the Grand Lawn from 4:30-5:15 pm.
39. The Third General Session – **“The Future of Rotary”** starts at 5:15 pm and concludes at 7:15 pm.
40. **Entertainment** by Comic/Ventriloquist Steve Brogan
41. Saturday evening has been designated as a “Family of Rotary” opportunity and Rotarians are on their own for dinner. Make plans to enjoy dinner with your club and don't forget to make reservations early.

Sunday, April 28, 2019 Highlights

42. We will offer a non-denominational service on Sunday morning from **7:30am-8:00 am** and encourage our Rotarians to attend. District Chaplain Bob Patterson will officiate and his message will encompass the 2018-19 theme, “Be the Inspiration”.
43. The Final General Session – **“People of Action”** begins at **8:30 am** and should conclude around **10:00 am**.
44. If your club wins a “District 6900 Award” on Sunday morning, Presidents should proceed to the stage to accept the award on behalf of your club.
45. Induction of 2019-20 District Governor
46. Introduction of 2020 District 6900 Conference

Miscellaneous

47. 2018-19 Presidents should print this document and bring it to the conference. Please share this detailed information with your club members.
48. **HAVE FUN AND THEY WILL COME!** See you in Sandestin!

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