|  |
| --- |
| Presidential Summaries of Club Year Accomplishments |
| **Year 1: 1973-74: (Troy Chatham)**: The district governor said forming a club in Gwinnett County had been tried before, and wouldn't succeed this time either, but he finally gave a reluctant nod. Later, through the efforts of the Gainesville club, the club was formed on June 29, 1973. After actually receiving the charter for the club itself, when no one thought it could be done, the first year we won "Club of the Year" (1975-76)......that would be the button popper! We showed him! The award was almost unheard of in such a young club! **Year 2: 1974-75 (Hugh Ragsdale)**: Being president the second year, we all were learning what Rotary was and tried to learn the procedure book so we could follow them correctly. **Year 3: 1975-76 (Jim Wrath, now in Bountiful, Utah)**: The fun of being with so many good people. Remembering Gov. John telling me we were two or three years away from Club of the Year, and the look on his face at Jekyll Island when they announced us.**Year 4: 1976-77 (Larry Laster):** The biggest highlight in Rotary was and continues to be the fellowship that has developed and which led to a lasting friendship with many people in our club and others. Being president of our club, and to win Club of the Year for the second straight year. **Year 5: 1977-78 (James Wilkerson is deceased)** Attempting to recreate the highlights from another person's year is difficult. However, this was truly a highlight year in Gwinnett, as the club stunned the district by winning the Club of the Year award for the third straight year. **Year 6: 1978-79: (Jerry Ashworth):** Highlights that year including sponsoring a student in full through the Georgia Rotary Student program. She was from Rhodesia, and presented several programs and a piano recital to us. We were also directly involved with the Group Study Exchange with one of our members, Jim Wrath, escorting the group from our district on their visit to Scotland, forming a permanent bond. **Year 7: 1979-80 (Julian Franklin, now in Athens, Ga.):** We worked hard on plans for recognizing the "High School of the Year." The county wide contest was supported by the school system and included citizenship, scholarship and athletics. Cash awards were included in the recognitions. **Year 8: 1980-81 (Ed Heys):** My fondest memories of 1980-81 was how easy the year went. We had such a great group of guys to work with so that it came and went so quickly. **Year 9: 1981-82 (Buck Lindsay):** I remember fondly Harry Weeks building our Drug Awareness program that won district awards; the summer barbecues on the courthouse square; and GSRP Student Jim Kigoshi's Budweiser year at West Georgia during their big football season. **Year 10: 1982-83 (Jim Steele):** We marked our 10th year when I was president, continuing a trend of growing by bringing in additional members as well as expanding through chartering of the South Gwinnett club. **Year 11: 1983-84 (Wallace Lail):** One thing stands out in my mind when president was the tragic fire at Annandale (which took eight lives.) The day after the fire, Jim Steele and I went to see Administrator J.J. Barnes and asked what we could do. After much discussion, it was decided that we would try to erect a new building for the Village. We talked to the Peachtree Corners and South Gwinnett Clubs and enlisted their help. **Year 12: 1984-85 (Frank Sledge):** The best way to describe the year as president of the Gwinnett Rotary Club shows your true friendship and binding relationship from a group of people with a serious vision of Rotary. Gwinnett Rotary represents strong team for humanity and a great group to get things done. **Year 13: 1985-86 (Wally Odum):** In thinking over my year as Rotary Club president, I think that the thing I am the proudest of is the cooperation I got out of all the directors, officers and the entire Rotary Club. We were busy that year.**Year 14: 1986-87 (Terry Gordon)**: After having been a member of the Gwinnett Rotary Club for only five years, I was given the responsibility of being the 14th Rotary Club President. It was an awesome experience and one I'll never forget. We had an enthusiastic Board of Directors who accomplished a number of club goals during our year. **Year 15: 1987-88 (Coy Dillard, now from Nashville, Tenn.):** my best feelings of accomplishment were the Camaraderie that our group of men showed to each other as we set about to accomplish our objectives. I have never met a group who got along better, were more willing to do the work necessary to accomplish goals, and cared for each other, than our Gwinnett Rotary Club members. **Year 16: 1988-89 (Willard Swanson):** Attendance at the International Convention in Philadelphia inspired me to have a great Rotary year. Thanks to the members of our club, we did. The club received the "Most Improved Club" award at district conference. **Year 17: 1989-90: (Jim Hinshaw) :**Highlights: \* First golf tournament to raise money to start an endowment fund. \* Started endowment fund. \* Received District Vocational Service Award. \* Received District award for Best Percentage Attendance at District Conference. **Year 18: 1990-91: (Bill Robinson):** We devoted our time equally to each avenue of service and were reasonably successful in making progress in each area. In particular we concentrated on improving attendance and involving the total membership in our stated objectives for the year. We had a lot of fun with the rabbit (I think we called him "Rotary Rabbit") in our attempt to improve attendance--a definite success! **Year 19: 1991-92: (Wayne Sikes):** During my year as president, we focused a lot on international activities. We hosted the return trip of the Friendship Exchange of six couples from Australia. While they were in our area, we chartered a bus and took them to Gatlinburg, Tenn. and toured the Smoky Mountains. We continue to keep in touch with the Australians to this day. **Year 20: 1992-93: (Bernie Governale):** I thought I knew what Rotary was about. WRONG it is ten times that. Each of us should have the opportunity to serve as president. It is a great experience and believe me, to call for help is even a more gratifying experience, since everyone was so helpful. Those who were the busiest were the ones to step up first to volunteer. **Year 21: 1993-94: (Bill Brogdon):** Some of the notable highlights of our Club's 21st year: \*We extended the new Buford Rotary Club \*Packed the Rotary District Conference with our members \*Supported the RI Foundation, Benefactor's Program and GRSP Program \*Received the Presidential Citation for Balanced Club Achievement. **Year 22: 1994-95: (John Atwell):** I think the highlights for me were our club being rated the number one Rotary Foundation giver that year. Bob Cowan did an excellent job as our Rotary Foundation representative. We also donated books to the Gwinnett Library System. Each Rotarian brought in the book that influenced him or her the most and these books were then donated. I also felt our programs that year were exceptional and Jim Steele did a great job as Mr. Sunshine **Year 23: 1995-96: (Ed Radford):** Here are my Rotary highlights for the year I served as president: 1. Attendance improved from 86% to 93%. 2. Participation in the annual Rotary Dinner went from 50% to 93%. 3. Past due accounts brought current. 4. Cash flow improved. 5. Began $10 charge for no make-up of missed meetings. 6. Began two week before and after rule for make-ups.7. Restart of public safety awards. **Year 24: 1996-97: (Terry Evans):** To express my year as President of the Gwinnett County Rotary Club, several words come to mind: gratitude, pride, fellowship, tradition, and ethics."Rotary is an organization of business and professional persons united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations and help build goodwill and peace in the world." **Year 25: 1997-98: (Jimmy Maughon)** We were most active in the four avenues of services as follows: CLUB SERVICE: Increased membership by over 14%, with weekly attendance averaging over 95%. COMMUNITY SERVICE: Established Jack Wall Memorial Veterinary Scholarship at Gwinnett Tech; honored Gwinnett School, Fireman and Policeman of the Year; assisted Gwinnett Food Bank, held Rotary Charity Fun shoot at Callaway Gardens to raise money for Gwinnett Children's Shelter and GRSP. VOCATIONAL SERVICE: Nominated Elliott Brack for the District Lee Arrendale Award; Participated in Career Day at Buford Middle School. INTERNATIONAL SERVICE: Formed Sister Club Agreement with Patan West in Nepal. Our GRSP student was from Brazil, Celso Motta. Raised $10,000 in Will Watt giving, and $8,500 for Rotary Foundation. Raised over $45,000 for Rotary influence; hosted GSE from Mexico. **Year 26: 1998/99: (Herb Hamby)** Herb lead club into second 25 years. Our annual Club meeting was held at Lanier Yacht Club and D/G Jack Lindsay installed the following officers for 1998-1999. Herb Hamby, President, Frank Rinker President Elect, Connie Wiggins. Treasurer, Scott Zanardo Secretary. Lachhe Behabur, President of the Patan West Club of District 3290, Nepal, our sister club, was a special guest. Our Club project for the year was an auction of vacation trips donated to the Club thru the efforts of member Joe Staffari. The project raised $8625.00 which was used to support several projects supporting The Rotary Initiative for Population Development, which is an R.I. program imitated by our member Winford "Buck" Lindsay. Our annual conference was held at Jekyll Island where our Club was presented with the District 2nd place award for the large Club of the year. **Year 27: 1999-00 (Frank Rinker)** This was a great year for the Rotary Club of Gwinnett County. We had a wonderful board of directors and involved club members who made possible our club's winning District 9610's large club of the year designation. We were also awarded the RI presidential citation. The following highlights show accomplishments and demonstrates our club's influence: § Seven World Community Service projects thanks to our club and Mr. Buck Lindsay. § Maintained sister club relationship in Nepal. § Guest speakers were a who's who list in Atlanta, from 3 college presidents to Truet Cathy to legislators, etc. Thanks to a great committee effort headed by Mr. Philip Reed. § Mr. Bob Rule, an unsung hero of our club, who has maintained club attendance for ever was named the Troy Chatham Award winner. § Average attendance was 93.3% and we increased our membership by 7. § Over $37,000 was raised through a number of efforts, with the main fundraising event being headed by Mr. Tommy McBride. § Four RYLA students and 2 Interact Clubs were supported and a new Rotaract Club at Gwinnett Community College was founded. § Our GRSP student from Columbia, South America, Ms. Piedranita Cuervo, studied at UGA. § Mr. Buck Lindsay was our club's Lee Arrendale nominee. § Eighty club members were Rotary Foundation Benefactors. § Ms. Connie Wiggins, our first female president elect, did a wonderful job supporting me and our club, as did Scott Zanardo, Secretary, and Roger Willis, Treasurer. § The international meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina was a trip Caryl and I will never forget.Thanks to a wonderful club, the dawn of the new millennium will be a year that I will remember forever. **Year 28: 2000/01: (Connie Wiggins)** Perhaps the most noticeable change in the Gwinnett Rotary that year was the meeting site. From the cramped and always noisy Northwoods Country Club to the 1818 Club atop the Gwinnett Chamber Building, where club members found elegant surroundings. But there was more, much more. The emphasis was doing more to give back to the local community and strengthening the commitment to world community service projects. Among the highlights: \*Raised 244 per cent of its goal for charitable giving. The goal was $16,200, and club members worked hard, raising $55,750 for local worthy charities. ... The club also distinguished itself in giving of themselves, through "Sweat equity," by participating in such ventures as Salvation Army Bellringing, planting trees during the Great Day of Service, Christmas tree re-cycling, and working in the community to educate people in the protection of greenspace. ... A Christmas Stocking Stuffer program gave 60 children toys at Christmas. \* Worldwide, the club was involved in four different projects, totaling $60,000 in Egypt, Samoa, Nigeria and India. **Year 29: 2001/02: (Scott Zanardo)** Scott grew the club to it's largest size in it's history, 96 members. The club raised over $25,000.00 that benefiting the Gwinnett Childrens Shelter, many local charities, and paid for a fresh water well in Napal. The club issues it's first electronic CD members directory with color photos. The club takes second place for Large Club of the Year at District Concference and Large Club Membership Award. **Year 30: 2002/03: (Roger Willis)** Roger lead the Club thru its 30th year: Unity Place Project; Jim Hinshaw - Lee Arrendale Award; Endowment fund established; Club web page established; Salvation Army Bell Ringer Award; major update of Club bylaws; Buck Lindsay - Distinguished Service Award; Jim Maughon - nominated as District Governor; Jones Webb - Chamber's Citizen of the Year Award. Lee Wolfe was the Outstanding Rotarian Of The Year and given the Troy Chatham Award. **Year 31: 2003/04: Leonard Cyphers:** 2003-04 was a year of giving. With a goal of raising $200 per club member by year end, the Club organized a Golf Tournament and, with other donations, raised a net of more than $43,000. That's an average of $464 per member - 232% OF GOAL. The monies were donated to benefit Unity Place, the Gwinnett Children's Shelter and other community organizations. In addition, the Club members contributed over $25,000 to The Rotary Foundation, an average of $272 per member, supassing the highest club goal. Instrumental in organizing the Coalition of Presidents...and initiated a Famlies of Rotary program. Service projects included Blood Drives, bell ringing, the Saheli World Service Project, Unity Place, Gwinnett Children's Shelter. ...and the Club completed this banner year by receiving the distinction of LARGE CLUB OF THE YEAR 2003-04 for District 6910. **Year 32, 2004/05: Bartow Morgan** 2004-05 was a banner year for the Rotary Club of Gwinnett. With a dedicated Membership, Classification and Development Committee, the Club added 3 net new members bringing the membership from 92 to 95 by year end. The Club was also successful in raising funds through community-wide and club-specific efforts. Through the 2004 Golf Tournament, the Club raised $21,391, with the proceeds going to Gwinnett Children's Shelter, the Gwinnett Tech Adult Literacy project and the international Saheli project in India. At the club level, the Rotary Club of Gwinnett raised an unprecedented $48,000+ for the Annual Fund, an average of $487 per member Hartwell Wash received the Troy Chatham Award. **Year 33, 2005/2006 Perry Tindol President** Leonard Cyphers, received the Troy Chatham Award. **Year 34, 2006/2007 Andy McClung President** Club Accomplishments and Activities Community Service Great Day of Service: Storm Drain Water Project: stenciled storm drains in 3 neighborhoods Habitat for Humanity: Rotary Habitat for Humanity house in Duluth: supported Art Auction and work day Salvation Army Bell Ringing: Volunteered 80 man-hours and raised $5,034. Our club won and retained the Gwinnett Trophy for most money raised. Jean Harris Award Nominee: Suzanne Geske, Foster Children Foundation Lee Arrendale Award Nominee: Hart Wash, Rotary Club of Gwinnett Policeman and Fireman of the Year Recognitions: Policeman: Jonathan P. Saverance, awarded $500, Fireman: Jim Collis, awarded $500 Adult Literacy Project: Tom Travis, Gwinnett Tech Literacy Foundation: Club donated $500 Jack Wall Club Scholarship: Gwinnett Tech, $1,000 (pre Vet) Jack Wall Scholarship Golf Tournament: Raised a total of $19,749 Distribution of funds: $10,000 to Children's Shelter, Net Balance to Gwinnett Rotary Club Fund Laws of Life Essay Competition: Peachtree Ridge High School, total of $425 awarded to students and faculty. Dae Kim (9th grade) -$75, Jordan Hudson (10th grade) - $75, Megan Prescott (11th grade) - $100, Alison Loughman (12th grade) - $75, Sarah Skinner (Teacher Sponsor) - $100 Care For Cops: $500 contribution South Gwinnett Rotary: Donated $1,000 for Foster Children's Christmas Party Club Service Family of Rotary: Supported members during difficult times. Programs: Had programs that met RI District Governor JV Vlass's goals. Ellen Gerstein won the RI District 6910 award for Outstanding Club Service Work. Vocational Service Vocational Tours: Gwinnett County BOE Instructional Support Center , Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center Frances Davis won the RI District 6910 award for Outstanding Vocational Service Work. Youth Services: , Supported Peachtree Ridge Interact Club and Meadow Creek Interact Club. , Sponsored two students to RYLA, $700 Membership Formalized new member criteria. Conformed to RI's rules on attendance. GRSP , Supported and sponsored vet student, Luanna Torres from Brazil. Cost: $12,500, Gwinnett Rotary GRSP Foundation, total contributions for 2006-2007: $10,650 International Services: . Two of the three Bahamas Clubs that we twinned with, the Nassau Sunrise and the Nassau Club, have decided to do a joint project in Nassau. The project has been selected and is pending. Rotary Foundation , $32,177.89 contributed from our club to Rotary International Foundation. Our club averaged $335.56 per person to RI Foundation in 2006-2007. Hart Wash received a special District award for his Outstanding RI Foundation Work. Public Relations Offered support to the Golf Tournament Committee with marketing/promotions to the community - assisted with signage to promote Rotary and sponsors. Designed and distributed Holiday Party invitations Promoted Rotary involvement in the storm drain stenciling service project as part of the Gwinnett Coalition's Great Day of Service. Drafted articles for Rotary publications/newsletters Crafted nominations for Lee Arrendale and Jean Harris Awards for the club Sent press release out regarding Policeman of the Year & Fireman of the Year Promoted club meetings in community calendars, in local newspapers, and promoted meetings/programs on club website Gwinnett Rotary Club Fund (through NE GA Foundation) Club Awards: The Rotary Club of Gwinnett won 2nd place in the Outstanding Club competition at the District Conference in the extra large club category. Dick Daneke won the Troy Chatam Award as Rotarian of The Year **Year 35, 2007/2008 Tracey Mason Blasi President** Year 35: 2007/8 It was no small feat to mark our 35th year as the Gwinnett Rotary Club. To commemorate such a milestone, we started the year by taking the Club's pulse, surveying all members to get feedback on how we wanted to direct our efforts for the next 35 years. To review survey results, a meeting of all past Club Presidents was held. Governing documents were examined. A new Constitution and Bylaws were presented in Club Assemblies and was adopted by the membership. Ready to launch into the next 35 years, we celebrated another remarkable year with renewed vigor at our annual end-of-the year party! Perry Tindol won the Troy Chatham Award (Rotarian Of The Year) **Year 36, 2008/2009 Slade Lail President** The 2008-2009 Rotary year started with no place for the group to meet due to the renovations that were underway at the 1818 Club. Therefore, we handled most of our vocational tours during that time and finished most of them within the first month of meetings. Due to the rough economic times, there was no gold tournament held this year. However, we were able to donate money to benefit various other local organizations and charities. For example, $5,000 was raised for the Gwinnett Rehab Center, $1,000 to C.A.R.E. for Cops, $10,000 to Gwinnett Children’s Shelter and later obtained a grant for an additional $2,000 for the Gwinnett Children’s Shelter, and $500 was donated to each the Police, Firemen, and Sheriffs deputy of the year. With the guidance of Tom Upchurch, all members became up to date with membership dues. The billing system was changed to post quarter statements instead of the pre-quarter cycle that had been in existence in previous years. The Paul Harris/GRSP payment issue was finalized and a new website was started through Club Runner under the management of Rebecca Spitzler. The Club continued to recognize those outstanding members with the issuance of multiple awards for leadership, community service and dedication to the club itself. Some of the recipients included Dr. Wallace Lail, Kathryn Willis and Jim Steele. The Club, once again, was a winner of the Salvation Army Bell Award. With a lot of hard work, an oyster roast was held along with tree planting activities involving our interact clubs. All the while, the African Project continued to be worked on by Buck Lindsay & Jennifer Hendrickson. **Year 37, 2009/2010, Phil Wolfe** **Year 38, 2010/2011, Lee Wolfe** **Year 39, 2011/2012, Tom Upchurch** In 2011-2012, the club membership increased from 78 to 82 members even though requirements for new members continued to be very selective. The club met or exceeded all budgeted goals and membership objectives, completed development of a year strategic plan, institutionalize Happy Dollars and the Mystery Rotarian, established the Charitable Giving Grants Program and awarded the first grants, reorganized and significantly expanded Communications and New Generations services, and initiated the first Valentine Night Fundraiser. We continued to have excellent programs and attendance was 97.3%. Total contribution to charity for the year was $46357. The Troy Chatam Rotarian of the Year recipient was Brad Varhol. Detail Highlights: •Emphasized a balance of Fellowship, Networking and Service and active involvement of as many members as possible •Established Happy Dollars and Sunshine the Pig. Receipts going to Family of Rotary 3 times a month and CART once a month. Also established the Mystery Rotarian. Both new activities designed to encourage membership acquaintance. •Established expanded editorial and technical committee for management of web page, club bulletin and social media to improve membership communication. •Established the Charitable Giving Grants award program to improve fairness and control of club gifts to other charitable giving organizations. We issued the first grants through this program. •Sponsored an Open World Project Medical team from Irkusk, Siberia. •Held the first Valentine’s Day Comedy Night as major fundraiser that raised over $10,000 for Rainbow Village.•Purchased a small computer with remote mouse control for club presentations. •Initiated a graphic and music presentation to welcome members to each meeting. •Won Salvation Army Award as Gwinnett Country Rotary Club of the Year. The club collected the most money in the Christmas Kettle of any other organization working with the Army. Contributed a total of $46357 to worthy causes including Rainbow Village, Polio Plus, GRSP, The Rotary Foundation, Gwinnett Tech   Continued to support Rainbow Village as our signature charity partner both at club and county levels. Club member either contributed or were responsible for contributions exceeding $100,000.  The club was awarded both District 6810 Presidential Citation Gold Level Award and International Presidential Citation award. Replaced Youth Service with New Generations Service. This service under Brad Varhol’s leadership was very productive as it: Continued and expanded Interact clubs at Peachtree Ridge, Meadow Creek   and Gwinnett School for Math, Science and Technology  Started first stages of Rotaract Program at Gwinnett Tech  Sponsored six students to RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards)  Supported Boy Scouts and Laws of Life Essay Sponsored and co-hosted Nino Goguadze’s attendance to UGA as GRSP Student from Republic of Georgia. **Year 40, 2012/2013, JK Murphy**The Rotary Club of Gwinnett County, deemed the greatest Rotary Club in the cosmos, started off the year with several fundraisers for Rainbow Village building campaign, the club’s legacy project: * Rotarians conducted U.S. flag sales at Memorial Day and Fourth of July events. Flags were free with a donation from attendees at these events.
* We had Rotary night at CoolRay field for a Gwinnett Braves Game with a portion of the ticket sales going to RV.
* We distributed posters advertising the Forrest Wood Fishing Tournament at Lake Lanier and received proceeds from the tournament.
* **Total raised in July from these events was $1,820.**

**Miscellaneous** **Larry Anderson** organized our schedule for prayer and pledge at each meeting, **Ellen Gerstein** chaired the Family of Rotary committee, **LC Johnson** shepherded us through our CART bucket donations.**Online presence** We continue to have the best Rotary website in the cosmos. Thanks to **Mary Hester**, the web page editor, and **Marlon Allen,** who handled the weekly bulletin. Also, **Robert Johnson** took care of the technology at our meetings, putting the powerpoint pre-meeting presentations together and made sure our speakers’ digital presentations were up and running. The technology team also built a Web site shell for use by our Interact clubs.**Vocational tours** We had two great vocational tours, one to Rainbow Village and one to the Yerkes Primate Research center. Thanks to **Brandy Swanson.****Rainbow Village** We continued to support the Rainbow Village campaign and our thanks go to all club members who have personally answered the call. At the county level, **Lee Wolfe** continued to coordinate the RV efforts among all Rotary clubs in Gwinnett.**Happy Dollars** Sunshine the Happy Dollar pig allows members to contribute both financially and by sharing “Happy News” from their personal and professional lives. The **Rev. Bill Sheals** is our administrator of Sunshine the Pig and for the portion of the year he was out, **Terry Swaim** did yeoman’s work filling the Reverend’s shoes.**Fellowship events** **Wayne Hill** again hosted our Low Country Boil and **Elliott Brack** held true to form by scheduling the annual Oyster Roast on the coldest, wettest first Wednesday in March.**Membership** We had a great year in membership, starting with 83 last July and landing at 96. We only had one member leave and added 14. **Wayne Sikes** chaired the membership committee and **Jim Steele** handled Member classification.**Great Days of Service** **Steve McCart** headed up our GDOS team and we had a fruitful day with Connie Wiggins’ Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful helping to make Gwinnett, well, clean and beautiful.**Bell ringing** **Philip Bernardi** did another outstanding job of organizing our bell ringing for Salvation during the holiday season. The greatest Rotary Club, once again, topped all other clubs in donations collected.**Foundation and Grants** **Jennifer Hendrickson** headed up our Foundation and Grants committee and did an excellent job of monitoring and updating our club’s contributions to RI. She and **Susan Bacon** also secured matching grants on behalf of several Rotary Clubs in Gwinnet to benefit Rainbow Village. Jennifer also volunteered for just about any activity that promotes fellowship in our club.**Major fundraiser** **Karen Fine Saltiel** and her committee put together a great 40th anniversary celebration and Rainbow Village comedy night. The event raised $12,000 for RV and we had a lot of laughs at the same time. **Directors** Your club had three directors and in some way or another, all these activities and committees funnel through them. They attend and fully participate in your club’s board meetings. **Susan Bacon** is your Director of Communications. Susan has great ideas and the gumption to execute them. Her deft touch was apparent in all club communications, both internal and with the community. She also played a huge role in acquiring the Future Vision Grants referenced earlier. **Brad Varhols** is Director of New Generations and he not only oversaw our club’s participation with our three Interact clubs and the formation of a Rotaract club, he and wife Debbie were the primary hosts of our GRSP student, Caspar Tolstrup from Denmark. **Greg Cantrell** was Director of Club Services, handling many of the club’s fellowship activities and pulled off a real coup when he got Lawrenceville restaurants to chip in on our 40th anniversary fundraiser. We also found out that night that he really can sing the blues.**Officers** **Chuck Warbington** pulled double duty as Treasurer and continued as program committee chair. Chuck kept us solvent, as far as I know, and scheduled an incredible string of program speakers through the entire year. Secretary **Frances Davis** steadfastly took and recorded our board minutes. **Bob Rule:**  Ladies and gentlemen, your sergeant at arms and director of club administration **Bob Rule** does most of his work behind the scenes keeping records, attendance, ordering supplies, handles the new member process and in general takes care of much of the administrative work we file to Rotary. He is a real sport and never says no when asked to take care of some detail. Bob Rule is any club president’s right-hand man.**Paige Havens** Paige filled several roles: President-elect, RV Project coordinator for our club, Training coordinator. She also planned and executed the club’s first-ever Career night in October. High School students were invited to attend a “job expo” at which people from all different careers and professions were on hand to discuss the students’ futures.**Tom Upchurch** Last year, we had a lot of fun at Tom’s expense as outgoing president. Some said he drank the Rotary Kool Aid, but our club is better for it.  He believes deeply in the Rotary four-way test and applies it to all facets of his life. He continues to serve our club and next year will serve as Assistant District Governor for District 6910.  For all he had done and for all we believe he will continue to do to further the principles and deeds of Rotary, Tom was named our Rotarian of the Year and was awarded the annual Troy Chatham Award.**Troy Chatham award winners**1982 Buck Lindsay1989 Willard Swanson1990 Terry Gordon1991 Wayne Hill1993 Elliott Brack1996 Jim Steele1997 Wayne Sikes1998 Bruce Carter1999 Jim Savadelis2000 Bob Rule2001 Jerry Ashworth2002 Jim Maughon2003 Lee Wolfe2004 Bruce Carter2005 Hart Wash2007 Dick Daneke2008, Perry Tindol2011, Terry Gordon2012, Brad Varhols2013 Tom UpchurchGood luck to the officers for the 2013-14 Rotary YearPresident – Paige HavensPresident-elect – Chuck WarbingtonSecretary – Frances DavisTreasurer – Karen Fine SaltielSgt. At Arms - Bob Rule**2013/2014, Paige Havens** President Paige Havens lead the Rotary Club of Gwinnett County through its 41st year of service to the Gwinnett community, embodying the annual Rotary theme, “Engage Rotary, Change Lives.” 96% of members actively engaged in the work of the Club, helping to completed more than a dozen different service projects. The efforts of more than 100 members of the Club’s three Interact Clubs and one Rotaract Club further spread the Club’s outreach and service to our community.  Other achievements included:        The Club’s exceptional speakers were honored each week with an “Andy & Elmer’s Apple Dumpling Adventures” book that was donated in their name to share Rotary values and the gift of literacy with elementary school students.         The Club engaged more than 500 high school students and parents at the second annual Career Exploration Night.         We played host to a GRSP Student from Pakistan and a Group Study Exchange Team from Russia.         The Club gifted more than $6,000 in charitable dollars back to the community via our Avenues of Service Grants and wrapped up our legacy campaign with Rainbow Village with a final $10,000 check.         Multiple scholarships were given to Gwinnett Tech students and six high school students were sponsored to attend RYLA.         The Club successfully reach 100% of our Rotary Foundation giving goals, finishing the year as an EREY and $100 per Capita Club. We were recognized as a Silver Club at District Conference and received a Presidential Citation with Distinction from Rotary International. Additionally we won a Zone 34 Interact Award and Awards of Distinction for Public Image and Literacy. Our Club’s strong engagement in Rotary Leadership Institute also won us a Certificate of Excellence for Continuing Engagement.         President Havens received a Governor’s Service & Leadership Award and ADG Tom Upchurch received a coveted Service Above Self Award. Terry Gordon was the Club’s nominee for the Lee Arrendale Award for Vocational Excellence and Emily Brantley for the Richard B. Stubbs Guardian of Ethics Award. Lee Wolfe was honored with a Community Champion Award for helping raise over $135,000 for our Rainbow Village Legacy Project and Bob Rule was honored with the Troy Chatham Award and named the 2013-14 Rotarian of the Year.Year 42, 2015/2015, Chuck Warbington, Elliott Brack was Rotarian of the YearYear 43, 2015/2016, Marlon Allen, Brandy Swanson was Rotarian of the YearYear 44: 2016 / 2017 (Karen Fine Saltiel)Our Club’s accomplishments echoed Rotary International’s theme this year: Rotary Serving Humanity.Among our achievements:* We reinstated an international service project; assembling and sending to Myarnmar 75 WAPIs (Water Pasteurization Indicators)
* In honor of the 100th year of the Paul Harris Foundation we become a Paul Harris Fellow Club
* We increased membership to 104
* We hosted a GRSP student from Brazil
* We held the first service project at a Club meeting; packing neonatal kits for Gwinnett Medical Center and weekend food bags for Nothing But The Truth
* From money raised at our Mystery Dinner Disco Night, we donated $9,000 to 7 community nonprofit organizations
* We also continued our signature service projects of honoring Gwinnett Bus Drivers and Kicks 4 Kidz, as well as Feed My Starving Children
* We hosted two fellowship events; a tailgate party and an evening at the Hudgens Center
* We received a Zone Public Image Citation, were recognized as a District Gold Club and received the Presidential Citation from Rotary International
* The Club’s nominee for the Lee Arrendale Award for Vocational Excellence was Ellen Gerstein. The Richard Stubbs Guardian of Ethics Award nominee was Dr. Bruce Carter and the Troy Chatham Rotarian of the Year was given to Paige Havens
* **Past Presidents:** Troy Chatham, Hugh Ragsdale, Jim Wrath, Larry Lasiter, James Wilkerson, Jerry Ashworth, Julian Franklin, Ed Heys, Buck Lindsay, Jim Steele, Wallace Lail, Frank Sledge, Wallace Odum Jr., Terry Gordon, Coy Dillard, Willard Swanson, Jim Hinshaw, Bill Robinson, Wayne Sikes, Bernie Governale, Bill Brogdon, John Atwell, Ed Radford, Terry Evans, Jim Maughon, Herb Hamby, Frank Rinker, Connie Wiggins, Scott Zanardo and Roger Willis , Leonard Cyphers and Bartow Morgan 2004/05, Perry Tindol, 2005-06, Andy McClung, 2006-07, Tracey Blasi, 2007-08,Slade Lail 2008/2009, Phil Wolfe 2009/2010, Lee Wolfe 2010/2011, Tom Upchurch, 2011/2012, JK Murphy, 2012/2013, Paige Havens 2013/14, 2014/2015: Chuck Warbington, 2015/2016 Marlon Allen, 2016/2017, Karen Fine Saltiel, 2017/2018, Jennifer Hendrickson

Updated 8/17/2017 |