

Rotary
Club of Canton



Events

July 30th, 12:00-1:00 PM

[Assistant Governor Greg Elder @ Jones Building](#)

August 13th, 12:00-1:00 PM

[Building Rotary Membership - Kristi Estes - R.T. Jones Library](#)

August 6th, 12:00-1:00 PM

[Mental Health Court, Judge Shannon Wallace @ Jones Building](#)

August 20th, 12:00-1:00 PM

[Heart for Service Program - TBA](#)

August 6th, 12:00-1:00 PM

[SC Judge Shannon Wallace - Mental Health Court @ Jones Building](#)

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Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn to stay up to date on weekly meetings, Canton Rotarians in the news, and more photos from our time together. Click the links below to visit our pages directly.

Happy connecting!



If you do not have social media accounts on these sites, just ask Public Image team member, Jay Grimes, and she can help you get connected!

Heart for Service Week Supporting Cherokee School Nursing Programs

Tuesday, July 16, 2024



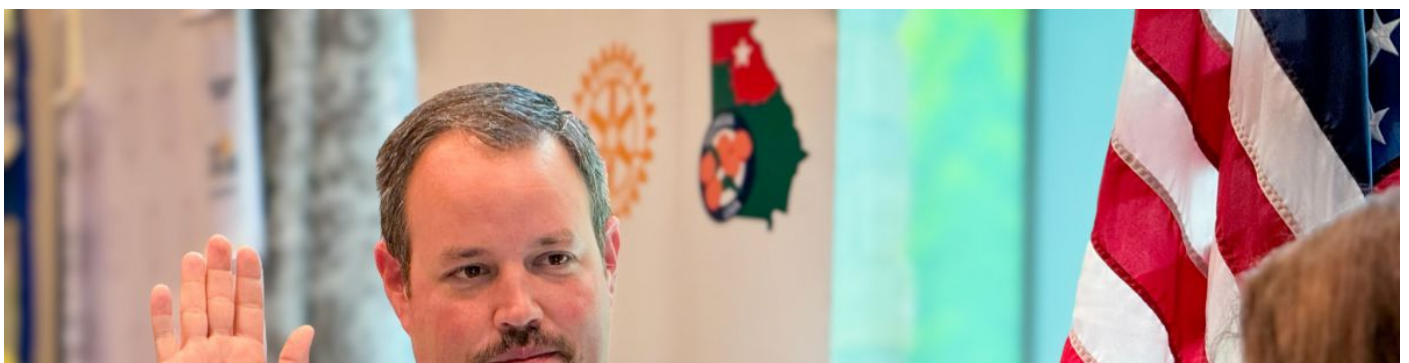
On Tuesday, July 16, we continued our Heart for Service initiative and welcomed guest speaker Jami Stefano, Lead Nurse at [Cherokee County School District](#). Jami leads the Etowah and Woodstock innovation zones, Tippens Center, and Oak Grove Pre-K. On behalf of our school nurses, Jami spoke and accepted donations of special supplies benefiting local students.

We also welcomed visiting Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Nairobi Karengata and the Rotary Club of Karatina, both in Rotary District 9212 in Kenya.

First Club Assembly of the New Rotary Year

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

Introducing our new Rotary International Theme, the Magic of Rotary! Today we gathered together to celebrate our first magical Club Assembly of the 2024-25 Rotary Year. Club leaders and committee chairs each spoke about plans for the upcoming year.







The Magic of Rotary: Maternal and Child Health

By Dr. Anu C. Narula



Have you ever wondered what binds us together as a 1.4 million-strong global family of Rotarians? It's pertinent to cite the view of R.I. President (2024-25) Stephanie Urchick as an answer to this rhetorical question. "Believe in the magic of Rotary. Spread the magic of Rotary. Build on the magic of Rotary. Celebrate the magic of Rotary."



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The Rotary International (R.I.) Presidential theme of “The Magic of Rotary” for 2024-25 is a mantra that taps on your own unique talent and set of skills to make the



Rotary International President (2024-2025) Stephanie A. Urchick.

impossible possible and to make that leap of faith in whichever way it empowers you to act on the timeless mission of “Service above Self.” “The Magic of Rotary” is a powerful tool for us to muster all the attributes and abilities that are characteristic of our calling as Rotarians, in order to instill in our projects the wonder and joy of making a difference in the lives of communities that we serve. The “Magic of Rotary,” in the view of our R.I. President, is not a magic wand that we can wave to make the world a better place to live in for those who are on the margins of society. Rather, it is our cogent commitment to act on all seven areas of focus in Rotary and our methodical approach to act on the Rotary Action Plan and our specific strategic plans as we grow our membership, keep up the momentum of continuity, and promote positive peace through our projects.

In an interview given to Diana Schoberg, R.I. President Stephanie Urchick calls upon Rotary clubs around the world to make themselves “simply irresistible.” “I am hoping Rotary and Rotaract clubs will be simply irresistible to community members who have a heart for service and fellowship. They will use the Action Plan to assess where they are and figure out where they need to go.” (<https://www.rotary.org/en/simply-irresistible-q-and-a-stephanie-urchick>) “The Magic of Rotary” is the guiding light for all of us for staying on the path that revolves around the seven areas of focus envisioned by R.I. to ensure maternal and child health; spur economic growth; provide clean water, sanitation, and hygiene; promote basic education and literacy; promote peace building and resolve conflict; ensure disease prevention and treatment; and protect the environment.



It’s pertinent to cite the vision of DG D6910 District Governor Bobby Hildreth for inducing the element of “simply irresistible” in our membership experience, “Our focus this year is quite simple in that we are focusing on enhancing the experience of our membership (the club experience) and breaking barriers to entry in Rotary through innovative club models for those who would also like to serve their community through Rotary. Our success will be measured through improvement in our clubs’ membership attraction and membership retention performance versus their five-year average.” As we find ourselves at the cusp of a new year in Rotary, let’s celebrate the year gone by and envision a great year ahead as we welcome our new members and build on the strengths of our ongoing ones. Let’s renew our pledge to serve humanity by reinforcing our belief in ourselves as agents of change and continuity, courage and compassion, and the flow of ideas that will shape into cogent projects that will benefit humanity. As we excitedly look forward to the new Rotary year in District 6910 under the leadership of our new District Governor (2024-25) Bobby Hildreth, let’s embrace Rotary’s programs in “developing the next generation of leaders, providing funding to make the world a better place, and making peace a priority.” (<https://www.rotary.org/en>) In the month of July, which ushers in the new Rotary year, District 6910 makes an appeal to all of the clubs in our district to act on projects that cater to the needs of our local communities in need, and also think of ways in which each one of us can help global communities to “build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world to support our peace efforts and end polio forever.” (<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs>)



As we celebrate the “Maternal and Child Health” month in July, let’s take a look at the impact of R.I. and the Rotary Foundation programs that provide access to quality care, education and resources for immunization, birth kits, mobile health clinics, awareness for prevention of mother-to-infant HIV transmission, and ways of breastfeeding to promote maternal and child health around the world. Around 5.9 million children under the age of 5 die each year due to malnutrition, inadequate health care, and poor sanitation. Rotary programs that help mothers to take charge of their own maternal and infant health care range from Mobile parental clinics, Cancer screening units, and programs that help in preventing injuries and death of mothers and infants. Rotary members have launched a \$3 million, 5-year pilot to “restore dignity and hope to vulnerable mothers” in Nigeria. (<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-causes/saving-mothers-and-children>) Rotary programs provide life-saving equipment to the neonatal units in hospitals around the world, provide therapy to children affected by the psychological wounds of war in Poland, and provide women and children access to skilled health care personnel and telemedicine services in rural Nigeria. D6910 Governor Bobby Hildreth implores all our clubs to make efforts to work on projects that will “help vulnerable mothers and children stay longer and grow stronger” (<https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs>) as we all work together on the R.I. Presidential theme of the “Magic of Rotary.” Amen.

Stellar Role of Rotary in Empowering “New Generations” through Youth Services

By Dr. Anu C. Narula

by Dr. Anu C. Nairala

Any time we think about the Youth Services, the following words of H. Jackson Brown, Jr. come to my mind, "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do, so throw off your bowlines, sail away from the safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, Dream, Discover." This quote, in our view, sums up the ethos of Youth Services in Rotary.

As we celebrate the Youth Services Month in Rotary in May every year, it gives us reason to celebrate the "Basic Education and Literacy" projects being done in our District 6910 and around the world, all of which are doing justice to the following mission statement on <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/youth-programs>, "Rotary believes in developing the next generation of leaders. Our programs help younger leaders build leadership skills, expand education, and learn the value of service."



Every time we explore the programs being done by way of Youth Services, we are left in awe of the stellar community service and leadership programs being done by clubs around the world and in my home district, in alignment with Early Act, Interact, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Youth Services Exchange, Georgia Rotary Student Program, and many more programs. Rotary clubs around the world supported the activities of youth as early as the 1920s by sponsoring Boy Scout troops and encouraging young people to promote civic values, health and hygiene, education, and vocational training. By the 1950s, Rotary International was discussing ways of engaging young people in community service and helping them create avenues for expanding their world views. These conversations gave birth to the creation of Rotaract and Interact clubs.

Rotaract is now an independent entity, but it continues to function as a role model for Interact clubs to emulate. Early Act and Interact clubs around the world organize at least two projects every year, one that helps their school or community and another one that promotes international understanding. The Interact club, an arm of Rotary International that comprises of the high school students in the age group of 12-18 across the world who are seeking to impact their communities with their creative energy, their treasure trove of talent, their passionate desire to serve humanity, their leadership skills, and their inimitable spirit of enterprise. At present, there are 14,911 Interact clubs around the world, comprising of 342,953 Interactors in 145 countries around the world.

The Canton Rotary Club was chartered in 1937. We have also sponsored five other Rotary Clubs formed in the area (Woodstock, Jasper, Towne Lake, Cherokee County, and Carpe Diem). As a club peopled by eminent educators and teachers, Canton Rotarians believe in the acumen of individuals to serve, whether old or young, near or far. Our club realizes that in a technology-driven world, more and more must be done to aid our schools and parents, not only to increase literacy, but also to aid teachers in any way possible to increase their time for working with children to build literacy. In view of the fact that no matter what the assistance is, any additional help in a variety of community and content areas helps improve literacy in a variety of ways. For example, writing improves reading and as students work to express their thoughts and feelings and share them through journaling, they increase vocabulary. This is particularly important for students who are learning English. Rotarians serving as Journal Buddies (funded by a Rotary District Grant) are also building lasting relationships and teaching young people to interact with adults in ways that may be different from what they are used to at home.



Six local students received \$1,000 scholarships from the Rotary Club of Canton.

This year, one of the culminating services of our club is to present six \$1,000 scholarships to local students. While we are blessed to live in a state with 34 public colleges and universities and 22 technical colleges, tuition is free with an A or B average under the HOPE Scholarship. However, this does not cover a myriad of fees from athletics to parking, which, in some schools around the country, equals the price of tuition. So, our funds are well spent on aiding students to be able to participate in further education. In one such program called Book Buddies, Rotarians read books together with teachers, assisting with phonemic awareness, context and comprehension skills.



Rotarians from both District 6900 and 6910 meet in Atlanta to kick off a new year of the Georgia Laws of Life Essay Contest!

The Rotary Club of Canton also assists the Cherokee County elementary schools with Book Fairs, helping children select books in grade appropriate areas of interest, particularly in Title I schools, where parents are at work and cannot participate. We participate in a wide variety of ways with the Georgia Laws of Life Program that is unique to our state. This program offers opportunities to high school students across Georgia to participate in essay writing that enables them to reflect on their core values, and awards students with certificates and financial awards, while recognizing teachers with teacher and student appreciation events. And, we do fan out across the county for Read Across America Day!!! After a tragic earthquake in Turkey, the club sent many books there to be distributed by Rotary Clubs.

The Rotary Club of Canton is peopled by eminent educators, scientists, education professionals, and school board members, all of whom help and support the literacy initiatives in eclectic ways. With the prevalence of STEM schools in Cherokee County, the Canton Rotary Club has funded a Hydroponics Lab for an elementary school, where we grow flowers and plants for a STEM program, emphasizing farm-to-table lessons where students grow vegetables for school lunches. We also sponsor the Robotics team at a local high school to assist with materials for building prosthetics and shipping them to other countries, which helps students advance their learning on the high school level in complex areas of science. In the Canton Club's efforts to be inclusive, a Sensory Lab for Autistic Children enhances their abilities to learn as well.



Canton Rotarians pose with students from Teasley Middle School at the conclusion of a tremendous Career Day event.

In view of the fact that an average of 47% of students who begin higher education do not finish a degree within 6 years, the Canton Rotary Club assists in Career and Technical programs and organizes site visits to school programs in Cherokee County for programs in avionics and cybersecurity. All of this can lead to a wide variety of careers in the field of Air Traffic Control and the building of drones for the growing film industry in Georgia. When students participate in any of 40 career pathways, they are learning the language and vocabulary of diverse disciplines, ranging from health care to teaching to preparing for fire and police certification. The prospect of students graduating in any of the state licensed programs further enhances the productivity of the state. Probably one of our favorite programs is the extensive history of sponsoring the Georgia Will Watt program that funds tuition for students from around the world to attend a college in the area and become a part of our Rotary family.



Canton Rotary President, Francisco Lozano (right), a native of Mexico, poses here with GRSP student Ignacio "Nacho" Morzone of Brazil, along with GRSP Director Kathryene Fields (left to right); and sponsors Greg & Virginia Elder.

In keeping with the goal of promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion through Rotary, the language and literacy of a different culture is as important as reading a book. Our most successful GRSP (Georgia Rotary Student Program) student came from Mazatlan, Mexico and fell in love with America. He finished his college education and became a member of the Club and is now serving "20 years later" as our Rotary Club President, while working with our Youth Services chair and all the members of our club, on a range of Literacy Initiatives. Education, they say, is the most critical tool for empowering our "new generations" in Rotary. It fills our hearts with joy and gratitude to appreciate the stellar projects being done by clubs in District 6910 and the Rotary Club of Canton by way of our Literacy Initiatives, all of which will go a long way in promoting the expansive goals of education, literacy, and reading readiness across the district. Amen.

Birthdays



Shannon Wallace
July 22nd



Peter A. Gleichman
July 28th



Rebecca Johnston
July 30th



JoEllen Wilson
July 30th

Years of Service



[Lori Baker](#)
9 Years



[Sam R. Galanti](#)
1 Year as Honorary Member



[Kay X. Miller](#)
1 Year as Honorary Member

