

This Week....Frank Fernandez, President & CEO - Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta

Frank Fernandez joined the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta in August 2020, where he leads one of America stop 20 largest community foundations. The united power of his prior experience and the anchor institution so 70 years of regional leadership combine as a force for good, championing equity across metro Atlanta.

Frank builds upon the Foundation sexceptional resources, leveraging a full range of assets shuman, reputational and financial stopursue equity of opportunity through servant leadership, sustainable change making and inspired philanthropy that ultimately fulfills the Foundation similarity is mission to increase the vitality of the region and the well-being of all residents.

Prior to joining the Foundation, he served for six years as the Senior Vice President for The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation where he led transformational revitalization of Atlanta s Westside while simultaneously directing Blank s community development, global giving, health access and social justice initiatives.

A recognized leader on affordable housing, transportation and economic development, Fernandez ◆ 15 years in management positions in Texas prior to joining the Blank Foundation included eight years leading Green Doors, an Austin nonprofit devoted to transforming lives and neighborhoods and five years as Deputy Director of PeopleFund, a community development financial institution. His work has been honored with the 2005 Austin Livable City Vision Award, the 2008 Austin Under 40 Nonprofit Leadership Award and the 2012 Ernst and Young Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

A son of Cuban immigrants, Frank is a Florida native and holds a B.A. in philosophy from Harvard University and an M.P.A. from the LBJ School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas. After graduation, he worked on Wall Street as a public sector financial analyst for Salomon Smith Barney, structuring over \$1 billion in financial transactions, before pursuing his graduate degree. He and his wife, Tina, live in Inman Park and are the parents of daughter, Lucia, and son, Francisco.

Next Week...Roy Strickland - Rotary Foundation

Upcoming Programs...

May 6 - Roy Strickland - Rotary Foundation

May 13 - Shantee Henry & Dr. Jose Doss SANE Program

May 20 - Bryan Hillburn - Hills Academy Interact Program

May 27 - No Meeting

June 3 - GRSP Program

Should you have to miss, please make-up:

Make-up Locations:

Social Circle Magnolia Manor Monday Noon Covington First Methodist Tuesday 12:15 Rockdale Rockdale Medical Ctr. Wednesday 7:15 am Loganville IHop Restaurant Thursday 7:15 am RotaryEClubOne.org RockdaleEClubOfTheSouth.org

Any club function including Board Meetings, Service Project, Fundraiser or Social Function also counts as a make-up,

Follow The Rotary Club of Conyers



www.conyersrotary.org



Membership Roster 2020 - 2021

Birthdays

Vince G. Evans May 22nd Tommy O. Morgan May 27th Moses G. Kabia May 27th Kenneth Gaylord May 28th

Wedding Anniversaries

Sam Crowe May 2nd Ann George May 28th

Years of Service

Edward L Cowan 02-01-1973 48 Years Tommy O. Morgan 02-01-1981 40 Years William T. Rogers 04-01-1984 37 Years Mark Chris Bowen 04-01-1988 33 Years Bruce C. Ahlstrand 04-01-1990 31 Years Albert A. Myers III 03-23-2000 21 Years Suchet L. Loois 02-22-2007 14 Years Sandra Cowan Etheredge 03-01-2007 14 Years Tonya Bloodworth 03-22-2007 14 Years Wayne Robinson 03-29-2007 14 Years Sam Crowe 03-26-2009 12 Years Thua G. Barlay 01-14-2010 11 Years Dorothy Bala 02-10-2011 10 Years Wendy A. Bear 01-12-2012 9 Years Michael Macchione 01-10-2013 8 Years

Kenneth Gaylord

02-14-2013 8 Years Aubrey Hedrick 03-07-2013

02-18-2016

Clarence Cuthpert 02-18-2016 5 Years

Moses G. Kabia

8 Years Ermel E Forrester

Last Name	First Name	MemberType	Classification	Pref. Email	PData	Code	Participation
Ahlstrand	Bruce	Active-R85	Two Way Radio Industry	bahlstrand@bellsouth.net	PHF,B,PP,PAS 2005,ROTY 2003, 2010,PHFn,4106,4107	ALU	ALUMNI or Rotary
Andersen	Beth	Active	Insurance-Life & Health	beth7754@gmail.com	PHF,PP,PAS 2005,ROTY 2007,PHFn,4106	В	Benefactor
Bala	Dorothy	Active	Printing	dotti@copycentral.comcastbiz.net	PHF,BS,PP 2017-18,PAS	BS	Bequest Society
Barksdale	Wales	Honorary	Services	walesdale@bellsouth.net	2012,ROTY 2014,4106 PHF	CM	Charter Member
Barlay	Thua	Corporate- Active D6910	Attorney	tbarlay@luederlaw.com	PHF,B,PP 2014-15,PHFn,4106	DSA	Distinguished Service Award
Bear	Wendy	Active	Insurance	wendy@wendybear.net	PHF	DSM	Double Sustaining Member
Benson	Dave	Active	Religion- Methodist	pastordbenson@gmail.com		GRSF	Georgia Rotary Student Program(GRSP) +
Bloodworth	Tonya	Active	Education- Director Family Engagement	tbloodworth@rockdale.k12.ga.us	PHF,4106	4107	GRSP Hue Thomas Fellow Jr.
Bowen	Jimi	Honorary		bowenstv@bellsouth.net	PHF,PP,ROTY 2006	4108	GRSP Ronnie Waller Fellow
Bowen	Mark	Active-R85	Cemetary	mcbacb6254@gmail.com	PHF,4106,4107	4106	CDSD Will Watt
Boyle	Stephen	Active-R85	Surgeon - Retired	sboylemd@gmail.com	PHF,PP,PRY 22,4106	MSA	Meritorious Service Award
Brown	Andrew	Honorary	Investment Advisor	andy@brownwm.com	PHF,PP	PDG	Past District Gov / District
Cabe	James	Active		james.cabe@rockdalecountyga.gov		PP	Served: Past President
Consolo	Joseph	Active	Financial Advisor	joseph.consolo@edwardjones.com		PDRI	Past RI Director
Cowan	Edward	Active-R85	Hardware- Retailing	elcowan8535@comcast.net	PHF,PP,PHFn,4106,4107	PHFn	Paul Harris Fellow (PHF)+
Crowe	Sam	Active	Attorney - Trial	sam@crowelaw.org	PHF,4106	PAS	Perfect Attendance Since:
Cuthpert	Clarence	Active	Attorney - General Practice	cuthpertandassociates@gmail.com		PHF	PHF - Paul Harris Fellow
Digby	Daniel	Active	Military -	daniel@digbylegal.com	PHF,PP,PHFn,4106	PHFS	PHS- Paul Harris
Duncan	Heather	Corporate- Associate D6910	Reserve Real Estate Development	hduncan@luederlaw.com		PRY	Previous Rotary Years in other
Etheredge	Sandra	Active	Hardware-	sandra@cowanhardware.com	PHF,4106	ROTY	Clubs: Rotarian of the
Evans	Vince	Active	Retailing Pharmacy -	vinceevans@bellsouth.net	PHF,4106	SAS	Year: Service Above
Forrester	Ermel	Active	Retail Religion- Cooperative Baptist Fellowship	ernie@havenfellowship.org		SM	Self Award Sustaining Member
Gaylord	Kenneth	Active	Banking - Commercial	kgaylord@bbandt.com	PHF,SM		
George	Ann	Active	Executive Director Non- profit	fpnr1204@gmail.com			
Grace	Lewis	Honorary	Financial Advisor	lewisjgrace@gmail.com	PHF,PP 2015-16,ROTY 2012		
Harper	John	Active-R85	Airline Pilot	guntrain38@gmail.com	PHF,4106		
Hedrick	A.	Active-R85	Dentistry		PHF,4106,4107		
Hedrick	Aubrey	Active	Dentistry - Sedation	aubreyhedrickiii@yahoo.com	PHF		
Hilburn	Bryan	Active	Private School - Headmaster	hilburn@hillsacademyga.com			
Hutcheson	Michael	Active	Non-Profit Children & Families	director@rockdalecoalition.org			
Jones	Martin	Active-R85	Economic Development	Marty@conyers-rockdale.com	PHF,4106,4107		
Kabia	Moses	Active	Banker	moseskabia@yahoo.com			
Lassiter	Michael	Active-R85	Insurance - Retirement Planning	mwl_clu@msn.com	PHF,PP,PAS 1980,ROTY 2013,PHFn,4106,4107		
Lavigno	Bethany		Sustainable	lavignolawfirm@yahoo.com	PHF,ROTY 2009, 2015,4106, B,	4	
Loois	Suchet	Active-R85	Dev.	pesl1223@att.net	RFDSA	1	
Lucas	Tony	Active	Municipal Director	tony.lucas@conyersga.com	PHF,4107	1	
Macchione	Michael	Active	Investment Broker	michael.macchione@edwardjones.com	PHF,SM	1	
Massey	Terry	Honorary	Attorney Insurance	terry@masseylawfirmllc.com	PHF,PP,ROTY 2011,4106,4107	-	
Mathews	Wilson	Active-R85	Medical Electrical	wilmat405@att.net	PHF,PP 2012-13		
Maxwell	James	Active-R85	engineer Education -	jam1906@bellsouth.net	PHF,4106	-	
1	I	I	I	I	I	1	

02-18-2016 5 Years Tisa Smart-Washington 01-26-2017 4 Years Shane Persaud 03-02-2017 4 Years Dan Morgan 04-06-2017 4 Years Bernard Stanford 04-19-2018 Bryan Hilburn 01-08-2019 2 Years Bennett E McCumber 04-04-2019 2 Years Laura Sistrunk 04-11-2019 2 Years

Club Leaders



Scott G. Slaughter President



Sandra Cowan



Bernard Stanford Treasurer



Wendy A.

Bear

Membership
Chair Ermel E Forrester Membership



Retention Chair



Daniel S. <u>Digby</u> Laws of Life Contest



Al A. Myers Jr. GRSP Chair



Myers III Rotary Foundation



Shane Persaud Public Relations Chair



William T. Rogers Bulletin Editor



Beth Andersen Literacy / Past President



Conference Chair District **Events** Coord

McCumber	Bennett	Active	CEO, Rockdale Career Academy	bmccumber@rockdale.k12.ga.us	
Moore	Garland	Active-R85	Attorney- Judicial	garlandmoore@bellsouth.net	PHF,PHFS,SM,B,BS,MD,PP,DSA,PDC 6910,SAS,PHFn,4106,4107
Morgan	Dan	Active	Public Safety- Fire and Rescue	dan.morgan@rockdalecountyga.gov	
Morgan	Tommy	Active-R85	Public Safety - Fire Consultant	tommymorgan861@gmail.com	PHF,PP,4106,4107
Myers	Al	Active-R85	Pastor- Presbyterian	aamii@att.net	PHF,PP,PAS 1993,GRSP 5,4106,4107,4108
Myers	Albert	Active	Attorney - Family Law	albertamyersiii@hotmail.com	PHF,PP,PAS 2000,4106
Oatts	Terry	Active	Superintendent Rockdale Co Schools	toatts@rockdale.k12.ga.us	
Persaud	Shane	Active	Architecture - Building	shane@designpartnerships.com	
Robinson	Wayne	Active-R85	IT-Information Technology	robi3088@bellsouth.net	PHF,ROTY 2018,4106
Rogers	William	Active-R85	Insurance- Wholesale Student	nanarogers10@gmail.com	PHF,PAS 1984,4106,4107
Siebert	Shelli	Active	Executive Director - Arts Council	ssiebert@conyersarts.org	PHF,ROTY 2016
Simpson	Brian	Corporate- Active D6910	Plumbing - Commercial	bsimpson@hpplum.com	
Sistrunk	Laura	Active	Director of Community Relations	Laura.Sistrunk@piedmont.org	
Slaughter	Scott	Active	Accounting - Tax	scott@jajohnson.com	PHF,4106
Smart- Washington	Tisa	Active	Local Government - Taxes	Tisa.Washington@RockdaleCountyGA.gov	
Smith	Ron	Honorary		ronaldsmith937@comcast.net	PHF,ROTY 2005,4106,4107
Stanford	Bernard	Active	Banking - Commercial	bernard_stanford@ucbi.com	

We Can Help Prevent the Death of 5.9 Million Children Annually

By DG Tina D. Fischlin on Thursday, April 1, 2021

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH MONTH

One of the seven areas of focus for Rotary is Maternal and Child Health, and in April we celebrate the efforts of Rotarians and others worldwide, who work tirelessly to save women and children.

An estimated 5.9 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, inadequate healthcare, and poor sanitation--all preventable!

So how does Rotary help? The Rotary Foundation supports programs that provide education, immunizations, birth kits, and mobile health clinics. Women are taught how to prevent mother-to-infant HIV transmission, how to breast-feed, and how to protect themselves and their children from

In our District, we support many Rotarian-initiated projects that support this area of focus. Alliance for Smiles http://www.allianceforsmiles.org/ is a project near and dear to my heart. Be sure and read Sallie s article in this newsletter about all the lives that have been changed with your support.

Another amazing Rotarian initiated non-profit providing healthcare solutions for children is Gift of Life International. https://www.giftoflifeinternational.org/ This amazing organization provides hope to children born with congenital heart disease, the number ONE birth defect worldwide. This picture of Sat Nu from Myanmar shows how this surgery saved her life.

These are just two of the wonderful programs your clubs can contribute to support maternal and child health.

District Conference registration is OPEN! Reserve your spot at the Fun in the Sun &virtual District Conference. Simply click on the link here!



Are You Ready?

Thursday, April 1, 2021



<u>Wayne</u> Robinson Sergeantat-Arms



Evans Club Fundraising Chair



Hutcheson Community Service



Martin Jones Club Service Chair



Shelli Siebert Club **Programs** Chair



Suchet L. <u>Loois</u> International Service Chair



Michael Macchione Vocational Service Chair



Bryan Hilburn Youth Services Chair







Club Executive Secretary



By Laura Dent and Paige Havens

Our amazing virtual Fun in the Sun District Conference is just 3 weeks away, and weere excited to bring the beach to you! More than 200 of you have registered to date, and the names keep pouring in. If you haven t already, register here!

It s amazing what we can now do together virtually. Our two-day conference will be packed with Rotary fellowship, fun activities with in-person options, excellent speakers, and a Pack-A-Backpack Service Project--all online! Here are some key resources you old need to soak up all of the Fun in the Sun

• Conference Webpage: Click here!

• Conference Agenda: Click here!

Conference Keynote Speaker Bios: Click here!



Jennifer Jones Rotary International President 2022-2023



Ghunaim Executive Director. Rotary Action Group for Peace



Dale Bracken Jeff Henderson Management Consultant



Entrepreneur, Speaker Pastor Business Leader

• Shopping List for 5:00 Somewhere Cocktail Party: Click here!

· Recipes will be sent to attendees via Whova

• Beach Bash Low Country Boil Recipe: Click here!

• Wine Coupon for your Wine Tasting Order: Click here!

 How to Set Up & Customize Your WHOVA Conference Portal: Click here!

Cost to attend is only \$25 for Rotarians and \$15 for guests. Each registrant will receive virtual registration gifts and a chance to win excellent door prizes. One lucky person will win a grand door prize--\$1,200 Gift Certificate for a 3-night stay at The Westin Jekyll Island. To incentivize us all to be actively engaged in each session, you must be present to win!

Conference attendees, watch your email closely for lots of great conference information coming to your inbox. We can to celebrate this year s great accomplishments of our Clubs and District 6910 with you!

Alliance for Smiles

By Sallie Boyles on Thursday, April 1, 2021

The signature international project of the Rotary Club of Greene and Putnam Counties, Alliance for Smiles (AFS) is especially near and dear to District Governor Tina Fischlin. She became involved with the medical nonprofit in 2007 and joined the board in 2009.



Established in 2006 by six Rotarians from San Francisco, AFS conducts missions to correct cleft lip and palate anomalies in children (primarily) from underserved communities worldwide. As Tina says, Even in parts of the US and Western Europe, we have a group of doctors with mobile clinics. To date, AFS has treated more than over 8,700 children.



Choosing destinations that can require more than a day of travel each way within any two-week operation (14 days are standard), Tina has assumed the role of mission director for 27 trips since her first undertaking to China in 2007. So far, she has organized and led groups of medical and nonmedical volunteers to 12 countries.

Having contributed \$2 million to support AFS missions initiated through District 6910, Rotary clubs in the District and around the world, Rotary International has approved the latest grant for Bangladesh scheduled to take place in early November.

Dedicated volunteers include (two each) plastic surgeons, anesthesiologists, operating-room nurses, and recovery nurses. Among the others are a pediatrician, physician sassistant, sterilizer, record keeper (AFS tracks every patient to follow up), and photographer (someone to document the mission). Since deafness can be a comorbidity of the clef lip/palate, audiologists have also accompanied the team. Other support personal, such as an interpreter, might be part of the volunteer group or hired locally.

♦All of our volunteers are amazing, ♦ Tina says. Several Rotarians from her club and around District 6910 have joined AFS missions, although individuals come from all over. Plastic surgeons from Pakistan, Italy, Australia, and Norway have served on her teams. Admiring their ability to conceptualize how a distorted child ♦s mouth should look and their skill to correct it with surgery, Tina refers to the specialists as ♦ true artists. ♦

To build a cohesive, international team before all parties finally congregate at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta, or at another point in transit, they listart with monthly and proceed to weekly Zoom calls for cebreaker conversations. In getting to know one another, physicians discuss their practice methods. If they have different approaches to pain management, for instance, they li work out discrepancies to establish a cohesive care plan.

Positive attitudes are essential. Each mission accommodates 80 to 90 patients (with children as young as ten-months old and adults as old as 63) during the two weeks. With time allotted for travel and patient screening, surgery might be packed into nine days that begin at dawn and end at dusk.

Keeping spirits high through long days is a minor challenge compared to myriad others: securing licenses to practice in the country; obtaining custom clearances; getting teams in and out safely; gathering the necessary medical supplies; spreading the word about upcoming clinics to remote communities • the checklist is extensive. Tina is still amazed at times by the way certain factors fall into place.

For instance, to alert isolated villagers of an upcoming mission to Zimbabwe, AFS sent a mass text message to everyone in the country. Seventy-five percent of our patients came to us because of that notification, says Tina. She later talked about the mission with a GRSP student from Zimbabwe whom she met while attending the conclave in Savannah. Tina was stunned when he said, I still have that text message on my phone at home A

Humbled by her role, Tina describes herself as ♦just a voice to put the pieces of the puzzle together, to determine where to go next and how to address the need at hand. ♦

♦ What Tina has done as mission director is something only one in 100,000 could do, ♦ says Gwinnett County Rotarian Tom Upchurch, a retired plastic surgeon who has volunteered on a similar mission (unrelated to AFS) to Guatemala.

Tina s motivation is pure and simple: seeing the face of a mother who s holding a baby with a repaired lip or palate or both, when they know there s a chance for their child to have a normal life. Mothers love their babies as they are, she explains, but societies don t. Some afflicted newborns, mainly girls, are discarded. Many infants don thrive because they cannot nurse effectively. Those who survive are often shunned through life for their disfigurement and speech impediment.

Despite the sad cases, many uplifting stories stick in Tina s mind.

One little girl with a clef lip wanted to be a teacher; however, her mother homeschooled the child to keep her from classmates who verbally and physically bullied her. After her daughter surgery, the mother appeared to be suffering a seizure, yet she was crying uncontrollably from sheer joy.

Wearing an oversized hat to cover his face, a young man told Tina he just wanted a normal life with a respectable job and a family. Deemed a good candidate, he underwent surgery. On the next AFS mission, he was fitted with dentures. By then, the fellow informed Tina, he was employed as a carpenter. On the next mission, he shared the happy news of his impending marriage.

♦Over the years, we♦ve evolved beyond a med team that takes over for two weeks and leaves.♦ says Tina. ♦We now work closely with Rotary and hospital partners on the ground.♦ Such relationships are important for many reasons. Locals, for example, are more effective in convincing thirdworld people to trust western doctors. Patients further benefit from ongoing care and follow-up treatments, such as fitting for dentures after healing from surgery or later doing surgery on a child who was too young at the initial assessment. Overall, Tina explains, ♦By aligning with likeminded people who do good, we build goodwill.♦

Tina welcomes individuals and clubs to contact her for information about how they can get involved. Besides volunteering, tax-deductible monetary donations are incredibly helpful.

https://www.allianceforsmiles.org/





'20-21 Laws of Life Winners Announced

Friday, April 2, 2021



In March the 2020-2021Georgia Rotary Clubs Laws of Life Essay Contest School-Level Winners were announced. A total of 25,112 students from 48 schools shared their Law of Life essay in this year scontest, notwithstanding the challenges of distance learning and hybrid schedules. Over 100 Rotarian volunteers patiently navigated a new online judging platform and worked with staff to successfully read, score and judge the 1173 essays that were submitted for judging. Click here to see a list of all the winners. To read the official press release from the Laws of Life Executive Director, Carol Gray Walker, click here!

The state winners will be announced in early April.

Feed10Million Update

By Randy Redner on Saturday, April 3, 2021



This is no April Fool®s Joke - DISTRICT 6910 HAS NOW PROVIDED 1,837,742 MEALS TO FAMILIES IN NEED!

- · 2,205,290 pounds of food
- 1.102 tons of food
- 74 tractor trailers of food
- Lined up that would be over 1 mile of tractor trailers
- Provided 517,516 meals in March & That s an average of 16,000+ meals a DAY

Our revised goal of 2 million meals is within sight...but we are not done yet.

Here are the two things your club can be doing right now to support the Feed10Million campaign:

- 1. Farmers to Families (see flyer attached) This is a USDA program that in response to COVID provides food truck deliveries for free through local charitable organizations like Rotary. Doug Bolton out of the Covington Club is coordinating these deliveries across the District, so if you club is interested in receiving one of these truckloads of free food, contact Doug at <a href="dougle-blooked-location-doubl
- 2. Log your meal projects -- Remember, in Rotary it doesn to count until the paperwork is done, so click HERE to log your meals each time you complete a project.

'20-21 District Grant Projects

Saturday, April 3, 2021

Rotary clubs throughout District 6910 complete amazing projects every year with the help from District Grants. These projects are immensely impactful in helping communities and real people. Over the course of the next few months, in the District Newsletter we would like to feature some of these terrific projects so that Rotarians around the district can share ideas and see what is being accomplished. When you start to realize the scope and reach of these projects and multiply them across the district and around the world, it becomes exciting to see the dramatic impact of Rotary! It truly is astonishing and makes you proud to be a Rotarian.



This month we will feature four such projects, funded with the help of District Grants (click the see more link below):

- Rotary Club of Forsyth County & Rotary Club of South Forsyth
- · Lanier-Forsyth Rotary
- · Rotary Club of Jefferson
- Banks County Rotary

District grants fund small-scale, short-term activities that address needs in our district's communities and communities abroad. For more information on District Grants, click here to visit the D6910 District Grant web page.

Forsyth Central High School BYOT Grant

The Rotary Club of Forsyth County and Rotary Club of South Forsyth Focus on Education

2020 has changed life for us all. Students, especially, have had to adapt on almost a daily basis to new ways of learning and new technology. Last spring, when schools were closed all across the state and in our county, students were sent home and had to be ready for total distance, online learning. Not every child had access to a computer. Forsyth Central High School Principal Mitch Young told us, \(\psi \)We scrambled to make sure all students had a device to access online learning. We found that sometimes our students only had one device per family, and sometimes that was a smart phone. This was not conducive to learning. \(\psi \) Once The Rotary Club of Forsyth County and the Rotary Club of South Forsyth heard the call, they decided to pool their resources and help as many students as possible by applying for a District Foundation Grant to stretch their combined reach even further. The project allowed more students who could not afford a personal \(\psi \)Smart \(\psi \) technology device to checkout a Chromebook and have access to online learning at home. Now that our county has both virtual and in-person class, students can use these devices at school for classroom instruction, too. If there are future events requiring students to be at home for extended periods of time, more students will be able to have a personal device at home so they can participate easily in online learning. As most End of Course testing has changed to online, these extra Chromebooks are going to enable more students to easily take these tests at school.



With the aid of matching district grant monies, 52 Chromebooks outfitted per the school requirements and two full-size charging stations were purchased and delivered to Forsyth Central High School. A 4-Way Test sticker placed on each Chromebook reminds students every day the values that Rotarians hold in highest esteem and hope the students will use in making future life decisions. The expected long-term community impact is huge, as the Chromebooks will be available for future students as well.



CEMPROC's "Conflict Transformation Across Borders" Program Grant

Lanier-Forsyth Rotary Supports the Expansion of Peace

The Center for Mediation, Peace, and the Resolution of Conflict (CEMPROC) is a non-profit organization committed to peaceful resolutions to worldwide conflicts. Among other things, they coordinate the logistics for peace-building training programs around the globe. Rotary District 6910 and Lanier Forsyth Rotary are supporting CEMPROC's Summer Institute, Conflict Transformation Across Borders program through a Local District Designated Funds (DDF) Grant. While the initial intent was to fund scholarships to the 2020 program, COVID necessitated a change, and the funds will be used to fund projects proposed by the institute's students. With the Institute's focus on Central and South American countries currently in the midst of severe economic and political turmoil, proposal candidates include two aimed to replicate the training model of The Summer Institute in Haiti and Venezuela. With this grant, Rotary is fostering the expansion of peace to countries deeply in need of this support.



Bags of Love Program Grant

Rotary Club of Jefferson Partners with IServe Ministries

On January 12, 2021, the Jefferson Rotary Club was pleased to present a check to IServe Ministries in the amount of \$4,250.00. IServe Ministriesis a Christian organization whose vision is ♦ to end generational poverty in the communities we serve through meeting needs and teaching life skills. ♦ Our District 6910 2020-2021 Governor, Tina Fischlin, was on hand to help in the check presentation. The donation is targeted to their Bags of Love Program, which provides nondescript backpacks containing an entire weekend of food for families in need. In our local community, between 50-60% of our school-age children live at an income level that does not allow them to have food for the weekends. The only meals they receive are provided at the school. This donation, along with the efficiencies of IServe Ministries, will allow these funds to provide meals for 250 families for 32 weekends per school year. That is over 17,000 meals. This local community project will dovetail in with the Rotary Zone 33-34 10 Million Meals Challenge.



Food-2-Kids Program Grant

Banks County Rotary & Interact joins forces with the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia and the Banks County Schools

The Banks County Rotary works in conjunction with the local Banks County School District, the Food Bank of Northeast Georgia, and our Banks County Middle School Interact Club to pack and deliver 100 sacks of nutritious kid-friendly food to 100 students in the school district to take home every weekend during the school year. The students are identified and recommended for the program by teachers, administrators, and counselors. The food comes from the Food Bank, the bags are packed weekly by the Interact students, and our Rotary Club oversees, assists, and funds the project. One particular challenge that arose during the pandemic year of 2020 was the limitation imposed upon the students to gather together at school to pack the bags. In the interim, volunteers at the food bank stepped



forward to help fill the void.

The total cost of the program for the entire year is \$27,500, and the Banks County Rotary is responsible for fulfilling this budget through fundraising events. One key element of that effort came in the form of a District 6910 Grant in the amount of \$4,000. The remainder is covered by a variety of activities and events, including random donations submitted from the community.

So far in the current Rotary year, 2,522 sacks have been sent home with Banks County students. This represents 17,654 meals. By year end, the program will reach at least 3,300 sacks and 23,100 meals, respectively.

Is Your Club Up To Speed On RYLA?



RYLA is a GO for this year and is scheduled to take place June 3 to June 6 at Tallulah Falls School in beautiful Tallulah Falls! Student applications are due April 30! With club officer turnover from the 19-20 Rotary year, some clubs may not realize they've already paid for a slot for last year's cancelled event. Any questions about your club's commitment, feel free to contact District Chair, <u>Bob Alman</u>.

Here's your link to the RYLA links that you will need, located on the D6910 Web Page: Click here!

Leadership Spotlight: Becky Carlan

By Paige W Havens on Thursday, April 1, 2021



Becky rocking her Rotary spirit on the crater of the world's largest dormant volcano at the Haleakala National Park in Hawaii.

Continuing our District Leadership series, we want you to get to know some of the terrific Rotarians that have stepped forward to help in the Rotary District 6910 efforts to serve all of its clubs. This month we shine our spotlight on district board member, Becky Carlan. A member and past president of the Banks County Rotary, she currently serves as the club's on-to conference chair. To find out why her job helps her to know every resident in the county, be sure to click read more.

Becky Carlan grew up in Commerce, Georgia. She graduated from Commerce High School, earned an associate degree from Gainesville College, and graduated from UGA with a BA in Consumer Economics and Housing. Becky and her husband Tim have been married 20 years and are proud parents to two feisty red heads, Ben (18) and Brooke (16). The Carlans live in Homer with their cat Oliver. In 2012 Becky, was elected Tax Commissioner of Banks County, and she began serving January 1, 2013. She just began her third term and will be quick to tell you just how much she loves serving the citizens of Banks County.

In early 2012 Sallie Hensley invited Becky to join the Banks County Rotary Club. Becky jumped in full force and has enjoyed how Rotary connects her to so many great people all over the state. She has now earned the coveted Past President pin and currently serves as the On-to Conference Chair at the District level, as well as on the District Board. Two of her favorite service opportunities to date have been her Club s Food 2 Kids project that provided meals to 100+ children that were food insecure and serving as Sargent at Arms at PETS. Becky says, I love getting to know members of other clubs, whether they are a small, medium or large. We all have our

strengths and weaknesses, and when we come together and learn from each other, we improve our impact for all. $\mbox{\ensuremath{\phi}}$

In her free time Becky loves to go thrifting and yard-sale hopping. Her favorite escape is aboard a cruise ship traveling to new places. She s actually been on 18 cruises to date and can to get back on the high seas post-pandemic. Becky s playlists include country and 80s' music, and her teens keep her current on the latest hip hop. Helpful Hint: If you want to motivate her, bring donuts!



Becky Carlan speaks to the Banks County Rotary Club.

Photos From Around the District



"Late last year Johns Creek Rotary Club, together with ♠ Daffodils 4 Hope, ♠ gathered to plant daffodil bulbs near the club♠s Peace Pole at Emory Johns Creek Hospital. The bulbs were planted as a message of hope near the entrance of the Winship Cancer Center. March 15 was a great day for our club. We met at the hospital to see the results of a project in which we participated. It took days to plan, many hands to prepare and plant, and weeks to grow. In mid-March we all met to see the results of this great project. Think about a chemotherapy patient that is going to the cancer center at the hospital. Imagine what a bright spot that individual saw. We had the opportunity to brighten someone♠s day!"

-John Salter

For more great District 6910 photos and memories made during the month of March, click the link below.

Banks County Rotary & The Rotary Club of Madison County GA



Banks County President Vicki Boling was approached by a local Banks County resident who was in dire need of a handicap ramp for their home. Vicki reached out to the experts, the world renowned Madison County Rotary Ramp Crew for help. The two clubs partnered to make it happen. The Madison County club recently received a grant from Jackson Electric Membership Corporation which is intended to be used for anyone in JEMC's service area. For their part, this was ramp number 811 by the Madison County club. Crew leader Ed Brown went out of his way to help make this happen and the Banks County Rotary Club is so appreciative of their partnership.

The Rotarians and volunteers on the Madison County ramp crew consisted of Mitchell Hill, Ed Brown, Bruce Gandy, Johnny Minish, Wade Scarboro, Allen Phillips, Artry Bishop, Walton Hill, David McGinnis, and from the Rotary Club of Banks County the crew consisted of the President Vicki Boling, and Carolyn Moon, Cheri Nash, Brian Witfield, Rick Billinglea, Doug Cheek, Becky Carlan, and Dakota Holcomb.

Rotary Club of Canton



If you want to see Service Above Self in motion, please watch this video of the wonderfully successful and feel-good Farmers to Families Food Distribution Project, a cooperative effort of the **Rotary Clubs of Cherokee County** (Canton, Woodstock, Towne Lake, and Cherokee County) on March 20! Many thanks to Canton Rotarian Francisco Lozano for putting this video together! Click on the photo above or this link to watch the video!



CANTON ROTARY SUPPORTS NORTH GEORGIA ANGEL HOUSE

The Rotary Club of Canton is giving its time and treasure to support North Georgia Angel House. On March 30, Canton Rotary donated \$1000 to the program that provides help for young women ages 12-21 in foster care. On Saturday, March 13 the Canton Rotary Club in conjunction with a church regional youth group, provided a mini-makeover for the Angel House facility. Click on the photo above or this <u>link to watch a video about the mini-makeover event!</u>





CANTON ROTARY HAS "FUN IN THE SUN" PACKING BACKPACKS

The Rotary Club of Canton had no trouble living up to the "Fun in the Sun" billing of its backpack packing service project at Reformation Brewery at The Mill on Etowah in Canton on March 30. The many hands and enthusiasm of 25 Canton Rotarians made for lighter work and a lot of fun in the sun packing 96 backpacks with school supplies in 25 minutes for students at Hasty Elementary School Fine Arts Academy and Teasley Middle School in Cherokee County.

The funds for the project were originally intended for a backpack community service project at the District 6910 Conference at Jekyll Island in late April. However, when the in-person Conference had to go virtual due to the continuing pandemic, the District redirected the funds to local clubs to provide backpacks with school supplies in their communities.

With many Canton Rotarians sporting tropical shirts, hats, and sunglasses in the spirit of the "Fun in the Sun" theme of the 2021 District Conference, the assembly-line packing of backpacks with pencils, rulers, crayons, markers, post-its, and other school supplies was sheer joy for these 2 dozen Rotarians who were together in person for the first time in many months.

Many thanks to President-Elect Greg Elder for organizing the event and ordering the backpacks and school supplies and to Greg's son, Chandler Elder, who video recorded the event for our Virtual District Conference.

The Classic City Rotary Club of Athens



The Classic City Rotary Club partnered with Our Daily Bread Community Kitchen to serve nutritious meals to over 150 people in need.



The Classic City Rotary Club is a Partner in Education with JJ Harris Elementary School. The Club recently purchased and assembled picnic tables for the students and teachers to use. Club member, Becky Engel made a new friend while working on the tables.



 ${\it Classic~City~Rotary~Club~members~Ray~Watson,~Al~Hawley,~and~Marilyn~Appleby~assemble~picnic~tables~for~JJ~Harris~Elementary.}$



Classic City Rotarians Kemp Gaskill and Heather McElroy included their children when volunteering for the Keep Athens-Clarke County Beautiful cleanup of Sunset Drive in Athens.

Columbia County West Rotary Club







The Columbia County West Club donated funds and labor to the Columbia County Cares Food Pantry. They have worked with this agency for close to ten years. They meet a need in the rual area of Columbia County where there has been an ongoing need for food assistance, a need that has been amplified during the COVID-19 emergency.

Forsyth County (Rotary Clubs)







Photos from the Farm to Families event on March 11 in Cumming, supported by 4 of the Forsyth County Clubs: Lanier-Forsyth, Johns Creek, Forsyth, and South Forsyth.

Rotary Club of Hall County





Rotary Club of Hall County received Rotary Foundation grant money that it matched to provide gifts of gratitude to Northeast Georgia Hospital staff. The hospital now has a Rejuvenation room in which staff goes to relax on breaks. The club provided not only Valentine's Day gifts with balloons and an original painting by a club member, but also St. Patrick's Day cheer was delivered as well. Food, snacks and thank you cards were provided.





Even in a virtual meeting mode, the Rotary Club of Hall County donates a book every week to the library at their <u>#PartnersInEducation</u> school. <u>#sugarhillelementary!</u>

Shown here with the kids receiving the books is <u>Alan Trembley</u>, one of their club Presidents.

#RotaryClubHallCounty

South Hall Rotary



South Hall Rotary President Amanda Groover was grateful for the opportunity to present checks to the Adult Literary program at Lanier Tech recently. #Rotarians from the South Hall and the Rotary Club of Braselton collaborated to provide grant funding for 50 GED tests. Obtaining a GED can help transform the lives and #openopportunities for families in our area

without college degrees. We appreciate the leadership from

Lanier Technical College for working with them this past year to create this new fund. Pictured with Amanda are Interim President Tim McDonald and Program Director Shannon Cole #serviceaboveself



South Hall Rotary dropping off donated PPE masks that was through the District to the Hall County Bus Shop. Clay Hobbs with Hall County said that those 8000 masks was about a three week supply for the bus drivers in Hall County who are passing out the mask to students daily.

Lake Chatuge Rotary Club



The Lake Chatuge Rotary Club took to the road to visit a working aquaponics farm in Elkin, NC. As they continue to explore and plan for a community garden project involving aquaponic gardening, this trip gave them a firsthand look at a working farm, with 100 tower gardens, raising a wide variety of non-pollenated greens and vegetables.

Pictured above (left to right): Susan and Gene Boyd, Rick Dubois (the Rotarian who introduced the club to aquaponics), Kerry Clem, Joe Lashley, Carolyn Cheek, Jack Payne, Debra Lowe, Club President John Scott, and Gerry Gutenstein.



Seedlings being grown to be placed into the towers. These seedlings are about two weeks old. They will never touch soil as they develop and are harvested.



Three towers one mostly empty, one with recent seedings beginning to grow, and one with mature plants in the process of being harvested.

The enthusiasm of the club is through the roof for this project, which they feel potentially will impact several Rotary Areas of Focus.







The Eagles EarlyAct club at Baker Place Elementary are once again doing wonderful things. Our seniors were especially hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. For the past year, our high risk seniors were unable to be with their loved ones, completely isolated in assisted living communities or nursing homes. The Eagles EarlyAct club participated in a letter writing campaign where 25 members of the club generated 3,307 cards for seniors. The effort was part of the District 6910 Youth Services letter writing campaign that generated more than 5,000 letter for the Letters Against Isolation organization. Now, seniors across District 6910 will feel loved and know that, even in the middle of this horrible pandemic, they are not forgotten.





The Rotary Club of Martinez-Evans volunteered at the University Hospital Vaccination Clinic. The clinic occurred at First Baptist Church of Augusta on February 25th. Our volunteers supported by the clinic by verifying appointments and assisting the 2200 individuals scheduled to receive vaccinations. Thank you to our volunteers for helping make this clinic a success!!!

North Oconee Rotary Club



North Oconee Rotary Club cleaned up! It apparently was a ladies event until Kay s dad showed up. Girl power plus one! 15 bags of trash! Y all stop littering!

Rotary Club of Oconee County



Rotarians working hard on a warm sunny Wednesday (March 3) and ramp #87 is completed!

Rotary Club of Union County



President Elect of Union County Rotary, Daniel Duello, presents a contribution to Katy Jones, Director of Union County Family Connection, for The Backpack 2 School Bash while Richard Raborn, Ed Sternberg and Angela Sarrell look on.



Rotarian Angela Sarrell presents a check to Kristen Hacker in front of First Baptist Blairsville's donation storage facility on Blue Ridge Street.



Helping with the delivery of Rotary Dictionary Project books are the three newest members of Union County Rotary: Angela Sarrell of Harry Norman Realtors, Jon Sliver of McNabb Properties, Jonathan Cox with C4 Innovations, and UGS teacher, media specialist, honorary Rotarian and Interact coordinator, DR. Melissa Bridges.

CANTON ROTARY HOSTS A DIFFERENT KIND OF CHAMBER BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

By Peter A. Gleichman on Wednesday, March 24, 2021

It was a different sort of Rotary and business fellowship on March 23 when the Rotary Club of Canton hosted the Cherokee Chamber of Commerce's monthly Business After Hours (BAH) virtually. Held in lieu of its weekly meeting, Canton Rotary members had several opportunities to promote the community service and many other benefits of membership in Cherokee County's oldest civic organization due to the technical wizardry of Chamber staff.

After the customary welcome by Chamber Executive Director Pam Carnes and Chamber President Adam Smith and promotion by BAH series sponsor AT&T, Club President Shane Moore opened the meeting by introducing President Elect Greg Elder. He reported on the club's immensely successful Farmers 2 Families food distribution service project on March 20 in which 27,500 meals were distributed to families in need throughout Cherokee County. Next was President Nominee Nicole Lawson, who invited everyone to Canton Rotary's backpack packing service project at Reformation Brewery in Canton for its March 30 in-person lunchtime meeting.

Then the fun began!



Canton Rotary President Shane Moore welcomed everyone to the Chamber Business After Hours hosted by the Rotary Club of Canton.



A gallery view of the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce's Business After Hours hosted by the Rotary Club of Canton. During a promotion of the many opportunities for service that membership in the Canton Rotary Club provides, member Peter Gleichman was able to slip in "Great fellowship, too" in the chat box as a value-added benefit!

BAH attendees were asked a series of poll questions related to how the pandemic has impacted their businesses. After that, Rotary-related questions were asked throughout the rest of the meeting with the first to answer having the opportunity to promote his or her business. One of the quick responders was Canton Rotarian Francisco Lozano, who impressed everyone with his spontaneous and passionate "elevator speech" that described all the benefits of membership in the Canton Rotary Club!



Canton Rotarian Francisco Lozano (upper right) hosted this breakout room session, one of several throughout the Business After Hours when Chamber members got to learn the benefits of membership in the Canton Rotary Club. There were numerous fellowship opportunities as BAH attendees were randomly placed in virtual breakout rooms for 5 minutes at a time, where a Canton Rotarian hosted introductions and moderated discussion about Chamber members' businesses. It was a chance to talk about Canton Rotary close up and personal! Many thanks to the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce for creating a recipe for fellowship and fun at its March Business After Hours which the Rotary Club of Canton was proud to host! For more information about the Rotary Club of Canton, go to www.therotaryclubofcantonga.org or to Canton Rotary's Facebook bage.

Towne Lake Celebrates Small Business Owners

By Debby Ciccone on Thursday, April 1, 2021



While the heart of Rotary for Towne Lake will always be *Service Above Self* and giving back to the community, no one can deny that it is all made possible because of the hearts of the members. And those members are comprised of many small business owners

Vocational Service is rooted in the second object of Rotary, whereby, we encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and in particular, to encourage and foster, high ethical standards in business professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian so occupation as an opportunity to serve society.

Debby Ciccone, the District Vocational Service Chair and member of the Towne Lake Club, wanted to recognize all the small business owners in the club during the month of March. March 29 is recognized as National Mom & Pop Business Owners Day.

Small businesses are vital to our communities, as they provide opportunities for entrepreneurs and create meaningful jobs with greater satisfaction than positions with larger, traditional companies. They also foster local economies, keeping money closer to home, supporting neighborhoods and communities.

In the Towne Lake Club, many different local businesses are represented such as property management, real estate, finance, lending, IT, video production, shipping, insurance, investments, health care, and more!

To celebrate, members enjoyed a decadent cheesecake-filled white cake. This was a special treat, as dessert had not been on the menu in over a year due to menu changes related to COVID-related restaurant adjustments.

Not only did members enjoy cake, the club enjoyed Happy Dollars with members expressing their gratitude for the surprise dessert!



PRIP Saboo Talks World Peace with the Rotary Club of Johns Creek

By Anu C Narula on Friday, April 2, 2021



In celebration of the 116th birthday of Rotary International on February 23 this year, Rotary Club of John Creek, District 6910, got an amazing opportunity to host a talk on Rotary and World Peace by Past Rotary International President Raja Saboo. Mr. Saboo is celebrating sixty years of sterling service in Rotary, and his message of Look beyond Yourself continues to resonate with Rotarians across the world with the theme of Service above Self. Besides Functional Literacy, Combating Hunger, Polio Eradication and medical missions across the world, one of the outstanding missions of PRIP Saboo leadership has been the flagship programs of Rotary Peace Centers.

Hundreds of Rotarians from across the district, including dignitaries of Rotary International, were treated to profound, first-hand accounts of Mr. Saboo so peace and medical initiatives across the world. Mr. Saboo reflected at length on the hands-on projects done by him and his wife Usha Saboo in African countries, Cambodia, Mongolia, and the most underprivileged segments of India. Mr. Saboo so reflections on his endeavors to alleviate hunger and illness in war-torn countries across the world were deeply poignant and motivational. The people afflicted by atrocities and poverty in war-torn areas whose lives were touched by Mr. and Mrs. Saboo will remain etched in our sensibilities as memorable souls. The brave volunteers who joined hands with him to alleviate the problems faced by people in those countries will remain as shining examples of people at large in our communities who contribute to the mission of Rotary across the world.

Mr. Saboo dwelled at length on the role played by WHO in conjunction with Rotary International for medical missions across the world. Mr. Saboo spersonal delineation of his pioneering work for polio eradication, besides fift of Life and Heartline projects in India remains exemplary. We live once and we die once, ladies and gentlemen, let so do something to help humanity so will echo forever in our hearts, along with his message on the need to replace to live for powers with the power of love to make the world even a better place to live in.

By Amanda R Groover on Monday, March 1, 2021



The South Hall Rotary club recently designated \$1,000 toward GED Vouchers for Adult Education students in Hall County. The goal of the grant is to help offset the state required cost for the four test needed to obtain the GED.

The South Hall Rotary club recently designated \$1,000 toward GED Vouchers for Adult Education students in Hall County. The goal of the grant is to help offset the state required cost for the four test needed to obtain the GED.

The grant was established after club members heard from Lanier Tech Interim President Tim McDonald about the Adult Education programs offered in our area. He was invited to the club to speak back in September during Rotary International so month focused on basic education and literacy in our community. He was able to talk about the programs successes and the challenges faced by participants.

♦I was really moved by how possible we make adult education classes in our community and how heartbreaking it is for someone to struggle to be able to come up with the full \$160 to pay for the tests♦ stated Club President Amanda Groover.

Many of the participants of the GED program are already struggling to make ends meet because they do not have a diploma. Participants commit to attending classes that are offered free of charge but there is still a necessary cost commitment in the \$40 per test for the four core subject areas.

Lanier Tech Program Director Shannon Cole spoke to the challenges of finding spaces to provide classes in many geographic areas where Lanier Tech serves our community. He mentioned that they specifically struggled to provide classes in the South Hall Community because of a lack of available meeting rooms. However, he said that the students who do participate are willing to put in the effort to pass these tests.

The South Hall Rotary Club realized that it would be very easy to help supplement the cost of GED vouchers for members of our community that are working hard to improve the quality of their lives and the lives around them. Through the \$1000 donation, 25 test vouchers can be provided for vetted students

We don t want \$40 or \$80 or even \$120 prevent someone from making an additional \$10,000-\$20,000 a year when they get past this hurdle. Providing a grant for Lanier Tech to be able to provide vouchers is a really simple way we can help bridge that gap and hopefully help these students make a bigger investment in themselves and the community state of Groover.

After a few months of working through the technicalities of making a program like this function, the club was excited to be able to dedicate funds this February to present to Lanier Tech in March. The club was also able to partner with the Braselton Rotary Club to double the funds and add students from Jackson County to the grant opportunity.

We shared the program with club president Hardy Johnson and he was all for helping us support this opportunity. I would love to see it grow through all the programs in Lanier Techos service area stated Groover. The club hopes to be able to celebrate the recipient successes at their GED graduation ceremonies as well as here the difference the GED programs have made in their lives.

♦Sometimes of the smallest and simplest solutions can provide opportunities for huge impacts. It was because of COVID-19 that we had the opportunity as a club to slow down and find simple ways to contribute. We hope that this grant leads to an annual opportunity to support literacy and education in our communities. ♦

For more information about the GED programs at Lanier Tech, please visit their Adult Education Program.

Happy Birthday to the Rotary Club of Hartwell

By Mike Everett on Monday, March 15, 2021



Happy 84th birthday to the Rotary Club of Hartwell. The club was chartered March 19, 1937, and has a long history of serving the community and the world. Especially on their birthday, they are grateful for those Rotarians who have come before them and set such a great example of Service Above Self. They look to the future where opportunities to serve others are endless.

April 2021





Important Dates & Deadlines

Click Here for PDF of Upcoming Key Dates



Communication Pipeline

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