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Over The Transom #6

By Donald W. Martin (District Governor) on Sunday, January 12, 2020

Happy New Year!

It seems like only a few days since we last published, oh wait • I guess it was, but hey that was • last year • and a whole lot has happened since then in one of the most happening Districts in the Rotary world • your own District 6910.

As we turn the corner from 2019 into 2020 we will be concentrating a lot of our efforts on two things Training next year's leaders and getting ready for Rotary Family Vacation. On the training front, in just a few days DGE Tina Fischlin will head west to attend International Assembly. Not only will it be the most exciting Rotary event she has ever attended, but she will be flashing back the 2021-2022 Rotary International Theme and lot of news about the year that RI President-Elect Holger Knaack has in store for us. In quick succession then, the AGS, AGES, and Service Chairs will be gathering in Gainesville for District Team Training Seminar (DTTS) and at the end of February the President-Elect from all over Georgia will be gathering for the President Elect Training Seminar (PETS). After that, the training focus shifts to the local club as your club Presidents-Elect and AGs begin training and preparing your club Boards and Officers for next year.

While all that is going on, your *Rotary Family Vacation* team is moving full speed ahead on our Conference in Asheville, April 23-26, 2020. In-fact, about 20 of us are headed there in two weeks to do our final on-site visit before the big show starts. There are multiple articles on the conference and the registration link further down in this newsletter. (SPECIAL NOTE: If you are one of the many Rotarians that indicated you were bringing your children or grandchildren to the conference to participate in the Youth Summit, please consider registering as soon as possible. The biggest single challenge for our team will be having just the right program ready for the young people that are actually there and knowing how many and their ages will make that job a lot easier. Thanks from the whole team for doing that.)

Speaking of Registering & if you wanted to be one of the first 150, I am afraid you missed out, but don to despair you can still be part of the first 300! There are still plenty of rooms available (and the rate is good 3 days before and 3 days after), but a lot of the villas and adjoining room combinations are taken so be sure to take of your hotel registration as well.

Back in the second paragraph when I said ϕ a lot of our efforts ϕ the reason I couldn ϕ t say ϕ all ϕ is because you are doing so dang much it simply would not pass the Four Way Test. There are articles and notices below on just a few projects and activities, but there are dozens more each month. If you have an activity that you want highlighted, please send me the article at don@therotarymartins.com so I can make sure it gets published.

Unfortunately, the natural disasters that plagued 2019 have carried over into 2020. Knowing how generous Rotarians are and that you want to be sure your donations really get to the people in need, there are links below to donate, through Rotary, to Australia, Puerto Rico, or disaster needs in general.

Please take note of the special events and activities below then take a deep breath and♦ ♦let♦s go do Rotary.

Don Martin

District Governor, 2019-2020

Rotary Family Vacation

By Peter Gleichman on Sunday, January 12, 2020

Now that the holidays are behind us and winter is upon us, maybe you real ready thinking about your next family vacation! Is it that the timeshare or vacation condo in Florida you go to every year to get away from the cold weather? Maybe you need a different kind of family vacation to forget the dog days of winter: How about a Rotary Family Vacation?

Well, this year we're offering you that opportunity for something completely different -- your Rotary Family Vacation in Asheville, North Carolina April 23-26, 2020.

The Crowne Plaza Hotel and Resort will be the site of our Conference, and it's the perfect venue for you to experience the Family of Rotary in vacation mode! On Thursday night, all Rotarians, spouses and significant others, children, and guests will be part of an evening of BBQ buffet and club-run games before we hold our first general session featuring the humorous storytelling of nationally acclaimed raconteur Connie Regan-Blake! (See Connie Tell "No News on the Dog.") And when we adjourn from our organized fun, how about some after-hours Rotary fellowship and sing-along with some talented Rotarian pickers and crooners!

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A New Kind of House of Friendshop

By Peter Gleichman on Sunday, January 12, 2020



Have you ever come across a Rotary club s service project that just \(\phi\) wowed \(\phi\) you and you wondered. \(\phi\) How did they put that together? \(\phi\) Or maybe you, like me, learned about or even attended a Rotary club s fundraiser and, scratching your head, you thought to yourself, \(\phi\) How did they pull that off? \(\phi\)
Those are the types of questions we are asking our Rotary clubs to answer at this year \(\phi\). House of Friendship (HoF) at our Rotary Family Vacation at the Crowne Plaza Hotel & Resort in Asheville, North Carollina on April 23-26, 2020. Unlike our typical House of Friendship where clubs feature all of their accomplishments and recognitions from the past Rotary year, we are asking clubs to do something completely different \(\phi\) demonstrate your club \(\phi\) signature service project or signature fundraiser and explain how you did It! Again unlike past HoFs, the display won \(\phi\) be self-evident; clubs will need one or more members present whenever the House of Friendship is open to explain the details of the community service project or fundraiser and to answer questions like: How did the club decide to do this service project? How did the club plan the fundraiser? What kind of promotion did the club do to achieve such a successful project outcome? Or, how did the club get such a great turnout?

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Rotary Clubs of Gwinnett Dedicate Peace Pole

By Schelly Tennant Marlatt on Sunday, January 12, 2020

Rotary Clubs of Gwinnett County, Lawrenceville, Duluth and Gwinnett Sunrise held a dedication ceremony for the Rotary International Peace Pole on Friday, December 20th on the Lawrenceville Lawn, corner of Jackson Street and Luckie Street, Lawrenceville, Georgia. Local and state dignitaries were in attendance and Lawrenceville's Mayor Judy Johnson provided a brief dedication along with David Stovall, Rotary International Director for Zones 33 and 34.

♦ Lawrenceville is honored to have this Peace Pole in our City on behalf of the four Gwinnett Rotary Clubs involved, ♦ said Mayor Judy Jordan Johnson. ♦ The Peace Pole offers a universal message of peace for all people and promotes the City ♦s vision for being an inclusive community that celebrates the diverse and rich cultures that reside in Gwinnett and the Greater Atlanta area. ♦

A Peace Pole is an internationally recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family, standing vigil in silent prayer for peace on earth. Each Peace Pole bears the message May Peace Prevail on Earth in different languages on each of its four sides. The four languages on the Gwinnett County Peace Pole include English, Spanish, Korean, and Vietnamese. These four languages represent the prevalent languages spoken in Gwinnett County. There are tens of thousands of Peace Poles in nearly every country in the world dedicated as monuments to peace. The Peace Pole located on the Lawrenceville Lawn is 10.5 feet tall and made of granite from Elberton, Georgia.

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Rotary International President to Visit District 6910

By Brandy Lynn Swanson on Sunday, January 12, 2020



We are pleased to announce that the President of Rotary International will speak in District 6910 on April 14, 2020. More Details available next month, but block the date and time. You won't want to miss it.

DATE:

PEACE SYMPOSIUM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER:



PRESIDENT, ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



Peace is Possible One community at a time

Gatewood Interact Hosts Veterans Brunch

By Donna On Neal on Sunday, January 12, 2020

October 29, 2019

On Tuesday, October 29th, the Rotary-Interact Club hosted a patriotic brunch and program for the veterans of Putnam/Greene Counties as a \$Thank You! \$\phi\$ for their service in defense of our country. Former veterans and Interact members were in attendance, and the students made lifelong memories while conversing with the veterans concerning their recollections of efforts to keep our country free.

After the brunch, people moved to the auditorium for the Veterans. Day program. Mrs. Martha Sammons, Interact Sponsor, welcomed the group which also included all high school students. Hank Hall, the Interact President opened with prayer and led the students and veterans in the Pledge of Allegiance. Joey Vargas, Interact Gatewood Senior, played the guitar and sang \$\phi\$ Island, \$\phi\$ Jyla Davis, also an Interact Member, sang \$\phi\$ God Bless the USA. \$\phi\$ Former Gatewood student and student teacher to Mrs. Sammons, Emily Embry, introduced the speaker, Putnam County native, Mr. Rudy Hicks. Mr. Hicks spoke to a spellbound student body about the acts of bravery, sacrifice, and honor of many of the local heroes in service to our country. For cowd listened intently as Mr. Hicks described battlefield scenes and the code of honor of American veterans to truly keep our country, \$\phi\$The Land of the Free, and the Home of the Brave.



Matthew Phillips, Interact Treasurer led the Rotary Four Way Test. Mr. Terry Embry was recognized for his help and kindness; Tom Cornelia was acknowledged for his patience, and mentorship to the Gatewood Interact Group; and of course, Mr. Rudi Hicks was distinguished for taking his time for our students to renew their patriotism to our country. The program was adjourned. Even though this was its first Veterans Day celebration, this will become an annual event for the Gatewood Interact Club.





District Conference Awards Update

By Gerry Taylor on Sunday, January 12, 2020

The District 6910 Conference is a celebration of the Rotary Year. Besides Bronze, Silver, Gold and Club of The Year awards, the conference highlights other individual and club awards. This year so District Conference in Asheville will honor outstanding efforts of individuals and clubs in many categories throughout the conference.

Let this serve as a reminder that The Governor s Citation and Points Excel form needs to be updated and readied for submission to Gerry Taylor (gk6910r@gmail.com) by midnight April 15, 2020.

There are other awards to be celebrated. The Stubbs and Arrendale awards require nominations be submitted to the district **by January 31, 2020**. That date is upon us, so please complete your Stubbs Ethical Award and Arrendale Vocational Award promptly.

To find out about the other district awards, refer to the District Awards tab on the District website at www.rolary.org. For Rotary International awards, refer to www.rolary.org. We hope everyone will have a great Rotary Year and plan on attending the District Conference in Asheville North Carolina April 23 🏚 26, 2020, Register early and come help us celebrate all the

great achievements!

By Donald W. Martin (District Governor) on Sunday, January 12, 2020





Need a Brochure to talk up Rotary Family Vacation in Your Club?

Here ya go. The link below is a Flyer with general information on the front and a more detailed schedule on the back. See ya in Asheville!

Rotary Family Vacation Marketing Flyer

Get your heart racing @ the 8th Annual







ROTARY CLUB OF BUFORD/NORTH GWINNETT

10 am ♥ Saturday, February 15 Suwanee's Town Center Park

Entry Blank and Detailed Information Here

More stories follow. Click the Read More Button

The Following article first appeared in "Inside the Gates" and was submitted by Laura Dent ${\ensuremath{\sf Read\ More}}$

District Events & Reminders

January 18th RLI - Thomasville D6900 January 31st
District Team Training Seminar (DTTS)

February 1st RLI - Savannah D6920

District Leaders



<u>Donald W. Martin (District Governor)</u> District Governor



DGE Tina D. Fischlin DG-Elect



Michael L. Berg DG-Nominee



Gerald K. Taylor DG-Nominee Designate



<u>David Thomas Upchurch</u> District Communications Officer



Bobby D Hildreth District Membership Chair



Tammy Tate Gilland
District Public Image/PR Chair



Scott R. Parmenter
District Rotary Foundation Chair



<u>Douglas E. Bolton</u> District Service Program Director