

From Our District Governor

Joining Together ... for Action and for Reflection

By Kirk Driskell

It's hard to believe it is April already - and but for COVID-19, we would all be gathering for District Conference in SanDestin to celebrate another year of fellowship and making a difference in our communities and the world. We will look to celebrating in SanDestin in August, but until then it's important to continue with the actions we've been involved in all year, and to reflect on our purpose and impact. That said, I'd like to focus on two important events - one calling us to action, the other to reflection.

As you have no doubt heard and can read below, on March 26, an EF4 Tornado came through the historic residential district of Newnan, Georgia - with winds reaching as high as 170 mph that caused catastrophic damage, .5 mile wide and 1.7 miles long. The storm damaged about 1800 homes - 300 of those were left uninhabitable. The city's low to moderate income residential area received major damage, as did two local schools.

[more]

LEADERBOARD Check out the full district scoreboard

Here are the clubs that are leading the way in our district for membership, annual fund and polio plus.

| Category | NET MEMBERSHIP | ANNUAL FUND | POLIO PLUS |
|----------|--|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| I | North Atlanta Professional Alliance | North Atlanta | Brookhaven |
| II | North Columbus | North Fulton | Vinings Cumberland |
| III | Marietta | Dunwoody | Carrollton-Dawn Breakers |
| IV | Roswell | Roswell | Peachtree City |

Key Dates

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Saturday, June 6th, 2026 | Americus RYLA - DISTRICT 6900 |
| Saturday, June 6th, 2026 | Americus 2026 Rotary Sheffield Gala |
| Monday, June 22nd, 2026 | RI President Francesco Arezzo Visits D6900! |



Tornado Relief
Request

Newnan Needs Assistance after Catastrophic Tornado

By Garnet Reynolds
At 12:10 AM on
Friday morning,
March 26, 2021, an
EF4 Tornado came
through the historic
residential district of
Newnan, Georgia.
The tornado reached
winds as high as 170
mph and the path
covered seven miles,
causing catastrophic
damage. The **Rotary
Club of Newnan** is
seeking to provide
assistance needed
over the long journey
to recover from a
storm that damaged
1800 homes (300
deemed
uninhabitable), left
6,500 of 10,000
Newnan Utilities
customers without
power (now mostly
restored) and did
severe damage to
Atkinson Elementary
and Newnan High
School (picture #1).
Read more about the
damage and how
Rotarians and their
clubs can help.
[more]



Club News

North Fulton Invites You to Virtual National Day of Prayer ... May 6, 2021

By Steve Siders
Please save May 6, 2021 and join the **Rotary Club of North Fulton** online for its 19th annual celebration of the National Day of Prayer. The service will take place from 7:45 am to 9:00 am. You may join on the **club's Facebook page** or the **club's website** for a time of celebration and reflection.

The featured keynote speaker will be Janine Maxwell, Co-Founder and COO of Heart for Africa, as well as author of three books, including her soon to be published book Hope Lives Here. Together Janine and her husband Ian run a faith-based organization focusing on Hunger, Orphans, Poverty and Education in Eswatini, Africa, [more]



Two Ways to Participate:

✓ **STANDARD SELECTION** ✓ **DIRECT COLLEGE SELECTION**

Funds are sent directly to the institution and designated and applied to the student's account.
Rotarians serve as host families.

✓ **ALL GRSP Scholars Must:**

- Be between 18 and 25 Years of Age
- Not Have Previously Studied in the U.S. for Longer than 4 months.
- Not be Married, or Engaged to be Married.
- Not Hold Dual U.S. Citizenship.



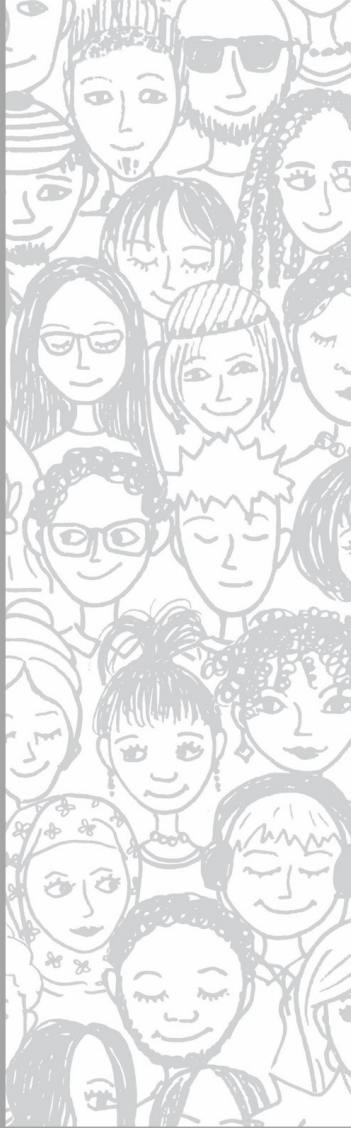
GRSP Update **New Direct College Selection Program**

By Ian Bond
In the Georgia Rotary Student Program workshops our focus of discussion was sharing a whole new way of enabling Clubs to partner with their local college or university, select students and increase diversity in future GRSP classes - all in an affordable way. We call this the Direct College Selection program. Let me take a few moments to summarize and with contrast the new option with the Standard Selection program what Clubs are familiar with and remains as an option going forward).
[more]

Laws
of
Life



THE GEORGIA
ROTARY CLUBS
LAWS OF LIFE
ESSAY CONTEST



CONGRATULATIONS!

District 6900

2020-2021 School Winners

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Alpharetta High School | Austin White |
| Atlanta Classical Academy | Elizabeth Richter |
| Bainbridge High School | Corbin Austin |
| Bremen High School | Wiley Elias Garner |
| Carrollton High School | Gregory Slappey |
| Carver STEAM Academy | KeAsia Chandler |
| Central High School (Carroll) | Stephen Moye |
| Colquitt County High School | Lily Griner |
| Deerfield-Windsor School | Arwa Kheda |
| Dunwoody High School | Julia Strickland |
| Forest Park High School | Monica Trejo-Gonzalez |
| Greenville High School | Andrey Ferrell |
| Haralson County High School | Kathleen Robinson |
| Hardaway High School | Zyon Whitten |
| Independence High | Felix Fisch |
| Jackson High School | Summer Statham |
| Lovejoy High School | Eriyel Fisher |
| Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts | Jamea Harris |
| McIntosh High School | Reagan Vetter |
| North Cobb High School | Abigail Kratzer |
| North Springs High School | Jacob Mirsky |
| Northside High School (Columbus) | Kelsey Amon |
| Shaw High School | Qunasha Daniel |
| Thomas County Central High School | Laura Hiers |
| Thomasville High School | Christopher O'Neal |

Laws of Life Georgia Laws of Life Essay Contest Announces School Winners

By Jackie Cuthbert
The Georgia
Rotary Clubs Laws
of Life Essay
Contest today
announced State
and local school
winners for the
2020-2021
contest. At the
State level:

- Corbin Austin of Bainbridge High School is the State winner
- 1st Runner-Up is Eriyel Fisher of Lovejoy High School
- 2nd Runner-Up is Ian Kligora of Rome High School
- 3rd Runner-Up is Adrian Whitlock of Heritage High School
- 4th Runner-Up is Lily Griner of Colquitt County High School
- 5th Runner-Up is Christopher O'Neal of Thomasville High School
- Winner of the George A. Stewart Jr. Character in Action Award (sponsored by RC Dunwoody) is Jamea Harris of the ME Stilwell School of the Arts. In addition to the State Awards, local awards go to 135 school winners and grade winners [more]



The Rotary Foundation

Patsy Wolff Becomes Arch Klumph Society Member

By Trummie Patrick

Patsy Wolff of the **Roswell Rotary Club** is one of the newest Arch Klumph Society members. Patsy and her husband Bill graciously donated \$300,000 to The Rotary Foundation, in honor of Patsy's mother. A member of Roswell Rotary since September 1991, Patsy ushered in the era of women in our club. She also helped launch Honor Air in memory of her uncle and has sponsored many veterans on trips for the past ten years. In 2020, Roswell Rotary bestowed our highest honor, the Service Above Self Award to Patsy for her lifetime of involvement and support of our club. A member of Roswell Rotary since September 1991, Patsy ushered in the era of women in our club. She also helped launch Honor Air in memory of her uncle and has sponsored many veterans on trips for the past ten years. In 2020, Roswell Rotary bestowed our highest honor, the Service Above Self Award to Patsy for her lifetime of involvement and support of our club. [more]



Club News
**Americus
Sends
Message
About
Ending
Human
Trafficking**

By Angela Smith
The **Rotary Club
of Americus**

used the week of February 22-16 to address the issue of human trafficking and modern-day slavery through awareness and education. The club used social media daily with facts about the End It Now movement and human trafficking industry, beginning with a video interview with the global chair of the Rotary Action Group Against Slavery. We want to thank Dave McCleary for taking time out of his schedule to talk with Drew Anderson, Pastor of Sumter Chapel and point of contact for End It Now in the Sumter County community. [more]



Club News

Interact... Persevering in a Pandemic

By Michael Bixler
All over the world, Interact Clubs are helping young students age 12-18 develop leadership skills, give back to their communities, and have fun doing it. There are nearly 15,000 Interact clubs in 145 countries and more than a third of a million Interactors discovering the meaning of Service Above Self. In District 6900 alone there are more than 50 Interact clubs, and six of those are sponsored by the **Rotary Club of Thomasville.**

One club stands out for its grit and the kind of determination that characterizes budding leaders. The Christian Homeschool Association of Regional Thomasville (C.H.A.R.T.) Interact Club found ways to serve while staying safe. Teacher-advisor, Molly King, admits that "this year's service projects have been a bit different" because of COVID-19, but she could not be prouder of club members' creativity and enthusiasm. [more]



Club News
**Smyrna
Partners
to
Beautify
Campbell
Middle
School**

By Narayan Sengupta
On Saturday, March 27, 14 Campbell Middle School parents, students and faculty teamed with the **Smyrna Rotary Club** for a fun landscape cleanup project. Armed with chainsaws, hedgers, clippers, tarps and more, they cleaned out decades of underbrush and overgrowth to help beautify this wonderful school whose most famous alum is Hollywood superstar ...
[more]



Club News
**Peachtree
City
Partners
with
Wellspring**

By Mandy Timmons
What better way for our club to give back to our local community and to help support one of our initiatives through RAGAS / End Human Trafficking Now campaigns than as a partner with Wellspring? With the generous donation of ~\$35,000 of LED lighting products from Cooper Lighting Solutions and the project management by Herr Electric, the **Peachtree ...** [\[more\]](#)



Club News
**Douglas
County
Adds
StoryWalk®
at Hunter
and Deer
Lick**

By Samantha Rosado
The **Douglas County Rotary Club** and the Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/Douglas County have worked in tandem to make a new StoryWalk® experience at Hunter Park and Deer Lick Park a reality. Local author, Kim Ichter Eldredge, is proud to have her children's book, *The Sky is the Limit*, as the featured story. Families can enjoy the first half of the book as they walk the trail at Hunter Park, and then visit Deer Lick Park to complete the book on the trail there. [more]

Project Poster .pdf

Glow in the dark LIGHT

Open with botic

Air Powered Grippers

Purpose

For independence and are unable to do daily living tasks, it can be very stressful. You don't have the same capability of moving your body slightly. Due to this, it's difficult for people in a wheelchair to bend their bodies, making the wheelchair to go again. One main reason as to why they are bending down is because they are on the ground. Since people drop items in their everyday life, bending down when you are in a wheelchair is putting a muscle especially when you are on the ground. The purpose of why I created and tested two self-inflating air-powered grippers is to help people who are unable to bend their bodies. The grippers can carry a variety of items that are heavy and can reach the floor and grip onto items that are on the ground and help them.

Hypothesis

A four-finger gripper and a three-finger gripper, then the four-finger gripper will be the more capable of carrying the most weight. The four-finger gripper will be more effective as it has more fingers. The more fingers the gripper has, the more secure an item is held.

Background Research

When anything is powered, there needs to be a lot of research done to make the technology. If research isn't done that, you won't get much information that may need to be found in constructing the robot. When it comes to making anything, air-powered or being operated by air, I am also aware that writing too much air to something can cause it to overinflate or explode. We know we don't know if a robot could work under all that pressure. One thing that the pressure from the air could be the material used for the robot. This could impact if the robot was made from a weak material, then the air pressure would make it collapse and it wouldn't be able to hold anything. The air pressure would not impact as much as the robot is made of.

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Data

| 3-Fingered Gripper | 4-Fingered Gripper | 5-Fingered Gripper | 6-Fingered Gripper | 7-Fingered Gripper | 8-Fingered Gripper |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| None | None | None | None | None | None |
| 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |
| 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Disability Impacts ALL of US

13.7% 13.8% 6.5% 5.9% 4.6% 3.7%

Disability and COMMUNITIES

26% of the population has a disability

Resources

- cdc.gov
- softroboticshc.com
- sciencehuddles.org
- softroboticstoolkit.com
- healthline.com

The purpose of my project was to help disabled people pick up items that are on the ground and help them.

Club News

Lake Spivey/Clayton County Welcomes Middle School Science Fair Competitors

By Ron Swofford

During a March Zoom meeting, the Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County featured middle school students selected from the annual Clayton County Science Fair to represent the region at The Georgia Science & Engineering Fair (GSEF.) The fair at the state level traditionally is held annually in March/early April in Athens, Georgia. [more]



From Facebook
**Making a
Difference
in Our
Community**

By Jackie Cuthbert
Rotarians from all over District 6900 have been making a difference in their local communities ... for children at places like Jacob's Ladder, in community gardens at the Chastain Park Conservancy and MercyMed Columbus ... to street clean-up in Alpharetta and Senoia ... to sponsoring a "senior" prom, delivering groceries and recognizing first responders. Check out the work of Rotarians in the Rotary Clubs of **Roswell, Alpharetta, Buckhead, Cordele, Muscogee Columbus, Fayetteville, North Atlanta, North Columbus, Senoia, Johns Creek North Fulton, Carrollton Dawnbreakers and Columbus.** [more]



Club News

Americus Honors Georgia Southern Technical College GOAL Winner

By Angela Smith
In its annual show of support for South Georgia Technical College (SGTC) Georgia Occupational Award of Leadership program (GOAL), the Rotary Club of Americus presented a check to this year's winner - Dawn Ammons, a cosmetology student, who was selected from a field of 17 SGTC nominees. Ammons will serve as the college's ambassador for technical education in Georgia. Ammons will now prepare for regional competition in April and, if chosen as a finalist, will represent South Georgia Technical College at the state level. A panel of leaders from the business, industry, and government sectors will interview nominees and choose one to be the 2021 State GOAL Winner and the recipient of the GOAL medallion. Additionally, the state winner becomes the spokesperson for technical education in Georgia for the entire year and is awarded a new car from Kia Motors. [more]



Club News
Roswell Sponsors High School Relay Event

By Trummie Patrick
In March, the **Roswell Rotary Club** hosted the 24th Roswell Relays in conjunction with Roswell High School. This invitational track meet provides a high-profile opportunity for high school track & field teams from throughout Georgia to compete against the best in the state. Ten high schools were represented with both boys' and girls' teams participating. A full slate of field events was held in the morning session followed by track and relay events in the afternoon. [more]