



From Our
District
Governor

Welcome to Our New Rotary Year!

By Cynthia
Edwards

It is an honor to
serve as your
District
Governor for
2026-2027. I
look forward to
seeing the
difference you
continue to
make in our
communities
and around the
world, and to
accomplishing
even more
together.

Rotary
International
President
Olayinka
(Yinka) Hakeem
Babalola's
message for
this year
is "**Create
Lasting
Impact.**" Our
District theme
is **Peace
through
Economics,
Culture, and
Education.** I
also challenge
every Rotarian
to take **PRIDE**
in all you do—
**Personal
Responsibility
in Developing
Excellence.**
[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
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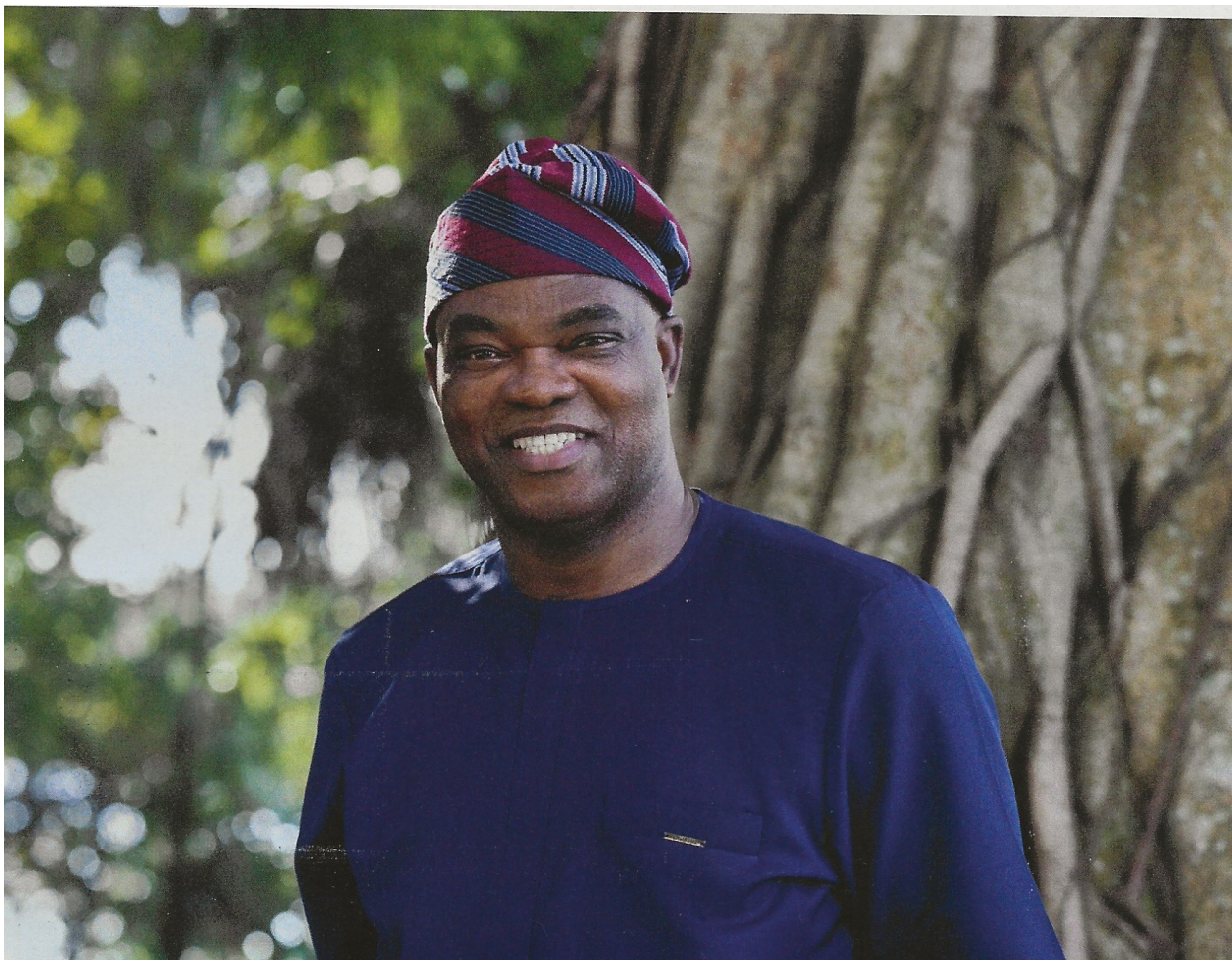
II	
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III	
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IV	Columbus
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Key Dates

Thursday, July 9th, 2026	North Atlanta Professional Alliance Governor Visit
Tuesday, July 14th, 2026	Paulding County Governor Visit
Tuesday, July 28th, 2026	Jackson-Butts County Governor Visit
Thursday, July 30th, 2026	North Cobb County Governor Visit



From Our
2026-27 RI
President

Better Than Your Best

By Cynthia Edwards
Rotary has a way of surprising you. It surprises you when a stranger across the table becomes a lifelong friend. It surprises you when a small project in one neighborhood ripples outward in ways you never imagined. And it may surprise you when you realize that the person Rotary has changed most ... is you. That is why this year, we are called to harness the change within ourselves, to look to the future, and to **Create Lasting Impact.**
[more]



July 19, 2026 |
Piedmont Park

Atlanta Is Making History — And We Need YOU There

By Dave McCleary
When the world gathers, Rotary shows up. As the FIFA World Cup closes out in Atlanta, District 6900 has a once-in-a-generation opportunity to stand on a global stage and declare: *human trafficking will not be tolerated in our city*. On **Sunday, July 19**, we are calling on every Rotarian in our district to roll up their sleeves, light a candle, and be part of something that will echo far beyond the final whistle.
Sign Up for the Day of Service
Sign Up for the Candlelight Vigil
[more]



Rotary
District 6900



District Governor Candidates Wanted

Seeking passionate leaders for Rotary 6900
District Governor position for 2029-2030

*Provide Rotary Resume and Club
Resolution by Saturday, October 31 to
D6900ExecutiveSecretary@gmail.com*



Nominations for 2029-2030 District 6900 District Governor Are Open

By Cynthia Edwards
**Nominations for
our 2029-2030
District Governor
are open.** We need
your help in
identifying qualified
candidates and
officially nominating
them by resolution
of your club. The
certified club
resolution form will
be sent to club
presidents along
with Article 16 of the
Rotary Manual of
Procedure that
outlines the role and
responsibilities of a
District Governor.
Read on for more
about the
requirements,
process and deadline
for nominations.
[more]



From Our (New) Past District Governor

Thanks for a Year Well Done!

By Steve Ivory

In this month of **FIFA World Cup and Rotary Leadership Changeover**, I want to sincerely thank everyone for the honor and privilege of allowing me to serve you all as DG. We United for Good and had a very special and memorable year. You all continue to amaze me with all of your hard work, ideas, generosity and action to serve and help others so selflessly. I want to wish District Governor Cynthia Edwards and her leadership team the best as they work very hard to create lasting impact in the community and world. I want to thank the presidents for leading their clubs so effectively, the governor line and PDG Bob Hagan for mentoring me, the PDG's for selecting me, and the leadership team that always supported me and the district. It takes a village..... and June has been one of my most memorable months overall. It started off with ...
[more]



RYLA 2026 - A Rave Review

By Jaclyn
Donovan
Summertime
in District
6900 mean
it's time for
the Rotary
Youth
Leadership
Awards,
better known
as RYLA!!

RYLA is
designed for
young adults
with proven
leadership
ability and a
commitment
to community
service. The
District 6900
RYLA camp
was hosted
by the Rotary
Club of
Americus and
held June
6-10 on the
campus of
Georgia
Southwestern
State
University
and included
104 high
school
students
sponsored by
33 clubs.
[more]



Rotary International President Visits District 6900

By Steve Ivory
RI President Francesco Arezzo selected our district to visit immediately following the RI Convention in June in Taipei. DGN Amy Benton volunteered to be his weekend aide and our RI President and his wife Anna Maria had a packed schedule - including a district meeting hosted by the Rotary Club of Peachtree City, the Little White House in Warm Springs, a visit to our Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) session, and a special peace pole ceremony at The King Center in Atlanta. [more]

我們一起
終結小兒麻痺
TOGETHER, WE
END POLIO



Our Rotary
Foundation
**The Ides of
June ...
2026!**

By Bob Hagan
While the Ides of March have an ominous ring in ancient history - marking the March 15 assassination of Julius Caesar, it also marks the middle of a month - a time to look back at what we've accomplished and ahead to our goals for the future. This June, the 15th marked the end of the Rotary International Convention in the beautiful city of Taipei, Taiwan - with more than 37,000 Rotary friends. Rotary Foundation Chair Holger Knaack inspired us with all The Rotary Foundation has accomplished and can be - based on the support of all of us. I want to share some of this with you ... along with my favorite photo from the convention.
[more]



GRSP Update

GRSP Conclave Slated Aug. 21-23 in Savannah, Georgia!

By Katheryne Fields

Rotarians and guests are warmly invited to a very special Conclave to welcome the Georgia Rotary Student Program Class of 2026-2027 and celebrate a historic milestone—our 80th Anniversary! This commemorative kickoff event will take place August 21-23, 2026, at The DeSoto Hotel in historic Savannah, Georgia. Learn more by reading the rest of this article, then **register at:** <https://www.grsp.org/conclave2026/> [more]

Rotary
District 6900



Join us for District Conference!
Thursday, April 22 – Sunday, April 23, 2027

District Conference
2027

**Join Us in
Asheville
for the
2027
District
6900
District
Conference**

By Cynthia
Edwards

It's never too early to add District 6900's 2027 Conference to your calendar. Next year, we're headed to Asheville, NC from Thursday, April 22 to Sunday, April 25. The host hotels are the Embassy Suites and the Doubletree, located in downtown Asheville, both in the Hilton family of hotels. Asheville is a beautiful city nestled in the Blue Ridge Mountains - known for its creative spirit, deep roots, and steady mountain rhythms. And we'll have lots of fun and inspirational activities planned for you to enjoy! Learn more about conference reservations and booking your rooms. Then mark your calendar!
[more]



Rotary Youth
Exchange
D6900
Rotary
Youth
Exchange
Students
Ready
for a
Year
Abroad

By Kelly Caudle
After many hours of training and preparation, including new language learning, our outbound Rotary Youth Exchange (RYE) students officially “graduated.” These high school students will spend the 2026-2027 school year in Brazil, France, Germany, Italy, Slovakia, and Sweden. The **Rotary Clubs of Columbus, Decatur, Marietta Metro, Newnan, and Roswell** are sponsoring this year’s outbound students. [\[more\]](#)



actual students benefiting from the “mBots Robots for Primary Schools” project, funded by the Foundation, Districts in Serbia, US, USAID

Our Rotary
Foundation
**Why
Rotary
Foundation
Giving
Matters**

By Lee Hollingsworth
Look at these faces. Children and a teacher, at a desk absorbed in a laptop, a big a small thing. It is the beginning of everything we say we care about. Education is the one of the quietest and most powerful tool The Rotary Foundation funds. It's a new Rotary year and a great time to join the fellowship of Foundation donors. [\[more\]](#)



Laws of Life Registration Open for the Teacher & Rotarian Workshop Luncheon

By Carol Gray
Walker

Registration is now open for the annual character education and partnership luncheon on Friday, August 21, from 11:30 AM-1:15 PM at the Emory Conference Center Hotel in Atlanta. The Teacher & Rotarian Workshop Luncheon is the Georgia Laws of Life Essay Contest's annual gathering for inspiration, professional learning, and connection. Educators, Rotarians, volunteers, and community partners come together to explore the impact of character education and reflective writing, hear powerful student and alumni stories, and strengthen partnerships that help students thrive. Register for the Teacher & Rotarian Workshop Luncheon [here](#).
[more]



Rotary
Leadership
Institute (RLI)
**Welcome
Our New
RLI
Directors**

By Walter
Marria, Jr.
We are
honored and
excited to
introduce
Walter Marria
Jr. and PDG
Andre Marria
as the new Co-
Directors of the
Rotary
Leadership
Institute (RLI)
Sunshine
Division for
District 6900.
[more]



End Polio Now
**Polio at
the
Start of
the
Second
Quarter
of the
21st
Century!**

By Bob Hagan
Let the title of
this month's
Polio article sit
with you for a
moment. Can
you believe
that we have
already
traveled one
quarter of the
way through
the 21st
century? It
seems like
just yesterday
the world was
petrified about
the potential
effects of Y2K
and now we
have already
moved 25
years past it.
[more]



Rotary Action Group
Against Slavery



Awareness, Education, & Prevention

Rotary Human Trafficking Summit

Monday, July 27,
2026

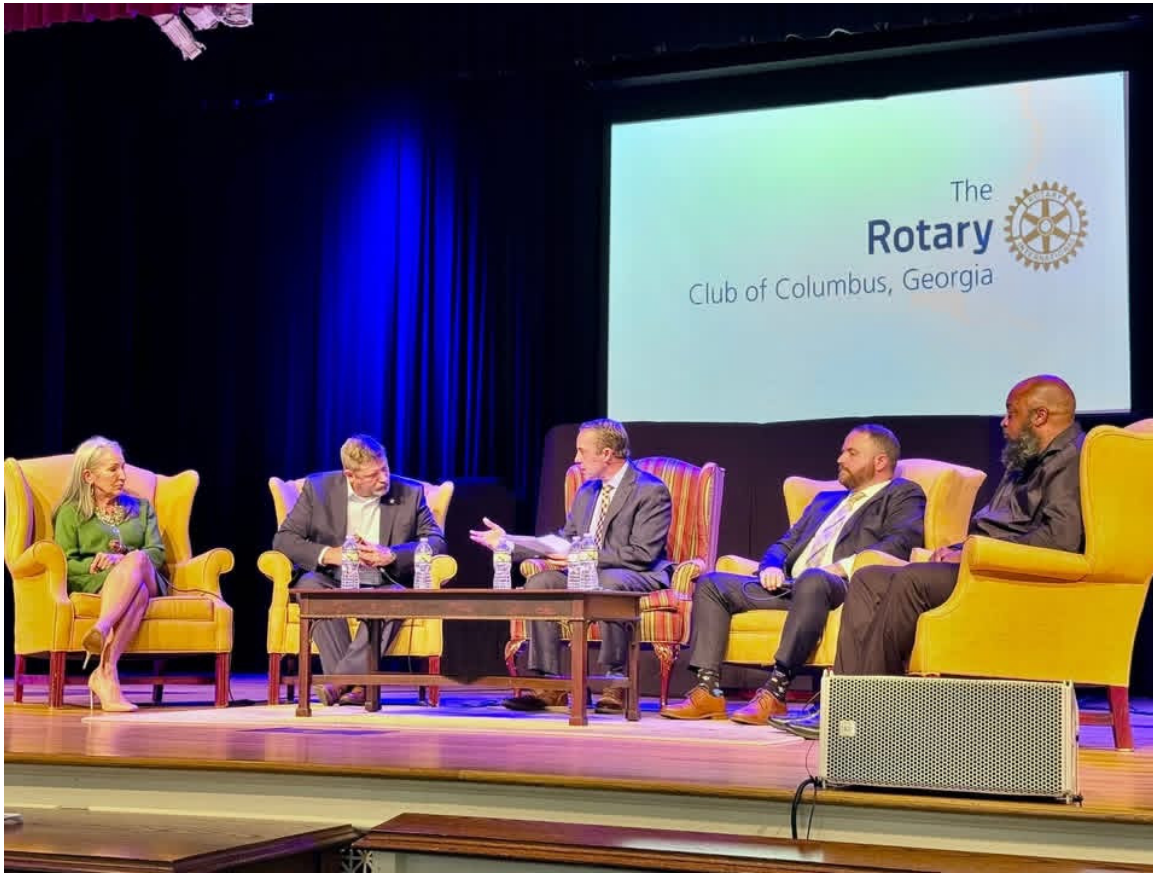
Hear Tim Tebow Speak at The Rotary Human Trafficking Summit

By Dave
McCleary
Rotary District
6900 members
are encouraged
to join fellow
Rotarians from
across the region
at the **Rotary
Human
Trafficking
Summit** — a
powerful, one-
day event
dedicated to
awareness,
education, and
prevention of
human
trafficking. The
summit will be
held on **Monday,
July 27, 2026,
from 8:00 AM
to 4:00 PM** at
the **Marriott
Meadowview
Resort &
Convention
Center, 1901
Meadowview
Pkw, Kingsport, TN
37660.** [more]



Peace Pole At The King Center

By Gordon Owens
On Saturday, June 20, Rotary District 6900 made history in one of the most meaningful locations in America — planting a permanent Peace Pole at the entrance to the Peace & Meditation Garden at The King Center in Atlanta, just steps from the tomb of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Eternal Flame that bears his legacy. The dedication ceremony was led by Rotary International President Francesco Arezzo, who joined district members, representatives from the City of Atlanta, and The King Center for the unveiling. The gathering was a testament to what Rotary looks like when it operates at its best — local commitment backed by global leadership, united around a single, powerful message. [more]



Club News

District Investment Helps Transform Law Enforcement's Fight Against Human Trafficking

By LeighAnn DiCesaris
The **Rotary Club of Columbus** welcomed an important and timely program last week focused on the ongoing fight against human trafficking and the role specialized law enforcement training plays in protecting vulnerable individuals. The club heard from a panel of local law enforcement individuals who benefited from special training offered through a \$15,000 grant available through the District's End Human Trafficking Committee. The Rotary Club of Columbus partnered in the effort by providing the venue and hospitality for the training event. [\[more\]](#)



Our Rotary Foundation at Work

Update on Global Grant to End Spina Bifida

By Jon Yaeger
The **Rotary Club of North Atlanta (RCNA)** and their partners are in the third year of a planned five-year global grant project to reduce severe birth defects in Ethiopia, supported by District 6900 and The Rotary Foundation. Collaborators include Emory University, two other U.S. Rotary clubs, the Rotary Club of Addis Ababa Central Mella and the ReachAnother Foundation. The preliminary results are encouraging. [more]



Club News
**Doggone
Good
Time
Had By
All!**

By Shelley Hammell
40 volunteers,
25 minutes
and 500
pounds of dog food.

**Buckhead
Rotary**
headed on the road to the
Fulton County Animal Shelter
for their
Monday lunch
and a short
volunteer
activity where
we helped
break up 40-
pound bags of
dog food into
smaller bags
to be
distributed to
foster families.
This was a
huge need and
with the
number of
Buckhead
Rotarian
volunteers, we
were able to
accomplish
what would
have taken the
staff two
weeks to do.
[more]



Club News

Roswell Rotary Continues Tradition of Leadership and Fellowship

By Trummie Patrick, III

In June, the **Roswell Rotary Club** proudly continued one of its longest-standing traditions by hosting its annual Past Presidents' Dinner — a gathering that has brought together club leadership for more than 30 years. The evening serves as an opportunity for past presidents and the current Board of Directors to come together for fellowship, reflection, and leadership transition as the club prepares for a new Rotary year. More importantly, it provides an opportunity for incoming leadership to receive wisdom, encouragement, and perspective from those who have previously served in the role of club president. Amazingly, of the 29 living past Presidents of Roswell Rotary, 25 of them were in attendance! [more]



Club News

Emory Druid Hills Celebrates Club Leadership

By Rani Singh
The **Rotary Club of Emory Druid Hills** recently celebrated its annual installation of officers - where District Governor Steve Ivory and incoming District Governor Cynthia Edwards led the installation of officers. Ramo Singh was installed as President, and outgoing President Bhairavi Nadgonde reflected on all the club accomplished during the 2025-26 Rotary year. [\[more\]](#)



Club News

North Cobb Helps Feed and Refresh the Community

By Jose Gonzalez
Among all its projects, **North Cobb**

Rotarians help friends at KSU CARE Services supporting Fast Start Academy who help advance children's education and provide them with free food to send home with the kids struggling with food insecurity, and partner with iLoveKare to deliver refreshing drinks to the Acworth Police Department during this summer's expected heatwaves. [more]