



# ROTARY DISTRICT 6920

Clyde Taylor, District Governor, 2009-2010

January 2010

## Governor's Comments

District 6920 Rotarians have responded to the call for help in Haiti with an outpouring of donations to Shelter Box. The need for temporary shelter is one of the most critical items in the country. Thousands are homeless. The United Nations estimated that up to one million people are in need of immediate shelter. Shelter Box reports that 1,700 boxes have been shipped and an additional 1,600 will leave the UK in the next few days. More will follow. Each shelter box supplies an extended family of up to 10 people with a tent and lifesaving equipment. The contents are tailored depending on the nature and location of the disaster. A three-member Shelter Box Response Team is on the ground in Port au Prince and another team is in Miami coordinating the logistical effort. Donations should be sent directly to: Shelter Box USA, 8374 Market St. #203, Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202. Their phone number is (941) 907-6036. Donations may also be made online at [www.shelterboxusa.org](http://www.shelterboxusa.org).

There are two important tabulations included in this newsletter that all District Rotarians should pay attention to. The first is the membership report. We have completed six months of this Rotary year and it is time to take stock of where we are relative to our membership objectives. At the beginning of this Rotary year, ALL club presidents were asked to submit their membership goals. As you recall, the total committed goal was 195 net new members or an average of 3 per club. The tabulation included in this newsletter shows the beginning year membership of July 1, 2009 and the totals as of Jan. 1, 2010. Several clubs are doing quite well; however, others continue to suffer membership loss. Membership is a responsibility of the top club leadership, namely the president. It cannot be fostered on the membership committee or a board member. If the club president is not committed to grow their organization, it will not happen. If your club is not achieving its committed membership goal, and every club submitted a positive number, then your president must take responsibility. The district has devoted significant resources to membership techniques, success stories, promotional tools, etc. If you need assistance in any aspect of membership development, we are here to assist. There is still plenty of time left to achieve YOUR membership objective.

The second important listing is the current raffle ticket sale summary. We have seen a marked increase in reported sales in the past several days. At the present time we have covered all raffle expenses and are adding to the matching fund account. Examine this report and compare your club's performance to your peers. If you are ahead of your peers in sales, great! If you are behind, pick up the pace. We will be contacting directly those presidents whose sales are lagging. If your club has received a District Simplified Grant or a Matching Grant this year or in the recent past, then you have an obligation to support this effort 110%. This fund raiser is designed to increase our contribution to The Rotary Foundation so that more clubs can share in the satisfaction of grant participation.

District conference registration is open and running on the district website. Don't wait until the last minute to register. I toured the new Hampton Inn and Suites recently and it is a wonderful new facility just south of the convention center. Rates are reasonable. Get a group together and plan to attend. Remember, if you are a golfer, the Saturday afternoon golf outing is a benefit for METS. Get your foursome together and sign up to play on one of Jekyll's championship courses. Local area Rotarians can have non-Rotarians in their foursome so long as one is a Rotarian and is registered for the conference.

Marsha Hyer, Awards Chair, has great plans for the Saturday awards night. Marsha has issued a call for "Rotary Has Talent" to be part of the ceremony. See the announcement in this newsletter. If you have a performing talent, we need you. Don't be bashful; contact Marsha right away.

We are profiling conference speakers and this newsletter features our Friday kickoff speaker, Coach Bill Curry. Plan to arrive in time to hear this entertaining and inspirational individual who is a true friend of Rotary.

The conference silent auction is being chaired by Ted and Charlotte Thompson of Sandersville. They have issued their first call for auction items. All proceeds from this auction will benefit The Rotary Foundation and the GRSP Endowment. Let's round up some unique and sought-after items. Each club should accept responsibility for at least five auction items.

Let's make our 2010 "On To Jekyll" conference the best attended in district history. We promise sunshine, white beaches, great entertainment and speakers AND a little bit of Rotary.

# DISTRICT CONFERENCE SPEAKER PROFILE

## *Friday Lunch Speaker:*

### *Georgia State University Coach Bill Curry*

In sports, in business and in life, an understanding of what it takes to be a top performer is crucial for success. As an NFL Super Bowl Champion, an elite college head football coach and an ESPN analyst, Bill Curry will share with you his understanding of what it takes to accomplish your goals.



After graduation from College Park High School, Bill received a football scholarship to Georgia Tech, where he lettered for three seasons at center for Coach Bobby Dodd. In 1964, he was drafted by the Green Bay Packers, playing for legendary coach Vince Lombardi. Curry was an integral part of the team that won the 1965 NFL Championship and Super Bowl I in 1966. He was traded to the Baltimore Colts in 1967 where he played for Hall of Fame Coach Don Shula. Under Shula, Curry played in Super Bowls III and V and was named to the All-Pro Team in 1971 and 1972. After



playing briefly with the Houston Oilers and the Los Angeles Rams, Curry's ten-year NFL career ended in 1975 when a knee injury forced him to retire.

Curry began his coaching career at Georgia Tech as an assistant coach. After a three-year stint as Offensive Line Coach with the Green Bay Packers under Coach Bart Starr, he returned to Georgia Tech in 1980 as head coach. While at Georgia Tech, Curry led his team to an All-American Bowl victory and was named the ACC Coach of the Year in 1985. In 1987, Curry agreed to serve as head coach at the University of Alabama. In his three seasons coaching the Crimson Tide, he posted a record 26-10, including one SEC Championship and three bowl appearances. His 1989 squad shared the Southeastern Conference title and Coach Curry received the Bobby Dodd National Coach of the Year Award. Curry was further honored when the Associated Press named him as the 1990 SEC Coach of the Year.

In 1990 Curry left Alabama to serve as head coach for the University of Kentucky Wildcats. During his seven years coaching Kentucky, he compiled a record 23-52, including a 1993 Peach Bowl appearance - his first bowl game in nine years. Academically, Curry's Wildcats football teams set the pace among SEC schools and led the SEC numerous times in academic all-SEC honor roll.

In 1997 Curry embarked on his broadcasting career when he joined ESPN as a college football analyst for the Big Ten Game of the Week. Since then, Bill has come into millions of homes each football Saturday as an analyst for ESPN. Combining self-deprecating humor, riveting tales from his playing days and fiery, straight-from-the-heart passion, Bill has quickly become one of the most sought-after speakers in the country.

Vince Lombardi ... Bobby Dodd ... Don Shula ... When Bill Curry talks of leadership, he speaks from a lifetime of mentorship by the all-time greats and with a voice that he, in turn, has used a thousand times over to communicate his own take on great leadership.



In September 2006, the American Football Coaches Association announced that Bill was the recipient of the 2007 Amos Alonzo Stagg Award in honor of his outstanding service toward the advancement of the best interests of football.

In June 2008, Georgia State University announced that Bill Curry had signed a five-year contract to become the school's first football coach. Curry immediately began hiring staff and recruiting as GSU prepares to play its first season in 2010, competing at the level formerly known as Division I-AA, now the Football Championship Subdivision.

# DISTRICT 6920 CONFERENCE AWARDS NIGHT

## **ROTARY'S GOT TALENT!!!**

## **ALL CALL FOR ROTARY TALENT!**

Awards night at District Conference will feature talent from our very own - and very talented - District 6920 Rotarians.

If you have a performing talent - singing, dancing, playing an instrument, etc. - you are invited to participate.

If you KNOW any District 6920 Rotarians or family members or groups who have a performing talent, they are invited to participate.

Please contact Marsha Hyer at [mhyer@cox.net](mailto:mhyer@cox.net) or (478) 746-2635 and share:

\*name(s) of individual(s) or group(s)

\*contact information

\*area(s) of talent

Please share this information with Marsha as soon as possible!

## **Silent Auction Items Requested**

*A note from Ted Thompspon, Chair of the District Conference Silent Auction and a member of the Sandersville Rotary Club*

Even though the District Conference is several months away, I ask that you begin thinking of items that your club might donate. We are asking for items from each club with a value of \$300 or more. Don't let this figure deter you if you can do more. If you can't think of a large valued item, then try several smaller valued items to make up the difference.

What can you donate? Tools, tool kits, televisions, DVD players, radios, computers, luggage, a week or weekend at a condo or home at the beach or in the mountains, furniture, artwork, crystal or china. You can also donate gift baskets, gift certificates, jewelry, watches, handmade quilts, knives, floral arrangements, vintage wine, premium spirits (alcohol), fishing or hunting gear or trips, golf outings, golf clubs and accessories, sporting equipment, catered dinners, a romantic bed and breakfast weekend or even a digital camera.

I encourage all of the Rotary clubs in our district to participate this year rather than just the clubs that have donated in year's past. Let's all work together to make this year's silent auction the best!

If I can help you in any way, please call or email me. We appreciate your participation and contributions to this worthy cause.

Ted Thompspon, Sandersville Rotary Club  
(706) 478-552-1671 (home) or (478) 232-0969  
email: [tthom034@aol.com](mailto:tthom034@aol.com)

# Membership Summary

<b>CLUB</b>	<b>JULY 2009 Membership</b>	<b>JANUARY 2010 Membership</b>
Ashburn	17	20
Augusta	174	175
Augusta South	27	27
Augusta West	55	52
Blackshear	26	29
Brunswick	111	115
Byron	29	24
Camden County	66	57
Centerville	23	25
Claxton	55	55
Cochran	41	40
Douglas	50	47
Downtown Macon	107	102
Downtown Statesboro	87	88
Dublin	144	145
Eastman	49	53
Effingham County	37	36
Effingham Sunrise	40	39
Fitzgerald	51	52
Glennville	33	33
Glynn County	30	29
Hawkinsville	49	50
Hazlehurst	16	16
Hinesville	45	41
Jefferson County	18	19
Jekyll Island	33	34
Jesup	53	54
Jones County	29	27
Kings Bay	16	15
Marshes of Glynn	17	16
Macon	188	181
McIntosh County	20	18
McRae	30	30
Metter	39	42
Milledgeville	79	77
Millen	17	17
Nashville/Berrien County	38	41
Ocilla	35	38
Perry	54	53
Pooler	26	26
Reidsville	22	20
Richmond Hill	49	52
Sandersville	56	56
Savannah	231	230
Savannah South	85	84
Savannah Sunrise	30	32
Statesboro	153	153
Skidaway Island	69	71
St. Simons Island	119	120
Swainsboro	47	43
Sylvania	40	39
Tennille	16	17
Tift County	17	15
Tifton	108	107
Uptown Macon	30	33
Valdosta	100	105
Valdosta North	61	57
Valdosta Sunrise	14	17
Vidalia	52	50
Warner Robins	109	115
Waycross	37	36
Waynesboro	41	43
Wrightsville	24	25

# RAFFLE TICKET SALES UPDATE

*Reported Sales Reflect Numbers Submitted Through Jan. 24, 2010*

<u>Club</u>	<u>Ticket Stubs Received/ Payment Received</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Ticket Stubs Received/ Payment Received</u>
Ashburn	7 - \$150	Metter	0 - \$100
Augusta	29 - \$675	Milledgeville	37 - \$750
Augusta South	12 - \$175	Millen	0 - \$100
Augusta West	22 - \$525	Nashville/Berrien County	27 - \$750
Blackshear	25 - \$525	Ocilla	0
Brunswick	1 - \$25	Perry	5 - \$100
Byron	0	Pooler	43 - \$1,000
Camden County	5 - \$100	Reidsville	0
Centerville	10 - \$200	Richmond Hill	5 - \$100
Claxton	45 - \$925	Sandersville	56 - \$1,275
Cochran	5 - \$100	Savannah	0
Douglas	33 - \$775	Savannah East	41 - \$950
Downtown Macon	5 - \$100	Savannah South	12 - \$350
Downtown Statesboro	15 - \$300	Savannah Sunrise	5 - \$100
Dublin	12 - \$50	Savannah West	0 - \$100
Eastman	1 - \$2,000	Skidaway Island	1 - \$25
Effingham County	11 - \$225	St. Simons Island	109 - \$2,125
Effingham Sunrise	0	Statesboro	56 - \$1,400
Fitzgerald	11 - \$325	Swainsboro	0 - \$875
Glennville	43 - \$950	Sylvania	15 - \$325
Glynn County	1 - \$25	Tennille	1 - \$25
Hawkinsville	6 - \$125	Tift County	0 - \$100
Hazlehurst	7 - \$275	Tifton	0
Hinesville	1 - \$25	Uptown Macon	0
Jefferson County	20 - \$500	Valdosta	6 - \$125
Jekyll Island	0 - \$100	Valdosta North	60 - \$1,625
Jesup	27 - \$575	Valdosta Sunrise	0 - \$200
Jones County	11 - \$325	Vidalia	47 - \$1,475
Kings Bay	15 - \$35	Warner Robins	39 - \$1,025
Marshes of Glynn	12 - \$250	Waycross	0
Macon	161 - \$3,900	Waynesboro	32 - \$675
McIntosh County	5 - \$100	Wrightsville	46 - \$1,100
McRae	37 - \$1,025	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,238/\$32,525</b>

## GRSP Students Carry Olympic Torch

Georgia Rotary Student Program students passed the Olympic torch for the Vancouver Winter Olympic Games in Winkler, Canada, over the Christmas holidays. They also experienced snowboarding and sledding and thoroughly enjoyed their time in another country. Among those enjoying the trip were Beth Wellsbury, Rotary clubs of Bainbridge, Cairo, Camilla and Pelham; Jandre Grobler, Rotary Club of Roswell; Katie Pugh, Rotary clubs of Cochran, Eastman and Hawkinsville; and Sarah Pugh, Rotary clubs of Hinesville, Savannah Sunrise, Skidaway Island and Richmond Hill.



# Glynn Academy Interact Club Gets Boost

Recently a joint project was undertaken by the Brunswick and Saint Simons Island Rotary clubs to reactivate and support the Interact Club at Glynn Academy. The club had been dormant since 2006.

Interact is a service-oriented club for interested high school students which aides them in developing leadership skills and personal integrity. Interact members demonstrate helpfulness and respect for others in their communities through community projects. They are encouraged to understand the value of individual responsibility and hard work and to involve themselves in international understanding and goodwill.



*Joint inauguration participants were Millard Allen, Ben Delegal, Howard Mann, Devin Drury, Katie Deal, Dr. Steve Ballowe, Walter Forsythe, Brookes Pridmore, Linda Muir, Mike Hendley, Al McKinnon and William Gussman. Patricia Bray, not pictured, will serve as the club's sponsor.*



*Glynn Academy Interact officers Katie Deal, president; Ben Delegal, vice president, and Devin Drury, secretary.*



## Valdosta Clubs Promote Literacy

The three area Valdosta Rotary clubs held a literacy program event during a recent Valdosta State University basketball game. The program was aimed at promoting Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.

Pictured are Jerry Johnson, immediate past president; Dennis Marks, president of the Valdosta Rotary Club, VSU's mascot Blaze and Bob Harrison, assistant governor.



## Greater Augusta Partnership for Literacy Holds Kick Off

Augusta area Rotary clubs recently distributed their first 100 books through their community action team called the Greater Augusta Partnership for Literacy. The books were distributed to two- and three-year-olds and will continue to go to those children until they are five years old.

The Augusta community-wide program was begun in conjunction with representatives from Richmond County, Columbia County and Fort Gordon. Greater Augusta Partnership for Literacy is the Community Action Team for the Ferst Foundation for Childhood Literacy. The Ferst Foundation for Childhood

literacy is a 501(c)(3) organization that distributes books to all of Georgia's children from birth to age 5. It has the following mission statement: "Provide books for local communities to prepare all Georgia preschool children for reading and learning success."



## Literacy Facts from The Ferst Foundation

### Literacy in Georgia

*1 in 5 of our children lives in poverty*

*Approximately 61 percent of low-income families do not have a single piece of reading material suitable for a child*

*A third of our children come to school unprepared to learn*

*Only 28% of Georgia fourth graders read at or above proficiency*

*We have the nation's third highest rate of high school dropouts*

*One in four adults in Georgia operates at a low literacy level*

*Illiteracy and low literate workers cost Georgia businesses \$7 billion each year. Several states plan how many jail cells they will build in the future by how many children are not reading on grade level by third grade.*

# January is Rotary Awareness Month

**Ending polio worldwide.**



**Rotary. Humanity in motion.**

[www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)



## *Looking Ahead*

March 13-14, 2010 - PeachState PETS, Atlanta

April 23-25, 2010 - District Conference, Jekyll Island, GA

June 20-23, 2010 - Rotary International Convention, Montreal, Canada



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[www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net)**