Pizza, Beer and Rotary

Hanging With President Stephanie

By Gordon Owens

One of the things I love about serving with RI President Stephanie is that she is so down to earth. Like me, she would rather be in jeans and a t-shirt engaged in service with fellow Rotarians than all dressed up at a meeting. In fact, her favorite kind of meeting is what she calls a PBR meeting. And by PBR, she means Pizza, Beer & Rotary. After an inspiring week of Building Bridges in Pittsburgh at our Zone 33/34 Summit, RI President invited members of our district to her home for a PBR meeting and it was great! She showed off her basement where she cheers on the Steelers and treated us to some local beer & pizza. She reminded us that Rotary doesn't have to be expensive or complicated to join and it should absolutely be fun.

[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	**Atlanta Brasil**	**Emory-Druid Hills**	**Brookhaven**
II	**Bremen**	**Jackson-Butts County**	**Muscogee-Columbus**
III	**North Atlanta Professional Alliance**	**Vinings Cumberland**	**Dougherty County (Albany)**
IV	**Dunwoody**	**Dunwoody**	**Marietta**
V	**Peachtree City**	**Alpharetta**	**Peachtree City**

Key Dates

Thursday, October 29th, 2026	**Griffin Governor Visit**
Thursday, November 5th, 2026	**Rotary Means Business with the Decatur Rotary Club**
Monday, November 9th, 2026	**Douglas County Governor Visit**
Tuesday, November 10th, 2026	**Carrollton Governor Visit**
Wednesday, November 11th, 2026	**Carrollton-Dawn Breakers Governor Visit**
Thursday, November 12th, 2026	**Bremen Governor Visit**
Friday, November 13th, 2026	**Alpharetta Governor Visit**
Monday, November 16th, 2026	**Sandy Springs Governor Visit**
Tuesday, November 17th, 2026	**Forsyth-Monroe County Governor Visit**

Disaster Relief

Helping Our Neighbors In Augusta

By Chris Brand From Wednesday, October 30 through Saturday, November 2 we had Rotary volunteers supporting families in need in the Augusta, GA area. When we set out, there were 200+ requests for assistance from families without the resources to pay someone to remove trees & debris from their yards. We are proud to report there are a few less in need as a result of our time in Augusta, but this is far from over. People will need help in this area for months to come. If you would like to join our next work trip, **fill out this quick form**. We are also talking with our friends in D6910 on providing a community Thanksgiving dinner on November 23 in this area. [more]

Tuesday, November 17th, 2026	**Discover Rotary - Columbus Area**
Wednesday, November 18th, 2026	**Emory-Druid Hills Governor Visit**
Thursday, November 19th, 2026	**Roswell Governor Visit**
Thursday, November 19th, 2026	**Atlanta Ascent GOVERNOR VISIT**

Foundation Month

Your Giving Drives Our Impact

By Bob Hagan

November is Foundation Month and provides a great opportunity to focus on the impact The Rotary Foundation has in our district. Giving to the Annual Fund is used for community or competitive grants locally and global grants internationally. Without the immense generosity of the members of district 6900 we would not have well over $300,000 to use this year for projects in our communities and beyond. We had a record high 56 out of 67 clubs take advantage of community grant funding and we have more requests for global grants then we can fund this year. If we give more, we can do more in the future, please consider a **donation to the annual fund** and support the great work of Rotarians across our district.

[more]

World Polio Day

690,000 Lives Saved From Polio

By Bob Hagan

In honor of World Polio Day, our district committed $69,000 to Polio Plus. This contribution gets matched by the TRF World Fund before it then gets the standard 2-1 match from the Gates Foundation. This donation from our district will provide 690,000 children with the polio vaccine around the world as we keep our promise to eradicate polio from the face of the earth. To help us celebrate the impact of this generosity many of our district leaders participated in an End Polio Now walk through Pittsburgh at our Zone Summit. If you missed it on social media, **check out the fun video** DG Gordon and I did to announce our gift at the summit. [more]

Webinar: November 11, 2024 at 5:30 pm

Key To Keeping New Members

By Dave Schwickerath
Effective onboarding is essential to improving member retention, as it helps new members gain a deeper understanding of Rotary, feel more engaged in our mission, and strengthens their commitment to staying involved. Don't miss our upcoming MAP Webinar: 'Interactive Onboarding: The Key to Keeping New Members'! Mark your calendars for November 11th and join the webinar at 5:30 pm ET as we discuss strategies to onboard new members! If you missed our October webinar, 'Attraction Action: Build Your Club With Innovative and Traditional Solutions', the replay is online and available for viewing at RIZones33-34.org. Use this link to access it and all past recordings.
[more]

RYLA Update

Thankful for RYLA

By Jaclyn Donovan

RYLA is not just a summer camp – it is a whole experience. A wonderful, joyful, sometimes tiring, but absolutely life-changing experience for all involved. As we look forward to RYLA 2025 and all of the amazing students and moments it will bring us, we took a moment to reflect on what we are thankful for when it comes to RYLA:

1. Watching students grow and learn
2. Seeing teams bond
3. Rotary clubs that make the investment to send students to RYLA
4. Watching students step outside their comfort zones and have their teams cheer them on
5. Energy and passion that the staff puts into camp
6. My RYLA Family
7. Hearing past students talk about what they learned and how they used what they learned
8. Working with staff who care deeply about the betterment of others
9. Cool breezes on hot June days
10. District 6900 being so supportive of the RYLA program

(Editor's Note: Keep reading ... there are so many more reasons to be thankful for RYLA .... as well as simple steps to be part of RYLA 2025. [more]

Rotary Means Business

Join Us for Rotary Means Business

By Carter Stout

Join us at Rotary Means Business on Tuesday, November 26 for fellowship and networking. We'll be at Politan Row at Ashford Lane , 4550 Olde Perimeter Way in Dunwoody from 6-8 pm. See you there!

Raise Money For Your Club Or Cause

Join The Alpharetta Polar Plunge

By Paul Ray

Does your Rotary Club or other organization you support need to raise money? On February 1st, 2025 the Rotary Club of Alpharetta will host a ready-made fundraiser just for you! We are **Freezin' for a Reason**! Our 8th annual Polar Bear Plunge lets you create your own team, raise funds, take the "plunge", and get a check! Last year the average team earned around $5000.00! The sky is the limit for you, so start a team today! You do not need to come to Alpharetta to participate. You can plunge in whatever body of water near you. Last year we had teams in Utah and Brazil.

Visit **AlpharettaPolarBearPlunge.com** to get started.

[more]

GRSP News

What's All the Buzz About?

by Katheryne Fields, GRSP Executive Director

By Katheryne Fields

For the first time in nearly 20 years, there is “buzz” in the air about Georgia Tech for the Georgia Rotary Student Program. GRSP has worked directly with Rotary Clubs and Tech to offer scholarships to international students, including Atharva Lele, 19 of India and Seraphine “Sheena” Gunawan, 19 of Indonesia. [more]

Club News

Marietta Rotary Honors First Responders with BBQ Luncheon

By Jacob Southerland

In September, the **Rotary Club of Marietta** treated Marietta first responders to a barbecue lunch in recognition of their work on the front lines. The club's Public Service Appreciation Luncheon was held behind the Marietta Fire Department. The annual event aims to acknowledge, honor and thank all Marietta public safety heroes, according to club President Don Barbour. "Thank you for what you do every day, and it's our pleasure to sponsor this luncheon and to serve you today," Barbour said to the officers and firefighters. [more]

Club News

Meriwether County Participates in High School Report Card Conference

By Kay Williamson

In October, **Meriwether County Rotary Club** members participated in one-on-one report card conferences with students from Manchester High School and Greenville High School. Rotarian members and other community leaders met with each student during the conferences to review their report card grades, provide career advice and support, and discuss their personal and school interests. This event aimed to offer students positive feedback and encouragement to excel academically. [more]

Club News

Roswell Recognized by Fulton County Citizens Commission on Environment

By Kathryn Igou

Established by the Board of Commissioners in 1995, the Fulton County Citizens Commission on the Environment (FCCCE) advises on development projects and collaborates with community organizations and citizens to promote and encourage environmentally sound practices. Since 2003, the commission has awarded "Environmental Awards" every year to recognize exemplary environmental efforts and best practices that serve to inspire others. This year, the **Roswell Rotary Club** - under the leadership of our champion of the environment, **Dutch Earle,** were recognized for our efforts. Dutche is a Roswell Rotarian with a passion for the rivers and creeks, the wildlife, and so many of the recreational opportunities our Roswell area provides including trout fishing and kayaking. [more]

Rotary Foundation Opportunity

Vinings Cumberland Helps Bring Water to Paraguay Schools

By Brant Campbell

In June, members of the Vinings Cumberland Rotary Club embarked on a life-changing trip to Paraguay, where they were hosted for a week by the Rotary Club of Luque, Paraguay. During their stay, the visiting members were warmly welcomed into the homes of local Rotary families, fostering a deeper connection between the clubs. This visit marked a significant milestone in the ongoing Agua Fresca project, a collaboration between the two clubs to provide fresh, potable water to schools in Paraguay. The project, which began in 2018, has positively impacted countless students by providing access to safe, chilled drinking water.

The club is currently pursuing a Global Grant to fund additional fountains in Nueva Italia. If your club would like to participate in the Global Grant or if you would like to join a future trip to Paraguay, please contact International Service Chair Brant Campbell at brantc@us.ibm.com. [more]

Angeli Abrol Duggal, Rotary Club of Clifton-Emory (RCCE) and CDC Deputy Chief; Dr. Zubair Wadood, Medical Officer, WHO Geneva; Past District Governor Claudia Mertl; Dr. Hemant Shukla, Medical Officer, WHO EMRO.

End Polio Now

Atlanta Southern Crescent and Clifton-Emory Sponsor Polio Day Dinner

By Claudia Mertl

In honor of World Polio Day, the **Rotary Clubs of Atlanta Southern Cresent/Clifton Emory** held a dinner at Chai Pani in honor of polio champions who have dedicated their lives to eradicating polio as part of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI). The Club was humbled and honored to be in the presence of several global polio champions who were in town for high level strategy meetings, including Dr. Hemant Shukla and Dr. Mufti Zubair Wadood. They shared their experiences on the frontlines of polio eradication in the most remote parts of the world and the immense efforts and dedication that polio workers share globally towards a polio-free world. [more]

Club News

Lake Spivey Clayton County Gathers Supplies for Hurricane Victims

By Trina Kolawole

The Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County once again demonstrated the power of community service and outreach. In response to the devastation caused by Hurricane Helene in North Carolina, the Rotary Club organized a donation drive, collecting essential supplies for the victims of the storm.

Rotary clubs around the world are known for their motto of “Service Above Self,” and the Rotary Club of Lake Spivey/Clayton County lived up to that ideal. Leading the efforts to collect critical supplies was Assistant Treasurer Tracee Lee (on the right), pictured with President Judith Bennett. Tracee’s dedication ensured that the collection process ran smoothly and efficiently. [more]

Club News

Bourbon & Bow Ties / Pinot & Pearls FUNdraiser Raises Over $75,000 for Community Grants and Service Projects

By Mandy Timmons

The **Rotary Club of Peachtree City** hosted the 2nd Annual Bourbon & Bow Ties / Pinot & Pearls FUNdraiser at the stunning Central Plaza in the Town of Trilith. Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of our attendees, sponsors, and donors, the event raised over $75,000, which will be reinvested directly into the … [more]