

DISTRICT 6900 NEWS FOR JANUARY, 2019

- From the District Governor  
**Fun is the middle name of this Smokey and the Bandit team - who previewed the Big Wheels Grand Prix possibilities at a recent district conference planning meeting!**  
**Taking Stock as We Reach the Mid-Way Point in Our Rotary Race to Inspire**  
 By Court Downs  
 As this newsletter comes out, Annette and I and other members of your District 6900 leadership team are in San Diego for Rotary's International Assembly - a gathering of Rotary leadership from around the world to plan for the 2019-20 Rotary year and reconnect with friends and service project partners. I'm proud to be representing District 6900 and all you are doing to make a difference in your communities and the world.  
 We are at our mid-year Pit Stop for this Rotary year - a good time to tune up your Rotary experience. Ask yourself five simple questions:  
 • Are you registered for **District Conference in Sandestin - April 25-28?** Smokey and the Bandit are ready to deliver on their promise of FUN ... starting Thursday night with the Big Wheel Grand Prix and a ticketed dinner event on the Grand Lawn of the Grand Sandestin from 6-9 pm. So race right over to registration at <https://rotary6900.org/v2/reservation/create/event...> and make sure you're part of the fun. **Get there by January 15 and enjoy extended early bird registration discounts!**  
[\[more\]](#)
- The Rotary Foundation  
**Half Way to the Finish Line!**  
 By Margie Karsney  
 January 1 marked the half way mark for our Rotary year - so let's see where we are...  
 From the district standpoint (the big picture) we are at \$59.25 per capita. That is total giving to the Annual Fund divided by the number of members in our district. Remember, the Annual Fund is the money that comes back to our district in three years for District Grants and matching Global Grants. Traditionally, we finish the year at about \$200 per capita, so we have some catching up to do. [\[more\]](#)
- District Conference 2019  
**District Awards: Celebrating the Work We Do**  
 By Raymond Ray  
 We are well along in our 2018-19 Rotary year! We have had time to adjust to our new positions and settle in for the remainder of the year, hence the purpose of this article. As the 2018-19 District Awards Chair, it is my responsibility to keep all our District race teams "ON TRACK" and eligible for District awards. This means we ... [\[more\]](#)
- Rotary friendships can be global! One such global friendship developed between PDG Bob Hagan and RI President Barry Rassin over the years as they served both their communities and the globe through Rotary. When Barry became RI President, Bob reached out for him to visit Roswell, since Bob had visited President Barry's club several years ago. Even with an incredible travel schedule, President Barry and his wife, Esther, are making time for that. He will inspire each of us to serve each other, our community, and do good in the world. He is an outstanding speaker and will share his vision of Rotary's role locally and globally. You will not want to miss this special meeting and an opportunity to be inspired by a global leader!  
**Mark Your Calendar**  
**Be Inspired As RI President Barry Rassin Visits Roswell; Joins Interact Conference**  
 By Becky Stone  
 District 6900 is excited to announce that Rotary International Barry Rassin will be visiting us on Saturday, February 16 - for the Interact Conference and a special Saturday lunch meeting of the **Rotary Club of Roswell!** **The District 6900 Interact Conference and the Roswell Rotary Club meeting** will take place at Blessed Trinity High School, 11320 Woodstock Road in Roswell. [\[more\]](#)
- Rotary Means Business  
**Enjoy Business-to-Business Networking Through Rotary**  
 By Famous Lou Alvarado  
 Rotary Means Business is the newest Rotary Fellowship. It offers a business-to-business networking opportunity to share your business with fellow Rotarians - empowering your business by the Power of the Pin. We now have three Rotary Means Business Nodes in the Metro Atlanta Area to serve our membership in 2019. [\[more\]](#)
- The Rotary Foundation: A Global Grant Story  
**Working Together to Do Good in Bangladesh**  
 By Anne Glenn  
 This Global Grant is the second for the **Rotary Club of North Columbus** and only the second in Bangladesh from D6900. Most importantly, North Columbus needed help getting the Global Grant funded and the response from D6900 clubs was immediate and over the top of their ASK. So this work is possible thanks to the contributions of the **RC of Alpharetta, Bainbridge, Cairo, Camilla, Decatur, Harris County, North Atlanta, Peachtree City, Smyrna and Stone Mountain**. A great example of what Rotary and The Rotary Foundation is all about! The article that follows appeared in the leading English language daily in Bangladesh - The Daily Star. [\[more\]](#)
- From a GRSP Scholar  
**All About New Relationships ... and Family**  
 By Lynn Clarke  
 My year in America has been amazing. It is unbelievable that I got the opportunity to spend a whole year in Georgia through the GRSP. This has undoubtedly been one of the best times of my life - it has been a year with new relationships that I am thankful for.  
 When I first arrived in America my flight was delayed, I did not catch my ... [\[more\]](#)
- RYLA  
**Let's Talk RYLA 2019!**  
 By Jaclyn Donovan  
 RYLA 2019 is right around the corner!!(The dates for this year are June 15 - 19, 2019. Here are a few things you can do now to get ready. First, check out our new RYLA website at [www.RYLA6900.com](http://www.RYLA6900.com) and find everything you need to get started. [\[more\]](#)
- District Conference 2019  
**Get Ready for a Pit Crew Lounge (House of Friendship) That Says FUN!**  
 By Elwyn Galsert  
 The Pit Crew Lounge (AKA House of Friendship) offers a unique opportunity to showcase your service projects, celebrate your Rotary accomplishments and share information about your Rotary year. District 6900 clubs comes together to share ideas, best practices, and project successes, and most of all FUN! It will all take place in one room, the Azalea Ballroom, that will be transformed into the Pit Crew Lounge at the Convention Center at Sandestin, FL, April 25-28, 2019.  
 Learn more and take advantage of early bird pricing when you register by January 15, 2019! [\[more\]](#)
- Back row: Michael Parks - Rotary Youth Exchange District 6900 Chair, Demi, Molly, Kaitlyn, Emily, Marissa and Kathy Finn - Rotary Youth Exchange District 6900 Outbound Coordinator, front row: Daniella, Kiko and Nikos  
**D6900 Clubs Award Eight Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarships**  
 By Mike Parks  
 Rotary Youth Exchange is proud to announce that it has awarded eight prestigious Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarships to local high school students to study abroad. These scholarships, each valued at over \$24,000, cover room, board, tuition and a monthly stipend for the ... [\[more\]](#)
- Annermarie Baker celebrates her birthday and the holidays (below) with the Hohlstein family, RC of Atlanta  
 GRSP Update  
**Special Memories, Planning for Next Year ... and More**  
 By Lynn Clarke  
 As the Christmas holidays end, we are happy to have our students, who had the good fortune to travel over the holidays, return to our homes and their universities and begin classes. Enjoy the photos from some of those holiday events!  
 So far, the grades ... [\[more\]](#)
- Public Image  
**How's Your Public Image?**  
 By Jaclyn Donovan  
 Here are at least two ways to check:  
 1. Is your club on track for the **Zone 34 Public Image Citation?** Clubs that complete four required activities and at least two additional activities by March 31, 2019 will qualify for a Citation. You can see the requirements at <https://www.rzones33-34.org/wp-content/uploads/20...>  
 2. **Each and every Rotarian can do a three-part Social Media checkup.**  
[\[more\]](#)
- Club News  
**Celebrate Mardi Gras with Rotary Club of Johns Creek**  
 By Mary Trapp  
 Join this Mardi Gras Casino Night for fun and to help the **Rotary Club of Johns Creek North Fulton** serve many local organizations. Proceeds from this event will benefit:  
 • Wellspring Living (housing for rescued victims of human trafficking)  
 • Himalayan Children Charities (educating orphaned children)  
 < ... [\[more\]](#)
- Club News  
**12th Annual "Holidays Around the World" Party**  
 By Dale Covington  
 Members of the **Rotary Club of Marietta** and their families joined with the Marietta Police Athletic League and other local civic organizations to host the 12th annual "Holidays Around the World" Children's Party this Christmas for 187 underprivileged youngsters in the city's depressed area around Franklin Gateway. [\[more\]](#)
- Club News  
**Roswell Rotary Entrepreneur Workshops Support End Polio Now**  
 By Karen Schwank  
 Do you want to know how to start a business, make it grow and turn it into a fun, thriving and profitable future! All while supporting End Polio Now? Then the Entrepreneur Workshop sponsored by the **Rotary Club of Roswell** and led by Roswell Rotarian Hal Coleman ... [\[more\]](#)

**Upcoming Key Dates**

|                              |                                     |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Saturday, January 12th, 2019 | <b>International Assembly</b>       |
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| Friday, January 25th, 2019   | <b>Council of Governors</b>         |
| Tuesday, February 5th, 2019  | <b>Bainbridge Board Meeting</b>     |
| Tuesday, February 5th, 2019  | <b>Bainbridge Governor Visit</b>    |
| Friday, February 8th, 2019   | <b>District Leadership Training</b> |