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 District 6920 Governor John Parkins  
 District 6920 Governor Elect Dallas C. Simon, Jr.  
 Assistant Governor - SSI Area Marie W. Dodd

#### St. Simons Island Rotary Club

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 Past Presidents' Representative Marie W. Dodd  
 Sergeant-at-Arms Bud Dorsey  
 Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Mike Harris  
 Historians Allen J. Berry  
 Julian E. Flexer

#### Directors

Club Relations & Public Relations Bill Halderson  
 Club Service & Membership Jim Bruce  
 Community Service Tom Parker  
 International Service Dick Wicker  
 Programs & Fellowship David Williams  
 Vocational Service Ted Wright

#### The Four-Way Test

*of the things we think, say or do*

1. Is it the **truth**?
2. Is it **fair** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **goodwill** and better **friendships**?
4. Will it be **beneficial** to all concerned?

On-Line Makeup • [www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net)

Rotary Club of St. Simons • Founded in 1950  
 Meets Tuesday 1 P.M. - Sea Palms Golf & Tennis Resort  
 Rotary Club of St. Simons • P.O. Box 21887 • St. Simons Island, GA 31522  
[www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net) • [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) for Rotary International



**Rotary Club**  
**St. Simons Island**  
**Georgia, U.S.A**

**District 6920**

# Rotary Spray

**May 17, 2005**

**Today's Program:**  
**Leslie Mattingly**  
**Community Image Awards**

#### Area Rotary Clubs

Club	Meeting	Day & Time
Brunswick	Twocan's, Brunswick	Thu. 1:00 P.M.
Glynn County	Twocan's, Brunswick	Wed. 7:30 A.M.
Jekyll Island	Jekyll Island Club Hotel	Wed. 8:00 A.M.
St. Simons Island	Sea Palms (Confirm before attending)	Tue. 1:00 P.M.
SSI Marshes of Glynn	Epworth	Thu. 7:30 A.M.

**Managing Editor & Publisher**

John Buchanan  
johnb@jbscorner.com

**Chairman - Program Reports**

Bill Turbeville

**Program Reporters**

May: As announced.

**Program Reporter 5/10**

Fausto Gardini

**Data Reports**

Susan Hardwick  
Maria Vogt

**Attendance**

May 10 TBA

**Rotabucks**

- Dennis Beacham \$47

**Visiting Rotarians**

- Jim Funk—Midtown Atlanta
- Bill Tipton—Brunswick

**Guests**

- Crystal Beatty—Paul Sanders Jr.

**Upcoming Programs**

May 24—TBA

May 31—No Club Meeting

**Greeters**

5/17 Jim Wethern  
Dick Wicker  
5/24 Millie Wilcox  
David Williams

**Wellness Report** by Sam Shaw

- Nothing reported today.

**Prospective Member—Sponsor**

- Stan Humphries—Leon Jorgensen

**This Week's Birthday**

John Buchanan May 20



**Gil Tharp Scholarships** Pat Donahoo spoke of Gil Tharp and two new scholarships in Gil's name through the Rotary International Foundation. They are \$25,000 each and will be awarded for graduate studies.

**Flag Day** Cal Paynter took the opportunity on Flag Day to discuss our U.S. Flag and the SSI Rotary Flag Project, which has raised more than \$50,000. Fly the Flag and encourage friends to do the same. Rotary flags are \$20; flag kits are \$30. Prices are soon going up.

**From the President**

**Rotabucks Checks** President Leslie announced that Rotabucks checks have been made payable to the following organizations:

\$150 Navy ROTC	\$100 Navy League
\$250 C-MAP	\$225 Glynn County Recreation
\$200 MAP International	

**Last Week's Program (May 10, 2005)****Bill Tipton****Visitor Development, Brunswick & the Golden Isles**

Bill Tipton, Executive Director, *Brunswick-Golden Isles Convention and Visitors Bureau* (BGICVB), expressed his pleasure to have another opportunity to visit with St. Simons Island's Rotary Club. He promised to talk slower than at previous occasions, yet he promptly forgot his good intentions and proceeded with his speech with his customary dynamism and fast pace. Bill explained that the BGICVB is financed through a 5% bed tax added to all room charges in Glynn County. The tax generates approximately \$4 million annually. After collection costs and the county's share (45%) are deducted, about \$2 million is earmarked towards running the BGICVB. Some other interesting numbers he mentioned were:

- The area encompasses 5,800 rooms spread out between Interstate 95, Brunswick, St. Simons Island & Little St. Simons, Jekyll Island and Sea Island.
- Forty-four million tourists visit Georgia annually with 3% visiting the Golden Isles area.
- The average age of visitors to the Golden Isles area is 50, compared to 48 years for all of Georgia.
- The visitors' median household income is \$75,000, compared to \$66,000 for all of Georgia
- Forty thousand people a day drive through the county on Interstate 95.
- Of the visitors to the Golden Isles, 83% are overnights and 17% are day-trippers.
- Sixty-three percent stay in hotels and 31% with family and friends. Where the remaining 6% stay is a mystery....
- Forty-five percent are from Georgia and 55% from out-of-state.
- Sixty-five percent of the visitors from Georgia come from the Atlanta area.
- The average stay is 2.7 nights and average room occupancy is 2.1. Condominiums register longer stays.
- Visitors spend \$250 million annually and indirect spending is estimated at \$0.90 for each dollar spent.
- The Bureau mails some 8,000 to 11,000 visitors guides every month.
- The BGICVB Internet site ([www.bgicvb.com](http://www.bgicvb.com)) registers 1.5 million accesses monthly.
- Some 12,000 to 15,000 printouts are performed from its site monthly.

Bill encourages visits to the revamped Bureau's Internet site featuring a virtual visitor guide designed with the hottest new Internet technology.