



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

District 6920

Rotary Spray

February 5, 2008

Today's Program:

Wounded Warrior Project

Jeffrey Searcy

Executive Vice President

Club	Area Rotary Clubs Meeting	Day & Time
Brunswick	Christie's Restaurant	Thu. 12:45 P.M.
Glynn County	Christie's Restaurant	Wed. 7:30 A.M.
Jekyll Island	Jekyll Island Club Hotel	Wed. 7:30 A.M.
St. Simons Island	Sea Palms (Confirm before attending)	Tue. 1:00 P.M.
SSI Marshes of Glynn	Epworth—Jinks Dining Room	Thu. 7:30 A.M.

Managing Editor & Publisher

Bill Warren
bwarren33@comcast.net

Data Reports

Becky Stephenson

Visiting Rotarians

Frank Pearson – Dickinson, ND

Guests – Hosts

Clark Drury (1st) – Wank Davis

Leonard Mann – Bill Halderson

Ed Griffith – Jim Bruce

Emerson Chew – Hamsa Thota

Attendance

Jan. 29 – 60 members (64%)

Rotobucks

Leon Jorgensen - \$49

Greeters

2/5 Robert Cable, Chuck Cansler

2/12 Kent Capper, Fred Collins

Makeups

Ruth Heyward - Online

Birthdays: February 5 – 11

Jim Bruce – 2/6

Ed Griffith – 2/9



Support for Thailand Rotary Club

Eric Andreae reported on the use of a \$300 donation from our club to the Chiang Mai West Rotary Club in Thailand.

The Thailand club used the money to buy hundreds of chickens (and food for the poultry) for a school in Chiang Dao, a village in the high mountains of Thailand.

Through Eric, our club has established a relationship with the Chiang Mai West Rotary Club and is helping with that club's charitable activities. Eric encountered the club on a visit to Thailand in 2004. This is the third year our club has donated to the Thailand club.

Eric passed around photos of the school, which is in a poor area of Thailand.

Membership Report

Brooke Pridmore reports that – as of Jan. 30 – our club has 126 members (120 active and 6 honorary).

That is an increase of 3 members since July 1, 2007 (2 active and 1 honorary), or 2.44%, exceeding the District membership goal of a 1% increase.

Upcoming Programs

2/12 - SSI Rotary Student Speech Contest

2/19 - Classification Talks

January 29, 2008

Don Matthews
Economist

Coastal Georgia Community College

Introducing the speaker, club member Don Fielder noted that economist Don Matthews spoke to our club last year and was rated the number one program of the year.

Dr. Matthews, who holds a Ph.D. from Georgia State, touched on these subjects:

- **Balance of trade:** He called these words the “most misunderstood phrase in all of economics.” It’s a misconception, he said, that a trade surplus is good and a trade deficit is bad. It is neither good nor bad, he said. When one economy is growing faster than others, the trade deficit expands, only to come down in a recession. He added that the United States attracts foreign investment because of worldwide trust in U.S. institutions, including a recognition that corruption here is much lower than elsewhere. This foreign capital investment in the U.S. naturally results in a trade deficit for this country, he added.
- **Declining dollar:** “The dollar is the world’s currency,” he said, and the fluctuating relative value of the dollar is simply the natural result of supply and demand. He said the United States continues to be a “magnet for capital investment.”
- **Oil dependence:** He said it doesn’t matter where the oil is located, because the highest bidder will get it. “It’s irrelevant where it comes from.” He also noted that although the housing sector is suffering economic problems, it is only a relatively small component of the overall U.S. economy. He added that it is “easy to overstate the impact” of the housing problems.
- **The U.S. economy:** Overall, he said, our economy is “very strong,” which makes him somewhat suspect of the need for the economic stimulus being discussed by the government. It is possible, he said, that the stimulus package could create more problems. The economist is upbeat about the U.S. economy, calling it “the most amazing economy in the history of the planet.”



Rotary Officers & Directors

International President Wilfred J. Wilkinson
District 6920 Governor Dick Hyer
District 6920 Governor Elect Kenan Kern
District 6920 Governor Designee Clyde Taylor
Assistant Governor - SSI Area Pat Storino

St. Simons Island Rotary Club

President Jim Bruce
President Elect Chuck Cansler
Secretary Maria Vogt
Assistant Secretary Becky Stephenson
Treasurer Linda Butler
Financial Administrator Shirley Redanz
Immediate Past President Pat Storino
Past Presidents' Representative Kevin Lokey
Sergeant-at-Arms Jack McDonald
Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Mike Harris
Historians Allen J. Berry & Julian Flexer

Directors

Club Relations & Public Relations Stan Kyker
Club Service & Membership Brooke Pridmore
Community Service Millard Allen
International Service Stan Humphries
Programs & Fellowship Don Fielder
Vocational Service Robert Cable

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

Rotary Club of St. Simons • Founded in 1950 – www.ssirotary.org
Meets Tuesday 1 P.M. - Sea Palms Golf & Tennis Resort
Rotary Club of St. Simons • P.O. Box 21887 • St. Simons Island, GA 31522
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