



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

District 6920

## *Rotary Spray*

May 4, 2010

### Today's Program

## Ed Bruce Scholarship Awards

Club	Area Rotary Clubs Meeting	Day & Time
Brunswick	Fourth of May	Thu. 12:45 P.M.
Glynn County	Brunswick Hospital	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**

Becky Stephenson  
[becstep@comcast.net](mailto:becstep@comcast.net)

### **Data Reports**

Bill Warren

### **Visiting Rotarians**

Jack Kunschner - Alliance, Ohio  
Jerry Robings - Thousand Oaks, CA  
K T Conner - Thousand Oaks, CA  
Nandoo Nandakumar – Karnataka,  
India

### **Guests/Hosts**

Becky Pridmore - Brooke Pridmore  
George Constantino - Club  
Cindi Phillips - Paul Pieschel  
Richard Teeven - Paul Pieschel  
Dr. Karthik Shetty, Mr. Keshava,  
Dr. Srikoushthubba and Mrs.  
Ramyashree. – Guests of our club

### **Attendance 4-13-10**

84 members (71%)  
Plus 11 guests for 95

### **Greeter**

5/4 – Lisa Anderson  
Eric Andreae  
5/11 - Wil Becker  
Allen Berry

### **Rotobucks:**

Dennis Burges- \$33

### **Birthdays**

#### **May 4 - 10**

Bill Hicks – 5/9



## **Club News**

- **First Tuesday at the House** will meet tonight at The Frederica House from 5:30 – 7:00.
- New members who have not had their **picture taken** for the membership directory may do so after the meeting today at the Dark Room.
- At the **6920 District Conference** our club was recognized as having the greatest % attendance at the conference in the large club category, awarded the Governor's Award of Excellence, and notified that it will receive the Rotary International Presidential Citation. The Raffle sale brought in \$90,000! (Thanks Marie Dodd.)

## **Up Coming Programs**

- 5-4-10 Orientation Committee meetings at noon in the Green Room
- 5-4-10 TAPS Committee meets after today's meeting.
- 5-11-10 Board of Directors Meeting
- 5-11-10 Reg Murphy, retired publisher of nationally known newspapers
- 5-18-10 Community Image Awards
- 5-28-10 Roger Lane, Georgia State Representative

President Brooke presented **Dr. Phillip Carlyle** with his Blue Badge.

Hamsa Thota recognized the **Group Study Exchange** delegation from India: Mr. Nandoo Nandakumar is an architect and the team leader of the group, Dr. Karthik Sherry is a dentist, Mr. Keshava is a college professor, Dr. Srikoushthubba is a pathologist, and Mrs. Ramyashree is a music school administrator.

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Speaker George Constantino is the manager of the **Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge**. The Native Americans called it Okefenokee, meaning, "Land of the Trembling Earth." The refuge was started in 1936 by the congress to protect wildlife, and is 401,900 acres in size. It is the 16<sup>th</sup> most visited national wildlife refuge.

The three goals of the refuge are (1) to sustain a healthy forest industry and a healthy environment, (2) to develop a fire resistant conservation zone around the swamp and (3) to restore the native longleaf pine and 40,000 acres of uplands, to pre-settlement conditions.

Every 3 – 5 years there will be a fire of 100,000 acres or more. The fire of 2007 had a huge economic impact on our region. It destroyed 65 million dollars worth of timber.

Each year there are between 200,000 and 400,000 visitors to the Okefenokee Swamp Refuge. The goal is to have 800,000 visitors a year. The average stay is 4 – 6 hours. About half of the visitors are from Georgia, one fourth are from Florida and 2 – 5% are international visitors. Brochures and leaflets are printed in several different languages.

There are many visitor opportunities at Okefenokee. There are boat tours and more than 120 miles of wilderness trails for kayaks and canoes. There are fishing events for youths, hunting programs, environmental classroom programs with interactive displays and wildlife photography programs with tours. A restored swamper's homestead is on site to visit. Concession meals are available as well as picnic areas and a RV campsite. There is also a traveling exhibit to loan out.

Resource Economists estimate that the Okefenokee Refuge in 2004 stimulated about \$65,000,000 in revenue and 650 jobs and provided \$30 million in visitor recreation expenditures with \$400,000 in direct payment in taxes to counties.

**Gary Schwartz introduced the speaker.**



### ***Rotary Officers & Directors***

**International President** John Kenny  
**District 6920 Governor** Clyde Taylor  
**District 6920 Governor Elect** Lloyd Horadan  
**District 6920 Governor Designee** Gordon Matthews  
**Assistant Governor - SSI Area** Pat Storino

### ***St. Simons Island Rotary Club***

**President** Brooke Pridmore  
**President Elect** Wally Forsythe  
**Secretary** Bill Warren  
**Assistant Secretary** Myra Albert  
**Treasurer** Chad Dixon  
**Assistant Treasurer** Stan Humphries  
**Immediate Past President** Chuck Cansler  
**Past Presidents' Representative** Jim Bruce  
**Sergeant-at-Arms** John Matthews  
**Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms** Brian Peebles  
**Historians** Allen J. Berry & Julian Flexer

### ***Directors***

**Club Relations & Public Relations** Wank Davis  
**Club Service & Membership** Don Myers  
**Community Service** Mary Beth Wester  
**International Service** Cathey Petkash  
**Programs & Fellowship** Gary Schwartz  
**Vocational Service** Everett Millican

### **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)  
Financial Administrator: [treasurer@ssirotary.org](mailto:treasurer@ssirotary.org)**

Rotary Club of St. Simons • Founded in 1950 – [www.ssirotary.org](http://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  
**[www.rotarydistrict6920.net](http://www.rotarydistrict6920.net) • [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org) for Rotary International**