



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

District 6920

## *Rotary Spray*

Today's Program:  
September 29, 2009

**Gary Colberg**

**President  
of the  
Southeast Georgia Health System**

<b>Club</b>	<b>Area Rotary Clubs Meeting</b>	<b>Day &amp; Time</b>
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**

**Guests/Hosts**

Leslie Lamkin – Marie Dodd  
Kim Scope – Millie Willcox

**Greeters**

9/27 Jack McDonald, David Medford

10/6 Everett Millican, Marion Moore

**Rotobucks:**

\$41 – Everett Millican

**Birthdays**

Sept. 29 – Oct. 5

David Medford 10/2



**Attendance**

Sept. 22 – 74 members (62 %)  
(Plus 3 guests for total of 77)

**Club News**

- Members are asked to let **John Matthews** know when they are bringing a guest. **Lunches are to be paid for at sign-in (\$20).** If they are a prospective member, the club pays for their first two meals only. Please specify if they are a prospective member.
- **District raffle tickets** are available for \$25 each or 5 for \$100. Make checks out to **Rotary District 6920 Raffle.**
- If your **email address** is incorrect in the Club Directory, please email President Brooke.
- New Rotary member **Bob Stein**, sponsored by Martin Turbidy, was welcomed into the club by President Brooke and given his Red Badge and Rotary pin.

**Upcoming Programs**

- 10-6 – Andy Lundell, Chief Executive Officer, Golden Isles Career Academy
- 10-6 orientation Meeting at 12:00 in the Green Room
- 10-13 – Board of Directors Meeting
- 10-13 – Lubomira Dimitrova, our GRSP Student from Bulgaria
- 10-20 – Fall Social
- 10/27 - Justin Conway, White Oak Conservation Center

**Pastor Griffin Lotson**, spoke to the club about the Geechee-Gullah culture, which is one of the most endangered cultures in America. He is a Geechee from Georgia and has traced his heritage through DNA testing back 7 generations to his true place of origin in East Africa.

His organization is called the **McIntosh County Shouters**, and was founded in 1980. When performing they wear outfits befitting those of their ancestors and perform the Ring Shout, which is a dance of rejoicing done to a special rhythmic clap. He later demonstrated the dance as we “practiced” the clap. The shout is actually a religious dance where crossing the legs was considered sinful. He credited the Methodist for introducing Christianity to the slaves.

Geechee refers to slaves born on plantations in Georgia. Gullah refers to slaves born on the plantations in the Carolinas. Our Supreme Court Justice, Clarence Thomas, was born into the Gullah culture. The speech patterns of both are similar in that they cut words in half. (Examples, “come ‘er for come here dat da for that there.) The Gullah speech rhythm is also faster than that of the Geechee.

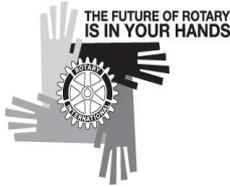
He mentioned some famous authors depicting the Geechee-Gullah culture like Fanny Kimball. He also collects the Uncle Remus stories and copies of Walt Disney’s Song of the South, which mostly are found in either England or Canada.

During the plantation era, Sassafras roots, Life Everlasting roots and Spanish moss were used to make tea. Pastor Lotson displayed samples of each of these, to include a 70-year-old Sassafras root handed down from his grandfather. The moss was also put in the bottom of shoes to treat high blood pressure.

On October 10<sup>th</sup> the McIntosh County Shouters will be participating in the Glynn Art Festival on St. Simons Is. There will be Geechee-Gullah performances all day long by several groups. There will be workshops in basket weaving and net making. The festival is free, and the program is supported in part by the Georgia Council for the Arts through the appropriations of the Georgia General Assembly and also by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The **McIntosh County Shouters** can be reached on line at: <http://www.McIntoshCountyShouters.com>

**Mary Beth Wester 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 Hocutt  
**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**