

Rotary Officers and Directors

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St. Simons Island Rotary Club

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& Julian Flexer

Directors

Club Relations & Public Relations Bill Warren
Club Service & Membership Linda Muir
Community Service Bill Gussman
International Service Susan Hardwick
Programs & Fellowship Paul Pieschel
Vocational Service Page Faulk

Area Rotary Clubs

Club	Venue	Day & Time
Brunswick	Brunswick Country Club	Thu. 12:45 PM
Glynn County	Brunswick Hospital	Wed. 7:30 AM
Jekyll Island	Jekyll Island Club Hotel	Wed. 7:30 AM
St. Simons Island	Sea Palms	Tue. 1:00 PM
SSI Marshes of Glynn	Epworth – Jinks Dining Room	Thu. 7:30 AM

On-Line Makeup • www.rotarydistrict6920.net
Financial Administrator: treasurer@ssirotoary.org

Rotary Club of St. Simons • Founded in 1950 – www.ssirotary.org
Rotary Club of St. Simons • P.O. Box 21887 • St. Simons Island, GA 31522
www.rotarydistrict6920.net • www.rotary.org for Rotary International

Managing Editor Jennifer Broadus
Rotary Spray Layout John Buchanan
Data Reports Susan Imhoff

Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

First

The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

Second

High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

Third

The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

Fourth

The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service

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?



Rotary Spray

Today's Program: April 10, 2012

Speech Contest Introductions by Cindi Phillips

It is time for our Annual High School Speech Contest! We are excited to report that we have five students who will be preparing and delivering speeches to us today. The themes this year are "Reach Within to Embrace Humanity" or "The Rotary 4-Way Test."

The judges will award cash prizes to our First, Second, and Third Place Winners. First Place will receive \$100. Second Place will receive \$50. Third Place will receive \$25. The First and Second Place winners will go on to the Zone Contest in Statesboro on April 21, 2012, for an opportunity to win a \$1,000 scholarship. The top three winners of the Zone competition will be awarded their scholarships at the District Annual Conference in Savannah on May 18th or 19th, upon presenting their winning speeches to the conference attendees.

We appreciate your support and encouragement for these fine students as they present the speeches they have worked so hard to prepare! Many thanks go out to the members of the Speech Contest Committee for their hard work and many thanks to the members of our Rotary Club for their support.



Upcoming Programs

April 17: Gary Colberg, President and CEO, Southeast Georgia Health System

April 24: TBA

May 1: GSE Team from Turkey. Introductions by Mike Muldowney and Hamsa Thota

May 8: (Board of Directors Meetings) The Bruce/Tharp Rotary Scholarships

Guests—Hosts

Vernon Martin (Prospective Member)—Ben Lee
Nancy Matthews—John Matthews

Visiting Rotarians

Alan Ours—Brunswick Club

Attendance

Members	69
Guests	2
Visiting Rotarians	1
Total	72

Rotobucks

Joe Mruk \$31

Greeters

4/10 John Matthews
Rick Mattox
4/17 Beverly McBride
Marion Moore

Birthdays 4/10-4/16

Bill Abel 4/14
Tom Sayer 4/16



Last Week's Program: April 3, 2012

Introductions by Jerry Schueneman

Millard Allen: *The State of the Glynn County Schools System*

Millard Allen, member of the Board of Education, opened the program. The underlying theme of his talk was positive even though tax revenues are down, affecting the school budget in a significant short fall of some \$13 million dollars. The reasons? **1.** Increased number of students (presently 13,000, up from 10,000 in 2007), **2.** Decreased tax revenues due to depreciation of property values (as much as 50%) resulting in lowered tax bases, and **3.** Georgia Senate Bill 486 which allows tax forgiveness to seniors over 65 years of age. The bill called for under a \$40,000 *gross income*; what was passed by the Georgia delegation was a qualifier based on *net taxable income*. The result to the tax role has been significant.

Consider the following: The Glynn County School System currently serves 13,000 students, has 1,800 employees including 1,100 teachers, services 10 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 2 high schools (including Brunswick High School which is currently getting a new facility now under construction paid by E-SPLOST), and recently added the Golden Isles Career Academy a few years back. All is maintained by a proposed budget of \$108 million dollars. Current tax revenue this year is \$99 million, with predictions for the next school year at just \$95 million. With a budget of \$108 million, that's a short fall of approximately \$13 million. That's a problem. The solution? Raise taxes. With a one mil decrease in millage rate since 2007, it isn't hard to figure out that something has to be done pretty quickly to reverse the negative economies. Another solution? Start making some tough decisions about cutting significant programs and/or staff at the school level.

In spite of the facts, Millard remains optimistic. "We haven't cut programs like other school systems such as Camden County," he reminded us. "We continue to maintain quality in our facilities, our athletic programs, and our arts programs." Thank you Millard for reminding us that each has a part in maintaining quality education in our community.

Jody Haley

Classification Talk

A Rotarian since 1972, formerly with the Marshes of Glynn Club, Jody is a graduate of Auburn University with a B.S. in business & marketing. After several career moves with large corporations, Jody joined the family jewelry business. He opened his own jewelry store in Tifton where he lived and worked from 1972-1999. He is a member of the American Gemological Society and was formerly on the Board of the Georgia Jewelers Association. He has also served on the Tifton Chamber of Commerce Board and has served as President on the Board. He opened Joseph's Jewelers on St. Simons Island in 1999. He sold the business and it is now owned by fellow Rotarian, Kent Capper. Jody has been married for 42 years and has 2 sons, one on Amelia Island and the other who resides on St. Simons Island. Since leaving the jewelry business, Jody has dabbled in real estate.

Thanks Jody! It's great getting to know you better!

Club News from the April 3, 2012 Meeting

Cart Buckets: Fill 'em up. 100% of funds goes to Alzheimer's Research.

District Conference: Scheduled for May 18 thru 20 in Savannah. Please see President Mike or register online.

Board of Directors Meeting: Tuesday, 4/10, at 11:30 in the Green Room.

Child in Crisis for Altama Elementary School Children: Quite successful, thanks to all of you. Beverly McBride reported that she delivered 8 large bags of groceries and \$345 to the school the week of March 26.

4th Quarter Dues Invoices: Sending out now. Please pay promptly. We need the money to pay for our meals, International and District dues and club expenses.

Beverly Trainor is conducting a campaign to raise scholarship money for Christian Montessori School through the Georgia Private School Tax Credit. Can apply to any private school. Please see Beverly for more information.

"**Book Buddies**" are still needed to read to children at the FACES center in Brunswick and are ready to read at the "Imagination Room" at McIntyre Court B&G Club. The new reading program will start the end of April and will continue through the summer into the new school year. See Linda Muir.



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Alzheimer's Research

District Conference
Savannah, May 18-20
Register Now!