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Rotary Club of St. Simons Island

Georgia, USA Rotary District 6920

Rotary Spray

Today's Program, March 12, 2013

You've Come a Long Way, Baby Steps!

Linda Muir and Team

Our Literacy Committee has been very active with the development of the Baby Steps program and the Imagination Room. Presented in a panel format, we will get an update on this very important program from Mike Muldowney, Page Faulk, Myra Albert, Nancy Matthews, Karen Gable and Linda Muir.

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?



From the March 5 Program
Rotarian Hamsa Thota (left) and
Club President John Matthews.

Hamsa updated us on Partnering for
International Services – Rotary
International Matching Grants.

Please see the Jennifer Broadus article on page 3.

Upcoming Programs

March 19: Tim Mescon, Columbus State University. Intro by Martin Turbidy.

March 26: Sarah Dodd. *Your Rotary Dollars at Work.*

April 2: GRSP Student Maria Trabanino.

Club Program Schedule continued on next page...

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

Rotary Club of St. Simons • Founded in 1950 – www.ssirotary.org
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www.rotarydistrict6920.net • www.rotary.org for Rotary International

Attendance Data for 03-05-2013

Guests—Hosts

David Boland (PM)—Jim Szwest
Sherrye Gibbs (PM)—Ginny Johnson

Visiting Rotarians

Evie Byrnes—Highlands Rotary Club
Donnie Craig—Jasper Rotary Club
Chris Stancil—Jasper Rotary Club

Summary

Guests and Visiting 5 Members 80 Total 85

Rotobucks \$42 Brooke Pridmore

Greeters

3/12 Jack Dinos
Chad Dixon
3/19 Marie Dodd
Sonny Doehring

Birthdays 3/12—3/18

Sue Taylor 3/16



Group Study Exchange (GSE) Team
from Bolivia, April 8-11, 2013.

Club News, March 5, 2013 Meeting

Cart Buckets – 100% to Alzheimer's Research. Raise the bucket, pass it around and give!

Sandy Relief – Our \$3,500 has been matched and sent to Staten Island, NY. We still have the opportunity to give the remaining \$1,500, which will also be matched until March 31, 2013. Current total is \$540.

Blue Badge Presentation—Congratulations to Vernon Martin.

Cathey Petkash—Cathey announced she was relocating and leaving the Club. Cathey and her contributions will surely be missed.

District 6920 Conference—Augusta—May 3-5 (Friday-Sunday). If you are planning on attending, please register on the district website and advise President John.

Upcoming Programs...continued from Page 1

April 9: Board Meeting. Presentation by the Bolivian GSE Team.

April 16: Community Image Awards. Intro Bob Brown.

April 23: Scholarship Programs

April 30: John Sours: Governor's Office for Consumer Affairs. Intro by James Henderson.

March 5 Program

Hamsa Thota

Partnering for International Services – Rotary International Matching Grants

When our scheduled speakers from Glynn Place Mall bailed out at the last minute, fellow Rotarian and past club President Hamsa Thota saved the day with an informative presentation on Rotary Matching Grants Funding efforts in his homeland of Hyderabad, India. Hamsa returned to India for a 20-day visit to reconnect with family including his 90-year old mother who is very ill. His visit was timely because Hamsa, as a primary contact for three matching grants projects with Rotary District D-3150, was able to attend its District Conference held in Hyderabad, February 25-27, 2013.

"This conference was a big deal," shared Hamsa. While there, he exchanged several St. Simons Club banners and was given a ceremonial shawl, which is a customary gift to visiting Rotarians to India. Over 1,700 Rotarians (*half of them non-English speakers*) attended the conference.

Hamsa reflected on his attendance at the District Conference as "life altering." He shared his immediate frustration of struggling with the local language, Telugu, which is his native tongue, but then admitted it came back to him quickly – a language left behind 40+ years ago when he came to the United States at age twenty. "You never really forget your native language," he shared. Hamsa also discussed recent Charitable Matching Grants initiatives in Hyderabad including *The Tricycle Project - Gifts of Hope* – where 500 man-sized, hand-powered tricycles were distributed on November 23, 2012, to polio victims in Hyderabad. Our Club partnered with Ameerpet Rotary Club in D-3150 and the *Hearts and Hands for the Handicapped Foundation of New York* to complete this project. International President Rotarian Tanaka from Japan and his wife participated in the tricycles distribution event.

Other Rotary Matching Grants Charitable Initiatives partnered with D-3150 are scheduled for this region during the Rotary South Asia Summit to be held May 3-5, 2013, in Hyderabad. The *600 Sewing Machines Project* will award machines to village women in an effort to provide them with a trade to help lift them out of poverty. Yet another is the *School Benches Project* where 1,580 benches will be distributed to students in Hyderabad during the Summit. Six-thousand Rotarians are expected to attend including the Rotary International's incoming President, Ron D. Burton (Norman, Oklahoma), as well as many Rotary International Directors. You can learn more about the Summit on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=pK8hILJwUPo

Thank you Hamsa for sharing your unique perspective of Rotary International with our Club. It is always a pleasure to be reminded of how far-reaching the goodness of Rotary truly is.