THE ROTARY CLUB OF VININGS
CLUB ADMINISTRATION REPORT

1. PROJECT
Increase meeting attendance and provide attendance reports to District on time.

SUMMARY
The Rotary Club of Vinings had an attendance percentage of 77% near the end of the calendar year 2007. At the behest of President Ken, our club has initiated an “Attendance Monitor.” One of our club members, Tony Lazzaro, receives the attendance roll from Attendance Coordinator, Suzanne Lipson, and will personally call the missing members and encourage them to do a make-up and direct them to the e-makeups on our new website or guide them into a committee meeting to comply with the make-up rules.

IMPACT
Attendance had dipped slightly and after instituting the program, attendance has increased dramatically to averaging 86.87% for the prior 8 months. Accordingly, the members enjoy the reminders and have been far more effective in letting Ms. Lipson know their make-up information.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
The club members have indicated that Tony does an excellent job or reminding, with a bit of his flair to gently “nudge” them into remembering their make-ups. All attendance reports have been filed on time by Suzanne Lipson throughout the year to District. As well, a new web site was implemented, making e-makeups much easier to achieve. The program works!
2. PROJECT
Preserve Club History

SUMMARY
Our club has been fortunate to have Jim Johnson, DVM, as our historian since its charter in 1989. Rotarian Jim compiles our history and adds one year to the next. In addition, the Vinings Library maintains our scrapbooks to aid in this effort and allow for member and public viewing.

IMPACT
The public availability of our scrapbooks (in addition to allowing us all to see how we have aged) puts the Rotary Club of Vinings in front of the community, so that they can see from year to year what it means to be a Rotarian.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
While Jim Johnson is our primary historian, broad based club participation with photos, letters and copies of articles in the local media make it possible to capture the essence of being a member of the Rotary Club of Vinings.
3. PROJECT
Develop a Succession Plan that Addresses Future Leadership

IMPACT
The Rotary Club of Vinings has been blessed with enthusiastic and professional members from the local business community and as such, the Board has put into play measures that will ensure continuity of the club. Each Director holds office for two years and places each of their Head Chairs on a one year rotational basis to develop their respective programs to their fullest at which time they are given the option to continue on, mentor the new incoming person or be groomed for a directorship. Recruiting for Directorships begins in each successive New Year by the in-situ directors, assuming their term is up at the end of the Rotary year.

New members, when inducted, declare their areas of interest and desire to work in that area for the first number of months after their “Red Badge Program” has been fulfilled. Each new member is mentored by either the director or the head chair of their respective area. This program has aided in member retention dramatically and has proven to be very successful.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
All members must complete the Red Badge Program to enable them to understand the impact of Rotary at the club level as well as internationally.
4.  PROJECT

New Web Site Implementation

SUMMARY
The club had a web site that had been neglected due to the in-club web master leave our club and the site was never updated. President Ken mandated the club institute a new web site and sought out the most effective, intuitive site to purchase. The club chose the service offering by Club Runner and launched it in early February.

IMPACT
Thus far, the club has used the site with much success and positive feedback. The members now use the site as the informational source. Members are encouraged to file, post and update the areas of service they are engaged in and the site is now the repository for “all things Vinings Rotary”. A great improvement!

CLUB PARTICIPATION
All members. The results have spoken for themselves; our club is now far more highly organized, efficient with well informed members who understand the inner workings of Rotary on an intimate basis.
5. PROJECT
Prospective New Member Orientation Program

SUMMARY
To attract prospective new members, a highly effective New Member Orientation Program has been developed whereby, our President Elect, Steve Hughes will receive an application from our club Secretary, Jon Muirhead and make arrangements for the prospect to come to the initial meeting. These are conducted at President Ken’s office located in Vinings. Present are the new prospect, their sponsor, the Director at Large, Tony Lazzaro, President Elect Steve and President Ken.

IMPACT
The new prospect is presented with a Power Point presentation covering the Object of Rotary, the Avenues of Service, our club’s leadership hierarchy, the history of our club, the importance of our District, the Rotary Foundation, the responsibilities of membership, the cost of membership and the District Conference information. The prospect is given a thorough assessment of Rotary, in the hopes he or she will be a great Rotarian. After the application is completed, the officers and directors review it and pass it to the membership for a seven day application period.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
As noted, five Rotarians are involved at any one meeting, and all club members are encouraged to bring in new prospective members.
6. PROJECT
Family of Rotary – Membership Support

SUMMARY
The Rotary Club of Vinings view the Family of Rotary functions as an opportunity to develop a true sense of community among our membership. While working together and taking our Wednesday lunches together is a foundation, we have developed a number of activities that allow us to play together, to celebrate together, and to greet together, just as a family would do. All of these activities are voluntary, but each year they attract greater participation from among the club.

IMPACT
By developing a sense of family and community among our Rotarians, we work better together as a group. The most visible effect is to reduce our controllable membership losses to a minimum level and to use the functions as a retention tool. Indeed, for the past few years most of our losses have been due to relocation, change of employment, and life changing issues. Functions include dinners at a local restaurant and the more informal “Happy Hours” at local Vinings restaurants. These have proven to be great mixers and members are highly encouraged to bring prospective new members to these soirees to find out how much fun the group has and to meet members of our Rotary club away from the club.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Our Head Chair, Ronn Bronzetti, and his committees were responsible for sending flowers and cards for illness, births, and other life events. Working together with Lisa Dobbs and Jon Muirhead, our club Secretary, we have kept the membership informed as to the key events in our members’ lives. We have coordinated participation for the death of a member and a member’s spouse. We award Rotary bears to members to celebrate the birth of a child. We have also celebrated weddings and engagements. Fellowship: We have had five key, club-wide Family of Rotary events: the Installation Banquet (105 in attendance), DG Bill Woulfin’s visit (92 in attendance), the club Christmas Party, Valentine’s Day (over 95 in attendance) and the upcoming participation at the District 6900 Spring Conference in Sandestin (approximately 50 and counting).
7. PROJECT
Attending District and International Conferences

SUMMARY
Our members are highly motivated to volunteer their time, efforts and talents to carry out our stated service projects domestically and abroad as well. We understand the value of the District Conference and the International Conference as a way to be rewarded at the end of our Rotary year in an educational, but relaxed setting.

IMPACT
As in years past, the Rotary Club of Vinings has been an enthusiastic supporter of District Assembly, District Conference and the International Conference as evidenced by this year’s participation by our President Elect, Steve Hughes, attending the Los Angeles Conference. The club will be paying for his expenses to attend as well as other members are being highly encouraged to participate in the world wide Rotary celebration.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
We strongly encourage our members to attend these Conferences and we recently formed a committee of past Presidents to personally call the members and get them invigorated to attend the District Conference. These efforts yielded an additional 10 members and their spouses to attend.
8. PROJECT
Club Assemblies

SUMMARY
Club Assemblies are a perfect way to not only discuss what the club is doing regarding our numerous projects, but to educate the members as well. Due to the broad number of projects we are involved in, no one member can know everything there is to know about every project.

IMPACT
We find that in the course of these assemblies, interest levels get piqued for certain projects and summarily these projects get the human power they need to be implemented at a much faster pace. New members in particular are the targeted audience and we find these to be an indispensable learning tool. It gives the Board a chance to see if we’re achieving our long range goals and coordinates our projects in the club.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
100% participate and President Ken leads the assembles.
1. PROJECT
CONTRIBUTION REPORT

SUMMARY
As of March 18th, 2008, the status of Foundation Giving is:

All time giving since chartered in 1989: $202,613
2007–2008 total Giving: $52,566
APF Goal: $9,750
APF Giving, (Actual) $33,509
APF Giving Rank #7
APF Goal Achieved Rank #6
APF Goal Achieved 339%
APF Per Cap $459
Paul Harris Society Members: 8
Benefactor/Bequest Society: 4
Governor’s Circle Members: 2
Sustaining Members: 72
EREY Participation 100%

IMPACT
The Rotary Club of Vinings has been well schooled by the preceding administrations as to the importance of the Rotary Foundation, and as such, it was a simple matter to increase our giving totals, and increase the amount of our Paul Harris Fellows in our club.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
100%
2. PROJECT
Paul Harris Fellows

SUMMARY
President Ken mandated that our club be as close to a 100% Paul Harris Fellow Club as possible. With the help of Rotarian Rick Beauford, the Rotary Foundation Director, we chose the initiative of matching existing Foundation points with existing contributions for each member. This was a NEW initiative and the results were outstanding!

IMPACT
After a major awareness campaign and emails to each member that wasn’t a Paul Harris Fellow, we matched the remaining dollar amount with the existing points from the club’s point total and had each member write a check for the difference. And what a difference! We inducted 27 Paul Harris Fellows when District Governor Bill Woulfin made his official visit to the club in September. We are striving for 100% and we are currently at 82%, with 13 more members being encouraging to become Paul Harris Fellows prior to this administrations end.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
As noted.
3. PROJECT

District Simplified Grant – $2,000, International Baccalaureate Program

SUMMARY
This year Campbell Middle School and Teasley Elementary School began the process of seeking the International Baccalaureate endorsement. This prestigious model incorporates research–based best practices, one of which is inquiry based learning. The Rotary Club of Vinings applied for and received a $2,000 District Simplified Grant which was used to purchase fourth and sixth grade materials from the Great Books Foundation. Teachers from both schools received two days of training on shared inquiry and will utilize these materials to teach students higher order thinking skills and the elements of inquiry based learning.

IMPACT
The impact of the grant provides the critical resources needed for fourth and sixth grade teachers to implement shared inquiry at both Campbell Middle School and Teasley Elementary School.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Rotarian Joanne Robblee, also the principal at Teasley Elementary approached the club, proposed and submitted a grant proposal to purchase grade level materials from the Great Books Foundation. She is over–seeing the deployment of the program and will report back to the club at the end of the school year and debrief the Board.
4. PROJECT

Programs on the Rotary Foundation

SUMMARY
With all of the projects the Rotary Club of Vinings performs, the Board felt the members needed more understanding on the actual workings and the impact that the Foundation has at the club, district and international levels.

IMPACT
The Rotary Club of Vinings main motivation is to inform the members of the importance of the Rotary Foundation. As such we sponsor a “Rotary Foundation Thought for the Week” and have Rick Beauford, our Foundation Director, deliver this as part of our regular meetings. As well, we have this thought in our weekly bulletin. The club follows the matrix afforded by Rotary International, 52 weeks of Rotary Thoughts that enables members to have a great appreciation on the lifeblood of Rotary, its Foundation. We attribute our club’s increased giving and the relative ease of inducting 27 Paul Harris Fellows using this simple initiative.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Every member has a greater appreciation of the Rotary Foundation’s impact.
5. PROJECT

Ambassadorial Scholarships Application

SUMMARY
Our club recognizes the importance of the Ambassadorial Scholarship Program and its impact on a world wide basis. In our own community, there are a number of outstanding candidates that wish to dedicate their personal and professional lives to improving the quality if others. This year, Amanda Guilhuys, a student at Georgia State University applied to attend a university in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and to work in the language skills arena for the State of Brazil.

IMPACT
Ms. Guilhuys, through the efforts of Brenda Borden and President Ken, had completed her application and sent it through the appropriate channels but unfortunately she was deferred.
Undaunted, the club has been approached by three other excellent candidates for application next year, Kathryn Valentine, Mia Morgan and Melissa Haberlen, all from the Vinings area. We obviously want these young women to be highly considered for next year.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
The Committee consisted of Brenda Borden, Director of International Service, President Ken and Harry Porter, Director at Large.
6. PROJECT

World Community Service, 3-H Grant, Kilifi Kids, Developing Tomorrows Leaders in Kilifi, Kenya, (Matching Grant #64162, Travel Grant #63707, Library Computer Grant, # 62592)

PARTNER CLUBS

Rotary Club of Vinings, Georgia, (District 6900)
Rotary Club of Kilifi, Kilifi, Kenya, (District 9200)
Rotary Club of Elmworth, Wisconsin, (District 6970)
Rotary Club of Charlotte Dilworth South End, Charlotte, North Carolina, (District 7680)
Rotary Club of Prince George, Virginia, (District 7530)

SUMMARY

Kilifi, Kenya and the surrounding district of 700,000 people, is a rural town that faces problems endemic to the developing world. One in eight children die before the age of 5, undernourishment, exacerbated by parasites is prevalent and due to this, schooling and ongoing education is threatened, making it difficult to create a lasting environment for ongoing change.

This project is a four stage program:

First: Deworming school aged children. Initially, the project, through the Kilifi Rotary Club and the District Hospital will fund the de-worming of 28,000 primary school students. This is of immense importance as these children drink from water supplies that are unfit for human consumption. A $.29 treatment increases student attendance by one a half months per year. Getting these children to school is the obvious desired result.

Second: Providing Scholarships to 50 students. Partnering with Scope International and KESHO, a scholarship organization in Kenya, the program will pay for the secondary education of 50 students. The drop out rate is 90% once a child completes the eighth grade as the cost of furthering their secondary education is prohibitive as the median income level is $30 per month. Each scholarship amounts to $250 per student for the year.

Third: Computer Labs for Three Schools. The project will provide computers and other related equipment to three high schools and a public library in Kilifi, Kenya. Approximately 100 computers will be purchased and shipped to these four sites where currently no computers exist. Training will be offered to students, teachers, and local community members on how to use the computers and access the Internet.
Four: Virtual Exchange. A partnership will be developed between Interact clubs in Kenya and the United States with the Campbell High School Interact club leading the way to promote cultural exchange and understanding.

IMPACT
Since November 2006, the Rotary Club of Vinings, along with the partner clubs and by filing for a 3–H Matching Grant from Rotary International has raised $160,000. This includes approximately $15,000 from individuals, which was matched to reach $52,000. Other seed money came from Rotary clubs in other states. The impact of this project on the local community is significant. The computers will allow students, who otherwise would not be exposed to such technology, the opportunity and means to learn how to operate a computer and the world that it can bring to them to become “change agents” in their community. These high school students will also have access to the Internet and be able to freely communicate with others as well as learn of the world outside of their immediate surroundings. In particular, building a relationship between Interact clubs in Kenya and the United States will promote goodwill and friendship that could potentially last a lifetime. Finally, these computers will be available for public use and allow others the chance to building lifelong skills and potentially improve their living conditions.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Vinings Rotarian Marc Olsen has spearheaded this project from inception to its current state and has been the primary liaison with the Rotary Club of Kilifi. The matching grant application has been approved it is anticipated that several Vinings Rotarians will be involved in the procurement and installment of the computers in Kenya along with building a relationship between the Interact Clubs in Kilifi, Kenya and at Campbell High School in Smyrna, Georgia.
7. PROJECT

Group Study Exchange – Hosting Japan Rotary District 2730 Inbound Team

SUMMARY
As we hosted the Australian Team last year, it gives our club great pleasure to host the inbound Japanese Team this year on May 3–7th. The whole club is looking forward to hosting this distinguished group with many unique events planned.

IMPACT
As much as they are interested and excited about learning about Atlanta and the South, our club is very curious to share experiences with the Japanese Team. By hosting them in our homes and community, we'll share and exchange vocational knowledge, and spread the goodwill of both America and Rotary. We also hope the time spent with our Japanese friends will grow into a long-term relationship with them to open future opportunities for international service.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Five Rotarians will open their homes to host the inbound Japanese team during the four days they will be hosted by the Vinings Rotary Club. In addition, a majority of the club members will also have opportunities to interact with our visitors through our weekly club meeting on Wednesday and various dining and sightseeing opportunities.
1. PROJECT

Public Relations Overview

SUMMARY
Ross Henderson, Vinings Rotary Club’s Public Relations Director, has done an outstanding job of cultivating and maintaining relationships at The Neighbor newspapers (Vinings Neighbor, Sandy Springs Neighbor, and Northside Neighbor), the Marietta Daily Journal, Our Town Magazine, and The Bright Side Newspaper and the District Newsletter. In addition to his photographs, Tony Lazzaro, Brenda Borden and other Rotarians provided photographs and newspaper copy for the articles.

Attached is a listing of the publications, date of publication, and the subject matter of our public relations coverage in 2007–2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Subject matter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wingfoot Magazine</td>
<td>June–Sept 2007</td>
<td>Advertises the Vinings Rotary Run for the Kids Race</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.viningsrun.org">www.viningsrun.org</a></td>
<td>June–Sept 2007</td>
<td>Web site advertising Vinings Rotary Run for the Kids Race</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.active.com">www.active.com</a></td>
<td>June–Sept 2007</td>
<td>Web site advertising Vinings Rotary Run for the Kids Race</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.viningsga.org">www.viningsga.org</a></td>
<td>June–Sept 2007</td>
<td>Web site advertising Vinings Rotary Run for the Kids Race</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bright Side</td>
<td>April 2007</td>
<td>Tutoring at Teasley ad in the Bright Side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newspaper</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marietta Daily Journal</td>
<td>04/15/2007</td>
<td>Article and photo of Cobb Commissioner Sam Olens speaking to Vinings Rotary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bright Side</td>
<td>May 2007</td>
<td>Rotary International and Vinings Rotary Four Way test ad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marietta Daily Journal</td>
<td>08/10/2007</td>
<td>Article and photo on Campbell High Principal and Rotarian Kehl Arnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbor Newspapers</td>
<td>08/15/2007</td>
<td>Article and photo on President Ken Honeyman’s installation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbor Newspapers</td>
<td>08/15/2007</td>
<td>Article and photo on Citizen of the Year Dr. Whittle at Rotary meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbor Newspapers</td>
<td>08/29/2007</td>
<td>Announces Vinings Rotary Run for the Kids with color photo of Rotarian Robert Dothard running</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbor Newspapers</td>
<td>08/29/2007</td>
<td>Vinings Rotary Run For the Kids photo with four Rotarians and article</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bright Side</td>
<td>September 2007</td>
<td>Vinings Rotary Run For the Kids Race Results and photos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighbor Newspapers</td>
<td>10/10/2007</td>
<td>Photos and articles on Run For The Kids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bright Side Newspaper</td>
<td>November 2007</td>
<td>Photo and article on Rotarian Marshall McCabe and his Chick-fil-A business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Atlanta Journal &amp; Constitution</td>
<td>01/28/2008</td>
<td>Color photo of Rotarian Marc Olsen and full page width article on The Kilifi Kids Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakthrough Atlanta Annual Report</td>
<td>January 2008</td>
<td>Color photo of check being presented to Breakthrough personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bright Side District Newsletter</td>
<td>February 2008</td>
<td>Photo and article on Vinings Rotarian’s trip to Costa Rica to present equipment to children’s hospital</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPACT**

Our Public Relations is the clubs way of informing the local and regional community about the good works of the Rotary Club of Vinings. Public awareness at the club level and District level alike propagates the Rotary spirit.
2. PROJECT

New Web Site Implementation

SUMMARY
The club had a web site that had been neglected due to the in-club web master leave our club and was the site was never updated. President Ken mandated the club institute a new web site and sought out the most effective, intuitive site to purchase. The club chose the offering by Club Runner and recently launched it.

IMPACT
Thus far, the club has been greatly informed and uses the site as its informational source. Members are encouraged to file, post and update the areas of service they are engaged in and the site is now the repository for “all things Vinings Rotary”. A great improvement!

CLUB PARTICIPATION
All members. The results have spoken for themselves; our club is now far more highly organized, efficient with well informed members who understand the inner workings of Rotary on an intimate basis.
3. PROJECT
Public Relations – In the Neighborhood

SUMMARY
The main goal of our Public Relations over and above taking pictures of our events and projects, is to form relationships with our local civic neighbors. The Vinings area is known for its “village feel” and we have worked closely with a number of these clubs over the years including the Vinings Civic Club, the Vinings Historical Preservation Society, the Vinings Homeowners Association and the Women’s Club of Vinings.

IMPACT
Our alliances enables us to reciprocate with various community service endeavors, particularly our signature event, the Run for the Kids. As this project is massive in its scope from planning to race day, these organizations have been great patrons with the Rotary Club of Vinings for many years. They have sponsored the event from a financial standpoint and have aided in manning the event on race day. Likewise, our club performs local projects such as the cemetery clean ups and the semi annual Vinings road clean up. The public relations surrounding these events with these groups can’t be quantified and we’re fortunate to have developed such great relationships with these groups with previous Rotary administrations and look forward to a long continuation.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Depending on the co-sponsored event, anywhere from six to twenty plus Rotarians.
4. PROJECT

Club Bulletin

SUMMARY
Weekly meetings are the core of our Rotary activities and as such, the responsibility of ensuring continuity to the programs and have the membership kept up to speed concerning our numerous activities is squarely on President Ken and Paula Wooding, our Club Bulletin Administrator.

IMPACT
The Club Bulletin was the sole information source for club activities prior to the aforementioned new website that our club has recently implemented. Along with the Rotary fellowship at our regular Wednesday meetings, the members enjoy sitting down to their lunch and reading the Club Bulletin to see what has been recently accomplished from a project standpoint, review the Rotary Thought for the Week, read a brief on the day’s speaker and see the recent birthdays and anniversaries of members. Time well spent reviewing the information prior to engaging in Rotary for the day!

CLUB PARTICIPATION
All members are expected to give Rotarian Paula their information prior to the print deadline of Tuesday, noon. Our Bulletins are professionally printed by Rotarian Joe Luranc, who also serves as our Sergeant at Arms, by his company, Print Wave, located in the building.
A. Community Service – Humanitarian / Domestic

1. PROJECT
Run For The Kids, (Cooperative Community Project)

SUMMARY
This is the Rotary Club of Vinings signature fund raising project. The key objective of the Run For The Kids is to raise money for our focus charities from the community at-large, although our Rotary club members can and do provide support as sponsors. This year’s Run For The Kids was held on September 8, 2007. Forty sponsors and almost 380 paid registrants contributed to total race income of over $38,000. Runner participation in the race included a number of Rotarians who are members of clubs all over Georgia! This race has a reputation among the running community of being one of the top 10 neighborhood races in the state. As this is our lead money raising function, the total club is involved with the Race Committee making this an exciting event for the club and the race participants with the ultimate beneficiaries being the worthy charities we sponsor.
IMPACT

After race-related expenses of approximately $8,000, we disbursed $38,000 in net proceeds split between seven (7) charities:

- Calvary Children’s Home $13,000
- Good Samaritan Health Center $13,000
- Breakthrough Atlanta $4,000
- Girls on the Run $2,500
- Teasley Tiger Paws $2,000
- Blind and Low Vision Services $2,000
- Centers for Children and Young Adults $1,000
- Wonder Root Artist Group $500

$38,000

Advertisements and announcements for the race reach runners in The Wingfoot, Sports and Fitness Magazine, and Georgia Athlete (combined circulation of 92,500). A special announcement Rotary banner stretched over Paces Ferry Road gathers over 750,000 impressions during the 30 days it is in place. The club distributes over 20,000 announcement flyers featuring Rotary and the Run For The Kids to runners at the Peachtree Road Race, the Cobb Challenge, and a number of other races in the summer months.

As well, we tied the race to the Rotary International Literacy Day as we gave out 75 dictionaries to the children race participants as they finished the race.

Publicity this year was outstanding, with a multi-page spread in the Vinings Neighbor and the Northside Neighbor in the Sports Section of these publications. We had publicity in those papers as well as The Bright Side and the Marietta Daily Journal.

CLUB PARTICIPATION

The race committee meets 11 out of 12 months of the year holding meetings weekly or bi-monthly. The main committee consists of 6–10 members throughout the year. We have 100% participation for our signature event. All members of the Vinings Rotary Club participate to engage sponsorships, runners, volunteers, and in-kind donations as well as working the race the day of the event.
2. PROJECT

Calvary Children’s Home Support

SUMMARY
Our history of support of The Calvary Children’s Home dates back ten (10) years as one of the Rotary Club of Vinings’ primary beneficiary partners. The Calvary Children’s Home provides food, shelter, and clothing to 25 children who have been abandoned or neglected. Within a faith–based environment, the organization provides lasting guidance and individual care and attention for children aged 6–18. The services they provide enable these children to live as normal a life as possible, attend school and be responsible for their actions. We are proud of our affiliation with this worthy organization.

IMPACT
The Club met at the Home for its regularly scheduled luncheon on October 17, 2007, to tour the home and further develop relationships with the staff and children. Several of the children have a history of participating as runners or volunteers in our club’s aforementioned Run For The Kids race. The Calvary Children’s Home was one of three primary beneficiaries of the Run For The Kids race with a donation of $13,000.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
A committee of two (2) Rotarians provides planning and an interface with Calvary. This committee meets throughout the year to plan events and provide guidance for the club. Twenty five of our members drove to Calvary in October to attend our regularly scheduled meeting where we share lunch with the children and they proudly tour us about their facilities. On November 10th, Rotarian Shawn Bendig took a group of 20 Calvary kids to the Atlanta Zoo and they were fortunate to have Ms. Bendig give them a personal tour of the facilities as Shawn is the marketing director for the zoo.
3. PROJECT

Good Samaritan Center Support

SUMMARY
The Good Samaritan Center has been one of the primary recipients of the proceeds of the Vinings Rotary Run For The Kids race since the inception of the race. The Good Samaritan Center provides healthcare to inner city families on the model of close interaction between doctor and patient. In 1995, Dr. Bill Warren left his private pediatric practice in Sandy Springs to fulfill a calling; he wanted to serve Atlanta’s neediest residents. Such a level of care is not supported by Medicare, Medicaid, PeachCare, or other public assistance programs and must be supplemented by donations from community partners like the Rotary Club of Vinings. This year’s contribution totaled $13,000 from the September 2007 race event.

IMPACT
In addition to serving this worthwhile local community project, we find that we make good friends and expose what the idea of being a Rotarian is all about. While providing good quality health care to inner city (and Cobb County) low income residents, the Good Samaritan Center has been invaluable in promoting the Rotary Club of Vinings and the Run For The Kids to their other benefactors and supporters. In 1998, the Good Samaritan Health Center was formed and in 1999, it opened for service with a staff of eight, and a handful of volunteers. The Center has grown rapidly having over 17,500 patient visits in 2006.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
As part of the Run For The Kids, virtually every member of the Rotary Club of Vinings participates in this effort. Fifteen club members have visited the facility located in downtown Atlanta in October of last year as well as Dr. Warren has come to the club as a guest speaker every year.
4. PROJECT

Clean Water Project – Adopt-A-Stream/Lake Alatoona Clean Up, (Environmental Concerns)

SUMMARY
As a focus item at the International and District levels, we wanted to take on a number of multi-faceted programs in support of clean water. The Georgia Environmental Protection Division coordinates a citizen volunteer water quality monitoring and stewardship program in Georgia. The program is called Georgia Adopt-A-Stream and is a network of volunteers, local governments, and other partners who are committed to studying and protecting the streams, rivers, lakes and wetlands of the State.

Our Rotary Club is jointly doing a water testing project with our Interact Club at Campbell High School. The Interact Club members and several members of the Vinings Rotary Club received their water testing kits and were trained on how and when to test their assigned body of water. They send the data in monthly to the Cobb County Water System for analysis and reporting at the local, state, and federal levels through the AAS program.

IMPACT
We believe that by simply testing the quality of local bodies of water, both moving and sedentary, and reporting that data back to the AAS program, Vinings Rotarians are helping maintain clean water in our community and assisting in the identification of problem areas that can be further addressed and cleaned-up. Accordingly, the Lake Alatoona clean up represents our club’s ongoing participation in clean water initiatives that Rotary International is so heavily involved in.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Three Vinings Rotarians are actively involved in this project – Gant Adams, Don Henry, and Tony Lazarro – along with twenty Interactors from Campbell High School. They have individually adopted bodies of water near their homes which include streams, rivers, and lakes. As stated earlier, chemical and visual monitoring is performed on a monthly basis with the results reported back to the AAS program via the Cobb County Water System. As part of this important initiative, four Rotarians and twenty Interact students participated in the Lake Alatoona clean up on September 5th, 2007.
5. PROJECT

Co-Operative Project–Quarterly Clean-Up –Paces Ferry Road, (Environmental Concerns)

SUMMARY
For a number of years, Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Vinings have joined forces with The Vinings Village Civic Association, the Vinings Historical Preservation Society, the Women’s Club of Vinings and the Campbell Interact Club to clean up a one mile stretch of Paces Ferry Road from the Chattahoochee River to Paces Mill Road in July. In addition to improving the appearance of the road, we know that this also keeps trash out of the river. This clean-up takes place four times per year.

IMPACT
In addition to serving this worthwhile local community project, we find that we make good friends, and expose what the idea of being a Rotarian is all about. In fact, a number of Vinings residents that have been active with us and the other civic groups Rotarians have joined the Rotary Club of Vinings as a result of their exposure during these clean ups.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Eight to twelve Rotarians regularly join this effort four times per year, along with several members of the Interact Club of Campbell High School and the aforementioned civic clubs.
6.  PROJECT
Cooperative Project – Vinings Cemetery Clean-Up,  
(Environmental Concerns)

SUMMARY
On Saturday morning, October 27, 2007, six Vinings Rotarians and 30 Interactors from Campbell High School met at the Paces West Office Building with rakes, shovels, clippers, weed eaters to tackle the clean-up of the old African-American cemetery that has been neglected for many years. We were not alone. Vinings Rotary led the effort, and enlisted the support of members of the Vinings Village Civic Association, a local Cub Scout Troop, and employees of Summit Bank and Trammell Crow Property Management Company. All in all we had about 40 people participating in this clean-up. Helga Hong, from Cobb County Cemeteries, furnished over 100 trash bags and worked for over three hours herself to try to clean-up the debris. By 12:00pm, the group had bagged up about 100 bags of debris, piled up limbs and small branches, and uncovered several dozen monuments that had been hidden for years. Chairpeople Jane Trinkle, Edivette Lopez-Benn, and Mike Markman organized this project and put in many hours of hard labor along with the others. The cemetery really looks great!

IMPACT
In addition to serving this worthwhile local community project, we find that we make good friends, expose what the idea of being a Rotarian is all about, and involve young people in the idea of Service Above Self. We worked not only with other civic organizations but the civic-minded employees of two of the tenants in the building that overlooked the cemetery.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
This was a project brought to the attention of the Rotary Club of Vinings Board in 2005 by Rhonda Murray, a former member of our club. Rotarian Chuck Held enlisted the support of Edivette Lopez-Benn and Mike Markman after the unanimous support of the Board of Directors as well as Rotarian Debby Bolt enlisted the support of the Vinings Village Civic Association.
7. PROJECT
Support of the Smyrna Senior Citizens Center

SUMMARY
We have supported the Smyrna Senior Citizens Center for many years. Our efforts are built around involving the seniors in the life of our club and bringing our club to them by hosting a pre-holiday party on November 20th, 2007. Each month during the course of the year, Don White from our club brings seniors to lunch at our club at which time they are honored as our guest and acknowledged by the members.

IMPACT
Our club sponsors the Thanksgiving Lunch with the members of the Smyrna Seniors each year as a joint Rotary meeting and lunch at the Smyrna Senior Citizens Center. This year, we hosted the party at their location on Windy Hill. As is our tradition, we gave each of the seniors a gift, compliments of the Vinings Rotary Club. This year our club gave each of the forty seniors a fanny pack with the Rotary International logo stuffed with items such as pens, notepads, lip balm, plastic pill boxes, tissue paper and the like. Our regular, monthly invitations let the seniors know of our concern for them and our appreciation for them as valuable members of the community.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
We were well represented at the Pre-Holiday Party with twenty four Rotarians and forty Smyrna Seniors present. Rotarians Chuck Held, Jim Dalton, Jane Trinkle and Ann Hudgins led the way with the idea of the fanny packs, the purchase of the items and eventual stuffing of each. Rotarian Don Henry is the coordinator of the Smyrna Seniors Center and is to be commended for his tireless efforts. They were all very happy and appreciative of the gift and the lunch we provided for them.
8. **PROJECT**

Clothing Drive, MUST Ministries, (Alleviate Poverty)

**SUMMARY**

MUST Ministries in Smyrna provides support to low income and homeless families throughout Cobb County. Throughout the year, they collect food, clothing, and monetary donations to carry out their mission. The Vinings Rotary Club collected over 150 items to donate to this organization to provide men, women and children appropriate clothing for job interviews and everyday wear.

**IMPACT**

During the Fall of 2007, Dr. Ben Thomas coordinated the collection of gently worn suits and other clothing items from our members that they wanted to donate because they were too small or just never worn. These items were donated to MUST Ministries as described above. The suits that we donated were given to local men who wore them while going on job interviews. The boost of confidence of having good quality clothing is an important factor in getting back into the mainstream of gainful employment.

**CLUB PARTICIPATION**

Coordinated by chair Dr. Thomas with assistance from Jane Trinkle, this project enjoyed widespread donations from 25 Rotarians of 150 suits and clothing items and were delivered and distributed to MUST Ministries.
9. PROJECT
Cobb Christmas, (Alleviate Poverty)

SUMMARY
Cobb Christmas is a non-profit, non-denominational organization, solely dedicated to helping the low-income and working-poor families of Cobb County during the holiday season. Over the past five years Cobb Christmas has helped to provide over 6,000 families and 16,000 children with gifts of food and toys during the Christmas holiday.

IMPACT
We were able to use these funds to directly impact the lives of local children who may not have had a Merry Christmas. Our donated funds were used to purchase gifts that were distributed to local youth as part of the Christmas season.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
The Rotary Club of Vinings participated by volunteering with the set up of this year’s event on December 13th at Jim Miller Park in Smyrna. Five Rotarians took part and not only set up the event, but handed out gifts to the needy families that attended. Rotarian Edivette Lopez–Benn piloted this project.
10. PROJECT
Trinity House, (Drug Awareness)

SUMMARY
This was the third year for the Vinings Rotary Club to support Trinity House. These men are recovering drug addicts and alcoholics who are working hard to get their lives back on track and become productive citizens again. Many of the men are young college graduates that took a wrong turn and are now trying to become productive citizens again.

IMPACT
These men have forged a strong bond not only with our club, but the Interact Club as well over the past three years. They have gone out to the school on a number of occasions and presented the seniors with a series of talks and the impact drugs and alcohol have played in their lives. Two members gone to Campbell and have spoken to seventy students and faculty in January. The reception has been awe inspiring to say the least.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Rotarian Jim Wright has spearheaded this project as he has been involved with the work at Trinity House for a number of years and has seen how lives have been changed by the work of this organization. The Rotary Club of Vinings furnished the dinner for about 50 people with Jim doing all the leg work of ordering the meal, picking it up, and delivering it to the Trinity House facility in downtown Atlanta. On March 7th, a dinner was held with seven Rotarians serving the meals and aided by eight Interact club members. The meal was provided by Rotarian Marshall McCabe, owner of a Chick-Fil-A franchise.
11. PROJECT

AIDS Awareness

SUMMARY
The program is presented by AID Atlanta, an organization that gives informative and realistic presentations to educate and raise awareness of this disease. They target teenagers before they are at risk. This year, we sponsored two programs at Campbell High School, another Cobb County School where we sponsor an Interact club. The two programs were presented to a cross-section of students in all grades (9–12). The programs were held during the Health or P.E. classes of these grades on December 3rd and another will be presented on May 1st at Kell High School in Cobb County. At Campbell, the school size are so large that it required two separate programs to be able to reach as many students as possible – approximately 520 students attended both events. Kell is our first time to present at the school.

IMPACT
The testimonies of the presenters who are HIV+ always make an enormous impact on the students. From past experience, the students are rapt listeners and we feel this program has immeasurable influence and are happy the Rotary clubs are dedicated to providing this service.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Our chairman of this committee is Rotarian John Collins. He was tireless in his efforts to find a high school that had an opportunity for this presentation. Four (4) Vinings Rotarians were present for the presentations. The Principal of Campbell High School, Kehl Arnson, is also a member of our Rotary club.
12. PROJECT
CPR Classes – Community Service

SUMMARY
This is a new initiative sponsored by Rotarian Chuck Held. It involves teaching CPR to the club members, but including the various community organizations in the immediate area. The Vinings Civic Club, the Vinings Historical Preservation Society and the Women’s Club of Vinings participated.

IMPACT
The need to know CPR can be the difference between life and death. The project was initiated by the club and was advertised to the referenced civic organizations. The event was held at the Vinings Club on October 20th. The American Heart Association performed the class.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Twenty Rotarians attended as well as fifteen local residents that came as a result of the advertising by Rotarian Held.
13. PROJECT

Support the Vinings Historic Preservation Society, (Honoring our Local History)

SUMMARY
The Vinings Historic Preservation Society has a role in preserving the history of the small community of Vinings. Three structures are preserved, representing Vinings from the era of the War Between the States through the very early 20th century. In addition, the Society preserves other documents and articles of historical significance and coordinates with the Atlanta History Center. As members of the community, Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Vinings provide money and time towards the Society’s efforts.

IMPACT
In addition to serving this worthwhile local community organization, we find that we make good friends, expose others to what the idea of being a Rotarian is all about, and have found new members for our club in the process.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Over the course of the year, approximately ten (10) Rotarians helped with this program. The Rotary Club of Vinings provided volunteers for the Ice Cream Social in July 2007. The club took advantage of the opportunity to also promote the Run For The Kids with a display table and information. The club provided volunteers and promoted the Vinings Home Tour in October 2007.
14. PROJECT
Civic Awards

SUMMARY
The Rotary Club of Vinings committee selects a worthy Vinings Rotary Citizen of the Year. The recipient cannot be a Rotarian. They must portray a civic-minded heart and spirit and give back to the Vinings community. This award is one of the most prestigious to be made during the “passing of the gavel” dinner for our club held in the last week of June each year.

IMPACT
As part of an overall program to develop the spirit of Rotary within the community, the selection of non-Rotarians exposes the concepts of ‘Service Above Self’ to community leaders who are active in other areas. It is a wonderful public relations opportunity to bring Rotary to the broader community. Last spring, the Committee nominated Ron Sifen, President of the Vinings Homeowners Association.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
A committee of three (3) Rotarians solicits nominations for this award and makes its decision based upon a number of criteria. The presentation is made at one of our largest Family of Rotary events – the “passing of the gavel” ceremony in late June. Over 65 Rotarians and their families are present for this evening. Typically, the selection process commences in mid April and the nominee is chosen by the end of April.
15. PROJECT
Coins for Alzheimer’s Research Trust, (CART)

SUMMARY
The CART program benefits Alzheimer’s research and Rotary clubs participate in this funding initiative. The Rotary Club of Vinings has sponsored this program since inception.

IMPACT
Each week the coin jar is displayed and passed to the members for loose change. Members are encouraged by President Ken to contribute. All proceeds that are received in the Rotary year will be matched and forwarded on to the appropriate recipients.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
All club members participate.
16. PROJECT
Troop Boxes, Project Horizon

SUMMARY
In conjunction with Lovett High School, a new initiative will be conducted by the school and the Rotary Club of Vinings. Project Horizon will provide non-perishable items to the troops stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

IMPACT
The results of troop boxes are immeasurable on morale and to have a “little bit of home” delivered. The soldiers appreciate the thoughtfulness and receive items that may be in short supply or nearly impossible to get through regular military channels. Items that will be packaged and sent are:

- a Kodak one time use camera
- AT&T pre-paid calling card
- Gum
- Candy
- Small pads of paper
- Pen
- Lip Balm
- Mini toothbrush & tooth paste
- 50 stuffed animals (these are being put in the mailed box for the soldiers to give out to local children).

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Four members packaged the items with the Lovett students which took place in late February.
17. PROJECT
Georgia Special Olympics Support

SUMMARY
The goal of Special Olympics is to help bring persons with intellectual disabilities into the larger society where they are accepted, respected, and given the chance to become useful and productive citizens. Special Olympics Georgia invests in people with intellectual disabilities, helping them to develop athletic skills, while also promoting the abilities of the athletes off the field.

IMPACT
President Ken coaches a traveling ice hockey team, the Atlanta Fire, comprised of sixteen year olds who are at the top of their game, but, as young men, need to understand the value of community service. The thought is a reciprocal arrangement of having the Special Olympics athletes provide the joy of playing sports to these young men in return for having them teach how to ice skate. A tentative date is set for mid-March and arrangements are being made with the Cobb county coordinator. Special Olympics has a unique value: to show the world that every person counts and that every person can be something good when we work together.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
President Ken is recruiting five hearty souls to strap on the skates and hit the ice at the home rink of the team in Alpharetta.
As well, at our official visit from District Governor Bill Woulfin, the club presented him a check for $1,000 to the Georgia Special Olympics in lieu of any pre-packaged gift.
B. VOCATIONAL SERVICE

1. PROJECT

Computer Assisted Literacy Solution, (CALS), North American Literacy Gold Award

SUMMARY

Rotary International initiated the North American Region Assisted Literacy Solution and the Rotary Club of Vinings viewed this as an opportunity to institute it at Teasley Elementary School, located in Smyrna. This is a New program for our club. This program enables at-risk children to improve dramatically their math and reading skills. Rotarian Joanne Robblee, also the principal at Teasley, and President Ken discussed the implementation of this program at Teasley. Upon investigation, it was determined the CALS program would be a great fit for the school and more importantly, the children due to the in-situ infrastructure: computers, teachers and students.

IMPACT

The Rotary Club of Vinings raised the money to provide for the costs of the software and 27 individual licenses at a cost of $85 each to the targeted students. The great benefit to the program is the test results are immediate, the children are enthusiastic and the Autoskill programs are easy to use and thus far have exceeded all expectations. The program runs from January until the end of the school year and the scores for children who had previously struggled are “off the charts.” Even the administrators at Autoskill have commented and congratulated these children. The students are focused, the teachers and children alike see tangible results and the parents are ecstatic with the results of this excellent after school program. Time very well spent.

CLUB PARTICIPATION

The benefits, however great, and due to automation, require only two Rotarians.
2. PROJECT

English for Successful Living, (ESL Program)

SUMMARY
Tutoring and mentoring of adult, immigrant students participating in the English for Successful Living (“ESL”) program. The mission of ESL is to provide immigrant adults an opportunity to learn English. Without English language proficiency, most newly arrived immigrants face poverty, poor housing and diminished educational performance by their children. With English language skills, they are able to participate in and contribute more fully to every aspect of our society.

IMPACT
This project for the Vinings Rotary Club and has proved to be very successful after two years of implementation. The program’s participants live in counties all over Metropolitan Atlanta, and recent enrollees come from thirty (30) different countries including Bosnia-Herzegovina, Thailand, Iran, Italy, Morocco and Uzbekistan as well as many countries throughout South and Central America. The retention and promotion rates of this program are exemplary: over 50% of ESL’s students complete a session and are eligible to study at the next level compared to a national average for programs of this type of 20%.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
- Three members of our club routinely provide tutoring and mentoring on Saturday mornings at Holy Innocents’ Episcopal Church and School which provides classroom space for the program. An additional two members have volunteered to be substitute teachers.
- As one of our weekly programs, we had the director of ESL introduce the program to our membership and explain why our work in the program is so important and appreciated.
- A member of our club, Mac MacDougall, has been elected to the Board of ESL.
3. PROJECT

Adult Literacy

SUMMARY
Tutoring and mentoring of adult students at Cobb County Adult Education Center. The club will be providing 10 GED scholarships worth $950 to worthy candidates.

IMPACT
Our project continues to have a meaningful impact on adult literacy and adult education in our community. We have increased awareness within our club of the importance of adult literacy and have obtained a strong measure of support.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
- Four members of our club routinely provide tutoring and mentoring 1–2 times per week in the Adult Basic Education and the GED classes at Cobb County Adult Education Center. Volunteers have also been requested to lecture on 20th Century history events.
- As one of our weekly programs, we had the director and a teacher from the Cobb County Adult Ed Center describe their backgrounds and explain to our members why our work at the center is so appreciated.
- A member of our club, Walt Coakley, has been elected to the Board of the Cobb Literacy Council.
4. PROJECT
Laws of Life Essay Contest, Character Education

SUMMARY
High school students are encouraged to write essays about what is important to them in life. This Rotary sponsored initiative has been well received and continues to grow.

IMPACT
This project has a positive impact on the students who participate by challenging them to consider and articulate the things that are important to them in life. This year, Vinings Rotary is sponsoring two winners from Kell High School in Cobb County. Each of the winners will receive a cash prize of $100 and be invited to read their submissions at a weekly meeting of our club in early May. As is our tradition, their parents and the respective school principals will also be invited to attend.

 CLUB PARTICIPATION
- President Ken Honeyman attended the Georgia Laws of Life training meeting in 2006. Ken was honored in 2006 as a “model” for how a Rotary Club should interface with a local high school on a LOL essay contest. While our historical partner school – South Cobb High School – was unable to participate in the program this year, Ken has worked to form new relationships with Kell High School to continue our work with this program.
5. **PROJECT**

Character Education, Rotary Speakers – Community Outreach

**SUMMARY**

Speak to school youth about the importance of building strong character and treating others with respect in support of the Georgia Department of Education Character Education Program.

**IMPACT**

In this day and age, being a positive influence on a young person’s life is paramount and our club believes very strongly on this issue. We feel certain we’ve positively influenced the youth involved.

**CLUB PARTICIPATION**

The Rotary Club of Vinings has allocated funds for a Character Education Breakfast at Campbell High School in the spring. Teachers select one student who has exemplified the elements of the Georgia Character Education Program. The club funds a Chick-Fil-A breakfast where the Principal recognizes their achievements and a Rotarian discusses the character elements of the Four-Way Test.

Members of our club have spoken at local area schools on the topic of character education.

Our club has offered speakers on Character to the principals of two local high schools. One of our club members, Bill Borden, is the second Rotarian in history (and the only Georgian) to finish the Iditarod Dog Race in Alaska. He makes presentations to youth about certain character elements that permitted him to accomplish the amazing feat.
6. PROJECT
Teasley Tiger Tutoring Team

SUMMARY
Club members perform weekly tutoring and mentoring to students at Teasley Elementary School in Smyrna, Georgia.

IMPACT
We believe a real and tangible impact is made in the lives of young children with regular tutoring and mentoring. Over 16 different Rotarians have participated in this program over the years and have remained in touch with their respective students as they’ve moved from elementary to middle school. Recently, the members read to the children Dr. Suess’ Birthday books to honor this innovator in children’s reading and enjoyment of his books.

Upon attending the District Literacy Conference recently, the club purchased ten copies of the book, “Elmer and Charley’s Apple Dumpling XXXX”. The book was written by a Rotarian in Iowa NAME and through a story about a child picking his neighbor’s apples and making apple dumplings to sell with them, he wondered if his actions pass the Four Way Test. The club bought the books for the classrooms at Teasley Elementary. They have been read not only by the teachers but the principal, Rotarian Joanne Robblee over the intercom. The book makes a great character educational statement.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Three Rotarians currently serve as tutors in this program with two more to be trained.
7. PROJECT

Celebration of Excellence

SUMMARY

This organization provides a celebration and support for youth in a foster care setting to recognize graduation from high school, completion of a GED, graduation from college, or the achievement of an advanced degree. The organization also provides scholarships, an area in which our club participated this year.

IMPACT

For the 2007–2008 Rotary year, our club will select from a group of candidates and choose one in mid April. The successful candidate will become an integral part of our club, as they will attend our weekly meetings, several Family of Rotary events and receive individual attention from two specific Rotarians to help guide him in life, his college career, and expose him to more opportunities that exist for future personal and professional development.

CLUB PARTICIPATION

We are fortunate to have Susan Alison, Director of Celebration of Excellence, to guide the club in its quest to locate suitable candidates for nomination. Three members will form the selection committee.
8. PROJECT

Business Ethics

SUMMARY
Several initiatives aimed at promoting high ethical standards on the part of all club members including:
Rotary business cards with the Four-Way Test on one side and Club contact information on the reverse.
Rotary Four-Way Test Color Placards were given to all members for display in their places of business.
All members recite the Four-Way Test at each weekly meeting.
To complete a partnership program with our Interact Club, the members there made a banner for the Vinings Library and the high school as well citing the Four Way Test to be hung in the main lobby.

IMPACT
We have created greater awareness about the importance of maintaining high ethical standards in business from a Rotary standpoint. We have provided members with constant reminders to make sure they live up to the credo in everything they do.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
All members are involved.
9. PROJECT

Rotary in the Workplace

SUMMARY
Four-Way Test Placards were given to all members to frame and hang in their offices. The members were encouraged to share what Rotary is all about by sending out a letter and Rotary Fact Sheet to all clients, family members, and friends.

IMPACT
By making sure that we are the best Rotarians we can be, we will be much more effective at promoting Rotary within our own businesses as well as to those within our community. We have also made our members aware of the fact that creating awareness about Rotary is every Rotarian's responsibility.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
All members are involved.
10. PROJECT
Wheelchair Foundation

SUMMARY
Rotarian Marion Blackwell has served as Chairperson of The Wheelchair Foundation respectively, at the District level this year under DG Bill Woulfin’s administration. Marion Blackwell was tasked this year to serve as the District-wide Chairperson of The Wheelchair Foundation to promote and support this worthwhile cause. Based on preliminary numbers, 2007–2008 will be a record-setting year in the number of wheelchairs donated from individuals and clubs all over District 6900.

IMPACT
Both of these Vinings Rotarians have had a lasting impact on all of the Rotary clubs and respective Rotarians in District 6900 this year through their support and promotion of the Vocational Service Avenue with our District. Our club alone has purchased 380 + wheelchairs and the goal in this administration is to reach 400 wheelchairs before July 1st.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
The Rotary Club of Vinings has stood firmly behind Marion and nearly every member has purchased a wheelchair.
11. PROJECT
Excellence and Civic Awards, (Publicizing the Four Way Test)

SUMMARY
Recognize local businesses and outstanding local residents for Rotary Club of Vinings awards. Businesses and candidates must exemplify the principles of Rotary.

IMPACT
In the recent past, the Rotary Club of Vinings have worked with the Vinings Business Association and is continuing the partnership this year as well. The winning business will receive a small plaque that can be displayed in their place of business, and a quarter page advertisement will be placed in the local newspaper announcing the winners along with pictures from the presentation ceremony.
The club also sponsors a Rotary Citizen of the Year, that lives up to the high Rotary standards of “Service Above Self” and lives the Four Way Test to the best of their capability.
This will serve to promote both Rotary and the winning businesses in our community.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Three members of our club have been working to continue this project in the community.
We also have one Rotarian who is the vice president of the Vinings Business Association, and their connection with this group has proved invaluable in getting this project established.
12. PROJECT
MoneyWise Workshop for Teens and Young Adults

SUMMARY
This is a new program the club is implementing this year to teach young adults, in this case the Interact club and the general student body at Campbell High School, about money, how it works and how to use it to the best of their abilities. It’s a one and a half hour workshop based on three areas of money management: 1. Understanding Your Money, 2. Spending Wisely and Using Credit and 3. Saving and Investing.

IMPACT
The students that attend this workshop will be able to identify their own personal financial goals, distinguish needs from wants and begin budgeting their expenses, understand what credit is and use it wisely, describe how compounding helps savings and investments grow, name at least two basic investment concepts and name at least three types of investments.
The Rotary Club of Vinings counts many members from the financial community and this program is a natural extension of the members expertise.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Rotarian Brad Ward, who is the regional manager at Charles Schwab will conduct these seminars in mid April. The plan is to conduct these in concert with Campbell’s Interact meetings as well as the business department.
C. INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

1. PROJECT
World Community Service, 3–H Grant, Kilifi Kids, Developing Tomorrows Leaders in Kilifi, Kenya, (Matching Grant #64162, Travel Grant #63707, Library Computer Grant, # 62592)

PARTNER CLUBS
Rotary Club of Vinings, Georgia, (District 6900)
Rotary Club of Kilifi, Kilifi, Kenya, (District 9200)
Rotary Club of Elmworth, Wisconsin, (District 6970)
Rotary Club of Charlotte Dilworth South End, Charlotte, North Carolina, (District 7680)
Rotary Club of Prince George, Virginia, (District 7530)

SUMMARY
Kilifi, Kenya and the surrounding district of 700,000 people, is a rural town that faces problems endemic to the developing world. One in eight children die before the age of 5, undernourishment, exacerbated by parasites is prevalent and due to this, schooling and ongoing education is threatened, making it difficult to create a lasting environment for ongoing change.

This project is a four stage program:
First: Deworming school aged children. Initially, the project, through the Kilfi Rotary Club and the District Hospital will fund the de-worming of 28,000 primary school students. This is of immense importance as these children literally drink from water supplies that are unfit for human consumption. A $.29 treatment increases student attendance by one a half months per year. Getting these children to school is the obvious desired result.
Second: **Providing Scholarships to 50 students.** Partnering with Scope International and KESHO, a scholarship organization in Kenya, the program will pay for the secondary education of 50 students. The drop out rate is 90% once a child completes the eighth grade as the cost of furthering their secondary education is prohibitive as the median income level is $30 per month. Each scholarship amounts to $250 per student for the year.

Third: **Computer Labs for Three Schools.** The project will provide computers and other related equipment to three high schools and a public library in Kilifi, Kenya. Approximately **100 computers** will be purchased and shipped to these four sites where no computers currently exist. Training will be offered to students, teachers, and local community members on how to use the computers and access the Internet.

Four: **Virtual Exchange.** A partnership will be developed between Interact clubs in Kenya and the United States with the Campbell High School Interact club leading the way to promote cultural exchange and understanding.

**IMPACT**

Since November 2006, the Rotary Club of Vinings, along with the partner clubs and by filing for a 3-H Matching Grant from Rotary International has raised **$160,000**. This includes approximately $15,000 from individuals, which was matched to reach $52,000. Other seed money came from Rotary clubs in other states. The impact of this project on the local community is significant. The computers will allow students, who otherwise would not be exposed to such technology, the opportunity and means to learn how to operate a computer and the world that it can bring to them to become “change agents” in their community. These high school students will also have access to the Internet and be able to freely communicate with others as well as learn of the world outside of their immediate surroundings. In particular, building a relationship between Interact clubs in Kenya and the United States will promote goodwill and friendship that could potentially last a lifetime. Finally, these computers will be available for public use and allow others the chance to building lifelong skills and potentially improve their living conditions.

**CLUB PARTICIPATION**

Vinings Rotarian Marc Olsen has spearheaded this project from inception to its current state and has been the primary liaison with the Rotary Club of Kilifi. The matching grant application has been approved it is anticipated that several Vinings Rotarians will be involved in the procurement and installment of the computers in Kenya along with building a relationship between the Interact Clubs in Kilifi, Kenya and at Campbell High School in Smyrna, Georgia.
2. PROJECT

World Community Service – Children’s Hospital of Costa Rica, Matching Grant #61922

PARTNER CLUB
Rotary Club of Rohrmoser, San Jose, Costa Rica, (Official Sister Club)
District 4240

SUMMARY
This project supports the emergency department at the National Children’s Hospital of Costa Rica in San Jose and provides a new defibrillator and electrocardiogram machines which are needed for the replacement of the hospital. The hospital is the only one in the entire country that’s dedicated to the health of the estimated 1.2 million children under the age of 13.

IMPACT
The hospital's equipment was over 30 years old and as such, this project has provided life-saving equipment and ensures that children receive accurate diagnostics for a wide range of cardio-respiratory problems. Last year, there were 350,000 services provided to approximately 250,000 children, and the current ECG machine alone was used last year on approximately 4,000 children who required this diagnostic test. More than 160,000 of these services were performed in the emergency department – one of the busiest units in the entire hospital. Total cost of the equipment is $12,800 with $1,550 coming from the Rotary Club of Rohrmoser, $3,000 coming from the Rotary Club of Vinings, $3,000 coming from DDF from District 6900, and $5,250 from a Matching Grant of The Rotary Foundation.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Vinings Rotarian Serge Sautre helped make the initial connection via his wife who’s originally from Costa Rica and knew several Rotarians in the Rohrmoser Club. Four Vinings Rotarians hosted the Director and Chief Fundraiser of the hospital to dinner when they were in the Atlanta area for a conference in September 2006; this was our first face-to-face meeting with the recipient of this project. Several other Rotarians were involved in the writing of the grant application.
In January of this year, Past President Gant Adams, International Director Brenda Borden and her husband Bill and Rotarians Paul and Betty Smith traveled to the hospital to view the equipment in use and meet the members again from the Rohrmoser club. While in Costa Rica, these Rotarians visited a seniors center and due to the lack of a paved compound at the center, the club raised $4,000 to finance the cost of the paving. This is most important as during the rainy season the senior’s center is virtually inaccessible due to the muddy conditions. This contribution is part of the Rohrmoser club’s efforts to make the center a hospitable location serving their senior community.
3. PROJECT

Children of the Andes

SUMMARY
This is an ongoing project which supplies uniforms, hot meals and school supplies for street kids in several day care centers in South America. For the third year in a row, we donated $1,000 towards this worthy cause.

IMPACT
This project has great and far reaching benefits to many children in South America as they grow-up and complete their secondary education. Several e-mails and cards have come from the children expressing their gratitude for our role in their upbringing.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Rotarians Bill and Brenda Borden met Rotarian Gonzalo Rueda (Rotary Club of Quito Valle Interoceánico) while in Ecuador in 2005 and learned of this worthwhile project. An ongoing email relationship has resulted as well as the children sending letters and Christmas cards to the Vinings Rotary Club.
Odd Hannsen, a member of the Quito Club came to our club and gave the club an unbelievable presentation on the children they help. These street kids have virtually nothing, they are in most cases abandoned and neglected and come to the day care centers out of great need. After the presentation, our club donated an additional $1000 to the Valle Interoceanico Rotary Club to supply additional meals and uniforms to these children.
4. PROJECT

Ibarra, Ecuador, Computer Project, Matching Grant #64505

SUMMARY

Our relationship with the Ibarra Rotary Club dates back many years. Club Rotarians Dr. Harry Porter and Bill and Brenda Borden have established a personal relationship with Jaime Castenada, a Rotarian in the Ibarra Club. Mr. Castaneda has a direct geographical relationship as he has relatives in the Atlanta area, which has fostered a great “family” for our Rotary Club in Vinings through Jaime.

IMPACT

Originally, our club had funded and completed a sewer project in Ibarra. This spawned a water pipeline project in San Antonio, a neighboring community, which has ultimately resulted in a Matching Grant, #64505, to equip their local school with 15 desktop computers and 1 laptop for the school administrator. The cost of this project was $13,750. We are partnering with the Alpharetta Rotary Club to facilitate this project and they are taking a team to Ibarra to fix up and paint the school along with a team from the Ibarra Rotary Club.

CLUB PARTICIPATION

Our club, particularly Rotarians Bill and Brenda Borden, are the stalwarts of our relationship with the Ibarra Rotary Club.
5. **PROJECT**

**Group Study Exchange – Hosting Japan Rotary District 2730 Inbound Team**

**SUMMARY**

As we hosted the Australian Team last year, it gives our club great pleasure to host the inbound Japanese Team this year on May 3–7th. The whole club is looking forward to hosting this distinguished group with many unique events planned.

**IMPACT**

As much as they are interested and excited about learning about Atlanta and the South, our club is very curious to share experiences with the Japanese Team. By, hosting them in our homes and community, we'll share and exchange vocational knowledge, and spread the goodwill of both America and Rotary. We also hope the time spent with our Japanese friends will grow into a long-term relationship with them to open future opportunities for international service.

**CLUB PARTICIPATION**

Five Rotarians will open their homes to host the inbound Japanese team during the four days they will be hosted by the Vinings Rotary Club. In addition, a majority of the club members will also have opportunities to interact with our visitors through our weekly club meeting on Wednesday and various dining and sightseeing opportunities.
6. PROJECT
GRSP Student – Anne Tepedino, Columbia

SUMMARY
Anne Tepedino of Barranquilla, Columbia is our GRSP student this year, shared with the Rotary Club of Marietta Metro. Anne is the third student to be enrolled at Kennesaw State University. She is an active student who is studying pre-business and American History. She has enhanced her experience at the university through participation in many activities at the University. He has attended many Vinings Rotary weekly luncheons and events, becoming friends with many of our members.

IMPACT
We believe that through Anne’s time in the United States and her contact with Rotarians from both the Vinings and Marietta Metro clubs, she will return to her native Columbia as an ambassador for both Rotary and the United States. This we believe is the main purpose of GRSP. Anne has been a most enjoyable addition to our club this year.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Ben Thomas and his family have been gracious hosts and have served well as the host family. Their efforts have been supported by many, many other members. Joan Duncan and Brenda and Bill Borden helped with transportation to and from Kennesaw State University to our weekly lunch meetings.
D. NEW GENERATIONS

1. PROJECT
Interact Clubs

SUMMARY
Sponsor a 100+ member Interact Club at Campbell High School in Smyrna, Georgia which was founded in the 2004–2005 academic year. Interact is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young people ages 14-18. The program gives young people an opportunity to participate in fun, meaningful service projects while developing leadership skills and meeting new friends.

IMPACT
Participation grew greatly among student members to over 100 students in the club’s fourth year of existence. Our Rotary club has established a close relationship with the Interactors, faculty advisors and school administration to help support the Interact club’s objectives and initiatives. The Interact club has had numerous activities throughout the year including a water cleanup at Lake Allatoona (20 members participated), participation in Cobb County Adopt–A–Stream on a regular basis, raising money to donate a Shelter Boxes to aid victims of natural disasters throughout the world. Two new initiatives were to collect pocket change at the school for “Loose Chains to Loosen Chains” an effort to end current day slavery, as well as beginning pen pal relationships with the students of Kilifi, Africa. Locally the club started a courtyard clean up effort at their own high school.

Also, the Interact Club of Campbell High School was selected as the Best Overall Club for 2007–2008 at the recent District 6900 Interact Spring Conference.
CLUB PARTICIPATION

- The Rotary Club of Vinings provides one (1) co-chairperson and two (3) other committee members to assist in the support of our Interact club at Campbell High School. A Rotarian attends an Interact meeting every week, and we strive to participate in every service project and other activity completed by our Interact club.

- This year, for the first time, the Vinings Rotary Club and our Interact club have made a concerted effort to work together on a multitude of service projects. The Interact club has joined our Rotary club on almost every community service project we’ve completed this year, including quarterly roadside clean-ups, our Run For The Kids 5K Road Race fundraiser, the clean-up of the Vinings Cemetery, as well as the Kilifi Kids project.
2. **PROJECT**

**Youthact**

**SUMMARY**
This is a *NEW* project for the Vinings Rotary Club. Youthact’s goal is to foster community service and develop leadership skills among students in local middle schools. These clubs also serve as feeders to Interact clubs at related high schools.

**IMPACT**
We chartered our very first Youthact club at Griffin Middle School in Smyrna, Georgia on January 22, 2007, with 10 charter members and one (1) faculty advisor. The year of 2007–2008 was a rebuilding year, as the teacher/advisor as well as the 8th grade members of the club did not return to Griffin this school year. The new year brought 8 new interested members. The teacher/advisors have done a good job of getting younger students involved as well this year. Griffin is one of two feeder schools to Campbell High School which currently hosts our highly successful and award-winning Interact club.

**CLUB PARTICIPATION**
Two Rotarians were involved in the Chartering of this new Youthact club. The Club goal is to continue having at least two Rotarians involved with the support and functioning of this new club.
3. PROJECT

RYLA

SUMMARY
Sponsored and funded six scholarships for rising juniors to attend the District 6900 RYLA Conference for 2007. This is maintaining the two additional scholarships added just last year.

IMPACT
We believe our support of RYLA in sponsoring six students this year has a huge impact on the recipients which are from both our Interact club and the general student body at Campbell High School in Smyrna, Georgia. Through RYLA, the recipients will have the opportunity to learn valuable leadership and “people skills” that will benefit them throughout their personal and professional lives.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
The Rotary Club of Vinings created a three person committee to create and distribute the RYLA applications, solicit interest from the students, review the submitted applications, and the selection of six recipients from the pool of submitted applications. The total cost to the Rotary Club of Vinings was $2,250.
4. PROJECT

High School Scholarships

SUMMARY
Sponsor two scholarships at $1,500 each for worthy graduating seniors of Campbell High School in Smyrna, Georgia.

IMPACT
This is the 13th year the Rotary Club of Vinings has sponsored these scholarships for graduating seniors. Recipients can attend any two- or four-year institution in the United States they choose, and they are invited to attend a weekly Rotary meeting before leaving for college to speak to our club about the impact our scholarship will have on their pursuit of higher education.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
We have five Rotarians who serve on the Scholarship Selection Committee to solicit applications, review submissions, and award the two scholarships. Awards are made in–person at the Campbell High School Honors Night held in early May of each year.
5. PROJECT

District 6900 Leadership – Service Outside The Club

SUMMARY
President Gant Adams has served in two distinct capacities at the District level this year under DG Bill Woulfin’s administration:

- Gant Adams served as an advisor to and member of the Interact Committee in District 6900 in follow-up of his year serving as the Co-Chairperson of the Interact Committee for District 6900 in 2005–2006.
- Gant Adams was asked by PDG Claudia Mertl and Sally Platt of the Rotary Club of Marietta Metro to serve on the Abuse Prevention Committee chaired by Sally Platt. This committee was established by PDG Claudia Mertl and continued by DG Steve Stanfield to develop and recommend an abuse prevention policy for our District targeted at youth and other vulnerable persons, and Sally asked Gant to serve and give input due to his commitment to youth as it relates to Rotary in District 6900.

IMPACT
Gant Adams has had a significant and long lasting impact in 2005, 2006 and 2007 on many youth–related projects in our District. He has continued to grow, support, and promote Interact in our District and has played a key role in implementing policies and procedures to protect both the youth and other vulnerable persons we all come in contact with through Rotary service projects but also the Rotarians themselves through the Abuse Prevention Committee and its recommendations.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
The Rotary Club of Vinings has stood firmly behind Gant and his desire to serve outside of his home club through many District 6900 avenues.
TAB II

THE ROTARY CLUB OF VININGS
BEST COMMUNITY SERVICE

PROJECT
Trinity House, (Drug Awareness)

SUMMARY
This was the third year for the Vinings Rotary Club to support Trinity House. These men are recovering drug addicts and alcoholics who are working hard to get their lives back on track and become productive citizens again. Many of the men are young college graduates that took a wrong turn and are now trying to become productive citizens again.

IMPACT
These men have forged a strong bond not only with our club, but the Interact Club as well over the past three years. They have gone out to the school on a number of occasions and presented the seniors with a series of talks and the impact drugs and alcohol have played in their lives. Two members gone to Campbell and have spoken to seventy students and faculty in January. The reception has been awe inspiring to say the least.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Rotarian Jim Wright has spearheaded this project as he has been involved with the work at Trinity House for a number of years and has seen how lives have been changed by the work of this organization. The Rotary Club of Vinings furnished the dinner for about 50 people with Jim doing all the leg work of ordering the meal, picking it up, and delivering it to the Trinity House facility in downtown Atlanta. On March 7th, a dinner was held with seven Rotarians serving the meals and aided by eight Interact club members. The meal was provided by Rotarian Marshall McCabe, owner of a Chick – Fil – A franchise.
TAB III

BEST VOCATIONAL SERVICE

PROJECT

Computer Assisted Literacy Solution, North American Literacy Gold Award

SUMMARY

Rotary International initiated the North American Region Assisted Literacy Solution and the Rotary Club of Vinings viewed this as an opportunity to institute it at Teasley Elementary School, located in Smyrna. This is a New program for our club. This program enables at-risk children to improve dramatically their math and reading skills. Rotarian Joanne Robblee, also the principal at Teasley, and President Ken discussed the implementation of this program at Teasley. Upon investigation, it was determined the CALS program would be a great fit for the school and more importantly, the children due to the in-situ infrastructure: computers, teachers and students.

IMPACT

The Rotary Club of Vinings raised the money to provide for the costs of the software and 27 individual licenses at a cost of $85 each to the targeted students. The great benefit to the program is the test results are immediate, the children are enthusiastic and the Autoskill programs are easy to use and thus far have exceeded all expectations. The program runs from January until the end of the school year and the scores for children who had previously struggled are “off the charts.” Even the administrators at Autoskill have commented and congratulated these children. The students are focused, the teachers and children alike see tangible results and the parents are ecstatic with the results of this excellent after school program. Time very well spent.

CLUB PARTICIPATION

The benefits, however great, and due to automation, require only two Rotarians.
BEST INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

PROJECT
World Community Service, 3–H Grant, Kilifi Kids, Developing Tomorrows Leaders in Kilifi, Kenya, (Matching Grant #64162, Travel Grant #63707, Library Computer Grant, # 62592)

PARTNER CLUBS
Rotary Club of Vinings, Georgia, (District 6900)
Rotary Club of Kilifi, Kilifi, Kenya, (District 9200)
Rotary Club of Elmworth, Wisconsin, (District 6970)
Rotary Club of Charlotte Dilworth South End, Charlotte, North Carolina, (District 7680)
Rotary Club of Prince George, Virginia, (District 7530)

SUMMARY
Kilifi, Kenya and the surrounding district of 700,000 people, is a rural town that faces problems endemic to the developing world. One in eight children die before the age of 5, undernourishment, exacerbated by parasites is prevalent and due to this, schooling and ongoing education is threatened, making it difficult to create a lasting environment for ongoing change.

This project is a four stage program:
First: *Deworming school aged children*. Initially, the project, through the Kilfi Rotary Club and the District Hospital will fund the de-worming of 28,000 primary school students. This is of immense importance as these children literally drink from water supplies that are unfit for human consumption. A $.29 treatment increases student attendance by one a half months per year. Getting these children to school is the obvious desired result.
Second: Providing Scholarships to 50 students. Partnering with Scope International and KESHO, a scholarship organization in Kenya, the program will pay for the secondary education of 50 students. The drop out rate is 90% once a child completes the eighth grade as the cost of furthering their secondary education is prohibitive as the median income level is $30 per month. Each scholarship amounts to $250 per student for the year.

Third: Computer Labs for Three Schools. The project will provide computers and other related equipment to three high schools and a public library in Kilifi, Kenya. Approximately 100 computers will be purchased and shipped to these four sites where no computers currently exist. Training will be offered to students, teachers, and local community members on how to use the computers and access the Internet.

Four: Virtual Exchange. A partnership will be developed between Interact clubs in Kenya and the United States with the Campbell High School Interact club leading the way to promote cultural exchange and understanding.

IMPACT
Since November 2006, the Rotary Club of Vinings, along with the partner clubs and by filing for a 3–H Matching Grant from Rotary International has raised $160,000. This includes approximately $15,000 from individuals, which was matched to reach $52,000. Other seed money came from Rotary clubs in other states. The impact of this project on the local community is significant. The computers will allow students, who otherwise would not be exposed to such technology, the opportunity and means to learn how to operate a computer and the world that it can bring to them to become “change agents” in their community. These high school students will also have access to the Internet and be able to freely communicate with others as well as learn of the world outside of their immediate surroundings. In particular, building a relationship between Interact clubs in Kenya and the United States will promote goodwill and friendship that could potentially last a lifetime. Finally, these computers will be available for public use and allow others the chance to building lifelong skills and potentially improve their living conditions.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Vinings Rotarian Marc Olsen has spearheaded this project from inception to its current state and has been the primary liaison with the Rotary Club of Kilifi. The matching grant application has been approved it is anticipated that several Vinings Rotarians will be involved in the procurement and installment of the computers in Kenya along with building a relationship between the Interact Clubs in Kilifi, Kenya and at Campbell High School in Smyrna, Georgia.
BEST NEW GENERATIONS

PROJECT
Interact Clubs Involvement

SUMMARY
Sponsor a 100+ member Interact Club at Campbell High School in Smyrna, Georgia which was founded in the 2004–2005 academic year. Interact is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young people ages 14–18. The program gives young people an opportunity to participate in fun, meaningful service projects while developing leadership skills and meeting new friends.

IMPACT
Participation grew greatly among student members to over 100 students in the club’s fourth year of existence. Our Rotary club has established a close relationship with the Interactors, faculty advisors and school administration to help support the Interact club’s objectives and initiatives. The Interact club has had numerous activities throughout the year including a water cleanup at Lake Allatoona (20 members participated), participation in Cobb County Adopt–A–Stream on a regular basis, raising money to donate a Shelter Boxes to aid victims of natural disasters throughout the world. Two new initiatives were to collect pocket change at the school for “Loose Chains to Loosen Chains” an effort to end current day slavery, as well as beginning pen pal relationships with the students of Kilifi, Africa. Locally the club started a courtyard clean up effort at their own high school.

Also, the Interact Club of Campbell High School was selected as the Best Overall Club for 2007–2008 at the recent District 6900 Interact Spring Conference.
CLUB PARTICIPATION

- The Rotary Club of Vinings provides one (1) co-chairperson and two (2) other committee members to assist in the support of our Interact club at Campbell High School. A Rotarian attends an Interact meeting every week, and we strive to participate in every service project and other activity completed by our Interact club.

- This year, for the first time, the Vinings Rotary Club and our Interact club have made a concerted effort to work together on a multitude of service projects. The Interact club has joined our Rotary club on almost every community service project we’ve completed this year, including quarterly roadside clean-ups, our Run For The Kids 5K Road Race fundraiser, the clean-up of the Vinings Cemetery, as well as the Kilifi Kids project.
THE ROTARY CLUB OF VININGS
MEMBERSHIP REPORT

1. PROJECT
Increase club membership

SUMMARY
The club commenced the year at 76 members and through moves, relocations and financial issues, the membership fell to 69 members at the start of this administration’s Rotary year. This challenge has been addressed and the members have responded by contacting and exposing prospective new members to our club. As of this writing, we have inducted 3 new members and have 3 more in the process. By the end of March 2008, club membership will stand at 75. New members bring new blood, enthusiasm, and ideas for service, and we welcome them to continue our club’s great tradition of membership.

IMPACT
President Ken, along with the Officers and Directors, while wanting to overachieve the mandate posed by President Wilf Wilkinson and District Governor Bill Woulfin, also chose to focus on retaining and developing current members instead of solely focusing on membership growth. The club had grown dramatically in each of the preceding three (3) years, and we felt it was important to ensure that the members “currently at the table” were being educated, utilized, and retained as best as possible.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
All members are responsible for bringing in new members.
2. **PROJECT**
Retain Members

**SUMMARY**
Retention is an issue that all Rotary clubs face. The high turnover rate for the Rotary Club of Vinings was at 10%, due in no small measure to the aforementioned move outs and relocations and financial issues. Our dedicated core membership serves in multiple capacities on every avenue of service and the capital contributions to the Rotary Foundation are far above the norm for giving. However, with a transient society and the over abundance of business professionals in our club, we find ourselves losing members at a rate of 5–10% per year.

**IMPACT**
To address these trends, the current administration felt that the best way to retain members is to continually involve them, educate them and make them feel part of the solution, not part of the scenery. Every member has at least two projects they are involved with, we have instituted the Rotary “Thought for the Week” as part of our weekly program, three club assemblies have taken place with two more before the end of the Rotary year, we try and feature Rotary specific speakers that either are Rotarians, or have projects of interest to share with the club. We have undertaken the “Rotary Star” program where the Board recognizes Rotarians who have made a difference and recognize the hard work it takes to make our club successful. The “buy-in” has been fantastic: our attendance figures are up, we've introduced many new projects and the members have heeded the call to bring in quality prospects to the club.

**CLUB PARTICIPATION**
100% of the club is expected to participate, and do.
2. **PROJECT**  
Formal Orientation Program

**SUMMARY**  
As part of a strong, enduring retention plan, it’s imperative we educate the members right after induction to indoctrinate them to Rotary and have them fluent in the club, District and Rotary International affairs. Only after education can one grasp the magnitude and hierarchy of Rotary. We feel education and involvement serves to retain members with the exception of extenuating circumstances that no club can unfortunately avoid.

**IMPACT**  
The “Red Badge Program” was instituted two years ago that enables new inductees to become intimately familiar with our club. This *mandatory* program is a three part series that is held the third Monday of the month at a member’s home. The program is presented thusly:

**Series I, Rotary Service.** This explains the total workings of Rotary from a Rotary International perspective all the way through the District’s role and down to the club level. Impact and hierarchy are taught.

**Series II, Club Service.** This describes the various areas of service and the actual projects the new Rotarian can be involved with and who the key people are as well as a history of our fine club.

**Series III, The Rotary Foundation.** This session deals with the Rotary Foundation and its value as the lifeblood of Rotary clubs world wide. New members are taught the ways the Foundation impacts clubs and how the financial uses are enabled.

**CLUB PARTICIPATION**  
The results have spoken for themselves; our club is highly organized, efficient with well informed members who understand the inner workings of Rotary on an intimate basis.
3. PROJECT

Tools Used to Develop and Retain Members

SUMMARY
Members are truly the lifeblood of any club and the Rotary Club of Vinings understands that just giving an entertaining Wednesday afternoon program is not in the spirit of Rotary, nor is effective in retaining and educating members or compelling members to bring in prospective new members. We have developed a “tool box” of resources over the years that strives to maintain retention levels.

IMPACT
Due to the prevalence of business types in our club, classification becomes an important criterion. Bankers, investment types and lawyers tend to be the most accessible to the club for new membership. We have a Classification List that determines when we are at our quota for any one profession and the Membership Committee utilizes it as we are presented with new prospective new members.
The Club Bulletin is full of educational information and always encourages the members to bring in quality prospects.
The District Newsletter has been used this year as the primary informational source for the activities related to our district. Every club member has the most recent issue with a note from President Ken highlighting the issues relevant to our club, particularly this year with our membership on the upswing.

CLUB PARTICIPATION
Every member is cognizant of the club’s membership decline and they have responded incredibly well. On average, we have five new guests/prospective members attending each meeting.
4. PROJECT
Sponsoring New Member Socials

**SUMMARY**
This year, our Family of Rotary functions have included club sponsored “Happy Hours” in the Vinings Village restaurant area. They have been well attended by Rotarians but more importantly, by Rotary guests. We have set a date and given the guests to our meetings and prospective members plenty of lead time to be able to attend.

**IMPACT**
The events have drawn approximately 30–40 Rotarians and up to a dozen guests at a time. Of that, we’ve been able to induct two new members as a result of them being able to see Rotarians in a different light, rather than sitting at a table at a usual Wednesday meeting. This has proven to be a great fellowship occasion for not only guests, but Rotarians as well.

**CLUB PARTICIPATION**
As noted, 30–40 Rotary Club of Vinings members typically attend. The Family of Rotary events are a great draw, as most members live right in Vinings and are accessible.