



## DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2012

Greeting District 7850 Rotarians:

### World Understanding Month – From Rotary International

This was written by my governor classmate, Sue Klock from District 7890. I thought it was a perfect introduction for this month.

“On the Rotary calendar, February is “World Understanding Month.” Just a few weeks ago, Rotary International President-elect Sakuji Tanaka revealed his theme for the 2012-2013 Rotary Year, “Peace through Service.” We Rotarians do not have to wait until July 1, 2012 to act in ways which will lead to a more peaceful world. In this Rotary year, as we continue to honor R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee and are guided by his encouraging each of us to “Reach within to Embrace Humanity” we know that understanding ourselves helps us better understand our fellow man, whether in our own community or halfway around the world. And, this in turn inspires us to reach out to help those in need here at home and in the wider world, helping those whom we may never meet.” (DG Sue Klock – District 7890)

Understanding and goodwill are essential for world peace. To observe World Understanding Month in February, consider:

- Inviting an international scholar or a Rotary Youth Exchange student to speak to your club,
- Having a discussion about international issues, or
- Presenting entertainment from another culture.
- Discussing an international service project your Club might be interested in pursuing.

### Mark your Calendars:

**Semiannual Reports and dues payment should already be submitted to Rotary International. We are beyond the 31 January deadline. Only 13 of our 40 Clubs have paid their RI dues. Secretaries and Treasurers...Please get this report filed. District dues are due too!**

**February 11th, 2012: District Team Training Seminar and Pre-PETS** at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH. Required Training for Assistant Governors, President-Elects, and the District Leadership Team.

**March 8-10, 2012: President Elects Training Seminar (PETS)** at Sheraton Hotel and Conference Center, Framingham, MA

**April 21st, 2012: District Assembly.** Location to be announced.

**May 18, 19, 20, 2012: District Conference at The Mountain Club on Loon,** Lincoln, New Hampshire. Registration will be starting soon. Meet us on the Mountain. **Registration Information will be sent to all of you in a few days!** Early registrations will be due by 31 March 2012.

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### 1. **Message from DG Marilyn Bedell**

I continue to be proud to be your District Governor. Almost every day I learn of service projects and fundraisers you are doing to support our communities here at home and around the globe. Currently we have many Rotarians from Charlotte-Shelburne and Burlington in Honduras working on school and other projects, and Lebanon-Riverside Rotarians have just returned from a home build in El Salvador. Morrisville is gearing up for its Polar Splash. St. Albans is holding their annual Home and Recreation Expo and a Gasoline raffle. Newport is working hard on their annual Basketball Tournament, and Woodsville/Wells Rivers Basketball Tournament has already been a success. Essex held their annual “Service Above Self” Dinner and honored Phil and Louise Kolvoord, for the volunteer work and philanthropy in Essex. I know that many of you have been holding speech contests throughout the District too.

In January, we received word that India has completed its first polio free year! Louisa Tripp our Foundation Chair has written more about this, see article below.

I’m also delighted to report that Past District Governor Harley Jordan (Central Vermont), has become a member of the Rotary Foundation’s Arch C. Klumph Society. The Rotary Foundation states, “Arch C. Klumph Society Members are among The Rotary Foundation’s top leaders and innovators. Members believe in the work of The Rotary Foundation and have made supporting peace, education, and humanitarian assistance part of their personal mission. They are key supporters of the Foundation, and their involvement is vital to its work. Every member of the Arch C. Klumph Society has made a personal commitment to doing ‘good in the world’.” Over the next few months we will celebrate Harley’s commitment to our foundation at his Club, in Evanston, Illinois at Rotary International Headquarters, and at the District Conference. As the Foundation is something I truly believe in, I personally want to thank Harley for his generosity to Our Foundation.

District Governor Sonny Holt has arrived home from the International Assembly in San Diego. He has completed his training to be District Governor in 2012/2013. This marks the beginning of the formal transition from my year to his year. I know he will serve us well, and I hope that we will see many of you at his upcoming training events.

If you want to listen to RI 2012/2013 President Sakuji Tanaka's Theme Speech given at the International Assembly, go to:

[http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/120117\\_IA12\\_themevideo.aspx](http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/120117_IA12_themevideo.aspx)

2. **2012 District Conference - Embracing Humanity: Touching Lives, Moving Mountains, Inspiring New Generations**

In a few days, registration information for the District Conference at the Mountain Club on Loon will be available. I will alert our Presidents when it is posted on the District web page and send more information to all Rotarians later this month. I hope many of you will consider joining us for a celebration of service, new generations, and programs that make me proud to be a part of District 7850.

**REGISTRATION WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO BE DONE BY PHONE, BY FAX OR MAIL.  
ONLINE REGISTRATION WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE.**

3. **Help Wanted:**

I'm delighted to announce that my request for help with the following District positions, RLYA, Treasurer and Social Media, were successful! Two more positions are still open. I bet there is someone who would like to do these roles. Contact District Governor Sonny Holt if you are interested. [debsonholt@myfairpoint.net](mailto:debsonholt@myfairpoint.net)

**Help Wanted for Awards Chair**

This person will keep informed of all awards that Rotarians and Clubs may qualify for during the year and develop a process to inform the clubs/members of these awards and encourage them to apply.

**Help Wanted for Member Retention**

This person is on the membership committee and will be responsible for informing the clubs in our District of the best practices for retaining members.

4. **Polio Update – From** District Polio Chair Louisa Tripp

**"Rotary Celebrates India's First Polio-free Year!"**

In January e-mails, websites and news articles began with this headline around the world...and Rotarians played a major role in making this headline possible. RI President Kalyan Banerjee spoke in his video message (<http://vimeo.com/34926787>) about Rotarians' tireless efforts (our efforts!) to eradicate polio from the face of the earth. Our contributions of more than a billion dollars and millions of hours of volunteer hours around the globe have lowered the number of new cases reported each year from 350,000 in scores of countries in the 1980's down to approximately 600 cases in 4 countries. For a few years now we have used the acronym PAIN (Pakistan, Afghanistan, India and Nigeria) to announce the countries which have never stopped the polio virus. If we can maintain a polio free India for three years, India will be removed from that list and lower the number of endemic countries from four countries to three!

In the tradition of "Service Above Self", we, as Rotarians, helped make this possible. Rotarians were participants in a successful global initiative. Local Rotarians from small towns such as Randolph, donated their time participating in national immunization days. We held events including bringing Ramesh Ferris to our area, sponsored Rotaract and Interact "Purple Pinky" tables around the district, showed "The Final Inch" at our local libraries and theatres, showed our support on the web (<http://www.thisclose.net/gallery.php?show=8161>) and raised funds in support of Rotary International's efforts to match the Gates \$200M Challenge! Read more about success in completing the Gates Challenge at:

[http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/120117\\_IA12\\_polio.aspx](http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/120117_IA12_polio.aspx)

Although we have met the challenge given to us by Gates, our fundraising for polio eradication will need to go on. Knowing that more money is needed to complete this work, the Gates Foundation has given Rotary an additional \$50 Million to help us with this work. This is not a matching grant...just a huge donation to help us achieve our dream of a polio free world.

Over the time of the challenge from Bill Gates, District 7850 has contributed \$255,840.54. I think this is amazing!

5. **Disaster Recovery Grant**

**Here is the latest news from The Rotary Foundation on our Matching Grant application for Flood Recovery projects in Vermont. My Governor Classmate, Jan Mc Elroy received this on 3 February 2012.**

Dear DG McElroy,

Thank you for your email and your patience. Please know that the competitive process takes longer than the traditional Matching Grant process. While I appreciate that you are facing pressure from the people in your community, such a large grant request has to be reviewed on multiple levels. The file has been through its preliminary review, and the program officer is currently in communication regarding the Advanced Site Visitor. At this moment it looks like someone will be sent to Vermont to review the situation, but I will be in touch shortly with the final decision.

As this year Rotary is on a slightly different international meetings schedule, the file will be sent to the Trustees for remote review. This means the file will be reviewed by the Trustees once it is completed.

Please feel free to contact me directly with any additional questions or concerns.

**Best Regards,**

**Laura Bradley**

Grant Coordinator

Humanitarian Grants Program

The Rotary Foundation

Jan and I remain optimistic that we will be successful in obtaining this grant. I will continue to keep you updated as I get responses back from the Foundation.

## 6. Group Study Exchange (GSE) Group Study Exchange Welcoming Teams from South Africa and France

Our district is pleased to be hosting the incoming team from South Africa this spring from May 4 to June 4, 2012. Last month we announced the team members and their vocations. This month we are introducing the area coordinators and encourage every club to be involved in welcoming and hosting the GSE team. The teams are visiting for both vocational and cultural exchange. The coordinators are working to arrange host families, vocational visits, club visits, transportation, and generally schedule a wonderful visit to our district. Any and all support is welcome and encouraged.

The schedule around our district is:

May 4 – 11 – Champlain Valley – **Coordinator:** Eric Hanson  
([EHanson@hansondoremus.com](mailto:EHanson@hansondoremus.com))

**Clubs:** Burlington, Burlington Sunrise, Cambridge, Colchester-Milton, Middlebury, Charlotte-Shelburne, Essex, St. Albans, Vergennes, Williston-Richmond.

May 11 – May 18 - Quebec and Boundary – **Coordinator:** Faruk Seyrek  
([farukseyrek@gmail.com](mailto:farukseyrek@gmail.com))

**Clubs:** Boundary, Drummondville, Greater Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Saint-Hyacinthe, Newport

May 18 – May 23 – White Mountain Valley – **Coordinator:** Bob Simoneau  
([bob\\_simoneau@brewsteracademy.org](mailto:bob_simoneau@brewsteracademy.org))

**Clubs:** Bristol, Lincoln-Woodstock, Wolfeboro, White Mountains, Plymouth, North Conway

May 23 – May 29 – Connecticut River Valley – **Coordinator:** Judith Esmay  
([judithesmay@gmail.com](mailto:judithesmay@gmail.com))

**Clubs:** Lyndonville, Hanover, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lebanon-Riverside, St. Johnsbury, Littleton, Woodsville-Wells River

May 29 – June 4 – Central Vermont – **Coordinator:** Louisa Tripp  
([louisatripp@yahoo.com](mailto:louisatripp@yahoo.com))

**Clubs:** Randolph, Northfield, Montpelier, Barre, Central Vermont, Cambridge, Mad River Valley, Waterbury, Stowe, Morrisville

The visiting team will be presenting at our District Conference in May with Rachel Jolly, a former Ambassadorial Scholar to South Africa, and our GSE South African team (Rotarian David Clark, Cassandra Gekas, Kristen Brownlow, Justa Malone, Jennifer Molineau). Visit the Group Study Exchange (GSE) link on the District 7850 website ([www.rotary7850.org](http://www.rotary7850.org)) for more information.

This fall we will be hosting the GSE team from District 1680 in Alsace/Strasbourg France. They are tentatively scheduled for September 15 through October 15, 2012. Because the team is not with us during our district conference, we are organizing an evening "district-wide" event during their stay with us. We are looking for people to help conceive and organize this event.

During the next few months we will be starting to form the team visiting France D1680 in the spring of 2013. Please begin considering who in your club would make a good team leader and what young professional in your area would be a good candidate for team member! Information about this team selection will also be on the District 7850 website.

Please contact Louisa Tripp at [louisatripp@yahoo.com](mailto:louisatripp@yahoo.com) or (802)371-9819 if you have any questions and/or are interested in being more involved with GSE in your area.

7. **Membership Minute – Have you asked someone to join your Rotary Club this week?**

As of 4 February, our membership in the District stands at 1599. This is up from 1564 on 1 July 2012. Congratulations to those clubs and members that have made this increase possible. Have you asked someone to join your Club?



8. **Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) 2011/2012 Dates**

**IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE TO ATTEND RLI**

Hello District 7850 Rotarians,

The Rotary Leadership Institute is a grassroots, multi-district leadership development program whose mission is to strengthen Rotary clubs through quality leadership education. Rotarians in NH, VT and Quebec's eastern townships have TWO opportunities in March, 2012 to participate in this wonderful knowledge-enhancing program built for every Rotarian, new and experienced, whether or not you have specifically embarked on a "leadership track" within your club or the district.

**Wells, ME**, Saturday, March 3, 2012

York County Community College

Parts I, II, III, Graduate -- Tuition = \$65

**Lebanon, NH**, Saturday, March 31, 2012

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

Parts I, II, III -- Tuition = \$65

Because RLI is aimed at adult learners using discussion and creative problem-solving, you may find yourself having more fun than you had at any level of school. You will be surrounded by Rotarians facing the same challenges you face, just as eager as you are to find solutions and make connections.

Each course day begins with registration at 7:30 AM. Classes run from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM with breakfast, lunch and coffee break included in the tuition. Most participants' tuition is paid by their home Rotary club as an investment in the club's future leadership.

RLI sessions present you with the opportunity to deepen your understanding of how Rotary works, of our organization's capacity to improve lives around the world, and about how to enhance the satisfaction of service accomplishment among local Rotary club members.

Here are some examples of courses you will find at RLI:

- A Look Outside the Club
- Membership Orientation and Activation
- Introduction to Leadership
- Creating Service Projects
- Analyzing a Rotary Club
- The Object of Rotary
- The District
- International Service

- Problem Solving Workshops
- Vocational Service
- Effective Committees
- Membership Development
- The Rotary Foundation
- Problems of Leadership
- Creative Service
- Written Communications
- Motivating Rotarians and Effecting Change

Registration is simple at this web site: <http://www.rlinea.com/Registration>

If you come to RLI-Lebanon, please stop by and introduce yourself to me. I hope to make YOUR acquaintance.

Bruce Pacht

RLI District 7850 Chair 2011-12

**9. Public Relations Multidistrict Grant**

District 7850 has begun using a combination of *facebook* and *LinkedIn* banner ads for our 2011-12 public relations campaign. We have pinpointed our target audience based on specific geographic locations and age groups. Also unlike other media types, we will only be paying for our ad if someone clicks on the banner online. As a reminder, our campaign will focus on membership. We will be using the online materials from RI and Humanities in Motion. The banner ad will link directly to [www.rotary7850.org](http://www.rotary7850.org). We will also be running a similar campaign in French to target the Canadian areas in our district.

**10. Wallingford Vermont – Little Red School House – Paul Harris Memorial**

**The deadline is getting closer for order a paver for \$200 instead of \$300.  
Has you club made a donation to this Rotary history preservation project?**

From: District Governor Janice McElroy, Rotary Club of Henniker  
Hello Fellow Rotarians,

**MARCH 31, 2012 DEADLINE**

We have begun construction of the Paul Harris Memorial Garden at The Little Red Schoolhouse in Wallingford, VT!!!

The initial phase deadline for purchases of Club Pavers and PDG Plaques and other recognition bricks is March 31, 2012. That is the date when we will be ordering the pavers, bricks and plaques that have been purchased. We will continue to add bricks, pavers, and gear teeth each year with a cutoff for orders as of June 30 of each year.

Any purchase made for the Paul Harris Memorial Garden will be added to the endowment of this building to support the continued maintenance that is needed.

Your support to be a part of this great historical building in our district and that no other place in the world will ever have is greatly appreciated. Remember that your donation is tax deductible.

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Club Paver \$200

In Club Circle

Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_

Date Chartered \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Street or PO Box \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

Alan Kanegsberg, Treasurer

9 Old Coach Road

Bow, NH 03304

Make check payable to: Rotary District 7870 Foundation

#### 11. Youth Exchange First Hand Report

Here's another first hand report from one of our Youth Exchange Students.

January 2011

"Hola,

So I am very freaked out with this report...yesterday was halfway for me. I sat down with a calendar the other day with my host mom and I think I have about 4 free weekends left until I leave and it is freaking me out!!! Everyone says the second half goes SO much faster than the first so if my first half went fast then it's pretty much June for me and I really don't want to leave!!! Ahhhhhh. It a really weird feeling sitting in class and looking around at everyone and already getting so nostalgic even though I'm still here. Even more reason to enjoy and make the most of every minute left!

So the new year started off amazing for me. One of my best new years ever. Here there are a lot of traditions for the new year. At midnight you have to eat 12 grapes so that you have good luck for every month that year. Also if you put your ring in you glass of champagne it gives you good money. The last one is that you are supposed to wear something red for good luck. So all of that happens with your family for dinner. After that everyone gets really dressed up and we all go to the sports center where they have a band playing and dancing until pretty much breakfast. It's so fun to see everyone in nice clothes and a great way to celebrate the new year...very worry free not having to worry about where to go like normal.

Then on the 6th of January is Three Kings Day (Los Reyes) which is kind of celebrated like Christmas here. There are three kings instead of Santa Claus that come and give everyone presents under the tree. On the 5th there is a huge parade in the town and the 'three kings' are there in there big decorated floats and the throw little caramels to all the kids. Its sooo cool. We all went out to celebrate on the eve and then for lunch on the 6th family came and we ate a typical comida for reyes. There is a really typical cake that everyone eats for 3 kings day called roscón. It is in the shape of a ring and the middle is filled with cream. Inside there are hidden things. One of them is a figurine of one of the kings and if you get it you'll have good luck for the year. The other one is a dried fava bean and if you get that one you have to pay for the roscón the next year. I might just have to celebrate los reyes next year too!

On the 21st there was a huge festival called Hogueras which means bonfires. Usually in Spain it is illegal to make bonfires because forest fires happen so easily because its dry...so this is the one day of the year where you can make them (in winter so its wetter). The town makes a huge one, and when i say huge I mean gigantic, and then group of friends makes one too. There ended up being over 50 bonfires! We make them up in the motor-cross where there are trails to run on so it's more of a field. The week before all of us (my whole group of friends) went into the woods and collected wood. Also so of my friends parents work in companies that have a lot of wood pallets so they brought those. We also bought chorizo and sausage and other kind of meats and we made them over the fire. I also brought s'mores for everyone to try and they LOVED them!!! It was so fun. We made coaches out of the wood pallets too so it was actually really comfortable. It was really to have time to really talk to everyone (usually in a discoteca it's pretty hard). Also at the end of the night we went around to other people's bonfires and hung out with them. It was a really great, bonding night and I definitely felt right at home sitting around a bonfire.

Also it was my birthday on the 24th so I am now 17!!! I thought it would be very hard alone because I'm a twin so I've always shared it. I did really miss her but I had an AMAZING birthday. My host family is the best! They got me a shirt and all my neighbors got me a box a acrylic paints for my painting class. Also both my moms organized a massage for me in Jaca which I am SO excited about plus now I don't have another thing to take home. All through the day everyone was stopping by to wish me a happy birthday. At school it felt like everyone knew it was my birthday and then during break my friends brought balloons and cake and juice and confetti and sang to me. Then for dinner a group of friends came over and we skimped my sister and they all brought out a cake with 17 candles and sang to the two of us. They framed a picture of all of us for me...I am almost started crying I was so happy. It couldn't have been better.

So I really don't have anything negative to say except for the fact that I have never felt like this before about the halfway mark. I really hope this isn't how 50 will feel. I'm definitely starting to feel really nostalgic for what I'm still living. I know that technically I have just as much ahead as behind but it sure feels like Thanksgiving was halfway. School is good...definitely easier than the beginning but am still working way to hard. Next year will definitely feel very easy compared to this. Also my language is coming right along. Now I think I can say I understand everything...granted not every word but I can easily figure out the words I don't know. My speaking flows and people know what I'm trying to say but I've still got some grammar to work out. And as for what language I dream and think in my head in I have no idea. I think it's a combination of the two. The other night though a friend woke me up and I started to talking to her in Spanish and I don't remember it so maybe that means it's in my sub consciousness. Anyways I hope all is well there and there is snow. We actually just got snow this weekend so everything is buzzing with excitement. Also good luck to all of you who find out where you are going in a week or two. So weird thinking that was already a year ago. Time definitely flies faster than I would have ever thought and I predicted pretty fast.

Besos,  
Marley”

#### 12. Peace Scholar

It is time to begin recruiting the next class of peace scholars. For more information go to: <http://echo4.bluehornet.com/hostedemail/email.htm?CID=17566204334&ch=3E19FFA62FC58B26A54B8A13A9E42308&h=46ba3a0a014da782fe678866ccfaf1b1&ei=TVsqhApNZ>

#### 13. Rotary Foundation

Every Club in the District made a commitment to have members and clubs donate to the Rotary Foundation in 2011/2012. I just received an update on our giving as of 31 December 2011. **We have a way to go to reach our goal of \$118,000. Currently have given 33% of our goal or close to \$40,000.** If your Club is hoping to achieve a Kalyan Banerjee Presidential Citation this year, every member needs to make a donation and the Club needs to average \$100/member by 1 April 2012. I know that some of our Clubs won't make this goal but still will support the foundation in a way that works for them, but there are clubs that are well on their way to doing this. Thanks in advance for helping us meet our commitment to The Rotary Foundation.

Please remember, the dollars we give this year will be available for us to spend on Foundation projects and programs in 3 years. Help us have the money to "do good in the world"... and here at home too.

#### 14. Update from our Ambassadorial Scholar, Emily Dubie

Emily has set up a blog so you can read about her year as our Ambassadorial Scholar in Tanzania. Follow her at: <http://rotaryscholarindar.posterous.com/>

23 January

Over the last month, I have started volunteering at a home run by Mother Teresa's order, the Missionaries of Charity. An assorted group of orphaned children, abandoned elderly folks, and handicapped people (with a wide range of physical and mental disabilities) all make their home here. Last spring, when I volunteered in La Paz, Bolivia, I also had the opportunity to spend a morning a week at a local home run by the Missionaries of Charity, so I have enjoyed building upon this earlier experience.

I spend my Monday mornings with a lovely group of handicapped ladies. After greeting the approximately fifteen women, I give massages to everyone's hands and feet with some lotion. In light of my limited Swahili skills and many of their limited verbal abilities, we communicate mostly through shared laughter, hugs, and hand-holding. I am on my way to getting to know each of their names, as well as their personalities and quirks.

Following massages, I usually give wheelchair tours. This seems to be a special treat for ladies to leave their common room and see other people in the community. We stop at each person to greet them on our circle of the premises, and we enjoy the sun and the greenery. Then if there is time left before I have to leave for class, sometimes we dance or sing or just sit still together and enjoy all the commotion in the common room-- of snacks, hair-dressing, finger-nail clipping, and playing toss with a ball.

Although sometimes it is difficult to go, each Monday morning, it is also difficult to leave. My new friends are quick to smile and quick to love, and in a large and crowded city, this is something to be deeply appreciated.

**15. United 10 Million Charity Miles Giveaway**

For those of you who voted for Rotary International to be the recipient of free air miles, RI officially came in second: we received 2,488,070 charity miles from United. The miles will be used to support our humanitarian work around the world.

**16. Happy Birthday Rotary**

On 23 February, Rotary celebrates its 107th anniversary. The day also marks the anniversary of the first mass polio vaccinations, which started in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1954 and expanded across the United States. Begin planning events to commemorate this day by discussing Rotary's history and accomplishments.

**17. Club News:**

I'm continuing to post Club News on our District's Facebook page. Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/RotaryDistrict7850>

In January I posted about:

- Meeting with Folks interested in Youth Exchange at Norwich University
- Our Presidents-elect Training Seminar (PETS) planning meeting
- DGE Sonny's send off to San Diego at the PETS planning meeting
- India becoming polio free for one year
- My Club's Speech Contest
- The Rotary Zone Institute that will be in Vancouver, BC next October.

Please send me information and pictures you want posted on the District's *facebook* page.

**Yours in Rotary Service,  
DG Marilyn Bedell**