



DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER – October, 2011

Vocational Service Month

Greeting District 7850 Rotarians:

<i>In this Issue</i>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Greetings from DG Marilyn Bedell 2. Vocational Service Month 3. Polio Wake-Up Across the Continent 4. Rotary International United Nations Day 5. Membership 6. RLI 7. Little Red School House 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Speech Contest 9. District Conference 10. Rotary Weekly updates 11. RI's Bangkok Convention 12. Youth Exchange – First Hand Report 13. Guinea Worm Eradication Update 14. The Rotary Foundation Future Vision Updates 15. Club News

1. Greeting from DG Marilyn Bedell

In the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, I have continued to be touched by the response of Rotarians to the needs of our flooded communities. In so many ways, Rotarians have stepped up to the plate to help in the recovery efforts. As I think about Vocational Service Month (October), part of the magic of Rotary is how our clubs tap the talents of their member's vocational diversity to plan service projects to help those dealing with storm damage. For some, it has been the hands-on work of heavy duty clean-up and structural repair, for others it has been preparing food for relief workers and those left homeless by the storm, for others it has been collecting food for food pantries or obtaining other provisions for our communities, and yet others have provided significant funds for the recovery effort. I have been touched by your response to my request for funds to support the Rotary Foundation matching grant for home heating needs, temporary shelter, and water system recovery.

The work on the matching grant continues. It will take us time to pull our proposal together. I'm still waiting to hear from Clubs about their ability to provide some funding for the grant. I know you need to discuss my requests with your board of directors and club members... so the wheel of Rotary decision making is moving along slowly...but steadily. It is my hope that our Clubs can let me know by the middle of October if your Club will be able to donate money. For those of you who have already made a decision,

I am most grateful for your response. At the moment, with funds donated by clubs, and from other Districts, with a match from The Rotary Foundation, we will have just over \$100,000 in committed funds. Our goal is still to get this grant to \$200,000.

District Governor Jan McElroy (Southern Vermont) and I have had meetings with various officials in Vermont about the grant. We have confirmed that partnering with the 5 human service agencies in Vermont will be the best way to get needed services to all communities in need. The agencies are: BROCC-Community Action in Southwestern Vermont, Central Vermont Community Action Council, Inc. (CVCAC), Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity, Inc. (CVOEO), North East Kingdom Community Action, Inc. (NEKCA), and Southeastern Vermont Community Action, Inc. (SEVCA). Currently, this group is being chaired by Steve Geller, the Executive Director of SEVCA.

On Sunday, May 20, 2012, the last day of the District Conference at the Mountain Club on Loon, I hope that you will come and hear some of some of the stories of our flood recovery efforts not only post Irene, but also following the spring flood on Lake Champlain and in the Barre/Montpelier area too.

My Club visits will end with my trip to Bristol NH on 27 October 2011. I have had such a great time meeting with so many of you over the past 3 months. I hope I get to have some return trips during the next 9 months too. Please keep following me on *facebook* <https://www.facebook.com/#!/RotaryDistrict7850>.

Yours in Rotary Service,

Marilyn

2. **New Vocational Service Month**

October is Vocational Service Month! Here is some "food for thought from Past Rotary International President, Rajendra K. Saboo:

"Rotary is a group of like-minded people from different vocations, and when such people, with clean hands, big hearts, and open minds, extend themselves to serve the community, acceptability of Rotary in society becomes all the more profound.

If you take out vocational service, Rotary becomes purely a community service organization. And if you take out ethics from vocational service, then vocational service falls flat.

The world is full of nongovernmental organizations working for humanitarian causes. Then there are many organizations espousing ethics and values. But there are very few that are equally focused on ethics-based profession/vocation on one hand and humanitarian service on the other. Rotary is one such organization.

In the wake of the deteriorating business and professional environment, the world is looking for people who are ethically sound and committed to social responsibility. Can Rotary become equally strong in vocational service? Can you and I give Rotary a new

identity through this powerful combination? Can we start the process of infusing renewed enthusiasm for ethical standards in Rotary?

If we can, Rotary will be recharged, ready and relevant to the needs of the 21st century. And people will be lining up to join us.”

I encourage you to think about ways to celebrate our vocational diversity and ethical ideals this month.

3. **Polio Wake-Up Across the Continent 2011 – October 24, 2011**



A reminder: The primary objective of Polio – Wake-Up the Continent is to bring to the forefront the fact that Polio still exists and we are leading the charge in eradicating this dreaded disease. The event begins on World Polio Day, Monday October 24th 2011 and continues through the entire week.

I hope you and your fellow Club members have a plan in place to “Wake-Up you Communities” to the need to eradicate polio.

Don’t forget to brag about your activities on the Wake-UP the Continent *facebook* page. Go to: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/158711824183179/>

4. **Rotary International United Nations (UN) Day**

It’s still not too late to sign up for Rotary Day at the United Nations on Saturday, 5 November 2011. Registration begins at 8:00 AM, program begins at 9:30 AM and goes until 4:00 PM. The registration fee for Rotarians \$37.50; Rotaractors & Ambassadorial Scholars \$20.00; Interactors and Youth Exchange students \$17.50. For details go to www.RIUNDay.org

This is a unique opportunity to visit the United Nations Headquarters in New York City and participate in a panel discussion featuring leaders and officials from the UN, UN affiliated NGOs and Rotary International. **Registrations must be received by 21 October, 2011.** Because of Security at the UN, there can be no onsite registration.

5. **Membership Minute – Have you asked someone to join your Rotary Club this week? THINK ABOUT ROTARY ALUMNI!!**

ROTARY FOUNDATION ALUMNI POTENTIAL ROTARIANS!!

Non-rotarians who have participated in Rotary Foundation Programs constitute a pool of potential club members. According to RI 80% of Alumni who become Rotarians were actively recruited by their club.

November, Rotary Foundation Month, is a good time to invite Rotary Alumni to a club meeting. IF YOU DON'T ASK THEY WON'T JOIN!!

Please contact Nick Troisi ("Nick Troisi" nftroisi@gmail.com) our Foundation Alumni Chair if you need some help finding Alumni near you.

Rotary Foundation Alumni include those who have been:

- Ambassadorial Scholars
- Group Study Exchange (GSE) Participants
- Rotary Foundation Global Grant Recipients
- Rotary Grants for University Teachers
- Rotary Peace Fellows
- Certain Rotary Volunteer Grant Recipients

And...don't forget other Rotary alumni that could make great candidates for Rotary membership:

- Former Interactors
- Former Rotaractors
- Former Rotary Youth Exchange Students
- Former Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Recipients.

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

Have you attended any of the Rotary Leadership Institute Sessions?

The mission of The Rotary Leadership Institute is to provide an educational opportunity for Rotarians, especially those members who will assume leadership position in their Clubs. It is hoped that these courses will also motivate the participants to be enthusiastic, creative and dedicated Rotarians. Those attending the three course days for their full duration will receive recognition of completion. Course methods will reflect the most innovative and participatory methods possible. Methods will include discussion groups, role-playing, problem solving workshops, group planning exercises, etc. Lectures are limited.

In addition to our courses which have been held only in English, thanks to PDG Rene Laporte, there is a French Quebec RLI, *Institut Rotary sur le Leadership, Division Saint-Laurent*. Rene has partnered with our other Quebec Districts (D-7040 and D-7790) to make this happen. The dates for the courses are listed below. Please contact Rene Laporte or Gilles Gravel for more information. ["Rene LaPorte" nicole@besnerlaporte.com; "Gilles Gravel" ggravel7850@rotary-drummondville.ca]

For all courses, registration begins at 07h30 (7:00 AM). Breakfast begins at 08h00 (8:00 AM) and the course ends at 15h30 (3:30 PM)

English Courses will be held:

- November 5, 2011 Rutland, VT, at the Stafford Technical Center - Part I, II & III
- March 3, 2012 Wells, ME, York County Comm. College, - Part I, II, III, & Graduate
- March 31, 2012 Lebanon, NH on Saturday, at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center - Part I, II & III

For more information on English RLI courses, and other venues for courses, go to www.rlinea.com

French Course (l'Institut Rotary sur le Leadership Division St-Laurent) will be held:

- October 22, 2011 Laval Rive-Nord Part I
- October 29, 2011 Quebec City Part I and Part II
- November 5, 2011 Montreal Rive-Sud Part I
- November 12, 2011 Drummondville Part I
- November 19, 2011 St- Jerome Part I and Part II

Again for more information on French Courses contact: "Rene LaPorte"

nicole@besnerlaporte.com; "Gilles Gravel" ggravel7850@rotary-drummondville.ca

Please consider this as an opportunity to learn more about Rotary International.

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

The District 7870 Foundation (Southern NH and Southern VT) has finalized plans for a Paul Harris Memorial Garden on the schoolhouse grounds. A large bronze Rotary wheel will be the centerpiece with concrete pavers on the circumference with bricks between the spokes and center. The sale of bricks and pavers items will enable the Foundation to build up an endowment fund that will help ensure the self sufficiency of this historic building. The Foundation would like to commence construction by late spring or early summer and is urging the clubs and members of District 7850 to participate by purchasing a brick for the garden. Go to the District 7870 Web page for more details. <http://www.clubrunner.ca/portal/home.aspx?did=7870> Scroll down to Document which is on the left hand bar. Click on Little Red School House Brochure for more details.

As a reminder to Club Presidents, Jan McElroy wrote:

"If you look at this diagram of the Rotary Wheel in the memorial garden, you will see on its outer periphery the gear teeth and then an outer and an inner circle of pavers. There are 60 pavers in the outer circle which we are offering to our 7870 clubs to have engraved with their club names, charter dates, and district number for a reduced price of \$200 rather than the regular paver's price of \$300. I have just gotten permission to offer the clubs in your district that second circle of pavers at the reduced \$200 rate. They will also be engraved with the club name, charter date and your district number, unless you would want something else. Please let them know that we would be very proud to have your district's clubs all represented in this special location in the

Memorial Garden alongside our bricks since your district also includes Vermont where the LRS is located.”

I know that seven of or forty-one Clubs have already sent donations for their pavers. It would be great if every Club in our District could be represented. I'd like to know we helped preserve this piece of Rotary history.

8. Speech Contest

Subject: Your District 7850 Rotary Speech Contest is Ready to Roll!

Fall is here and it is time for your Club to get on board for the 2011-2012 District 7850 Rotary Speech Contest! It offers your Club a chance to meet a fine group of young people competing to win a \$1,000 prize, to have Club pictures in your area newspapers, Club activities on school Bulletin Boards and in local homes.

How does all this magic come about with such a great return on your investment? Appoint a Chairperson to run this year's District 7850 Speech Contest! The latest documents for all the procedures, dates, locations, costs, prizes, posters for local schools, judging forms, and everything your committee needs to run the contest - are on the DISTRICT 7850 web site. Just have your Speech Contest Chair go to the www.rotary7850.org home page and click on the Site Page "Speech Contest"!

Your committee just needs to contact your local high school's Speech Club, English (or French) teachers, Guidance Counselors - whoever it may be in each school - and provide the materials. Tell them that this year's topic is "The Rotary Four Way Test" The speech can be up to 5 minutes long and may be read. It does not have to be memorized. The Four-Way Test is provided on this year's Speech Contest Poster which is attached and on the website.

Have your team pick a day between now and January 31 to meet after school, or at a Rotary Club Meeting, or at a neutral site if your Club has more than one high school - and have the students make their presentations. Your Club pays the winner from your Club \$100. That's it! Bring on the photographers!

During February your Assistant Governor will run Round #2 of the contest to select the winner from the 3 to 5 Clubs in his/her area. Essentially, the same speech is presented by the contestants. The winners of Round #2, the Area Quarter Finals, get a \$150 check from the District. When the winners participate at the Semi Finals at the District Assembly in April, two winners of Round #3 win an additional \$250 check. (The specific date and location are not yet firm.) When they appear for the Finals on May 19 at the District Conference at the Mountain Club on Loon in Lincoln, NH, the District Winner gets an additional \$500 for a total prize of \$1,000! Four opportunities for your Club's contestant to win and, potentially, four opportunities to tell your town about your Club, your contest and your winners!

That's all there is to it. The details are all on the website. Questions can be addressed to me at edsaul@alum.wpi.edu or 802-863-7928. Ed Saulnier, Chair, District 7850 Rotary Speech Contest

9. **2012 District Conference - Embracing Humanity: Touching Lives, Moving Mountains, Inspiring New Generations**

Plan now to attend the 2012 District Conference which will be held from **May 18 to May 20, 2012** at the Mountain Club on Loon in Lincoln, NH. Go to <http://www.mtnclub.com/> to learn more about the resort.

The theme for the conference will be “Embracing Humanity - Touching Lives, Moving Mountains, Inspiring New Generations”. I am delighted to be working with members of the Hanover, Lebanon, Lincoln/Woodstock, Littleton, North Conway and my home Club of Lebanon-Riverside to plan the conference. As we finalize our plans, we will share the agenda with you. We have picked a great venue in the heart of the White Mountains.

On Friday evening, 18 May 2012, we will head out on the Lafayette Dinner Train for a gourmet meal. For information on this go to: <http://www.nhdinnertrain.com/>.

On Saturday evening, following our evening programming... if enough of you are interested... we will head out on a Moose Tour. We are still working on plans for this adventure in the North Woods of NH.

Topics to be covered at the conference:

- Inspiring New Generations – Plymouth State College President Sara Jayne Steen
- Our role in the eradication of Guinea Worm in Ghana – Walter Hughes
- Our Connections to South Africa and Lesotho
 - Our inbound and outbound GSE Teams
 - Rachel Jolley – Ambassadorial Scholar to South Africa
 - Grassroots Soccer (Tentative – needs to be confirmed)
- Our Youth Programs
 - Youth Exchange – meet our students
 - Interact
 - Rotaract
- Maternal Child Health Issues (Tentative)
- Giving back to our host community, join us in a service project.
- Literacy – Storytelling
- Flood Recovery – Rotary’s role

Promotional material will be distributed early in 2012.

10. Rotary International Weekly Updates

Consider signing up for the RI *Weekly Update*. You will receive from four to five RI news stories every week. You can use these articles in any of your Rotary or Rotary-related publications, including your website and newsletter. Sign up at:

<http://www.rotary.org/en/mediaandnews/news/emailalerts/pages/ridefault.aspx>

If you would like to see a copy of the Update prior to signing up, let me know and I will e-mail you a copy.

11. Rotary International Convention, Bangkok Convention



Rotary's International Convention will be in Bangkok, Thailand from May 6 - 9, 2012.

Several Rotarians have told me that they plan to go. The last day for early-bird registration is 1 December 2011. For more information go to the Rotary website

<http://www.rotary.org> and

<http://www.rotary.org/en/Members/Events/Convention/Pages/ridefault.aspx?housead>

12. Youth Exchange First Hand Report

I thought you all might enjoy reading first hand report from another one of our Youth Exchange Student

From: Tara Kathleen

Another lovely month. I will start off with school. My Danish lessons are going great and I'm quickly advancing at reading but speaking is a whole other ball game. The pronunciation is nothing as it is written plus everyone speaks really fast which makes it quite difficult to understand but I am doing my best. My family has begun to speak to me in almost only Danish which makes for interesting times at home but it is also improving my listening. The words of Danish are like nothing I have ever heard.

Now about my family, the Hansens are sweet people. My mom recently took me sightseeing and my dad and oldest brother are so excited to tell me every possible thing they can tell me about Danish history. My sisters love having hygge nights which is just girl's nights with tea and movies and it's very nice because I am becoming very close to them. I am also getting closer to my younger brother because he is a huge movie buff just like me. I can't believe how close I have become to my family in such a short time, they help me with everything and I am their own personal walking English dictionary.

My family is so supportive and caring. For instance, the other day my bike got stolen and instead of being upset and blaming it all on me they just hugged me and told me everything would be ok as long as I didn't get kidnapped. It made my day so much less stressful because I was so scared of disappointing them.

On top of having an amazing family, my friends are better than words can explain. They are fun, supportive, caring, and just all around a joy to have in my life. I have become close with a few of the kids in my class and it makes life here in Denmark easy. It's only been two months and the bonds I have with them are so strong. They help me with my Danish; I help them with my English. They immediately accepted me and have opened their minds to exchange students and really involved me with everything that's been going on.

A lot has been going on lately besides just hanging out and relaxing with friends. I went sightseeing with my family, went to another concert, the world bike championship happened on my street, and another exchange student visited me. The sightseeing was so interesting because most of Denmark's big architectural advances happened before America was even created. This just blew my mind. The bike race was also amazing because to think that a moment in history was happening right in front of my house and i was involved in it was so cool and fascinating. When the other exchange student visited me she also go to witness history and it was so awesome to show her Holte and København like it was my home, not as a tourist. Some amazing things happen in Denmark and everyday something new happens and it's crazy to think that I get to witness it and be involved in it.

ps. If there is bad grammar in this I apologize, as my Danish gets better my English is quickly decreasing.

13. Guinea Worm Eradication Update

See this link to an update on the eradication of Guinea worm. We (District 7850 – All Clubs) played a major role in helping move this eradication effort forward.

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/235578.php>

I hope you will come to the District Conference in May to learn more about the part we played in Ghana.

14. Rotary Foundation Future Vision Updates

If you want to learn more about the changes coming to the foundation, go to

<http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/TheRotaryFoundation/FutureVision/Pages/ridefault.aspx>

15. Club News:

I'm continuing to post Club News on our District's Facebook page. Go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/RotaryDistrict7850>

Please send me information and pictures you want posted on the page. Again this would be a great way to share what you are doing for disaster relief.

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