



# Rotary District 7780

Carolyn Johnson, District Governor

March 24, 2014

## Stewardship of Your Foundation Dollars

We are urged to contribute regularly to The Rotary Foundation (TRF), but how do Rotarians know how wisely funds are spent or managed? There is a significant process to grant applications that includes a needs assessment, goals, outcomes, and sustainability while connecting grant to the overarching goals of our Foundation. Recently, I was able to be part of “the rest of the story” to ensure that funds are wisely spent.

Many district clubs have supported the Guatemala Literacy Project. Grants have been submitted over the years to support education opportunities for some of Guatemala’s poorest children, each grant serving new communities. This year, TRF required a review of the GLP’s projects before the new grant could be approved. As a result, I spent last week with a member of TRF’s literacy cadre visiting schools; interviewing teachers, students, and parents; reviewing finances; talking with host Rotarians; and demonstrating that the projects are accomplishing what they were intended to do. It was a fascinating and educational experience for me. Bill Stumbaugh, a Rotarian and educator from California, was the cadre member assigned to review the GLPs projects of the past three years and report back to the Foundation on strengths and weaknesses. Bill has a wealth of experience – both as an educator and as a Rotarian – and as a result asked tough questions and prompted much reflection. For more than a week, we visited at least four schools each day, traveled long, dusty roads (this wasn’t about taking the easy route!) and even stopped unannounced at a few project schools to confirm that books exist and teachers were trained and using the literacy process we taught them. It was long days, but a great opportunity for me to see the projects through the lens of a Rotarian (and Foundation donor) and the lens of the project implementor. Overall, Bill was complementary, but not without suggestions to improve the projects. For starters, we need to increase the involvement of local and sponsoring Rotarians.

I came away with renewed pride in the programs of the GLP, but more importantly, with a renewed respect for the Rotary Foundation. It isn’t enough to contribute so funding is available for projects our clubs want to support. These are our funds, and those of fellow Rotarians: funds that need to be spent wisely, make a difference, and have a long term positive impact. I had no idea the Foundation went to such lengths to oversee appropriate stewardship of funds, but as a donor and a grant implementor, I have an even greater appreciation of the care and concern of the trustees to ensure careful stewardship our Foundation resources.

*DG Carolyn*



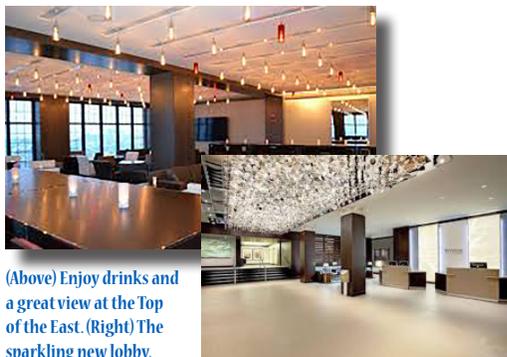
## Here's a Highlight of your 7780 DISTRICT CONFERENCE

*Westin Portland Harborview Hotel  
Friday-Sunday, May 16-18*



The Friday Kick-Off Luncheon will feature speaker D. F. PACE a very talented man who put the skills he learned as a Rotary Peace Scholar into practice in his community. Lieutenant Pace, a 13-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department, focuses on balancing constitutional law and civil rights with public safety. Prior to embarking on a career in

law enforcement, D.F. was a corporate trainer for one of the nation's largest financial institutions. A veteran adjunct professor, he has taught dozens of courses at several universities. He is a three time champion of the Pennsylvania Bankers Association Annual Public Speaking Contest and has spoken before a bevy of external constituent groups. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy. D.F.'s interests include physical fitness, animal welfare and sustainability issues. An avid supporter of Rotary International and a member of several fraternal organizations, he is a voracious reader of history and enjoys collecting and appraising art and historical memorabilia. A fully licensed auctioneer, you'll find him in an auction house from time to time barking out bids and selling anything from tchotchkes to fine art.



(Above) Enjoy drinks and a great view at the Top of the East. (Right) The sparkling new lobby.

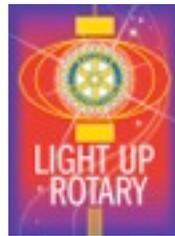
*For registration forms and agenda, go to [www.Rotary7780.org](http://www.Rotary7780.org)*



# Rotary District 7780

## District Training Assembly Get Your Club Off to a Great Start Next Year

We all know that service to others is a key component of what Rotary is all about and most of us are always looking for new projects for our club. This year's Assembly will feature three different breakouts on community, international, and literacy service projects. Panelists will share both successful projects from their clubs and some that didn't work out, because many times we can learn as much from things that don't succeed as from things that do. We also plan to share lists of projects and contact information so you can find out more about a project you are interested in.



*DGE Lawrence Furbish*

**District Training Assembly**  
Saturday, April 12 (8-2)  
Westbrook Middle School  
Cost: \$25

[Register on the district website](#)

## Is Your Club Qualified for Next Year's Grants?

To access district or international grants, all clubs must participate in a Foundation Grants Management Seminar. A minimum of two club members must attend annually: the president-elect and foundation chair are recommended to attend with all Rotarians welcome. Become more familiar with the stewardship of grants and more knowledgeable about the good work Rotarians do around the world.

Two more sessions are scheduled, choose one to attend. Cost is \$10 per person which includes a light meal. Register on the District website.

- Saturday, March 29, 8 – 11:30 AM. Westbrook ME Middle School cafeteria
- Thursday, April 3, 5 – 8:30 PM. Topsham ME Red Cross (16 Community Way)

*District Foundation Chair Peter Johnson*

## South Berwick Eliot Rotarians Help Feed Your Neighbors – Come Join Them!

On Friday evening, April 4th, South Berwick– Eliot Rotary Club will host a great evening to help four local organizations providing food assistance programs. Join the fun at The Regatta Room, Eliot, Maine. Doors open at 6:30, tickets are \$25 per person The evening will include light appetizers, dancing, silent auction and a cash bar. The band begins at 8pm and features our local group, "Something In the Water" Silent auction items will fit every budget.

The best part of the evening is that funds raised will benefit those in need in our communities. The Table of Plenty provides meal sites in York, Berwick, Kittery and is open to anyone who needs meal. Approximately 300 people are served per week. The Footprints Food Pantry serves Kittery and Eliot and the South Berwick Food Pantry serves more than 100 families per week. 68 Hours of Hunger provides food for school children on the weekends.

Please come and join us and celebrate the opportunity to help serve our neighbors in need. Tickets are available on line: [bonniep75@comcast.net](mailto:bonniep75@comcast.net)



**Four Way Test Video**  
**Is your Club Participating?**

**Registrations due April 11**