

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S NEWSLETTER – 15 July 2012

"Rotary takes ordinary men and women, and gives them extra-ordinary opportunities to do more with their lives than they had ever dreamed possible."

Greetings, District 7850 Rotarians:

NEWEST DISTRICT CLUB: Deb and I made our first club visit to the Drummondville-Malouin, club in Canada. With an approved charter, they are 30 members strong, with an average age of 41 years and with excellent diversity in gender. Send your congratulations to their club president, Isabelle Graton at igraton@jutras.ca and their assistant governor, Gilles Gravel at ggravel@gravelexpert.com. Our Quebec clubs now have the unique distinction of having both the youngest and the oldest club in our district. The oldest being Sherbrooke, which was chartered in 1919.

GOALS FOR THIS YEAR: The heart and soul of Rotary resides at the club level, with its members. This is where the action is. This is where life is made better for people, locally as well as internationally. This is where the true spirit of Rotary resides – among the many volunteers who give unselfishly of their time and effort to provide service where it is needed. I'm asking the district leadership, assistant governors, and club presidents to join me in a team approach to orient all of our members toward the ideal of service. Service, above all else – service above self – and in so doing, help to build that pathway to peace through service – the theme of Rotary's President, Sakuji Tanaka.

Did you know that in 1945 a group of Rotarians helped draft the United Nations Charter? With this history it's hard to understand why we would not have people knocking down our doors trying to join Rotary, especially the younger generation who believe that "service" is a noble endeavor. I congratulate you on being members of the greatest service organization in the world – Rotary. But, are there ways we can get better at 'telling our Rotary story' within our local communities?

As Rotarians we are all passionate about what we do – let's begin to share that passion with friends, family and co-workers. Let's brag about Rotary. Can I ask you to wear your Rotary pin on a daily basis? And when people ask, "What is Rotary?" You may answer, for example, "Rotary is a worldwide network of local clubs dedicated to making their communities a better

place in which to live.” And then brag about all the good things your club is doing to make life better for people. You may be surprised to find them knocking at your door to be let in!

MANY MEMBERS DO NOT RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER: There are about 250 members in our district that we have no way of communicating with. **Please encourage your club president or club secretary to keep all members’ emails current in the Club Runner data base.** Your club does not have to use Club Runner for your web site to do this. For instructions on how to upload Emails contact Earl Wertheim at vt210@earthlink.net or Steve Dates at sdates@comcast.net

WELCOME LETTER TO NEW MEMBERS: On a monthly basis, I’ve asked your club president to send me the names and addresses of any new members your club has inducted. I will then mail them a personal letter of welcome.

PUBLIC RELATIONS GRANT AWARDED:

Rotary International just awarded us \$10,100 for Public Relations (PR) initiatives. We’ll begin allocating those funds, plus \$3,000 of District funds, on six projects that have been approved. Thanks to those clubs and our PR people, that submitted projects for approval.



EVERY ROTARIAN–EVERY YEAR: Supporting the Rotary Foundation at a minimum of \$100 per year, per member works out to just 28 cents per day.

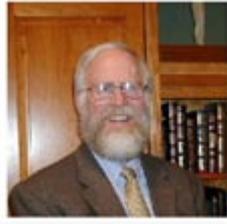
NEW DISTRICT ORGANIZATION: We have revised our District Organization to make it more responsive to the needs of our members. [Click here to see the new organization.](#)

DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2013: This will be a cruise aboard the Norwegian Dawn. For more information and a chance to receive awards for early sign up, [go here.](#)

FINALLY, HAVE FUN and FELLOWSHIP: Strive to make your club the friendliest place in town. All of us should welcome visitors to the warmth of Rotary fellowship. I’m honored to be your District Governor and hope that I can serve you well.

George "Sonny" Holt

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CLUB SERVICE CHAIR
District Governor Elect, Steve Dates

Under the new District organization, the Club Service “Tower” will be overseen each year by the District Governor Elect (currently Stephen Dates of the Charlotte-Shelburne Club) and it consists of six areas of focus with the primary mission of supporting the District’s Clubs. This month’s newsletter will focus on three of these areas:

CLUB SERVICE PROJECT DATABASE: This is a new mission led by Linda Gilbert (lindagilbert@gmail.com) of the Charlotte-Shelburne club. The first phase of this new (three year) position as District Service Project Chair involves the development of an inventory of service projects by clubs. Three database information forms are being collected by my email request to all clubs for their international service projects, club fundraiser projects, and local and district service projects. The first pilot clubs (in Chittenden and Addison County) who have sent information are already on the district website. The completed information (which includes project leader, success of the project, email contacts) will be valuable tools for every club as they review possible future projects. The success of this project will be determined by the clubs sending their data in a prompt and complete manner.

CLUB VISIONING: This is an ongoing process within the District and is co-chaired by Past District Governor (PDG) Andy Milligan handyandy@metrocast.net and PDG Rene Laporte Nicole@besnerlaporte.com . The purpose of club visioning is to:

- Assist club’s in defining a shared commitment;
- Provide long-term direction;
- Create a framework to establish goals and objectives;
- To optimize the use of limited resources.

A typical session lasts about four hours. Currently, there are two club’s scheduled for this month: St. Johnsbury was held on July 11th and Charlotte-Shelburne will be on July 24th. History has shown that those clubs who have completed this visioning process have improved their teamwork as well as their membership retention & recruitment.

WEBMASTER / SOCIAL MEDIA: Steve Lambert (Bosteve@me.com) of the North Conway Club has taken over as the webmaster of the District’s website and will be expanding the mission to include the application and training of Social Media. Messaging for relevant membership and community news has never been easier! When we leverage Twitter and Facebook presence we have an opportunity to both learn from other Rotarians as well as communicate the goals of both your club and District as well. Please assign at least one engaged member of your club to contact Steve Lambert to share photos and stories for your club at the District level. In the meantime have your members ‘Like us’ on Facebook and follow our Twitter @Rotary7850. Stay tuned!

Next month we will address the mission and current activities of the remaining three areas of focus: **District Trainer: Public Relations; and Awards Database**



MEMBERSHIP CHAIR
District Governor, Sonny Holt

Under the new District organization, the Membership “Tower” will be overseen each year by the District Governor (currently Sonny Holt of the Randolph club) and it consists of four areas of focus with the primary mission of building strong vibrant clubs, increasing membership, and building new clubs where the need arises.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: The District Membership Development Plan has undergone a complete re-write . *I strongly* recommend that you download and read through the entire document and then make other members aware of its provisions. The reason I stress this, is that it has been shown that successful membership development has to have buy-in and participation at the member level. The plan was forwarded to Rotary International. The chair of the Membership Development and Retention Committee thought it was such a useful document that if any District or a Club follows it, that Membership will never remain a problem.

RECRUITMENT: Assistant Governor, Gilles Gravelle of the Drummondville-Malouin club is the sub-chair for recruitment. He has had excellent success in recruitment efforts in the Drummondville area. In our next newsletter, he will share his ideas for successfully attracting, identifying and contacting potential members to bring them into your club. For more information, or to share your ideas for recruitment, contact Gilles at ggravel@gravelexpert.com .

RETENTION: Assistant Governor, Marsha Hoffman of the Northfield club is our sub-chair for Retention. In our next newsletter, she will discuss certain actions that will effectively engage, involve, and hold the interest of individual members. And how to get new members interested and involved in club activities, including at a minimum, assignment to a mentor and introduction to club activities and committees. For more information, or to share your ideas for retention, contact Marsha at mehoffman@hotmail.com

CLUB EXTENSION: Past District Governor (PDG) Bill Thompson is our sub-chair for creating new clubs within the district. Under Bill’s leadership we will encourage the formation of new clubs to meet the needs of large population areas without a Rotary club, or within a current Rotary community to meet the needs of younger professionals.

Our newest club, Drummondville Malouin, has received approval for its charter! The club is named for Past Rotary International Director, Alonzo Malouin who resides in Quebec. This will bring 30 new Rotarians to our District! Credit for this success goes mainly to Assistant Governor Gilles Gravel, and also to Past District Governor, Rene Laporte. A charter event will be held tentatively in November. Stay tuned, and be ready to welcome them to the fold!

Jason Schnoor, President of the Middlebury club, is in the process of forming a new Addison County, Vermont club. This club will be designed to appeal to “new generations”. Jason has already received commitments from several prospective members and we have every hope to charter it this Rotary year.

We are on the lookout for potential sites for new clubs. There are several possibilities, especially in Quebec. For more information, or to share your ideas for starting new clubs, contact PDG Bill Thompson at wibbit@aol.com.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: A good membership development plan makes people aware of all the good things Rotary is doing and how it can provide an avenue for people who feel the need to serve both locally and internationally. Earl Wertheim, our District’s Public Relations (PR) Chair will serve as PR sub-chair on the membership committee. For more information, or to share your ideas for good PR for Membership Development, contact Earl at vt210@earthlink.net .



FOUNDATION CHAIR
Past District Governor, Marilyn Bedell

Under the new District organization, the Foundation “Tower” will be overseen for a three year period, starting with Past District Governor Marilyn Bedell of the West Lebanon club and it consists of six plus areas of focus with the primary mission of educating our members about the beneficial aspects of the Rotary Foundation and the good that it is doing internationally as well as locally with monetary grants to make life better for people.

MATCHING GRANTS: Cecile Chase is the go-to Rotarian for all you want to know about matching grants – what they do and how to apply. Cecile.chase@TDBanknorth.com

MATCHING GRANT for FLOOD RELIEF:

The Matching Grant for Flood Relief in Vermont will be implemented during the 2012/2013 Rotary year. Periodically, a call will go out looking for Rotarian volunteers to help with "sweat

equity" service projects related to the grant. Marilyn is currently recruiting a volunteer coordinator to be our liaison with the Vermont Community Action Agencies. [An e-mail was sent to all District Rotarians about this position on 11 July 2012.](#) If you did not receive this e-mail and want to know more about the position, contact Marilyn at m.k.bedell@comcast.net

DISTRICT GRANTS: We have at our disposal \$10,000, this year that clubs may use for local service projects. We will award \$1,000 grants to ten of our District clubs – so apply early for one of these grants. Contact Rotarian Bill Secord for details at wrsecord@comcast.net

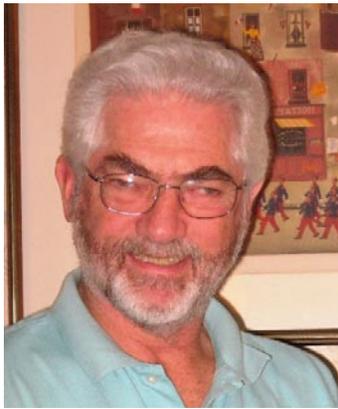
POLIO PLUS: This is Rotary's flagship program. Louisa Tripp of the Northfield club is the sub-chair for this important program. This year we learned that India has been declared Polio free but they have to wait for three years to be certified free from polio. So there is much more to do. Only three countries now remain with endemic cases of Polio.



Jason Schnoor, president of the Middlebury club and Deb Holt, wife of District Governor Sonny Holt travelled to India this year to administer the oral polio vaccine to children in a Muslim village south of New Delhi. Contact Louisa for details about the Polio plus program at Louisa.Tripp@state.vt.us

In our next newsletter we will provide information on the remaining areas of focus under the Foundation Tower: These are the ***PAUL HARRIS SOCIETY; FOUNDATION ALUMNI; LITERACY;*** and other areas of focus such as: *Water and Sanitation; Peace and Conflict Resolution; Maternal/Child Health; Disease Prevention; and Economic/Community Development.*

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NEW GENERATIONS CHAIR
District Governor Nominee, Bruce Pacht

Our District is blessed with young adults ready to take Rotary to that next level. One of our younger presidents-elect is already contemplating the founding of a new Rotary club – one to better serve younger adults. Another young past president, not content to have her club sponsor both a Rotaract and Interact club, is working to sponsor an EarlyAct club at the elementary school level. She also shoulders the responsibility of serving as our district’s Youth Exchange Committee chair. If you find people like this in your club, praise them and encourage them to think “outside the box,” and help to offer recommendations on how to propel your club to being the best of the best.

NEW GENERATIONS AVENUE OF SERVICE: In response to Rotary International’s (RI) adding a 5th avenue of service -- “New Generations” (NG) -- District Governor (DG) Sonny established a district-level committee to increase Rotarians’ awareness of this new “foundation of club activity” in addition to club, community, international and vocational service.

Because our 2013 cruise conference format cannot accommodate attendance by Youth Exchange students or in-bound Group Study Exchange participants, DG Sonny asked the district’s NG team to create an event focusing on this new avenue.

At the team’s second meeting in early July, a one-day seminar/summit/conference devoted to NG service began to take shape for a day in late spring, 2013. Here (alphabetically by last name for your reference) are the chairpersons of the various New Generations district committees, along with others working on this effort:

Marilyn Bedell – PDG 2011-12

Nicole DiDomenico – Youth Exchange

Sonny Holt – DG 2012-13

Kiki Leech – Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)

Reg Melrose – Youth Leadership (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards – RYLA)

Bruce Pacht – NG Avenue District Chair; DG 2014-15

Jay Polimeno – Interact/Rotaract

Ed Saulnier – Speech Contest

Crystal Smart – former RYLA chair

Dennis Tobin – Assistant Governor

Louisa Tripp – Group Study Exchange

We welcome comments from all Rotarians and new generations service participants. Contact Bruce at brucepacht67@gmail.com

GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE (GSE): Louisa Tripp is the sub-chair for Group Study Exchanges. We've started preparing for the team from France. This fall we will be hosting the GSE team from District 1680 in Alsace/Strasbourg France. They are 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 our team that will be visiting France 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 or (802)371-9819 if you have any questions and/or are interested in being more involved with GSE in your area.

FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE: After a break of several years, we are ready to resume our Friendship Exchanges. These are exchange trips by groups of Rotarians and their spouses, usually limited to 10 or 12 participants. They receive no Rotary funding, but costs are kept to a minimum because the team stays with host families and are often entertained by the host District. We have had interest in an exchange with South Africa, and also with the Tuscany region of Italy. For more information, contact Bill Sahlman of the Lebanon-Riverside club at bsahlman@21energyshield.com

In the next district newsletter we will provide additional information on the following areas of focus under the New Generations tower: **Interact/Rotaract; Youth Leadership (RYLA); Youth Exchange; Speech Contest;** and the **Leadership Institute.**

OTHER FOCUS AREAS

SHELTERBOX:



SHELTERBOX USA: A great chance to participate in an international club project that needs help from each club in our district on an ongoing basis. Be a Shelterbox supporting club. Let Rotarian Anne Silloway of the Randolph club know if she can come and do a presentation at your club, and give you a Shelterbox banner. Contact Anne at asilloway@gmail.com or 802-522-2694. She's scheduling program dates now through end of October.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR SEARCH FOR 2015-2016: A call for nominations has begun. To be eligible for the position of district governor, a Rotarian must;

- Be a member in good standing of a functioning club in the district
- Have served as president of a club for a full term, or as president of a charter club from the date of the charter to 30 June, for a period of at least six months
- Demonstrate knowledge of and the ability to fulfill the duties outlined in the Rotary International Bylaws, section 15.090
- Have completed seven years of membership at the time of taking office

The cutoff date for nominations is 15 August 2012. For more information, please refer to the RI Bylaws, section 15.070. http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/bylaws_ri.pdf#page=52

District Conference 2013 is a Cruise aboard the Norwegian Dawn



Enjoy great fellowship, food, and entertainment on the Norwegian Cruise Line. The ship sails from Boston on May 24th, spends three days in beautiful Bermuda and returns on May 31st.

Because it is a cruise, we need to have you register as soon as possible. To encourage you to do this, we have developed the following program:

Win \$ for Registering early for the 2013 District Conference ★

There will be a drawing each month starting in August with one prize awarded each month but with amounts decreasing as we get closer to the final cut-off date. If you have registered by:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| August 15 th | – you will be eligible to win \$400 |
| September 15 th | - you will be eligible to win \$300 |
| October 15 th | - you will be eligible to win \$200 |
| November 15 th | - you will be eligible to win \$100 |

Whether you win in August or not, your name will be put in the drawing for all of the subsequent prizes. So if you register by August 15th, you will have a chance to win \$1,000.

For Information or Reservations Call AAA: In VT 802-878-8233; In NH 603-889-0165

After making reservation with AAA, then go to the [District 7850 Website](#) to register for the monthly drawings. Click on ‘Attending’ – you will not be double billed. This is to qualify you for the monthly drawings as well as to enter you into our District database of attendees.

The Norwegian Dawn

With 12 restaurants and 12 bars and lounges, plus a wide variety of other amenities, Norwegian Dawn is a tribute to the cruise line’s “Freestyle Cruising” motto. Restaurants run the gamut, including an Asian restaurant and a French bistro -- and dress is never formal. Join a game of basketball, volleyball or soccer on the multisport court, or visit the state-of-the-art fitness center and spa complex. There are also enclosed nets where golfers can practice their drive. There’s nighttime entertainment for every taste, from watching movies in the cinema to exciting nightclubs and bars to shows in the three-level Stardust Theater.

District 7850 Conference and Cruise - For further assistance or information, contact:

Roy Somaini, Conference Chairman

802-371-8642

roylizes@charter.net

District Organization:

Rotary District 7850 Organization



2012 - 2013

Secretary
Bill Thompson

District Governor
Sonny Holt

Treasurer
"T" Tall

Club Service
Steve Dates

Membership
Sonny Holt

Assistant Governors

Rotary Foundation
Marilyn Bedell

New Generations
Bruce Pacht

- Service Projects
Linda Gilbert
- District Trainer
Dan Affeldt
- Club Visioning
Andy Milligan
René Laporte (Quebec)
- Public Relations
Earl Wertheim
- Awards
Peter Pelletier
- Webmaster/ Social Media
Steve Lambert

- Recruitment
Gilles Gravel
- Retention
Marsha Hoffman
- Club Extension
Bill Thompson
(Earl Wertheim advisor)

- New Hampshire
Dennis Tobin
Jay Polimeno
Jayne Britton
- Quebec
Gilles Gravel
- Vermont
Barbara LaFleur
Earl Wertheim
Eric Denu
Jan Draper
Marsha Hoffman
Stefanie Pigeon
Vern Forthun

- Matching Grants
Cecile Chase
- District Grants
William Secord
- Polio Plus
Louisa Tripp
- Paul Harris Society
Ron Bedell
- Foundation Alumni
Nick Troisi
- Literacy
Penny Pillsbury
- Other Focus Areas**
 - Water and Sanitation
 - Peace/Conflict Resolution
 - Maternal/Child Health
 - Disease Prevention
 - Economic/Commun.Dev.

- Group Study Exchng
Louisa Tripp
- Interact/Rotaract
Jay Polimeno
- Youth Leadership
Reg Melrose
- Youth Exchange
Nicole DiDomenico
Inbound: Tami Esbjerg
Outbound: Tom Badowski
- Speech Contest
Ed Saulnier
- Leadership Institute
Kiki Leech

Executive Committee

Governor Track: Sonny Holt, Steve Dates, Bruce Pacht, **Foundation:** Marilyn Bedell (*ex officio*)

Past District Governors: Marilyn Bedell, Bill Thompson, Guy Babb

Assistant Governors: Dennis Tobin (1st Year), Marsha Hoffman (2nd Year), N/A (3rd Year)

Conference Committee: Roy Somaini, **Nominating Committee:** Marilyn Bedell, **Finance Committee:** Steve Dates,
Rotary Friendship Exchange: Bill Sahlman **District Historian/ Archivist:** Ron Bedell