



**RI PRESIDENT GARY K.R. "RAVI" RAVINDRAN'S MONTHLY MESSAGE**



Some years ago, in the Kano plains of Kenya, a well-meaning development agency took on the task of improving water availability to a rural community. Committees were formed, meetings were held, and the local people were consulted. The main need the community identified was improved delivery of water for irrigation and livestock. A plan to meet this need was created, and the work was soon begun, exactly as the community representatives had requested.

Yet once construction began, it was met by immediate protest from groups of community women, who came to the site and physically blocked workers from building diversion channels. Upon further investigation, the agency realized that the water it was diverting for farming came from the only source, for dozens of families, of water for cooking, drinking, and washing. The entire project had to be scrapped.

Why? Because it had never occurred to a single member of the all-male team in charge to consult the local women. At every stage, it was assumed that the men knew the needs, spoke for the community, and were able to represent it. Clearly, this was far from the case. The women

knew the needs of the community, and its resources, far better – but their opinion was never sought.

We have had women in Rotary for only the last quarter of our history, and it is no coincidence that those years have been by far our most productive. In 1995, only 1 in 20 Rotarians were women; today, that number has risen to 1 in 5. It is progress, but it is not enough. It is only common sense that if we want to represent our communities, we must reflect our communities, and if we want to serve our communities fully, we must be sure that our communities are fully represented in Rotary.

Rotary's policy on gender equality is absolutely clear. Yet nearly one-fifth of our clubs still refuse to admit women, usually by claiming that they simply cannot find women who are qualified for membership. I would say that any Rotarian who makes this argument, or believes it, himself lacks the two most basic qualifications for Rotary membership: honesty and good sense.

A club that shuts out women shuts out much more than half the talent, half the ability, and half the connections it should have. It closes out the perspectives that are essential to serving families and communities effectively. It damages not only its own service but our entire organization, by reinforcing the stereotypes that limit us the most. It leads our partners to take us less seriously, and it makes all of Rotary less attractive to potential members, especially the young people who are so crucial to our future.

To tolerate discrimination against women is to doom our organization to irrelevance. We cannot pretend that we still live in Paul Harris' time, nor would he ever want us to. For, as he said, "The story of Rotary will have to be written again and again." Let us see to it that the story we write in Rotary is one of which he would be proud.

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## AMIGOS DE HONDURAS 2016 ROTARY MISSION SUMMARY

*By PDG Chris Parkinson, Trip Leader*

Over the last fifteen years, Rotary District 7870 have had 27 mission trips and provided aid to Honduras which is the second poorest country in the western hemisphere. Twenty (21) trips to Danli and Six (6) to San Pedro Sula.

Amigos De Honduras is a program of the Rotary District 7870 Foundation which is a non-profit corporation and two of the trustees of the foundation are Dr. Rich Berryman and Chris Parkinson.

Since 2001, Amigos De Honduras has concentrated its efforts in four areas:

- Medical Care - We have seen approximately 26,000 medical and dental patients.
- Medical Equipment and Supplies
  - Over 12 Tons of Medical Supplies Transported by Team Members
  - 7 - 40' Containers of Medical Equip. & Supplies
  - 3 Ambulances shipped
- School Construction & Education – We have constructed 7 schools, expanded 3 schools, and converted 2 other buildings into schools. We have repaired and painted 18 schools, and have also worked on a youth center and a drug rehabilitation facility. We have also provided school uniforms to over 300 students – which are required for children to attend school.
- Pure Water - Working with another 501c3 Rotary partner, Pure Water for the World, we have installed or funded over 11,000 water filters which provide clean water to more than 55,000 people. We have also provided wells and latrines to several villages.

One of the founders and the soul of this effort was Mary Crooker, from Nashua, who had been on 23 of the mission trips. IN 2015, Mary unfortunately died of ALS and the Rotarians in Danli named a school in her honor. Mary's spirit lives on in everything we do.

This year's Mission team traveled to Danli, Honduras on January 30, 2016, and returned on February 7, 2016. The team of 18 people was led by Chris Parkinson; Dave Lawrence led the construction project which was the addition to the school that was built in 2015 in San Marcos Abajo; Jim Magennis led the Pure Water and Sanitation team to Trojes; Dr. Rory Richardson led the Medical Team; and, Dr. Jim Wright led the Dental team. As team leader, Chris Parkinson coordinated all activity of the team travel, the project scope, and coordinated with the Foundation Treasurer with respect to all financial activity.

**A full report is available on the [District web site](#):**

## CLUB NEWS & EVENTS



The Rotary Club of Manchester is pleased to announce the Gear Up For Lyme Mt. Equinox Uphill Bike Climb is being held on **August 6, 2016**. A 5.4 mile bike race up the fully paved and scenic Mt. Equinox Skyline Drive auto road in Manchester, Vermont, this race can provide a unique training opportunity or a challenging single event. While the average overall grade of 12% is equivalent to that of Mt. Washington, it does include a brief downhill section. The base elevation is 600 feet and the summit elevation is 3,848 feet.

This is the 12th race of the club which has provided over \$70,000 to date to benefit the Lyme Disease Association (LDA). LDA supports research and treatment of Lyme Disease which affects thousands throughout the US every year. Pat Smith, the President of the Lyme Disease Association will be here for the event and is presenting a free community wide afternoon information session and Q & A event open to the public. The LDA funded research has appeared in 35 scientific journal publications to date and includes patient support. More information on the LDA is available via [www.lymediseaseassociation.org](http://www.lymediseaseassociation.org).

Additional Information: Adult 20 and over \$65.00 – Youth 19 and under \$20 – Tandem \$100. T-Shirts guaranteed to all entrants registered by July 30, 2016. Award ceremony and delicious lunch (free to all entrants) following race. Additional meal tickets can be purchased for \$7.00 per guest or \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Free parking and bottled water provided.

Registration is via [www.bikereg.com](http://www.bikereg.com). and all information can be found on the event web site [www.gearupforlyme.com](http://www.gearupforlyme.com). Club contact information is via [showardmvtrotary@gmail.com](mailto:showardmvtrotary@gmail.com) or 802-430-1608.

**All Rotarians who would like to help the day of the race will be provided with a free lunch and a donation to the Rotary Foundation in their name.**





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**CLUB NEWS & EVENTS**

## **35<sup>th</sup> Annual Suncook Valley Rotary Hot Air Balloon Rally Drakes Field, Pittsfield NH**



**Save the Dates!**

**August 5-7, 2016**

<http://suncookvalleyrotary.org/SitePage/hot-air-balloon-rally>





**CLUB NEWS & EVENTS**

**LACONIA ROTARY CLUB'S 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CHARITY RAFFLE**

# WIN THIS HARLEY!

**2016 HARLEY-DAVIDSON STREET GLIDE FLHX<sup>®</sup>**

**Only 3,000 Tickets to be sold!**

**\$20 ea.**  
Need not be present to win.

**MSRP \$23,699**

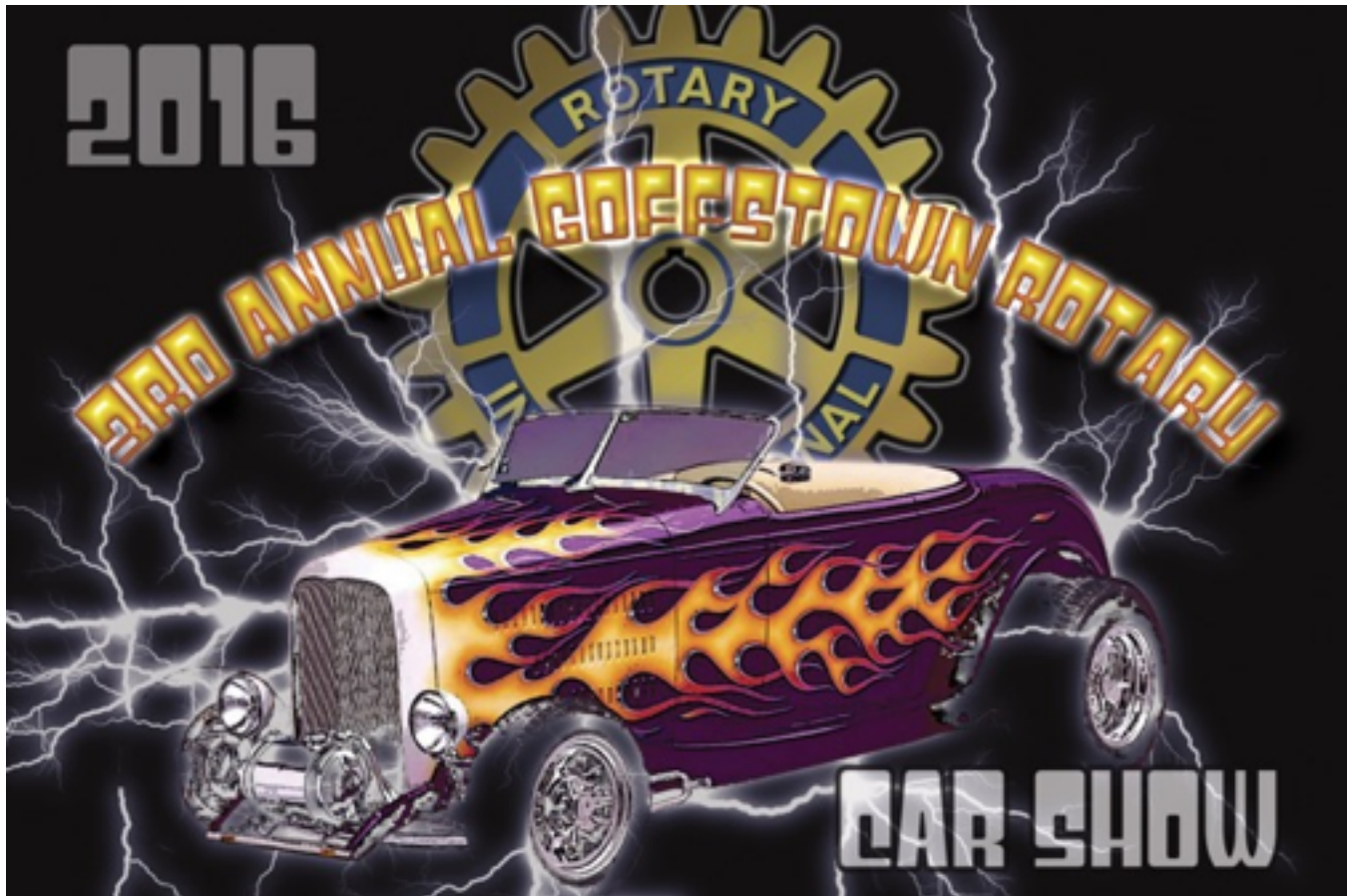
**First in New Hampshire**  
**HERITAGE HARLEY-DAVIDSON**  
For Over 30 Years

Sponsored in part by  
**Heritage Harley-Davidson**  
Concord, NH

All net proceeds raised will go towards Laconia Rotary Club's Charities  
**Drawing: June 19, 2016 - 4:00pm**  
Laconia Rotary Club booth, Lakeside Avenue, Weirs Beach, NH  
For more information and results visit us at [www.laconiarotary.org](http://www.laconiarotary.org)



## CLUB NEWS & EVENTS



### **Goffstown's Third Annual Rotary Car Show**

**Saturday, June 4 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM     2 Parsons Drive, Goffstown, NH**

**\$15 Registration Fee**

**Goodie Bags for the first 50 registrants**

**All Classes Invited**

**Trophies and Participant Voting**

**All proceeds from the event will go back to the community**

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## CLUB NEWS & EVENTS

Sandy Bartlett began catering Hopkinton Rotary's Wednesday breakfast meeting back in 1998 and soon thereafter the Friday breakfast meeting for Bow Rotary. She has also catered the meals for the Pre-PETS meetings in Bow and Hopkinton. Recently AG Gerry Youngman and Bow Rotarian PDG Chris Parkinson became aware of a situation with Sandy's car. It was in such bad shape that it was unlikely that it could pass state inspection. They pondered how they could assist Sandy knowing that the purchase of another car would place a severe strain on her finances. The respective boards then discussed how they could best help Sandy. The solution came thanks to a very generous offer by Bow Rotarian Donna Deoss. Donna agreed to give Sandy the car she was planning to trade in. The vehicle was in excellent shape but did need new tires and a few minor repairs. The boards agreed to pay \$500.00 each for these expenses. Bow Rotarian Dave Gazaway handled those items with a local garage and the car was ready!



The surprise presentation to Sandy was held at Bow Rotary on May 13th with a large contingent of Hopkinton Rotarians present. Bow President Mike Griffin and Hopkinton President James Newson called Sandy to the podium and presented her with a card and a gift bag containing the keys to the car. They then explained that she was being given a car and that it was parked right out in front of the building. Sandy was stunned. It was such a special moment. Everyone then went outside and watched while Sandy started up the car with a smile on her face that I shall long remember. It was a very special day and truly exemplified the true spirit of Rotary – caring and giving. Hats off to Donna Deos, Dave Gazaway and the Bow and Hopkinton Rotary Clubs. You should feel very proud.

PDG Pete Powers  
Hopkinton Rotary  
Photos by PDG Chris Parkinson







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## DISTRICT NEWS & EVENTS

### ***“Send Me. I’ll Take the Message”***

It happened in April 1898.

War was likely as tensions had increased between the United States and Spain. President McKinley felt it was imperative to quickly get a message to the leader of the Cuban rebels, General Garcia, to ascertain information about the Spanish troops and the condition of the rebel forces. Garcia was somewhere in the mountains of Cuba unreachable by mail or telegraph. The President needed to secure his cooperation...quickly.

Yes, it is the truth. This is a tale of personal initiative, dependability and courage of an Army officer who obeyed an order and overcame incredible obstacles in the pursuit of his goal.

The president asked Col. Arthur Wagner, head of the Bureau of Military Intelligence of the United States Government, “Where can I find a man who will carry a message to Garcia?”

Col. Wagner immediately replied, “There is a young lieutenant named Rowan here in Washington who will take it.” Another said, “There’s a fellow by the name of Rowan who will find Garcia for you, if anybody can.”

“Send him,” the President reportedly commanded.

Elbert Hubbard recounted this heroism in his essay published in 1899, entitled, “A Message to Garcia.” 40 million copies were sold.

“Rowan was sent for and given a letter to be delivered to Garcia. How ‘the fellow by the name of Rowan’ took the letter, sealed it up in an oil-skin pouch, strapped it over his heart, in four days landed by night off the coast of Cuba from an open boat, disappeared into the jungle, & in three weeks came out on the other side of the Island, having traversed a hostile country on foot, and delivered his letter to Garcia, are things I have no special desire now to tell in detail.”

“By the Eternal! There is a man whose form should be cast in deathless bronze and the statue placed in every college in the land. It is not book-learning young men need, nor instruction about this or that, but a stiffening of the vertebrae which will cause them to be loyal to a trust, to act promptly, concentrate their energies; do the thing – ‘carry a message to Garcia!’”

The writer concludes that “the world cries out for such (a man); he is needed, and needed badly—the man who can carry a message to Garcia.”

Each of us is a Rotarian because a Rotarian thought enough of the strength of our character to recommend us for membership. Rotary can only grow and truly be the Gift to the World if we share the benefits of membership with others. However, fewer than ten percent of us are delivering this message to worthy prospects. They know how to get things done, as did Rowan.

District Governor Sandy and her predecessors have devoted one year of their lives to delivering the messages of Rotary to all the clubs in our district. And the leadership of those clubs have committed their most precious gift, time, to make clubs effective in improving the human condition during the term now nearing its final weeks.

In sum, the district has done well this year and we can all be proud of the accomplishments of the members of our clubs. Officer Rowan overcame all obstacles in the pursuit of his mission. He succeeded in getting an important message to Garcia. Our task is so much easier. We must take initiative. The only obstacle we have to overcome is inertia.

Rotary is counting on you to become Rotarian Rowan; to also get the job done.

You know the mission: share Rotary by communicating the message why Rotary is the Gift to the World.

***Richard S. Robe - Rotary Club of Rutland  
District Membership Chair***

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**DISTRICT 7870 MEMBERSHIP & EVENTS**

**WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:**

Sullivan	Eugene	Capital City Sunrise-Concord
Barcome	Ryan	Keene-Elm City
O'Brien	Jessica	Keene-Elm City
Losetsky	William	Laconia
Gauthier	Adam	Suncook Valley
Drew	Chuck	Tilton-Northfield



Membership History Report



**District Calendar**

<u>May 31</u>	<b>Rotary International Convention</b>	Seoul Korea
<u>June 4</u>	<b>Third Annual Car Show</b>	Goffstown 2 Parsons Drive
<u>June 13</u>	<b>Rotary Romp 2016</b>	Brattleboro Sunrise Marina Restaurant
<u>June 17-19</u>	<b>Rock'n Ribfest</b>	Nashua West Anheuser-Busch, Merrimack
<u>June 19</u>	<b>"Win this Harley" Drawing</b>	Laconia
<u>June 27</u>	<b>District Changing of the Gavel</b>	LRSH
<u>July 11</u>	<b>Rotary Romp 2016</b>	Brattleboro Sunrise Marina Restaurant
<u>July 19</u>	<b>16th Annual golf Tournament</b>	Concord Canterbury Woods CC
<u>August 6</u>	<b>Gear Up For Lyme Mt. Equinox Uphill Bike Climb</b>	Manchester, VT
<u>August 5-7</u>	<b>Hot Air Balloon Rally</b>	Suncook Valley Drake's Field, Pittsfield

**HAVE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE WITH THE ENTIRE DISTRICT?**

Updates and short (1-2 pages) articles, along with images may be submitted to the Newsletter Editor, Dennis McMann, at [dennis@mcmann.net](mailto:dennis@mcmann.net) to be included in our Monthly Newsletter. The District Newsletter is a means of communicating to other clubs in our district; items of interest, upcoming events, fundraisers or opportunities for service.

***Deadline for next Newsletter Submissions: June 22nd.***