



ROTARY SERVING HUMANITY

On 23 February, we will mark 112 years since the founding of Rotary. It is incredible to think about how much has changed, in our world and in our organization, since the first Rotary club met in Chicago with Paul Harris as its president.

Some things are easy to compare between now and 1905. There have been changes in technology, medicine, and society. When we look at a map of the world in 1905 and a map of the world today, we can see what's different. What we can't do is compare what is with what might have been. There is no way to compare our world as it exists now with the world as it would have been without Rotary.

Rotary has risen to so many challenges in its 112 years. We've answered conflict with peace, and poverty with education. We've responded to a lack of basic health care with projects large and small, from equipping clinics in tiny villages to eradicating polio across the globe.

We will never know how different the world would have been if Rotary had never been founded; if any one Rotary club had never been chartered; or if any single Rotarian had declined the invitation to join a Rotary club.

But I will say, with absolute faith and complete confidence, that the world is a far, far better place now than it would have been without Rotary and that Rotary itself is stronger because of every one of you.

The world needs Rotary more than ever. It needs our courage, our optimism, and our idealism. It needs the voice of tolerance, cooperation, and hope that we can offer. It needs the example of an organization that has proven that the citizens of all countries can work together successfully, gladly, and in friendship.

None of us ever knows the full impact of our actions. None of us knows the effects that will ripple out from the things we do and say,

the decisions we make, the opportunities we seize, and those we let pass. But I think we all know that when we choose to do good, good will follow; and that when we choose Service Above Self as our life's path, the direction it will take us will be a good one.

No one can see the future. No one knows what changes lie ahead. But I have faith in Rotary, and in Rotarians, that with every passing year, you will make our world a better place through Rotary Serving Humanity.

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John Germ President Rotary International









2017-18: Rotary: Making a Difference

Rotary International President-elect Ian H.S. Riseley made the case that protecting the environment and curbing climate change are essential to Rotary's goal of sustainable service.

Riseley, a member of the Rotary Club of Sandringham, Victoria, Australia, unveiled the 2017-18 presidential theme, Rotary: Making a Difference, to incoming district governors at Rotary's International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA.

Environmental degradation and global climate change are serious threats to everyone, Riseley said. "They are having a disproportionate impact on those who are most vulnerable, those to whom Rotary has the greatest responsibility. Yet environmental issues rarely register on the Rotary agenda," he said.

Environmental degradation is one of the major threats listed by the UN's High-level Panel on Threats, Challenges, and Change.

Riseley added, "The time is long past when environmental sustainability can be dismissed as not Rotary's concern. It is, and must be, everyone's concern."

The president-elect challenged every Rotary club to make a difference by planting a tree for each of its members between the start of the Rotary year on 1 July and Earth Day on 22 April 2018. Trees remove carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the air, which slows global warming.

"It is my hope that the result of that effort will be far greater than the environmental benefit that those 1.2 million new trees will bring," Riseley said. "I believe the greater result will be a Rotary that recognizes our responsibility not only to the people on our planet, but to the planet itself."

Ian Riseley, Rotary International President 2017-18

Riseley is a chartered accountant and principal of Ian Riseley and Co., a firm he established in 1976. Prior to starting his own firm, he worked in the audit and management consulting divisions of large accounting firms and corporations.

Riseley has been a member of the boards of both a private and a public school, a member of the Community Advisory Group for the City of Sandringham, and president of Beaumaris Sea Scouts Group. He has been president of Langi-Taan Ski Club as well as honorary auditor or adviser for a number of charitable organizations.

Riseley's honors include the AusAID Peacebuilder Award from the Australian government in recognition of his work in East Timor, the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to the Australian community, and the Regional Service Award for a Polio-Free World from The Rotary Foundation.

A Rotarian since 1978, Riseley has served as treasurer, director, Foundation trustee, and member and chair of numerous RI and Foundation committees. Ian is a member of of the Rotary Club of Sandringham, Victoria, Australia,

He and his wife, Juliet, a past district governor, are Major Donors and Bequest Society members of The Rotary Foundation. They have two children and four grandchildren.





IN MEMORIAM



Phatsuda "Jenny" Somsuk, Rotary Inbound Exchange student to District 7870, 2013-2014, passed away on Sunday, January 15, surrounded by her family in Thailand. Jenny was hosted by the Rotary Club of Milford, NH and attended Milford High School during her exchange year.

Jenny brought an adventurous spirit to her exchange and was loved by many who had the privilege to know her. She worked hard to learn our culture while honoring her own, struggled through things the way most exchange students will naturally do, and as a result learned to love her new home here in District 7870. When she left in June of 2014 she hoped to return to visit us again. While sadly that will not happen there is a piece of her that never left. Her exchange group from 2013-14 and all who knew her, mourn her loss and celebrate the piece of her life that we were lucky enough to share.



Club Happenings:



Hollis-Brookline Rotary Club Winter Community Brunch

Join the Hollis-Brookline Winter Community Brunch at Alpine Grove in Hollis for an all-youcan-eat buffet and several activities for children. Celebrate with your family and friends. Go back home after the brunch and settle back to watch the Super Bowl in the afternoon.

Get your tickets online. We hope that you can attend, but if you cannot please consider buying raffle tickets for a chance to win \$1000. https://app.mobilecause.com/f/15a0/n

Interlakes High School Interact: Making a Difference

The Interlakes High School Interact Club, sponsored by Meredith Rotary Club, recently donated to the Wheelchair Foundation. The Foundation's purpose is to deliver wheelchairs to people who cannot afford to buy one. The Interact Club brings hope, mobility, and independence to a young woman from Morroco as well as a young man in Vietnam.

To learn more about the Wheelchair Foundation and how you can help please visit www.wheelchairfoundation.org.

This school year the Interact club has:

- provided breakfast for school staff,
- hosted a school activities fair,
- helped at the Rotary Senior Christmas Dinner,
- collected over 1300 pair of socks for local shelters, and
- volunteered at the Lakes Region Children's Auction.

To raise funds for their local and international service activities the Interact club sells souvenir items at Meredith Rotary's Great Rotary Fishing Derby the weekend of February 11th and 12th.

President Jack Williams (left) and Vice President Eli Marrietta (r) hold the pictures of the recipients of a life changing wheelchair.





Poultney Changes Meeting Schedule – slightly!

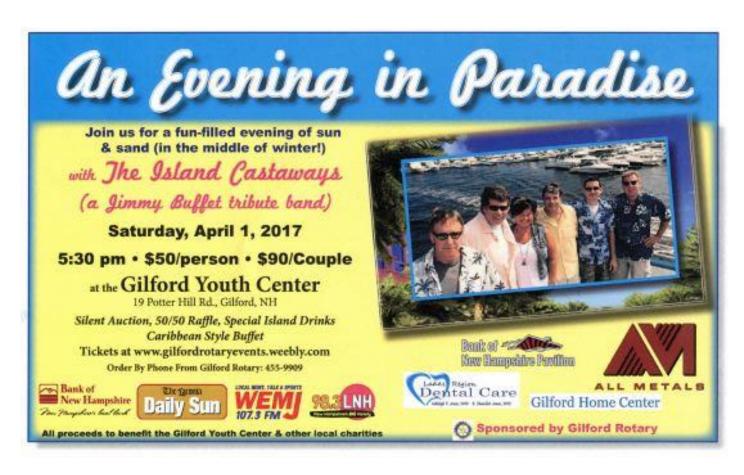
Poultney Rotary is making a change in their 2017 meeting schedule. The club meets 7 a.m., at Tot's Diner, Main Street. That will continue EXCEPT for the first Wednesday of the month, when they will now have an evening meeting. Time should be 6:30 p.m.; locations will vary.

Bob Isherwood, club secretary, says individuals may check their website, http://www.poultneyvtrotary.com/ for further information and updates on the location of the evening meeting. The February 1, 2017 meeting is a joint meeting with the Fair Haven, VT Rotary Club and will be held at Taps Tavern,158 Main Street, Poultney, VT.

Ludlow VT Rotary Celebrates 90 Years



Ludlow Rotary Club was originally chartered by Rotary International on January 13, 1927. The club celebrated their 90th anniversary with cake and balloons at a recent meeting. A big event with the community is being planned for later in the summer.







NH LEAD 2017

Are you a business professional looking for advanced leadership training? Are you a small business owner in need of local training for your employees? NH LEAD 2017 is a leadership education and development one-day training seminar facilitated by local business professionals from varying business points of view and experience. NH LEAD 2017 will be held on Friday, February 10th registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at New Life Church located at 84 Nottingham Road, Raymond, NH.

NH LEAD 2017 is pleased to announce this year's speakers: Jennifer Desrosiers, Owner Laney and Lu and Wild Adventurous Life; Myriam Jordan, Technical Sales Specialist; Dianne Mercier, President, Peoples Bank; Phil Novick, Leadership &

Management Consultant; Bobby Bledsoe, CityReach Network; Robert "Sonny" McMahon,Training Specialist.

With such diverse and experienced speakers, this seminar is sure to touch upon many of the areas you and your team are currently dealing with; from interpersonal skills, surviving the technical world and following your heart as you achieve professional success.

The climate of the professional world is changing and we need to develop the skills to thrive in this new era we are entering into. NH LEAD 2017 is a great place to train, to share and to network. Register online at RaymondAreaRotary.org. Lunch is included in the cost of registration and will be provided by 900 Degrees Neapolitan Pizzaria.



Learn More About The Rotary Foundation Centennial

The Rotary Foundation turns 100 in 2016-17! Our Foundation stands at the forefront of humanitarian service, having supported thousands of projects to provide clean water, fight disease, promote peace, and provide basic education — as well as the historic project dedicated to eradicating polio worldwide.

Learn more about the history of The Rotary Foundation
Find information on how to celebrate and download resources

Purchase centennial commemorative book, "Doing Good in the World"





District Calendar

<u>February 10</u> Raymond Area NH Leadership Education and Development Conference

<u>Check out Rotary.org's Modern,</u> New Look

Rotary.org, our public-facing website, has a fresh, contemporary look that clearly answers the often-asked question: "What is Rotary?" It's the first step in a two-part update to our entire website: first Rotary.org, and then My Rotary. See what's changed





Months of the Rotary Year

Many months of the year are designated by Rotary International for special significance. Here are the ones for the new Rotary year:

July

1 July — Start of new Rotary officers' year of service

August

Membership and New Club Development Month

September

Basic Education and Literacy Month

October

Economic and Community Development Month 24 October — Rotary's World Polio Day Livestream Event

31 October-6 November — World Interact Week

November

Rotary Foundation Month

December

Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

January 2017

Vocational Service Month

February 2017

Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month 23 February — Rotary's anniversary

March 2017

Water and Sanitation Month 13-19 March — World Rotaract Week

April 2017

Maternal and Child Health Month

May 2017

Youth Service Month

June 2017

The Rotary Foundation's 100th anniversary
Rotary Fellowships Month
10-14 June — Rotary International Convention,
Atlanta

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, *Rachel Swinford* at pdgwife@comcast.net to be included in the Monthly Newsletter. The District Newsletter is a means of communicating with other clubs in our district: items of interest, upcoming events, fundraisers or opportunities for service.

Deadline for next Newsletter Submissions: February 15th.



