





THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



February 2024	District Newsletter 2024, Number 8	David Saturley District Governor
www.rotary7870.org		
<p>Rotarian Editors Maureen Mooney and Martin Cohn</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>		
Rotary Theme of the Month: Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution		

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Greetings From Your District Governor David Saturley



Peace, love, and pancakes

February is here. Red paper hearts are seemingly everywhere. Days are getting just a bit longer. Our exchange students are in between their two club sponsored ski weekends. Many thanks to Killington-Pico and Ludlow for arranging those. Winter is running smoothly on all cylinders.

February has also brought the opportunity for more club visits. One of the opportunities a District Governor has is to hear about all the projects and programs in various stages of development. Truly amazing and inspiring things are happening throughout D7870. Because not every project is submitted to the newsletter, I'd highly recommend the road show approach. You would be amazed at the friends you'll make and what can be learned in a short time. (Photo: Hopkinton selfie, Cap City group shot)



In other District happenings, our team was able to gather virtually on February 3rd to kick off Pre-PETS season. Over a few hours, the team reviewed information for Presidents Elect to be shared over the coming weeks as they meet before PETS in April. Attendees also participated in a session on facilitation with Vivian Hardison, who is our keynote speaker at PETS and District Assembly. More details and Viv's full bio to come in our March installment.



Last Saturday was the Newport Winter Carnival. The carnival theme this year was Woodstock, so there were peace signs, tie-dye, and microbuses prominently displayed at Saturday's pancake breakfast put on by the Rotary Club of Newport. About 200 were served over the course of 3 hours. Hopping in to work the griddle was our very own Exchange Student, Bella. (Photo by Tina Blythe)

There are a number of recurring events in our District that happen by Zoom. Coffee with Ken is the first Friday of the month at 0830. This unscripted discussion is a great space to visit and share ideas. Our District RAGMHI (Rotary Action Group on Mental Health Initiatives) chapter also meets monthly by Zoom on the last Sunday. Speakers from various areas of expertise share

programs and ways to help. Past speakers include representatives from NAMI NH and VT. Links and schedules for both can be found on our District website at www.rotary7870.org

Thank you all for what you do to create hope in the world.
DG David

District News

PETS (April 26-27) and the District Conference/Assembly (April 27)

District Governor David Saturley and District Governor Elect Bill Stevens are pleased to announce that the registration for President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) and our combined District Conference/District Assembly are now open for registration on the District 7870 Website.

The President Elect Training Seminar will begin at 3PM on Friday, April 26, 2024 and runs through Saturday, April 27, 2024. We will begin on Friday at the Courtyard Marriott Hanover Lebanon located at 10 Morgan Drive in Lebanon, New Hampshire.

PETS is intended for Presidents-Elect to help them prepare for their year as presidents of their Clubs. There is no charge for Presidents-Elect and Facilitators. If you are not a President-Elect but would like to attend PETS please contact our registrar PDG Randell Barclay about the cost of attending.

Staying over Friday night at the Courtyard Marriott is optional. Presidents-Elect may choose to stay or commute from home. District 7870 has arranged a group rate for those who wish to stay overnight at the Marriott Courtyard. Those wishing to take advantage of the group rate must do so by March 26, 2024.

On Saturday (April 27, 2024) we will be running our PETS and District Conference/Assembly in parallel. All District 7870 Rotarians and Rotaractors are invited to attend the District Conference/Assembly at no cost.

Program highlights include :

- Finals of the District 7870 4-Way Test Speech Contest
- District 7870 Inbound Youth Exchange Students farewell speeches
- Breakout sessions available on Membership, Public Image, Foundation, Fund-raising, Service Project ideas and MORE

- District 7870 Awards and State of the District by DG David Saturley

More information next month. Please plan to join us.

Little Red School House Bricks

What better way to recognize a person than creating an engraved brick or paver in the Rotary Wheel in the Paul Harris Memorial Garden at the Little Red Schoolhouse in Wallingford, Vermont.



Wallingford was the childhood home of our founder Paul P Harris. The Little Red School House was built by Paul's great-grandfather in 1818. In 1928 a group of local Rotarians bought this historic building. In 1933 it was dedicated as "The Little Red Schoolhouse." Paul Harris returned to Wallingford for the dedication ceremony. Today, the Schoolhouse acts as a historic site that stores and displays Paul Harris memorabilia and is the meeting place of the Wallingford Memorial Rotary Club.

You or your club can purchase a red brick for \$200 or a white paver for \$300. In addition, there are still 18 gear teeth available for \$1,500 each. New bricks should be installed in June prior to the Changing of the Gavel Dinner which will be held on Saturday June 29, 2024.

We are also offering a presentation certificate in a folder for an additional \$15. Be sure to give us at least 2 weeks to produce and mail a certificate. You can order online with a credit card by going to: <https://www.crsadmin.com/eventportal/Registrations/PublicFill/EventPublicFill.aspx?evtid=b498acca-4045-4ffd-9245-2bcf3a5e347b>

The cutoff for orders this year will be May 15, 2024. If you have any questions, please email me at Rotary.Randell@gmail.com

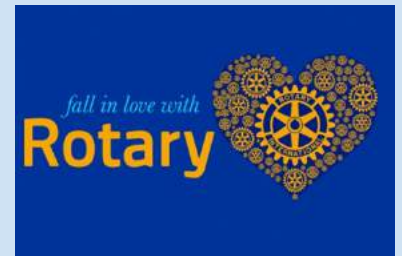
Randell Barclay, Past District Governor
Wallingford Memorial Rotary Club

2024 4-Way Test Speech Contest

The semifinals of the 2024 District 7870 4-Way Test Speech Contest will be held on Sunday April 7, 2024 at the Henniker Community Center beginning at 1:00 PM. Contestants should register by 12:30. The finals will be held during POETS on April 27, 2024 at Hartford High School, 37 Highland Avenue, in White River Junction, VT. Time to be determined. Club executives are asked to watch their emails for the updated guidelines to be sent soon.

Rotary Leadership Institute - Fall in Love with Rotary!

If love is the language for all generations across all continents, Rotary Leadership Institute should be the language of all Rotarians! Here is what you will get from attending RLI sessions:



1. Personal Growth and Development: RLI sessions enable you to enhance your human relations and personal development skills. Every module of this program is interactive with long time, (sometimes multi-generational Rotarians), and new Rotarians! You will learn something new every time.

2. Continuing Education: While Rotary doesn't officially call what you learn at RLI continuing education with CEU'S, every program developed and designed for RLI teaches valuable information about Rotary in the community, our nation, and the world. Each topic presented provides an opportunity to learn from a variety of different participants and facilitators.

3. Fun: Rotary Leadership Institute is fun, a lot of fun! Each topic is interesting and fun. The class projects are fun. Social interaction is fun.

Rotary's code of ethics, our "Four Way Test," reminds us to be gracious, generous, and positive in our dealings with others—to enhance relationships with others rather than diminishing others or selfishly boosting ourselves.

Questions, please email carol.powis@comcast.net. To sign up for sessions: <https://rlinea.org/>

2023-24 RLI Schedule

D7930 – Wakefield, MA – Virtual February 27 & 29, 2024

D7870 – VT/NH – Virtual March 19 & 21, 2024

D7950 – Bourne, MA - In Person March 23, 2024

D7780 – Lewiston, ME – In Person April 6, 2024
Other locations throughout NYS and PA

District Chapter of the Rotary Action Group on Mental Health Initiatives

We are very excited to have Shannon Desilets from the New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Service as our guest speaker at our Sunday February 25, 2024, 7PM Zoom meeting. She will be talking about the Choose Love Movement that works to improve students' wellbeing through learning of essential life skills, responsible decision-making, and character development. See <https://chooselovemovement.org/>



Membership in our chapter is open to all interested district Rotarians and non-Rotarians. We meet on Zoom on the last Sunday evening of each month. The district is planning to launch a caused-based Rotaract Club focused on Mental Health Issues. If you know someone who might be interested have them attend one of our meetings. The Zoom link for the upcoming meeting is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3561643653?pwd=WjZxMUlmL1drUnl2cUZBWENESVJDZz09&omn=89879563777>

If you have any questions, please contact our District Chapter Chair PDG Nancy Russell.

Coffee with Ken - Informal Zoom Get Together

Ken Yei (Queen City RC) will be hosting his next Coffee with Ken on **Fri. Mar. 1 at 8:30 AM** on Zoom. Coffee with Ken started during the pandemic as a way for District Rotarians to meet online and share their interests in Rotary. It also was a form for asking questions. The Zoom meeting typically lasts 40 minutes. These meetings are free flowing discussions on topics of interest to the participants. The group decides what to talk about. It is also a great way to find out what is happening around the District. Everyone is welcome. Here is the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/78773960966?pwd=QkFlTTZkdDJyRzJIa3phTmhzam1kQT09>

If you are ready, pick up a cup of Joe and click on the link above or on the District Website <http://rotary7870.org> and join the meeting.

Club News

A Tribute to Bruce Jasper - March 24, 2024



Sunday, March 24 2PM at the Newport Senior Center, 76 South Main St.

Join the Newport, NH Rotary Club for a Sunday dinner and time to share fond memories of our long-time member and Secretary, Bruce Jasper.

Ham, beans, potato salad, coleslaw, fresh rolls and homemade pies. Soft drinks or BYOB. Proceeds split 50-50 between local Rotary Service and the Rotary Foundation.

Tickets \$20 each, \$35 per couple. Reservations Required.

Contact Charen Urban, Acting Secretary

603 995-1248

charenlurban@yahoo.com

Robert “Woody” Woodworth Wins the Brattleboro Rotary Club “Norm Kuebler Four-Way Test Award”

BRATTLEBORO -- The Brattleboro Rotary Club bestowed the "Norm Kuebler Four-Way Test Award" upon Robert “Woody” Woodworth at the club’s weekly meeting on Jan. 18 at the Heart Rose Club, Green Street, Brattleboro.

The award honors the late Norm Kuebler, who was a past president of the club, a local businessman and a longtime community volunteer. Kuebler died unexpectedly at the age of 63 in April 2010. Kuebler was a strong proponent of Rotary International's code of ethics, called the "Four-Way Test," which asks, "Of the things we think, say, or do: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned?"



In this spirit, the Brattleboro Rotary Club recognizes a local business or person who best exemplifies these values.

“Woody volunteers widely, using his business expertise for the benefit of people in our community,” said Rotarian Cheri Ann Brodhurst, as she presented the award. “His most recent contribution was to provide cleaning of, and repairs to, bicycles for the newest members of our—immigrants from Afghanistan.”

“Locally, he has lent his business and leadership skills to a variety of the institutions that make civil society work.” Brodhurst continued, “He chaired the boards of Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, the BUHS School Committee, and the Brattleboro Area Chamber of Commerce. He served on the BMH Quality and Patient Safety committee, Youth Services Diversion board, and the Windham County Regional Career Center board. For 31 years, as owner of Burrow’s Specialized Sports he was active in providing opportunities for youth to fulfill their community service requirements, as well as generously supporting local charities with gift certificates and advertising. He in every way, meets the 4-way test.”

The Brattleboro Rotary Club, founded in 1950, is an active community service club of 70+ members who engage in community and human service projects both locally and internationally.

Photo (l-r): Cheri Ann Brodhurst and Robert “Woody” Woodworth Photo credit: Greg Worden

Ludlow Rotary Offers Free Books through Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library

Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library (DPIL) is dedicated to inspiring a love of reading by gifting books free of charge to children from birth to age five. Ludlow Rotary wishes to have all of our area’s children receive these books. Inspired by her father’s inability to read and write, Dolly Parton started her Imagination Library for the children within her home county.



In 1995, Dolly Parton launched Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library (DPIL). Dolly’s vision was to foster a love of reading among her county’s preschool children and their families by providing them with the gift of a specially selected book each month. In furtherance of Rotary’s mission of literacy and in partnership with DPIL, the Ludlow Rotary Club offers the program to each child in our service area from birth until their 5th birthday. Every child who lives in Mount Holly, Ludlow,

Plymouth and Cavendish is eligible to receive a free book every month delivered to their home via US Mail.

Ludlow Rotary "graduated" over 250 children to date through its participation in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program.

A parent or guardian may sign each child up and inform the Ludlow Rotary Club of any address change. The program is completely free to parents. The Ludlow Rotary Club and the Dolly Parton Foundation underwrite all the cost. The books are excellent reading material and the children love receiving and reading them.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is all about inspiration and imagination. Since launching in 1995, DPIL has become the premier early childhood book gifting program in the world by mailing well over 90 million free books in Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Currently, the program mails over one million specially selected, age-appropriate books monthly to registered children from birth to age five. Dolly's vision was to create a lifelong love of reading, prepare children for school and inspire them to dream.

Registration forms must be filled out by the parent or guardian and mailed to :
LUDLOW ROTARY CLUB, P.O. BOX 216, LUDLOW VT 05149

Registration forms are available on line as well at [Imaginationlibrary VTLUDLOW/](http://Imaginationlibrary.VTLUDLOW/)

Anyone interested in learning more about joining Rotary is invited to contact Kevin Barnes, Membership Chairman at (802) 228-8877, to receive an invitation to a meeting.

Photo courtesy of Dolly Parton Library and available to the general public.

Professor Frank Cohen Discussed Middle East Politics

A fascinating breakfast discussion was enjoyed by the Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Club at the weekly meeting in the Campus Center of Franklin Pierce University. Associate Professor of Political Science Frank Cohen, PhD provided a comprehensive view of the development of the "messy world" which increased after WW II. Citing the end of the cold war, the removal of the Berlin Wall, the collapse of the Soviet Union, the UN and the Cuban missile crisis, he identified a changing US foreign policy under numerous Presidents from the Bushes on to 911.



The conversational exchange was intensive and so fascinating that Dr. Cohen was invited to return soon to continue his analysis which may contribute to an understanding of Gaza and future developments related to democracy, free trade, borders and the dangers of misinformation.

Ludlow Rotary Learns About Proctorsville Fire Dept

Members of the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) were treated to an introduction to how the Proctorsville Fire Department operates, its many challenges, and its role in servicing the community. The LRC's weekly luncheon meeting was held in the Proctorsville Fire Dept featuring discussions with three of its leaders. Pictured from left to right are Karleen Glidden; Robert Glidden Sr., Dept Chief; and Robert (Bobby) Glidden Jr., Deputy Chief. They described the organization of the department and how it functioned for more than just fires. It is a recognized EMS service and is involved in dealing with auto accidents and problems such as access to locked vehicles. The Glidden family has devoted five generations to serving in the department.



Note: Photo credit, R Pace

Queen City Rotary - Update

On Saturday night, January 27th the city of Manchester, NH laughed to raise money for Greater Manchester youth charities. The Queen City Rotary Club held its annual Comedy Bowl where three up and coming Boston based comedians had the crowd laughing all night long. The night also included a dinner and dessert buffet, cash bar, 50/50 raffle, silent auction items and much, much more! This "Fun-Raiser" raised over \$45,000. Our club wants to thank some local rotary club members (from Manchester and Raymond) who also joined in to support our event. We are all one Rotary family and together we make a big difference in our communities. Service Above Self, with some fun and laughter along the way.



Monica Labonville, Member
QC Rotary Club
Manchester, NH

Springfield Rotary Supports Boosters' Bleacher Project

Recently the Springfield Area Booster Club received a donation from the Springfield Rotary Club to support the Bleacher Fund

"This generous donation will significantly help with the bleacher project and ensuring the final pieces of the project are able to be completed," said Booster Club President Rachel Hunter. "Thank you to the Rotary Club and all those that continue to value our students and community."

The Springfield Rotary Club pledged \$1,000 to the project and doubled it with a Rotary District 7870 matching grant.

Rotary District 7870 comprises 60 Rotary Clubs in Southern New Hampshire and Southern Vermont. The Rotary Club of Springfield, founded in 1927, is an active community service club of more than 40 members, who engage in community and human service projects both locally and internationally. For more information, visit www.springfieldvtrotary.org.

PHOTO: Springfield Rotary Club President Emma McGuirk with the Club's donation



The Suitcase Project

Hello! I am Megan Plaza, Miss Stratham Teen 2024 and the founder of The Suitcase Project – a 501 (c)(3). Our mission is to collect gently used or new suitcases and duffel bags from the general public and distribute them to children in need within the foster care system.

The Suitcase Project held its first suitcase drive on January 6, 2024 in Londonderry, NH (my hometown! The drive was showcased on The Suitcase Project's Facebook and Instagram pages, WOKQ, WZID, the Londonderry Times, the Londonderry School District Facebook and Instagram (@thesuitcaseprojectnh), and the town newsletter, The Lantern. Congressman Chris Pappas attended and Maggie Hassan wrote a very thoughtful letter. Our goal was to obtain 200 suitcases



and our lofty goal was 500. We collected more than 1,000 suitcases and \$1,534 for the organization! I have a lot of writing to do because each suitcase comes with a handwritten note inside!

We need help cleaning the suitcases and distributing them. The larger suitcases will be transported from their temporary location (Lion's Hall in Londonderry, NH) to various non-profits who also have a need such as, Webster House, Nashua Children's Home, YMCA Crisis Center, YMCA New Americans, etc. The remaining travel size suitcases, duffel bags, and backpacks will be brought to storage facilities. This will all be done through a network of volunteers. One of the biggest obstacles our organization faces is obtaining storage facilities throughout the state, as DCYF doesn't have any room for storage. Storage is a large expenditure. A 10' x 10' x 9.5' storage unit is \$195/month. We



estimate that we will need four storage units – Manchester, Concord, Keene, and Rochester. Our website (www.thesuitcaseprojectnh.org) has information about donating monetarily through Zeffy, which is specifically for non-profits! They do not take a percentage of what comes in, unless the donor wants to do so. There is also information about our board of directors and pictures of the suitcase drive. Additionally, I have been presenting to various Rotaries throughout the state. If your Rotary would like me to speak, please email me at thesuitcaseproject@gmail.com and I will respond as soon as possible. This

project is also an extended learning opportunity through my high school which allows my absence from class due to presentations to be excused. Don't worry – I have a 3.66 GPA so I can miss class! Thank you so much for all of your efforts in our communities!

Photo: Megan Plaza speaking to the Londonderry Rotary

International

Making a Difference in Eastern Ukraine

Last September, the Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club (CSRRC) hosted a Stand with Ukraine event to help Ukrainians as they entered their second winter of war with Russia. Businesses, nonprofits, individuals and Rotary Clubs throughout the district rallied together in support, generating over \$10,000 in consumer goods and monetary donations. Working with our fellow Rotary Clubs in Dnipro and Zaporizhzhya, CSRRC successfully shipped 422lbs of needed items to eastern Ukraine. In addition, CSRRC worked with Rotary District 7870 Foundation to fund two projects for children in these Ukrainian cities.

One of the activities supported by the September event was the 'stuff-a-sock' campaign, an initiative to help lessen the impact of colder weather and send a personal message of support. Club members and the public stuffed nearly 400 woolen socks with chap sticks, earplugs, energy bars and

handwritten notes. In addition to this, individuals also donated winter clothing and vitamins, all of which CSRRC successfully shipped over the course of the winter months.

One of the two funded projects, advocated by the Dnipro Rotary Club, was to recognize local Girl and Boy Scouts for their work and leadership in a war-torn environment. Many had parents who were away fighting for Ukraine's freedom. Regardless of their family circumstances, all had to navigate the hardships of living in a city near the frontline. In recognition of their accomplishments, this project provided 66 Scouts, ages 6-17, and 9 Scout volunteer instructors with a backpack, a book about scouting, and healthy treats for the Christmas season.

The other funded project, advocated by the Zaporizhzhya Rotary Club, was to provide their local Scouts with access to music and music therapy, a known method of lessening the impact of trauma. This project is ongoing, as a local former music teacher continues to purchase folk music instruments that Scouts will learn to play. Many of these instruments are unusual but will undoubtedly provide some respite for the reality of war, and a way for young Ukrainians to reconnect to their native culture.

As this war continues, there is still much more to do. We are currently exploring another project in Kharkiv, a city on the far east of Ukraine situated only 20 miles from the border with Russia, and often targeted. Among the Scouts in this city, there are children of veterans and/or current freedom fighters, children whose families had to relocate because of the war, and children with many siblings (from multiple-child families). If you would like to contribute to such projects, please contact us. Tax- deductible donations should be made out to District 7870 Foundation with Ukraine relief written in the memo line.



Charlene Lovett
President, Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club
P.O. Box 501, Claremont, NH 03743
sugarriverrotary@gmail.com
603-504-6273 (h)

Calendars

District 7870 Calendar

So much going on within the clubs in the district! Be sure to regularly check this District Calendar of Events: <http://rotary7870.org/events/calendar>

Do you have an entry for the District online calendar? Please email your entry to: prrotary7870@gmail.com.

Months of the Rotary Year

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

July New Rotary Year

August Membership and New Club Development Month

September Basic Education and Literacy Month

October Economic and Community Development Month

November Rotary Foundation Month

December Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

January Vocational Service Month

February Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

March Water and Sanitation Month

April Environment Month

May Youth Service Month

June Rotary Fellowships Month

Miscellaneous

Have Something You'd Like to Share with the Entire District?

Updates and short (1 page) articles, along with images (**Word and JPEGs only. NO PDFs please**) may be submitted to Martin Cohn and Maureen Mooney at prrotary7870@gmail.com 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: March 15th, 2024 at 9:00 AM.**

Website and Social Media

Be sure to check (and share) the Rotary District 7870 **website** at: www.rotary7870.org.

Be sure to join (and share) the Rotary District 7870 **Facebook page** here:

