





THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

January 2024	District Newsletter 2024, Number 7	David Saturley District Governor
www.rotary7870.org		
<p>Rotarian Editors Maureen Mooney and Martin Cohn</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>		
Rotary Theme of the Month: Vocational Service Month		

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Greetings From Your District Governor David Saturley



What do a banker, lawyer, plumber, and realtor have in common? More on that in a bit.

The new calendar year is here, and planning for the coming Rotary year is picking up speed. DGE Bill has returned from the International Assembly in Orlando and will be sharing more about what he learned there and our new theme for the coming Rotary year soon.

Our 2024 Amigos De Honduras Team gathered this past Saturday at the Little Red Schoolhouse in Wallingford to prepare and package supplies for the upcoming trip to Danli. We wish them well on their upcoming journey and eagerly await updates and news of their adventures.

The third Zoom call for Presidents and Secretaries was held on January 9th. These 30-minute meetings will continue monthly through the end of the Rotary year. We're experimenting a bit with AI note taking in these sessions. The summaries are interesting in places but are improving. Our next meeting is scheduled for February 13th at 7pm. Watch your inboxes for the link and notes from our January session.

As Rotarians, we strive to be of service. To our fellow members, our communities, and to the world. Not in single acts, but as a lifelong theme. One place we can share in service is through our chosen professions. And it just so happens that the monthly theme for January is Vocational Service. Each new day offers us the opportunity to bring our unique skill sets and values of Rotary together to help others.

Back to the opening question and why it's relevant. Each long-time Rotarians. Each used and freely shared their gifts to inspire and enrich the lives of all they encountered. All held longtime roles as

mentors and cheerleaders in their clubs. Sadly, the other thing they have in common is that all have recently passed away. Ann, Bruce, Poldi, and Rich touched many lives, and will continue to do so as those who remain share fond memories and stories of their kindness, generosity, and even of their mischievous shenanigans through the years. May their memories be a blessing.

Yours in Rotary Service,
DG David

District News

Rotary Leadership Institute - The “Deliberative Calm” for Our Clubs

What makes Rotary unique and team building special?

The fellowship and bonds that we share make us time proven and unique within ourselves as clubs and the greater organization.

Why consider RLI and how can it help our clubs relative to “Deliberative Calm?”

“Instead of trying to have an answer ready for all difficult, unexpected challenges today, we will approach them with curiosity and an open mind, inviting multiple perspectives.”

What does this situation call for? What is most helpful for this problem?

These are some of the questions you will find answers to in helping your clubs evolve and grow at the next higher level. Answers that can be found in sharing ideas and gaining new knowledge by attending RLI sessions!

Questions, please email carol.powis@comcast.net.

To sign up for sessions: <https://rlinea.org/>

2023-24 RLI Schedule

D7910 Marlboro, MA - In Person January 27, 2024

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

Amigos Mission Team Preparing for Mission Trip

December 15, 2023 The 2024 Amigos Mission Team is preparing for their mission trip which is scheduled to leave on Saturday, January 27th and return on Saturday, February 3rd. The team is at its maximum number of members which is 28 team members (A function of the bus size). So, if you read this and are interested in going on a future mission trip, let me know and I'll add you to my email list.



I am pleased to announce that this year's team leaders will be Dave Lawrence, formerly of Springfield Rotary and currently with Lancaster PA Sunrise Rotary, and Steve Neuhoff, of the Henniker Rotary Club. The Medical Leader will be Kell Giffin of the Wallingford Rotary Club, and the Dental Leader will be Shannon Mills of the Concord Rotary Club. We are most fortunate to have such an experienced and capable leadership team.

I'm very pleased to report that recently we surprised Dave Lawrence with the fact that our last year's building project has been named in his honor. A dedication ceremony was held by Danli Rotarians and District Governor Maria Price of District 4250, who is from Belize, officiated. Dave is a great Rotarian, has been on 14 mission trips, and has led many of them.

This year's trip will have the same three areas of focus as with previous trips: medical and dental brigade, school construction, and a Water and Sanitation project. Typically the projects on these mission trips require funds of between \$10,000 and \$15,000. We very much need contributions, we thank the many clubs and Rotarians that have made donations, and we hope others will join them and make a contribution to support our 2024 Mission. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

Please know that 100% of the funds that are contributed will go to the projects, as our team members fund their own travel expenses and the administrative costs are donated.

The Rotary International District 7870 Foundation is a 501c3 charitable organization under the rules of the Internal Revenue Service. Our Tax Id is 26-0197796.

If you have questions or would like me to present to your club, please email me at cep617@comcast.net

In closing, thank you for your support of the Rotary District 7870 Foundation and of Amigos De Honduras, and once again let me share with you one of my favorite quotes from Margaret Mead:

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Sincerely,

Christopher E. Parkinson, Past District Governor and Chair of Amigos De Honduras.

Photo by David Lawrence Biblioteca.

Coffee with Ken - Informal Zoom Get Together

Ken Yei (Queen City RC) will be hosting his next Coffee with Ken on **Fri. Feb. 2 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>

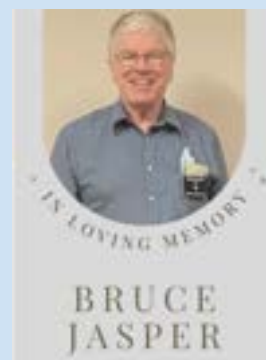
If you are ready, pick up a cup of Joe and click on the link above or on the District Website <http://rotary7870.org> and join the meeting.

Club News

Rest in Peace Newport NH Rotarian Bruce Jasper

The Rotary Club of Newport, NH sadly announces their loss of Bruce Jasper, 50-year member and club Secretary for 40 years. Bruce was the heart and soul of Newport's Rotary doing everything from publishing the weekly bulletin to maintaining our historical archives to ordering weekly lunches. Newport Rotary celebrated its 100th year in 2023 and presented Bruce with an Outstanding Service Award "In honor and with deep appreciation of devoted and unselfish service to our club and community."

From his published obituary we would share...



Croydon, NH: Bruce R. Jasper, of Croydon, NH, passed away unexpectedly at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center on December 21, 2023, with his wife, Ann, by his side after a brief illness. He was born in Nashua, NH on April 10, 1947, and was brought up on the family poultry farm in Hudson, NH until the age of 10. Bruce graduated from Nashua High School, class of 1965. He earned his BA in Political Science at the University of New Hampshire and his JD from the University of Tulsa College of Law. He was a partner in the law firm of Elliott, Jasper, Shklar, Ranson & Beaulac, LLP and he had been with the firm for 50 years. He was a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association and the Sullivan County Bar Association.

Being part of the community was very important to Bruce. He was involved in many community service boards and organizations, including membership in the Newport Rotary Club for 40 years, Moderator for the Town and School District in Croydon, Croydon Zoning Board of Adjustment, Newport Senior Center, Wags & Wiggles Rescue; and Economic Corporation of Newport (ECON). He was also Chairman of his High School Reunion Committee for many years.

Bruce's hobbies included candlepin bowling and music. He loved oldies music. His dad jokes, quick wit, and sage advice will be missed beyond words. In Lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Newport Rotary Club (PO Box 333, Newport, NH 03773), Wags & Wiggles Rescue (PO Box 106, Newport, NH 03773), or the Newport Senior Center (76 South Main Street, Newport, NH 03773).

Superintendent Visits Jaffrey-Rindge School District

Reuben Duncan, Superintendent of the Jaffrey-Rindge School District, enjoyed a breakfast meeting with the Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Club on Thursday, December 14. His message focused on a recent theme of "Investing in the Future", with choices to support the community with collaboration and communication. He described lots of groups working in partnerships to engage, inspire and empower student learners. He cited Franklin Pierce University as helpful to the leadership and sustainability of the whole system, and particularly noted the impact of pre-school on future learning success.



Fielding questions about the budget, he described the need for in-school training for teachers, considering that the special needs population accounts for nearly one-third of the overall budget

due to out-of-district charges. Plans are currently underway to utilize funds available to expand opportunities for career and technical training, with three areas of focus - culinary, cosmetology and construction.

He also clarified that the 202 site was not in consideration for the required CTE facilities. The meeting was held at Franklin Pierce.

2023 Holiday Book Fair

The Rotary Club of Nashua West once again partnered with Barnes and Noble for our Annual Book Fair Literacy Program. Through this program Rotarians are given B&N Book Fair Vouchers which they use to either shop on-line or at any store nationwide for books to donate or to purchase personal items. In turn, the bookstore then issues an additional voucher according to the club's percentage of total sales.



Our book fair benefits the NH State Prison System. This year 82 books with a value of \$885 were donated providing books for the inmates to read to their children during the holidays and to help fill the prison's library shelves for the incarcerated.

The gift card that Barnes and Noble donated will enable Rotary West to fund our Spring Literacy Project. Last year books were given to the SNHHS Birthplace so that all new parents with babies could leave the hospital with a new book. A donation of books was also given to PAL to stock their library.

Thanks again to all who support this beneficial program! Should you be interested in learning more about how Rotary supports literacy or about the Rotary Club of Nashua West, please reach out to Jan Valuk, Literacy Chairperson at janvaluk@gmail.com or connect with any of member of the Rotary Club of Nashua West.

Rotary Helps Bring Christmas to Kurn Hattin

Chester Rotary, Green Mountain Union Interact and the Springfield Rotary Club brought Christmas to the kids at Kurn Hattin Home for Children in Westminster, Vt on Dec. 14, 2023.

Kurn Hattin, founded in 1894, is a year-round, charitable, residential and day program home and school serving children ages 5-15, from throughout the Northeast.

For over two decades, the Rotary Club of Chester has taken up a collection and buys individual gifts for the children at Kurn Hattin. Often, these gifts are the only Christmas presents that the children receive. This year members of the Springfield Rotary Club participated. After the distribution of the gifts, the children and staff enjoyed pizza in each of their cottages provided by Rotary members.



Rotarians Thank Community for Support in 2023

The Ludlow Area Rotary Club thanks the residents and businesses of the greater Ludlow area for their support in 2023. Our club is a part of Rotary International which is one of the largest service organizations in the world. The mission of Rotary is to "provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace." As a result of your support, we were able to spread this mission by supporting members of our community and beyond. Our annual Penny Sale and Chili Cookoff were hugely successful allowing us to support local projects and scholarships. We support local organizations such as Mountainside House with grants for needed projects.

It might be of interest to the community to know some of the ways we have supported this mission both locally and internationally. This year our neighbors both near and far were challenged by major storms. After July's torrential rain and devastating flooding, Rotary became the fiscal agent for a collaborative effort with the OKEMO Valley Chamber of Commerce. In addition, we donated substantial money to the Ludlow Enterprise Fund, to Black River Good Neighbors and the Cavendish Family Fund. We quickly secured dehumidifiers that were distributed through the Ludlow Disaster Relief Center. Representatives of the club participated on the flood relief committee to assure financial help was distributed equitably.

To help with clean-up efforts after the flood, we contributed gear and a kayak to the Black River Action Team. Some members of the club went into the trenches, helping with clean-up efforts in homes and businesses. We also financially supported fellow citizens of our country who experienced devastating wildfires in Lahaina, Maui.

Outside our local area we provide support to Rotary International to help eradicate polio in the world. Rotary International is making great progress in this area and the world is 99% polio free. We also supported the Montreal Club in their efforts to bring water and sanitation to over 33,000 beneficiaries in Ghana.

We support an international student exchange program that places high school students in local homes for a year in a foreign country where they can immerse themselves in a different culture to promote world understanding. Annually, we provide scholarships to deserving graduating seniors from the communities we serve, Ludlow, Cavendish and Mount Holly helping them access post high school educational opportunities.

We are thankful for all the support from the area and wanted to share with you what your generosity can do. The Ludlow Area Rotary Club meets on Tuesdays at DJ's Restaurant in Ludlow. If you are interested in more information on the club or are interested in joining please contact Kevin Barnes, Membership Chairman at (802) 228-8877, to receive an invitation to a meeting.

Greater Keene Rotaract Club Hosted Holiday Service Event

The Greater Keene Rotaract Club hosted its 6th annual holiday service event, Operation Elves, on December 16, 2023. We supported 74 children across 30 families this year! Operation Elves provides each child with their "most desired" gift, a stocking with personal care supplies, a new outfit, hats and mittens, a Douglas Cuddle Toy, and four to five other items of their guardian's choice.



"What's so important about Operation Elves and makes it different from other programs is that guardians shop themselves for their kids. It's empowering to be able to make those choices for your kids. Needing support doesn't mean you can't have some say in what that support is," shares our President, Mia Elliott.

Rotary West Provides Gifts for Children in Need

The Rotary Club of Nashua West made a difference for fifty-three Nashua area children and their families this past holiday season.

The club, working with the Front Door Agency, a local organization assisting women and families with transitional housing and programs which target needs to avoid homelessness, has donated specified clothing and gifts to children identified through this nonprofit organization.

Members of the Rotary Club are each assigned one or more children and work to find and fulfill their wishes. Gifts can range from necessary clothing, shoes and boots, outdoor clothing, games, and bicycles to name a few of the requested items. In addition, club members add a special gift card just for the family to purchase groceries and other critical items.

Thank you to all who purchased gifts and gift cards in support of this beneficial program! Should you be interested in learning more about the Rotary Club of Nashua West, reach out to Nicole Ennis at nennis@frontdooragency.org or any of our members of the Rotary Club of Nashua West.



Springfield's Jeff Mobus Receives Rotary Award

Springfield Rotary Club member Jeff Mobus (left in photo) is congratulated by club president Emma McGuirk for continuing contributions to The Rotary Foundation in support of international programs that promote peace, human development, and world understanding. Mobus now has earned Rotary International's prestigious Paul Harris Fellow plus-eight honors (signifying an initial \$1,000 donation with eight additional gifts in the same amount). The award is named in honor of Paul Harris, the founder of Rotary, and is considered one of highest awards for individual Rotarians.



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 <https://springfieldvtrotary.org/>.

New London Rotary Club Giving Back to Our Community Over the Holidays

As part of reestablishing the New London Rotary Club's Education and Literacy commitment to the Andover, Kearsarge and Sunapee communities, the Club provided over one hundred new and slightly used books for the Lake Sunapee Visiting Nurses Association's (LSVNA) Elf project. LSVNA's Elf project ensures Kearsarge families in need have Christmas gifts under the tree. Families could choose the books they wanted on the day they picked up their gifts. All but a few books were taken home. The parents were very appreciative with one mentioning just how much it means for her kids to have books of their own. It was so well received that we look forward to making this an annual part of LSVNA's Elf project.

The New London Rotary Club spent one of our service days building insulating window inserts in cooperation with WindowDressers and the Kearsarge Neighborhood Partners community build. The low cost window inserts function as a custom interior mounted storm window. They improve the warmth and comfort for interior spaces, lower heating costs, and reduce carbon dioxide pollution. According to WindowDressers research one window insert saves an average of 8.5 gallons of heating oil each year. They are free for those who cannot afford them. All had fun learning to wrap, tape, cut and seal the internal storm windows for our neighbors.



The New London Rotary Club in cooperation with the New London Recreation Department is holding our first Adult Spelling Bee fundraiser during the Winter Carnival. Teams of four people will compete to win the Spelling Bee Trophy. If you are interested in forming a team to compete or join us as a spectator, you can find more information and register your team at <https://nl-nh.com/recreation>. The Spelling Bee will be

on February 3, 2024, at Whipple Hall, 25 Seamans Rd., New London, NH starting at 7 pm with doors opening at 6:15.

Fabulous Festive Update from the Milford Rotary Club

The Milford Rotary Club kicked off the recent holiday season on November 22nd with our now "new" tradition of a family style luncheon. As we gathered around "one big table" to share fellowship and sisterhood we were reminded of many things that we must be grateful for as a club. Included high on that list are the dedication to service above self of our members and the support we receive from our communities.

Our Thanksgiving cornucopia runneth over! This meeting was highlighted by a Paul Harris Fellow honor and four new member inductions! Patty MacIntyre was recognized for her dedication to Milford Rotary's 100 Holes of Golf fundraiser and much more with her first Paul Harris Fellow. We warmly welcomed Frank Mann, Holly Bly, Jonathan Dansak, and Paul Karpawich as new members of the Milford Rotary Club. Each of whom bring great enthusiasm, new ideas, and varied skills all of which strengthens our Club!

Two days after that gathering, we kicked off the 41st Annual MRC Christmas Tree Fundraiser. In a very short 18 days we sold out of the 700 Christmas Trees ordered way back in February! The Milford Rotary Club extends its hearty thanks to our fellow and sister Rotarians and neighbors who stopped by to purchase a tree, lend a hand, say hello, and share some support. Many thanks to the Milford High School and Nashua High Interact Club students who volunteered to help. We greatly appreciate their wonderful enthusiasm and youthful assistance! Once again, we had an excellent sales location on Route 101A in Amherst thanks to the generosity and support of Sue Roberts and Fred Lozier of Frederick's Pastries.

The celebrations kept coming as we closed out 2023 and jumped right into 2024. At our final meeting for 2023, Sam Foisie and Jeanne Hanlon officially joined our ranks as Milford Rotarians. Jeanne helped us create some new Milford Rotary Club history by following in the footsteps of her grandson Rotarian David Hanlon. Joining our many parent - child and spousal connections, they became our very first grand-relative induction!

We rounded out the start of 2024 with four Paul Harris Fellow recognitions. Past Club President Jay Dinkel was recognized for his PHF+1. Many of you may also know Jay for his longstanding service to Education For All Children (www.efac.org).

Our club was honored to participate in a very special family Paul Harris Fellow ceremony. Past Club President Dr. Joseph Raczek was recognized with a PHF+3. From his generous donation to Rotary International, Joe chose to honor two very important ladies in his life with PHF honors and, in doing so, to set the stage for future generations. The first PHF was presented to Dolores Raczek, Joe's Mom, for her dedication to family and her longstanding support of all of his endeavors including that first wildly successful District supported trip to Tobago to provide eye-care clinics. The second was presented to his daughter Paige who has been a fixture at many of our Club's events, cheering on her Dad and learning the Rotary Way. Joe's own words best express the intent of this community PHF honor: "Paige, like all of us in this room, has had an incredibly privileged and affluent life. She lives in a house where she can turn a handle and get clean fresh water; she opens a refrigerator and her favorite foods are always available; she pushes a handle on a toilet and her waste disappears; she will get a great education and will not be limited in her career choices by sex or other factors; she doesn't have to worry about a war in her country; and she has electricity and internet

24/7. Rotary International works so that kids throughout the world can enjoy the privilege and opportunities Paige has, and Joe hopes that in 10, 20 and 50 years from now Paige will remember today and incorporate the values of family and Rotary to be not only a good citizen of her local community but a good citizen of the world.”

Here’s to our current members and community supporters and to the future for more new members throughout the District, new service projects and new generations of dedicated Rotarians! Cheers to today and to the future!

PHOTO (l-r): Joe Raczek, Dolores Raczek, Paige Raczek and President Todd Leo



Fundraisers & Events

Rotary Snow Festival - February 11, 2024

Rotary Snow Festival
FARM ROAD
— ESTATE —
7 Cross Town Rd, West Dover, VT

Sunday, February 11, 12:00 to 3:00 PM

ICE SKATING - BYO or Borrow \$20 adults
SNOWSHOE - BYO or Borrow \$10 children
LIVE MUSIC - BY IAN CAMPBELL for all activities

S'MORES
HOT CHOCOLATE 50/50 Raffle
BBQ
KIDS GAMES
FIRE PIT

Winter cocktails and eats available in the Great Room of Farm Road Estate.

Fundraiser benefits the Rotary Club of the Deerfield Valley (weather permitting)



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: February 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: