





THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

September 2023	District Newsletter 2024, Number 3	David Saturley District Governor
www.rotary7870.org		
<p>Rotarian Editors Maureen Mooney and Martin Cohn</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; gap: 20px;">   </div>		
Rotary Theme of the Month: Basic Education and Literacy Month		

In this issue:

Greetings From Your District Governor David Saturley

District News

2023 Rotary District 7870 Golf Trophy Event

Ukraine Support Efforts

Recycle Polystyrene in our Rotary District 7870

What is the Rotary Leadership Institute International?

Coffee with Ken - Informal Zoom Get Together

Club News

Jack Atkinson of Nashua Rotary Club, Rest in Peace

Ludlow Rotary Raising Funds for Flood Recovery

Ludlow Rotary Flood Recovery Reaches \$100,000 Milestone

FOLA Donates \$700 to Ludlow Recovery Fund

Coolidge Foundation speaks to Ludlow Rotary

Ludlow Rotary Inducts Bruce Schmidt and Hears About Using AI

Bellows Falls Rotary Funds Mold Remediation



White River Rotary 100th Anniversary Celebration

Newport, NH Rotary Sips n Snacks

Ludlow Rotary Hears about SBA Recovery Assistance Programs

Brattleboro Rotary Club Scholarship Addresses Child Care Shortage

Ludlow Rotary Prepares for 32nd Annual Area Chili Cook-Off with Call to Area Chefs

Franklin Falls Rotary Patriotism Project

International

Short Term Youth Exchange Program

Youth Exchange News

Bethel Area Rotary's International Dinner - October 22, 2023

Fundraisers & Events

Keene City Hosts Clarence DeMar Marathon - September 24, 2023

Bethel Area Rotary Club Fall Foliage Golf Tournament

- September 30, 2023

Claremont- Sugar River Rotary Stand with Ukraine - Sept. 30, 2023

Springfield Rotary Penny Sale Coming Up - Oct. 21, 2023

Calendars

District 7870 Calendar

Months of the Rotary Year

Miscellaneous

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

Website and Social Media

Greetings From Your District Governor David Saturley



The August newsletter was filled with activity, and since then, things certainly haven't slowed our membership and clubs.

The promise of fair weather for our District Golf Tournament in the August newsletter was a good one. Despite a gloomy start to the day, teams took to the Bretwood course under blue skies and bright sunshine. Many thanks to our volunteers and players for making it a successful event. Congratulations to the Nashua Club for bringing home the trophy!

Our exchange students arrived and shared their orientation weekend together in Moultonborough in late August. We are hosting 10 in our district, and they will be joined by two from District 7850 for activities throughout the year. If you want to learn more about how you can support this amazing program, reach out to our dedicated group that keep this program going and they would be happy to speak individually or to clubs about the many rewarding ways to volunteer with Youth Exchange.

The District Chapter of RAGMHI (Rotary Action Group for Mental Health Initiatives) hosted their second meeting by Zoom with a presentation by PDG Bonnie Black. Bonnie is our District Chapter advisor and the Charter Chair of RAGMHI. If you missed it, the link to the recording of Bonnie's presentation was in the RAGMHI newsletter. Be sure to check further in the newsletter for information about the next meeting on September 24th and the webinar coming up on October 10th for World Mental Health Day.



Membership and New Club Development Month closed by celebrating the Interact Club of Bow High School. The club had gone inactive while being unable to meet during the pandemic but reactivated effective August 22nd. Thanks to Bow Rotary and President Matt Dodge for sponsoring and assisting with the administrative details. We eagerly await updates about their year. September is Basic Education and Literacy Month, a cause near and dear to many clubs here in D7870. If you've never explored the Basic Education and Literacy Rotary Action Group website, belrag.org, it's worth a look. Content ranges from showcases of successful literacy projects to webinars and newsletter archives.

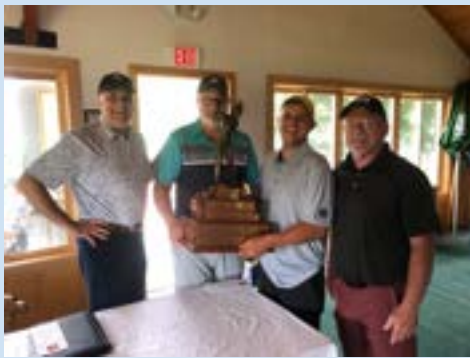
Many of our clubs are hosting events in the coming weeks. I hope the opportunity arises for all to experience the many creative fundraising and service activities that occur within our District. You won't be disappointed.

Thank you all for helping to Create Hope in the World!

DG David

District News

2023 Rotary District 7870 Golf Trophy Event



The day began with torrential rain and when I arrived at the Bretwood Golf Course at 8:30 am as there was more water visible than grass. The pro (John Pawlak) said the course was “unplayable at this time but the rain was supposed to stop between 10 and 11 so let’s wait and see as the course drains very well”. Bonnie Shortsleeve (restaurant manager) let me put the 66 turkey subs in their refrigerator. Fellow Capital City Sunrise Rotarian Geoff Souther, Roger Page and I decided not to unload the remaining items from the two vehicles and we sat and had a drink (soft). As predicted, the rain stopped at 10:30 and Rotarians began to arrive along with PDG Chris Parkinson, District Treasurer Jeff Mobus and two Keene Rotaractors - Maddie and Madigan - all staffing the Registration table. The grab bags were filled with sandwiches, Golf balls, apples and Little Debbie treats. The Raffle prizes were displayed and at 11:30 on the dot, under sunny skies, 58 Rotarians drove their carts to their assigned starting holes for a Scramble Format round of 18 holes. Not a drop of rain fell for the remainder of the day. New England weather! Had I not promised “Excellent Weather” in the four Club Runner Invitation emails since June. Following the golf, all enjoyed another excellent bar-b-que dinner of Steak, chicken, beans, salad and home-made chocolate chip cookies prepared by Bonnie and her crew.

I thanked all participating Rotarians but especially PDG Chris, Treasurer Jeff, Rotaractors Maddie and Madigan, Carol Cole, Shannon Mills and DG David for their invaluable efforts. **SERVICE ABOVE SELF!**

Carol Cole (Springfield) then led a loud round of applause for Rich Berryman’s final (after 6 years) time chairing this District Golf Event.

Other winners:

Putting contest Winner (no one sunk a long and very difficult putt) - closest - Dean Cascannen (Bow Rotary) - 5 1/4 inches took home the entire half of the 50/50 cash.

Closest to the Hole on each Par 3: Hole #3 - Ed Dinnaly (Bellows Falls), Hole #8 - Marc McMurphy (Henniker), Hole # 13 - Dave Scanlan (Bow) and Hole #16 - Roger Page (CCSRC)

All Net Proceeds are donated to the Rotary District 7870 Foundation for the benefit of the Little Red Schoolhouse and Amigos de Honduras.

It has been a pleasure and honor to have served Rotary District 7870 with this fulfilled annual event and am looking forward to wherever the event is held in 2024 - PDG Rich Berryman

PHOTO: *Winners - Nashua Rotary - Bob James, Charlie Hall, Brian Law and Jake Holden - 12 under par (2nd Place = Capital City Sunrise Rotary - Rich Berryman, Jeff Souther, Michael LaChance and Roger Page) - 10 under par*

Ukraine Support Efforts

I wanted to touch base and let everyone know that, through your generosity, our Rotary District has provided more than \$200,000 USD of support (through Rotary District 2231 in Poland) for relief to Ukraine. While the war continues and things remain precarious, we have proof of our positive impact on the people who need us. \$200,000 might not seem to be a lot given the scope of the issue, I can assure you we are making a difference. Thank you!

On this topic, I am also very pleased to announce that the Claremont / Sugar River Rotary is putting together an event called "Stand with Ukraine" starting at 3:00 PM on September 30th, 2023 at the Claremont Opera House. This event is being advertised as a free and informative gathering of interested community members and District Rotarians to hear more information about the war in Eastern Europe. I am excited that my friend iPDG Piotr Jawaski from Poland (pictured below with the DG metals) has agreed to be one of our live Zoom Speakers. Please save the date and feel free to tell (and bring) your friends and neighbors. The QR



code for this free event is included below. Our Claremont Club Rotary President Charlene Lovett, Sophia Souhshua and I will be your hosts, and we look forward for the opportunity to connect.

Be Well,
PDG John Bob

Recycle Polystyrene in our Rotary District 7870

Just a reminder that the initiative to recycle polystyrene in our Rotary District 7870 is alive and well. Over the past two years we have made tremendous progress in getting people interested in the program, and have successfully created the first operational facility through the vision of Gilford New Hampshire Recycling Center. Under the outstanding leadership of Department Director Meghan Theriault and her positive team we have made a true difference and impact. If you have interest in having someone present on this subject at your club or other Community group, I can be made available or arrange for other knowledgeable people to speak, highlighting the impact of this program on the Seventh Area of Rotary Focus (the Environment). THANK YOU to all involved and all that are willing to engage with this meaningful approach to minimizing waste.

Be Well,
PDG John Bob



The poster is titled "Foam Recycling Program" and is a regional collaboration with communities and Rotary Clubs. It features four main sections: "collection event" (holding a collection event in your community), "transport foam" (offering to transport foam to Gilford, NH), "volunteer to process" (volunteering to help process foam at the Gilford Solid Waste Center), and "bin purchase" (helping a community raise funds to purchase a foam collection bin). The poster also includes a footer with contact information for the Gilford Solid Waste Center and a website link.

What is the Rotary Leadership Institute International?

Established in 1992, RLI has become a worldwide organization with divisions in every Continent of the world. And it started right here in New England in CT. Our division is referred to as RLI-NEA which stands for Rotary Leadership Institute Northeast America.

RLI, soon to be Rotary Learning Institute, is a general education program for Rotarians at all stages of their Rotary career and believes that a good club leader must know the evolution of Rotary, its

status and activities in the world, and have a vision for what Rotary can be in the future. Therefore, RLI is a three-part course in both Rotary knowledge and leadership skills, designed especially for volunteer organizations.

The goal of the three-part series is for Rotarians to create ENTHUSIASM for Rotary by opening the world of Rotary outside of their own clubs and sharing knowledge between clubs through active in-person and engaged participation.

Any Rotarian can attend any session (RLI Parts I, II Or III and Graduate) at their own discretion and initiative. Sessions must be taken sequentially to participate in the following one.

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

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

Where will RLI-NEA courses be held?

D7850 -St.Johnsbury, VT – In Person
October 28, 2023

D7870 – VT/NH - Virtual
February 27, 2024

D7910 Marlboro, MA - In Person
January 27, 2024

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

D7930 – Wakefield, MA - Virtual
February 27, 2024

Other locations throughout NYS and PA

D7870 – VT/NH - Virtual
February 27, 2024



PARTICIPANT INVESTMENT
Virtual Session Fee = \$25
(Rotaracts = \$10)
In-Person Session Fee = \$75 - \$125 depending on the site
(Rotaracts = \$50)
Virtual Session Time Commitment = 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
(breaks provided throughout)
Or
2 evenings within an 8 day block = 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
In-Person Session Time Commitment = 8:30 am – 3:00 pm
(breaks provided throughout / breakfast & lunch provided)

Many participants have elected to participate in successive parts, which has resulted in those Rotarians qualifying to participate in the Graduate Level from this point onward.



Coffee with Ken - Informal Zoom Get Together

Ken Yei (Queen City RC) will be hosting his next Coffee with Ken on **Fri. October 6 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

Jack Atkinson of Nashua Rotary Club, Rest in Peace



Jack Atkinson — Oct. 16, 1931 – May 30, 2023

May his memory be a blessing.

Jack Atkinson, 91, of Hudson, NH, died peacefully on May 30, 2023, at the Community Hospice House in Merrimack, NH following a brief period of declining health. Jack was born on October 16, 1931, in Baltimore, Maryland to the late Arthur and Evelyn (Kraft) Atkinson. He was the loving husband of Lucille (Fortier) who he married on January 11, 1974, in Hudson, NH and shared 44 wonderful years of marriage until her death in 2017.

Jack graduated from Nashua High School in 1949 and received his Engineering Degree from Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Massachusetts. He proudly served his country during the Korean War, serving in the Army Corps of Engineers. He was the owner/operator of Bronze Craft Corporation in Nashua, working for 56 years and serving as its president for 25 years. He retired in 2005. He served his community well and was a proud member and past president of The Rotary Club of Nashua and was honored for 62 years of perfect attendance in October of 2022. In addition, he served as director at Nashua Federal Savings for 27 years, was a past president and director of the Non-Ferrous Founders Society, was a past activity chairman for the Algonquin district Boy Scouts and was a member of the First Church of Nashua.

Jack loved his family well and will be forever remembered for his Thanksgiving Morning Flag Football games, Christmas Scavenger hunts, wonderful summer gatherings by the river, tractor rides in the field with his grandchildren and his extreme generosity.

Jack was predeceased by his sister Pat and stepdaughter, Gail Gagne. Family members include his stepchildren Kathy Delle Chiaie, Buddy Bernard and his wife, Cathy, Maggie Schellenberg and her husband Paul, Terry Mostrom and her husband, Bruce and Jim Bernard and his wife Susan and his dear friend, Audrey Rice. Jack was also “PJ” to his 13 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by two estranged biological children, William and Cheryl.

Jack’s family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to St. Joseph’s Fifth Floor nursing staff, especially Alyssa, Miriam, Stacy and Kristen and the entire staff of the Community Hospice House in Merrimack.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the Community Hospice House, Merrimack NH, or the Greater Nashua Humane Society.

Ludlow Rotary Raising Funds for Flood Recovery

The Ludlow Rotary Club is conducting a fund-raiser to assist individuals and businesses in the recovery from the drastic flood damage - and is seeking the help of other RI clubs.



Tom Ray, Ludlow Rotary Club President, indicated that much more needed to be done, noting “While substantial aid in the form of food, supplies, money and recovery assistance has been arriving, much more will be needed to restore the many homes, businesses and the landscape devastated by this storm. The Rotary Club of Ludlow, Vermont, has been coordinating with other civic organizations to provide relief and assistance”.

LRC Treasurer, Kim Lampert, indicated that tax-deductible donations could be sent to the LRC’s 501(c)(3) foundation. The address is: Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund (LARCF), PO Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149.

All contributions will be directed to specific agencies providing relief to this devastating flood.

Photo: *Part of Ludlow flood damage is seen from a drone.*

Ludlow Rotary Flood Recovery Reaches \$100,000 Milestone



During a recent community meeting with representatives from the State of Vermont to exchange information on state assistance in flood recovery and to inform them about the damages, Thomas Ray, Ludlow Area Rotary Club president, reported that Ludlow Area Rotary will spend about \$100,000. Funds available so far in response to the recent flooding are from contributions received specifically for this disaster and from Rotary's own Charitable Fund balance. Funds already disbursed have gone to:

- the purchase of dehumidifiers and fans that were distributed at the Ludlow Community Center immediately after the flooding, and to the
- Black River Action Team, which has been addressing direct damage caused by the flooding.

Additional funds are being disbursed to affected businesses and residents in Rotary's service area through the processes established by the Okemo Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Crown Point Board of Realtors.

Ludlow Rotary has received flood response contributions from several other Rotary Clubs and from generous local businesses, residents and second homeowners. Ray indicated the club is expecting more funds as well. Rotary club members and families also have been contributing their time to assist in the response and recovery efforts.

Photo: Ludlow Area Rotary Club president, Thomas Ray, presented a check for \$35,000 to Carol Lighthall, Executive Director of the Okemo Valley Chamber of Commerce for business recovery efforts.

FOLA Donates \$700 to Ludlow Recovery Fund



At the recent meeting of the Ludlow Rotary Club, David Almond, Friends of Ludlow Auditorium (FOLA) Treasurer, presented a check for \$703 to the LRC's fundraising program to assist in the Ludlow-area flood recovery programs.

The submitted funds represented the proceeds FOLA audience members donated during the annual Silent Movie Festival, attended by more than 45 people, on Saturday, August 26 in the Heald Auditorium in Ludlow's Town Hall.

To demonstrate the extent of the donations at this event, Jeff Rapsis, the featured pianist providing background music to the Charlie Chaplin comedy, "Gold Rush", donated his fee.

Almond noted that this was truly a community effort. “It just showed us that the folks attending the movie had more on their mind’s than just watching this great comedian”, he observed. “It’s heart-warming to realize how much people will donate when the situation calls for generosity. It just makes you feel very proud.”

FOLA donated all of those receipts to the Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund to be used to assist local individuals and businesses repair or replace property that was damaged by severe storms. Similar donations may be sent to: Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund (LARCF), PO Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149

Coolidge Foundation speaks to Ludlow Rotary



Tracy W. Messer, portraying President Calvin Coolidge, addressed the Ludlow Rotary Club at its Aug. 15 meeting. On the heels of the Centennial Celebration of his Aug. 3, 1923 Inauguration, the reenacted 30th President of the United States told stories and recited from his biography.

One of the stories Messer told was that as President, Coolidge raised over \$10 million for the 1927 floods in Mississippi. However, many people were upset by his failure to come visit the devastation. Consequently, when Vermont flooded later that year, he did not come home because he had not gone to Mississippi. Instead, he sent the best engineer in the country, Herbert H. Hoover, to oversee repairs.

During his tenure, Coolidge oversaw economic prosperity of the Roaring 20's. Families installed indoor plumbing and electricity in their homes, and the 5-day work week was adopted as the national standard. Coolidge did not choose to run in 1928 as he wanted to get out after 6 years in office. Had he run and won again, he would have served 10 years and he felt that was too long for any one person to hold the office.

As Calvin Coolidge, Messer of the Coolidge Foundation, quoted the poem “Vermont is a state I love” in closing.

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: *Tracy Messer of the Coolidge Foundation is introduced by Rotarian Tom Harris. Photo by Kevin Barnes*

Ludlow Rotary Inducts Bruce Schmidt and Hears About Using AI



Bruce Schmidt, Vice President/General Manager, and the friendly face of Okemo Mountain Resort, was inducted into the Ludlow Rotary Club at its September 29 meeting. Rotarian Tom Harris, who did the induction, acknowledged Schmidt's multiple contributions to the community over the years, including his long tenure as Select Board member. Harris indicated the Ludlow Rotary Club is happy to now have that experience and commitment as part of its membership.

The guest speaker for the meeting, Mike Lennon, Founder of Eternity Marketing, spoke about using artificial intelligence(AI) in daily work and life. Lennon suggested that businesses want search results optimization when someone searches for them on the web. He argued that it can be enhanced using AI because of its ability to mimic human behavior over time and with repeated use. Essentially AI can learn a business and its commonly used language. As it is used, it hallucinates far less frequently and becomes more accurate with its ability to search via keywords. In order for AI to complete a task correctly, each request must have specificity, resulting in a better output.

Ultimately, AI can write blogs, generate posts for social media, or create an email marketing segment with photos and copy. Chat GPT is an AI-powered language model developed by OpenAI, capable of generating human-like text based on context and past conversations. Since its launching in November, 2022 it has gained more followers than any other App. However, it can generate incorrect information. Open AI has to learn over time to autocomplete based on the user entering correct information. Mike cautioned that when you upload information to any of these sites, it gives web access to your data. He does encourage using a site to become familiar with its capabilities and limitations. Club members had several questions for Mike about using any of the AI sites. 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: *Bruce Schmidt, left, is inducted into the Ludlow Rotary Club by Tom Harris, center, and Jim Rumrill, right.*

Bellows Falls Rotary Funds Mold Remediation



Following the recent flooding throughout Vermont, the Bellows Falls Rotary connected with a local volunteer, Simon Spartalian, who wanted support to work on mold remediation. The club, and individuals within it, helped to fund a sprayer and materials to help clean and disinfect homes and businesses. Older Vermonters without funds struggled mightily to properly disinfect and dry out their properties, as you might imagine. The work is still continuing.



Simon has treated 6 properties to date. The interior shots are from a trailer park with some people who really needed the help. There are a number of small businesses also looking for help, which Simon began taking on since there are few resources for them. These include Outer Limits Brewing, Mojos, and Ludlow Village Pizza.

White River Rotary 100th Anniversary Celebration

White River Junction Rotary, a cornerstone of the local community in Vermont, is gearing up for a momentous occasion—the celebration of its 100th anniversary. As the centenary approaches on April 6, 2024, excitement is building among members and the community at large. While specific details about the event are yet to be confirmed, the planning committee is hard at work, ensuring that this historic milestone is marked in a way that befits the Rotary's rich history and its enduring commitment to service.

Since its inception in 1924, the White River Junction Rotary has played an instrumental role in the betterment of the community. From supporting local schools and nonprofits to hosting community events and fundraisers, the Rotary has been a beacon of service, compassion, and community engagement. Over the past century, it has made a significant impact on the lives of countless individuals in the Upper Valley area.

The planning committee for the 100th-anniversary celebration is composed of dedicated Rotary members who are determined to make this milestone event unforgettable. Their mission is clear: to organize a celebration that not only honors the achievements of the Rotary but also looks forward to a future filled with continued service, camaraderie, and community support.

As of now, the details regarding the venue, program, and specific activities of the 100th-anniversary celebration are yet to be finalized. However, rest assured that the planning committee is diligently working to ensure that the event is a fitting tribute to a century of service.

WRJ Rotary president, Joe Major, stated, "We are incredibly excited to celebrate this momentous occasion with our community. While we cannot reveal all the details just yet, we can promise that it will be an event to remember. We are exploring various options for the venue and activities, and we want to ensure that the celebration reflects the values and spirit of the White River Junction Rotary."

To stay informed about the latest developments regarding the 100th-anniversary celebration, community members are encouraged to keep an eye on the White River Junction Rotary's website, social media channels, and local news outlets. The planning committee anticipates making important announcements regarding the venue, ticket sales, and other event details within the next month or so.

The White River Junction Rotary's upcoming 100th-anniversary celebration is a testament to the organization's enduring commitment to service and community engagement. As the planning committee diligently works behind the scenes to create a memorable event, the entire community is eagerly awaiting more information. Mark your calendars for April 6, 2024, and stay tuned for updates as the Rotary prepares to celebrate a century of making a positive impact on the lives of those it serves. This centenary celebration promises to be a fitting tribute to the Rotary's legacy of service, and a glimpse into an even brighter future of continued community support.

Newport, NH Rotary Sips n Snacks

Newport's Rotary Annual Wine Tasting had double meaning and double impact this year. The Newport Rotary Club is celebrating its 100th anniversary year with renewed commitment to community so the Wine Tasting not only featured lovely snacks prepared by Rotarians but all attendees were encouraged to bring snacks for the Newport School District Healthy Snacks Closets, a new initiative established through a partnership of Newport Rotary and Got Lunch Newport. 1004 individual snacks from peanut butter cracker packs to fruit cups and protein bars were collected that night. Newport Rotary sees this as a perfect



way to help students who learn better when they're not hungry and teachers who have in the past purchased their own classroom snacks for hungry kids.



PHOTO: Newport School District Superintendent Donna Magoon receives the snack delivery from Rotarian, Charen Urban, a retired Newport teacher.

Ludlow Rotary Hears about SBA Recovery Assistance Programs



The guest speaker for the September 12 Rotary meeting was Stephen Clark, Public Affairs Specialist for the US. Small Business Administration (SBA), working to assist victims recovering from the recent flooding in Vermont. In his quest to make sure people know about available resources, Clark has been traveling around the state talking to individuals and groups about the programs designed to assist those in need. As an example he has spoken to 11 different Rotary groups in Vermont since the first floods on July 10.

He stated that \$18.6 million in SBA loans have been awarded to individuals, businesses and nonprofits for losses caused by physical damage in the State of Vermont. An SBA loan supports people who have limited other options. The date for filing a claim for physical damage has been extended by a month to 10/12/23 to allow for additional time to report losses.

Economic injury disaster loans are also available for nonprofits and businesses. Examples of economic injuries are losses in sales or income caused by road closures or disruptions, being unable to get supplies, or canceled reservations because people felt that Vermont was closed.

There are many types of economic injuries which can be claimed at the Business Recovery Center which will remain open until Oct 12. Interest rates on these loans are low, varying by circumstance and size of the loss. There is no application fee to apply for a loan. If a loan is awarded, there is no requirement to take it. SBA is trying to award loans within 15 days of receiving an application. People can apply before knowing the amount of insurance payments, just to get recovery moving as quickly as possible.

Clark commended Rotarians helping in disaster relief around the country saying the local touch and boots on the ground are often more important than government assistance. The human touch and hard work of volunteers is often critical immediately after a disaster, Clark said.

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: Glenn Heitsmith(left) of the Timber Inn and Stephen Clark of the Small Business Administration at the Ludlow Rotary Club

EDITOR NOTE: Springfield VT Rotary Member Martin Cohn recently interviewed representatives from FEMA and US SBA about resources for Vermonters impacted by the July floods for a community access television show. You can see the show by visiting <https://www.brattleborotv.org/bctv-open-studio/fema-and-sba-disaster-relief-resources-83123>

Brattleboro Rotary Club Scholarship Addresses Child Care Shortage

A Brattleboro Rotary Club Gateway Foundation scholarship awarded to a Community College of Vermont (CCV) student each year aims to address the shortage of child care workers in Windham County. CCV-Brattleboro student Rheanna Pare received this year's \$2,500 Jesse M. Corum IV Scholarship.

CCV is deeply embedded in Vermont's early childhood education system, providing the educational foundation for students pursuing careers in the field through its childcare certificate and early childhood education associate degree. The College is also home to Northern Lights at CCV, the hub of the professional development system for Vermont's early childhood and afterschool workforce.

Leigh Marthe, coordinator of student advising at CCV-Brattleboro, acknowledged the importance of supporting early childhood educators when it comes to addressing Vermont's child care shortage. "If we hope to build the fabric of our Vermont culture, our businesses and economy, our

community-focused infrastructures, and our future citizens and workforce, our leaders must invest in real solutions to building liveable wages and compensation for professionals doing sacred work with children and their families."

"I've always enjoyed being around kids," says Pare, a Montessori teacher who has been working in the child care field for five years. Pare is pursuing an associate degree in early childhood education and says the scholarship provides much-needed support as she continues her education.

The Brattleboro Rotary Club Gateway Foundation established the Jesse Corum Scholarship in September 2014 to honor late Brattleboro Rotarian Jesse M. Corum, IV, who was active in the Rotary Club for 27 years.

Ludlow Rotary Prepares for 32nd Annual Area Chili Cook-Off with Call to Area Chefs



The Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) is sponsoring its 32nd Annual Ludlow Area Chili Cook-off on Saturday, October 7, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The cook-off will be located at the traffic light on Depot Street. Proceeds will benefit the Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund to enable the LRC to continue its programs of local support.

According to cookout chairman, Kevin Barnes, the LRC will welcome Chili entries from individuals, clubs, and businesses.

There is a \$10.00 entry fee. Participants will be provided with a table, ladle, and sterno. Participants are responsible for dropping off their heated chili between 10:30 and 10:45 a.m. the day of the cook-off. Each entry is requested to provide four to five gallons of their chili. The Ludlow Rotary will provide the servers if you can't attend, so even if you can't be there, your chili can still win cash and recognition!

Plaques and three cash prizes will be awarded in the "People's Choice" category.

1st Place will receive \$ 200.00

2nd Place will receive \$ 100.00

3rd Place will receive \$ 50.00

Plaques will be awarded to the Chili with the most votes in the Judges Choice, Spiciest and Team Spirit categories. Unless arranged otherwise, participants should deliver their heated chili by 10:45 a.m., prepare for set up and ready to serve at 11 a.m.

Sponsorship Opportunities: If you can't make chili, you can support our fundraising effort as a sponsor. There are three levels of sponsorship, each named after a hot pepper:

\$75 Jalapeno Pepper Level (Donor recognition on the ballot)

\$150 Chili Pepper Level (Donor receives 2 free event tickets and prominent placement on ballot)

\$250 Cayenne Pepper Level (Donor receives 4 free event tickets, prominent placement on ballot and social media recognition)

Please mail your name, address and phone number along with chili entry fee or sponsorship fee to: Ludlow Area Rotary Charitable Fund, Inc. (LARCF), PO Box 216, Ludlow, VT 05149. All entry fees and sponsorships are tax-deductible.

For more info, contact Kevin Barnes at 802-558-0479 or ludlowrotary@gmail.com.

PHOTO: Some of the hundreds of "taste testers" at the 2022 Chili Cookoff. This year's chili festival will be held October 7 between 11am and 2pm, located at the Ludlow traffic light on Main Street at Depot Street.

Franklin Falls Rotary Patriotism Project

The Franklin Falls Rotary Club in Franklin NH recently wrapped up phase 1 of their Patriotism Project. The Club has been diligently raising funds for American flags to adorn their downtown nostalgic light posts. 🇺🇸

This project has been months in the making and with phase 2 on the horizon, completion of phase I could not have come at a better time as 20 symbols of our nation's freedom were waving in recognition of 9/11.

Rotarian committee members, Sarah Stanley, chairperson, and Leo Paquin, new Franklin Falls Rotary Club member, ordered the flags, posts, and mounting brackets through the American Legion Department of New Hampshire, for which Leo is state commander. These flags are proudly made in the USA.

Execution of the installation was thanks to Franklin City Manager Judie Milner and her Municipal Services team.



Franklin Falls Rotary has now moved on to phase 2. Funds are being collected for an additional 26 flags to fly on the community's west side, complimenting the hometown heroes military service banners that currently hang on utility poles.

Franklin Falls Rotary club is very proud to be a part of the Three Rivers City's community revitalization.

International

Short Term Youth Exchange Program



The fall of the year is the time for Rotary clubs to consider sponsoring a Rotary Short Term Youth Exchange next summer.

Rotary's Short-Term Exchange Program presents opportunities for students to advance their knowledge and world understanding by allowing them to visit a different country and family for a few weeks – typically during the summer school break. Once an exchange match has been established, the two families collaborate on when the exchange will take place - three to four weeks here in District 7870 and another three to four weeks at the exchange student's home.

Any student, age 15-19 as of July 1 of the exchange summer, of good character who possesses a warm personality and a desire to live abroad and host in return is eligible for Rotary's Short-Term Exchange. Children of both Rotarians and non-Rotarians are eligible.

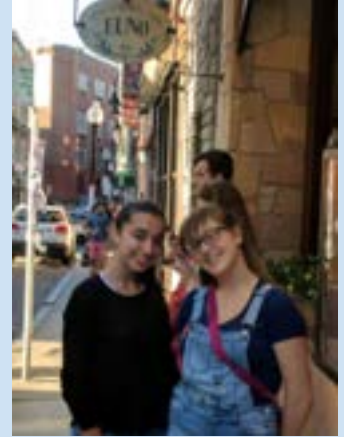
Foreign language proficiency is not required. Many countries throughout the world teach English as a second language and most participating students are quite proficient in it. Most students do not find language to be a barrier to having a great exchange experience whether they know the language or not.

There are no costs to the host Rotary club. Cost of travel, Rotary application fee, Rotary medical insurance, clothing and personal expenses are the responsibility of the participating students and their families. The application fee and medical insurance fee are less than \$300. If appropriate, the host Rotary club may offer to assist with these fees.

The host Rotary club's obligations are:

- Designate a club point of contact – typically a Youth Exchange Officer
- Promote and recruit potential applicants
- Meet with and interview the student and parents
- Assist in completing the on-line application
- When students are here:
 - o Invite them to a club meeting
 - o Assist in students' activities while they are here

Rotary District Short-Term exchange chair, Gary Dehnel (Meredith Rotary), is available to introduce the program to your club and assist in the working through the recruitment and application process: Gary can be contacted at: gcdehnel@verizon.net, 603-677-7910.



Youth Exchange News



Welcome International Exchange Students

On August 25, all of the new inbound students for our district arrived in Moultonborough, NH to start their orientation weekend. District Chairperson Jim Rumrill (Ludlow) and Inbound Coordinator Julie Rowland (Hollis-Brookline) ran a two day program for the students to outline the expectations, the chain of volunteer support available to all students and touched on some cultural differences that they may see in their new homes in Vermont and New Hampshire.

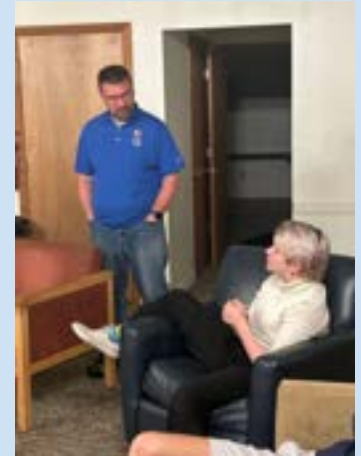
District Governor David Saturley assisted with the orientation along with ROTEX Alumni Carrie Mobus, Jill Pierson and Eben Misavage. The event at the Geneva Point Center allowed for a lot of recreation like boating and swimming, and included the traditional “World Cup” soccer match. This year it was Europe vs the world.

On Sunday, volunteers and host families from every host club attended an informational meeting and were introduced to the full group of students. The group will be together again in September

for a three day trip to Boston and will be hosted by the Meredith Rotary club in October. The year is off to a great start!

Study Abroad Opportunities with Rotary

Calling all clubs to look into their communities for high school students hoping to spend a year abroad through Rotary Youth Exchange. Now is the time for students to apply for the opportunity to go out during the 2024-25 school year. This is a full high school year program and is sponsored by Rotary clubs all around the world. Rotarians looking to know more about providing this opportunity for their area youth are encouraged to contact program chairperson Jim Rumrill at jrumrill@hotmail.com or Outbound Coordinator Barry Griffith at bgriffithvt@gmail.com. More information can be found at www.exchangestudent.org. Please consider opening up the world for your club and community through this wonderful program.



Bethel Area Rotary's International Dinner - October 22, 2023

4pm-Bethel Town Hall



Join this year's District Exchange Students and fellow Rotarians at a meal celebrating our shared heritage of Food and Fellowship.

The International Dinner is held to commemorate United Nations Day and its mission to promote international cooperation and understanding. This year will focus on the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), along with the theme "Equality, Freedom and Justice for All"

This year's dinner will be a potluck and you are welcome to participate by bringing a dish that is representative of your cultural heritage or life travels. No time to prepare? no worries! We will have plenty to share.

It would be helpful for planning to have RSVP's sent to our president Jeanne Conde at BethelAreaRotary@gmail.com by Oct 16th.

Note the event is at the Bethel Town Hall and not the White Church

The event is free of charge but you can help support our Youth Exchange program by purchasing raffle tickets for our 50/50 Raffle

Fundraisers & Events

Keene City Hosts Clarence DeMar Marathon - September 24, 2023

The Keene Elm City Rotary Club is hosting the 45th running of the Clarence DeMar Marathon. Recently recognized in RaceRaves.com as New Hampshire's number 1 marathon. This Boston qualifier brings runners from around the world to run our quintessential Fall in New England race.

If you are a runner or know a runner that may be interested, please join us.

Register at: www.clarencedemar.com



Bethel Area Rotary Club Fall Foliage Golf Tournament - September 30, 2023



Driven To Serve
**Montague Golf Course
Randolph, Vermont**

Join the Bethel Area Rotary for a 10 a.m. shotgun start at the scenic Montague Golf course on the White River in Randolph, Vermont. Tournament prizes, lunch, and collegueship for players while supporting our local food shelf, exchange program. and scholarships.

A few spaces for players remain -contact Jenny Hewitt - hewittvt@gmail.com or 802-779-1257 or Jeanne Conde - BethelAreaRotary@gmail.com

Claremont- Sugar River Rotary Stand with Ukraine - Sept. 30, 2023

Join us and stand with Ukraine!

With nearly half of its population in need of humanitarian assistance, Ukraine needs our continued support as they fight for the sovereignty of their nation. To further what District 7870 has already done to support Ukrainians, Claremont-Sugar River Rotary is hosting a “Stand with Ukraine” event on September 30 from 3:00pm to 6:00pm at the historical Claremont Opera House. Admission is free.

We have lined up an exciting, interactive program. During the first hour, attendees will hear from former District Governor John Siemienowicz and Sophia Sushailo, born and raised in Ukraine and now a resident of Claremont. Their presentations will include live video with a former District Governor in Poland and a Ukrainian member of Parliament. At 4:00pm, the audience will have the opportunity to preview a shortened version of the film “Back to Bucha,” and meet its producer, American film-maker Steve Richards.

Attendees are invited to participate in several activities following the formal program, including “stuff-a-sock”, silent auction and raffle. There will also be a Ukrainian Folk Art exhibit of works by

Ukrainian artists with highlights such as Petrykivka painting (UNESCO heritage), made with a traditional brush from cat's fur. Ukrainian traditional food and non-alcoholic drinks will be served on a donation basis. Beer and wine will be available for sale. All donations will go directly to Ukrainians in need.

For more information, please contact us at sugarriverrotary@gmail.com. Together we can make a difference. We look forward to seeing you on September 30.

Charlene Lovett, President
Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club

CLAREMONT - SUGAR RIVER ROTARY 

STAND WITH UKRAINE

Claremont has a historic connection with the people of Ukraine and Poland. We invite you to come and share fellowship, learn what is still happening, and help make a difference.

Share Sample Food
Engage directly with people impacted
Write a note of support

Learn Hear the stories: live discussion
With people of Ukraine and Poland
Enjoy photos, videos and more

Help Participate in activities: stuff-a-sock,
silent auction and more.
Bring to donate
non-liquid multivitamins.

Find us on Facebook 

Saturday, Sept. 30
3-6 PM
Claremont Opera House
Free Admission
Refreshments Available for PURCHASE



Together we can make a positive impact! For more information, visit the QR code above or contact us at sugarriverrotary@gmail.com. See you there!

Springfield Rotary Penny Sale Coming Up - Oct. 21, 2023

The 69th Annual Springfield Vermont Rotary Club Penny Sale returns this year on Saturday, October 21st at Riverside Middle School in Springfield.

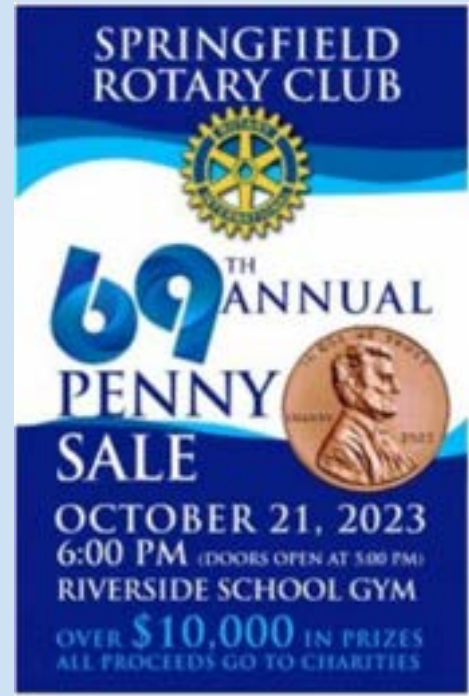
As always, there will be over 300 prizes donated by area businesses and individuals to be won. And as always, each chance at a prize cost only a penny. There are three prize series – red, white, and blue – and each series boasts at least 100 prizes. Each one-dollar series ticket is a chance to win any of the more than 100 series prizes – a penny per chance. Of course, to increase chances of winning, most people buy several tickets in each series.

Members of the Springfield Rotary Club are out in the community soliciting prizes. They also will be selling chances for the Penny Sale's Grand Prize drawing for \$5,000 in cash. In addition to the Grand Prize, the tickets give the holder a chance in the Door Prize drawing for \$500 in cash (must be present to win the Door Prize). Grand Prize tickets are now available from any Springfield Rotarian, and they will also be available at the Penny Sale.

The Penny Sale is the Springfield Rotary Club's single largest annual fundraiser, raising most of the money that the Club returns to the community through scholarships and financial support to community projects and organizations. Thanks to the success of past Penny Sales and their supporters, the Springfield Rotary Club has raised and given back to the community over \$580,000.

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss the 69th Annual Springfield Vermont Rotary Club Penny Sale Saturday, October 21st at Riverside Middle School in Springfield, starting at 6:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Rotary International is an international service organization with over one million members in over 200 countries. The Springfield Rotary Club is in its 95th year of service to the community. For more information, visit <https://springfieldvtrotary.org/>

NOTE: Two years ago, Martin Cohn was the proud winner of the \$5,000 grand prize. If you would like to buy tickets (\$2 each; 3 for \$5) from a lucky guy, then contact him at martin@cohnpr.com



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: October 15th, 2023 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:

