





THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



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| January 2025 | District Newsletter 2025, Number 7 | Bill Stevens 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: Vocational Service Month | | |

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Greetings From Your District Governor Bill Stevens

Dear Rotary Family,

Happy New Year! As we welcome January and the start of 2025, we are gifted with the opportunity for new beginnings and fresh perspectives. This month is not just a time for personal resolutions; it's also a pivotal moment for our Rotary clubs as we prepare for the remainder of the Rotary year.

With the second half of our Rotary year ahead of us, it's essential to focus on two key areas: succession planning and the completion of our ongoing projects. As we reflect on our club's achievements so far, let's also look ahead and consider who will carry the torch in the coming years. Identifying and nurturing future leaders within our clubs is crucial for sustaining our mission and ensuring that our collective impact continues to grow.

Now is the perfect time to engage in conversations about potential leaders. Who among us has shown dedication, creativity, and a passion for service? Encourage these members to step up, whether it's through committee leadership, project management, or board positions. By investing in our future leaders today, we lay the groundwork for a vibrant and effective Rotary community tomorrow.

Additionally, as we approach the end of the Rotary year, many clubs will be working to complete their projects and initiatives. Let's harness the energy of this new year to rally together, support one another, and ensure that we finish strong. Whether it's through fundraising, volunteer efforts, or community engagement, we can make a significant difference in our communities and fulfill our commitments.

As we engage in these critical discussions and activities, let's also take time to share our successes and learn from one another. Consider hosting joint meetings or workshops with neighboring clubs to exchange ideas and best practices. Together, we can inspire each other to innovate and elevate our service projects, ensuring that we not only meet our goals but exceed them. By fostering collaboration within our district, we can amplify our impact and create lasting change in the communities we serve.

As we embark on this exciting chapter in 2025, let's embrace the spirit of collaboration and innovation. Together, we can create an environment where new ideas flourish, leaders emerge, and our projects thrive.



Wishing you all a year filled with opportunities for growth and service. May this New Year bring us closer together and inspire us to achieve remarkable things as Rotarians.

In service and fellowship,
Bill Stevens
District Governor, Rotary District 7870

District News

PETS/PELS Save the Dates - March 21-22, 2025

Rotary
District 7870

SAVE THE DATE! PETS/PELS 2025

President Elect Training
Attention all Presidents for 2025-2026 & 2026-2027!
You are cordially invited to our annual training/learning event designed especially for you.
Come meet your class of Rotary Presidents!
Bond, learn, grow, connect.
Most important - have fun!

LOCATION:
Hilton Garden Inn,
35 Labombard Road,
Lebanon, NH 03766

DATE: March 21-22, 2025
TIME: TBD

Rotary video address address around the globe helped our goal: to do more good. Our members are driven to help communities together to create lasting change. Connecting to make things better... that's what people do around here. Learn more at Rotary.org

Rotary  PEOPLE IN ACTION

More info to come - stay tuned!



2025-2026 & 2027 Presidents

Thank you all who have stepped forward to lead your clubs for the next two years! Some things you need to know:

1. We will start having monthly Zoom Meetings soon so we can get to know each other.
2. President Elect Training Seminar (PETS as it has been historically called)/ President Elect Learning Seminar (PELS as Rotary International envisions it being called moving forward, as soon as we/they officially vote in the change) is March 21 & 22, 2025 in Lebanon, NH – registration is up now – go to the District Website or see your email from me for the link!
3. Remember, both years of Presidents are welcome so you can learn together, learn more and work on things in unison.
4. If you cannot attend, you can send some other aspiring member of your club in your place!
5. The Rotary Learning Center has classes that we would like you to be working on:
First Time Presidents: Please start doing the “Club President Basics” courses; Encore Presidents (aka this isn’t your first rodeo as your club President): Please work on “Club President Intermediate” courses. For those of you who have already done these courses – Congratulations! Maybe you want to look at the District Leadership courses. :D Don’t know how to get to what I am talking about? Go to <https://my.rotary.org/en/> Log In, go to “Learning Center.” There is a whole bunch of nifty stuff you can learn in there! If you don’t have a login you can create one. If all of this baffles you, let me know and we’ll find someone to help you. The Presidential Courses are under the heading of “Club Leadership.”
6. Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a great resource for learning/training too. Check out their articles that frequent this newsletter and your email inbox. Happy fact: the District will cover the \$25 registration for your online RLI course, at whatever level you wish to take. Please note that you are a future club president when you register and we will make sure your fee is paid.
7. Please make sure that you put our information in your contacts in your system so our emails will reach you! Here are the deets:
Donna Deos deosome@yahoo.com
Ruth Clough rclough_bethel@yahoo.com (that’s an underscore between rclough & bethel, not a space)
8. We will be emailing all of the Presidents for my year 2025-2026 and Ruth’s 2026-2027 soon to let you know of our first online gathering.

See you soon!

All our best,

Donna & Ruth

[25/26 = DG Donna & 26/27 = DG Ruth]



2024-25 Rotary Leadership Institute

Rotary Leadership Institute was originally established in the northeastern United States in 1992 with a goal of providing courses that would create engaged enthusiasm for Rotary by showing members worldwide the benefits of being a Rotarian and in turn strengthen our individual clubs. Each year this multi-district program has proven to increase Rotary knowledge in many Rotary Zones and District throughout the world.



Its fast-paced structured curriculum has participants involved in discussion, research, presentations, and a range of learning activities with shared feedback from within the groups. The program is divided over three consecutive and progressive sessions, followed by the opportunity to participate in graduate seminars on completion of these first three sessions.

All RLI facilitators are experienced Rotarians who will lead participants in fun and extremely informative sessions. They are also required to have completed all of the RLI programs and be certified in RLI Facilitator's Training.

Each year, RLI NEA offers a different Graduate Course, open to anyone who has completed RLI Levels I, II and III.

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

Where will RLI-NEA courses be held?

D7910 Marlboro, MA Saturday, January 18, 2025

D7890 Springfield, MA Saturday, January 25, 2025

D7930 – Wakefield, MA – Virtual TBD

D7870 – VT/NH – Virtual. Tuesday and Thursday evening, February 25 and 27, 2025

D7950 – Bourne, MA - In Person TBD

District 7870 Brings Power to Eastern Ukrainian Communities

As the 3rd anniversary of the Russian full-scale invasion nears, Ukrainians continue their efforts to repel the invading forces. They have suffered much, especially the eastern part of the country which bears the brunt of the devastation. In the past year, the Claremont-Sugar River, Milford and Nashua Rotary Clubs have worked with the District to bring aid to communities in eastern Ukraine. The project most recently completed was the delivery of water purification tablets, three



generators, five power banks with solar battery options, and diesel fuel to Dnipro, Zaporizhzhya and Kharkiv oblast.

Because the Russians have intentionally targeted the power grid, Eastern Ukraine experiences frequent blackouts. To help mitigate the effects of this, at the end of last year the District committed to delivering power to communities. These generators and power banks, capable of being moved from one location to another, have been used to refrigerate life-saving medication, provide electricity for housing for orphans with disabilities, charge cellphones and the list goes on.



Knowing that we have made a tangible difference to many in this war-torn country, has inspired the District to explore the possibility of a Global Grant for Ukraine. If you are interested in joining this effort, please contact John Bob Siemienowicz at 603-321-9677 or via email at jay4steel@jaysteel.com. Together, we can make a real difference.

4-Way Test Speech Contest

The 2025 District 7870 4-way test speech contest semi-finals will be held on Sunday April 6 at 1pm in Henniker at the Henniker Community Center. Contestants should register by 12:30. Please send your club's contestants to daryl.pat@comcast.net by April 1st. The district finals will be held at the District Assembly on April 26 at a site to be determined. All club presidents and secretaries should be getting the revised guidelines shortly.

D7870 Youth Conference - April 19, 2025

The Rotary Youth Conference will be on Saturday April 19th at Souhegan High School. Once again this conference is being originated and implemented by the Youth. Like last year, each Interact Club will have an opportunity to have a booth to showcase their projects. This conference is open to all D7870 Rotary Youth, including exchange students - inbound and outbound (short/long term) and affiliates.

If you have one or two Interactors in your club that would like to be part of the Planning Committee, contact Claudine Hessmer-Husainy Chair New Generations 603-714-8690 or hessmer65@gmail.com by 1/20/25.



International Coffee with JB (formerly Coffee with Ken) - Informal Zoom Get Together

John Bob (RC Milford / District 7870 International Service Chair) will be hosting his the third International Coffee with JB on **Fri. Feb. 7 at 8:30 AM** on Zoom. International Coffee with JB these first Friday coffee sessions started during the pandemic as a way for District Rotarians to meet online and share their interests in Rotary. It also was a forum for asking questions. The Zoom meeting typically lasts 40 minutes. These meetings are free flowing discussions and now tend to be focused on International Rotary Projects topics of the interested participants. It also (hopefully) will be a great way to find out what is happening around the District 7870 with International Service. Please note: 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 and join the meeting.

Club News

Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Club Welcomes Superintendent of Schools

The Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Club, meeting for breakfast at the Cathedral of the Pines on Thursday, December 19, learned of the many interesting and innovative aspects to the plans for a new Career & Technical Education project. Special guest speaker Reuben Duncan, Superintendent of the Jaffrey-Rindge Cooperative School District, shared plans for constructing new Career and Technical Education (CTE) facilities.



As proposed, these facilities would strengthen the local community by building connections between schools and industry partners. It was explained that this would be an opportunity to secure \$16,046,000 in grant funds from the State of New Hampshire for construction of a Career and Technical Education (CTE) building on the campus of the current Conant Middle High School (CMHS).

The CTE project would create a multi-purpose building that provides instruction in new Construction Trades [Plumbing and Electricity], (expansion of the building trades space),



Culinary Arts [including an onsite "restaurant" open to the public during limited hours], and Public Safety. In addition, the plan is for this building to be open to Rindge and Jaffrey residents for evening and weekend use for multiple purposes, including adult education.

Springfield VT Rotary Earns Another Trex Bench for Springfield Community

As a reward for Springfield residents collecting 1000 pounds of thin film plastics for the Trex Thin Film Plastics Challenge, the Trex Company (Trex) provided the Springfield Rotary Club with its ninth outdoor bench that was placed at the "Green on Main" at 77 Main Street in Springfield.



The Rotary Club entered the Trex Thin Film Plastics Challenge in February of 2023 on behalf of the Springfield community, placing a Trex Bin in the Springfield Town Library. In addition, thin film plastic was collected at Bibens Ace Hardware, McGee CDJR of Springfield, Springfield GMC, Springfield Hospital, and the Springfield Food Co-op. Since that time, Springfield residents have been avidly pitching in to recycle their share of thin film plastics, diverting over 7,200 pounds (i.e. over 3-1/2 tons) of thin film plastics from the waste stream.

The Challenge is part of the Trex Recycling Program, aimed at encouraging the public to recycle their grocery bags, bread bags, produce bags, cereal bags, ice bags, case overwrap, bubble wrap, dry cleaning bags, Ziploc and other resealable bags, and similar bags and wrap for other objects. If the sponsoring group's participants collect 1000 pounds of thin film plastics, Trex will send the group a Trex Outdoor Furniture 48" Yacht Club Bench. Trex does not manufacture the benches, they are a purchased gift for meeting the minimum requirement in the program. The plastic that is turned in is being upcycled into Trex decking (www.trex.com). The benches are part of the Trex branded furniture line through Polywood (www.trex-furniture.com). Polywood uses milk jugs and water bottles to manufacture their furniture.

This is the ninth bench that has been donated. The first two can be found at The Common, the third at the Park Street School overlooking the Kingsbury House, the fourth at the North Springfield Bog Trailhead, the fifth and sixth at the bus stop on Main Street, and the seventh and eighth at the Springfield Town Library.

Volunteers from the Springfield Rotary Club and from the Springfield Town Library collect and weigh the bags, report the bags' weight to Trex, and deliver the bags to Trex's closest participating drop-off retailer location, Shaw's Supermarket in Springfield.



The Trex Bin will remain in place at the Springfield Town Library. The Springfield Rotary Club has partnered with Friends of Springfield Town Library, the Union Park Neighborhood Association, the Black River Action Group, Springfield On The Move (SOM), and Green on Main. Working with the Elm Hill School, Springfield Rotary Club has launched another Challenge to earn an additional outdoor bench for the Springfield community.

The benches are dedicated to the 95th anniversary of the Springfield Rotary.

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/>

Photo: The ninth bench earned by the Springfield Vermont Rotary Club has been installed on the Green on Main (77 Main Street, Springfield).

Ludlow Rotary Hosts Peter Hadeka of Peter's Wildflower

Peter Hadeka of Peter's Wildflower Honey was the speaker at the January 7 Ludlow Rotary meeting. Peter was honored as the 2018 Vermont Beekeeper of the Year Award for his public promotion of beekeeping. Rotarians found his discussion of the bee life cycle, and their critical role in pollination, fascinating and educational.

For information on joining the Ludlow Rotary Club, contact any Rotarian or call Kevin Barnes at 802-558-0479.

Photo: Peter Hadeka by Kim Lampert



Rotary West Provides Gifts for Children in Need

The holiday season is a time for meaningful giving and celebration and this year once again, the Rotary Club of Nashua West has made a difference for fifty Nashua area children and their families.

For several years, our club has partnered with the Front Door Agency, a local organization assisting individuals and families to stabilize their lives through transformational housing, affordable housing and housing stability programs.



Each Rotary Club member is assigned to have one or more children and works to fulfill their wishes. Gifts can range from necessary clothing, shoes and boots, outdoor clothing, games, and bicycles to mention 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.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone 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.

Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Hosts First Night

December 31, 2024, marked the Club's 10th anniversary hosting Claremont's First Night in partnership with the city. Since 2015, the Club has collaborated with city officials, local businesses and nonprofits to create an event that is family-friendly and unique in the region. Bringing over 1000 people from both NH and VT, this event continues to grow in popularity and foster community.

Because of local sponsors and club fundraising efforts, individuals were able to attend the event by purchasing a \$1.00 button, designed by a resident. The button allowed access to a multitude of activities, including horse carriage rides, bowling, wrestling, children's activities, educational and musical entertainment and outdoor pursuits.

With the help of Club members, city employees, exchange students and local high school students, the Club had the manpower needed to deliver another successful event. If you were able to join us, thanks for attending!



Rotary Club of White River Junction - Polar Express 2024

Sixteen years ago The Polar Express rode the rails into White River Junction, Vermont. With the ongoing support of the community and beyond, our Rotary Club packed up the last elf costume, lights, trees, garlands, snowmen, etc. etc. on December 16 to put the finishing touch on another successful fund raiser. The popularity of the event just keeps growing - the 1,500 seats sold out in twenty minutes!



This event is the classic example of volunteerism--without the community support it could not happen.

We do want to especially acknowledge the Hartford Career and Technology Center. Students from NINE of their programs emptied the storage area, unpacked all the boxes, climbed ladders, decorated and undecorated the Train Station; gathered up live trees for the North Pole and station; then, packed everything up and returned it all to storage. In addition, several students served as Chefs and Jolly People. Also, a special Thank you to the Rotarian Ladies from Keene Elm City who volunteered as Conductors. To reciprocate, White River Rotarians man a water stop at their spring marathon!

The funds raised from the Polar Express event go into our Scholarship Fund for graduating seniors at Hartford High School and Hartford Career and Technology Center. Additionally, these funds support community projects such as our styrofoam drive, disaster relief, annual town wide Block Party highlighting Hartford's health and wellness community with music, games, food and vendors.etc.

PHOTO: Santa and the North Pole Elves welcome the Polar Express train on a snowy December afternoon.



Fundraisers

Queen City Rotary Annual Comedy Bowl - January 25, 2025

Come join the Queen City Rotary Club of Manchester, NH for a night of fun and laughter and help us make an impact in our community. The evening includes dinner and dessert buffet, cash bar, 50/50 raffle, silent auction items and much, much more! 3 up and coming comedians from the Boston area are lined up - Harrison Stebbins, Rob Steen and Tim McKeever will surely have you laughing in your seats all night long.

All money raised goes to support youth organizations in the greater Manchester area. Details are available at the club's website at www.queencityrotary.org, or give a call at (603)391-1110 or send an email (queencityrotaryclub@gmail.com).



District 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.

July – Maternal and Child Health Month

August – Membership & Extension 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 – Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month

March – Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene 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 14th, 2025 at 6 PM.**

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:

