



# THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



November 2025	District Newsletter 2026, Number 5	Donna Deos District Governor
<a href="http://www.rotary7870.org">www.rotary7870.org</a>		
<p><b>Rotarian Editors in our 8th year!</b>  <b>Maureen Mooney (Merrimack, NH) and Martin Cohn (Springfield, VT)</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">   </div>		
<b>Rotary Theme of the Year: <i>Unite for Good</i></b>		
<b>Rotary Theme of the Month: <i>Rotary Foundation Month</i></b>		

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## Greetings From Your District Governor Donna Deos

I am so Thankful for all of you!

As of right now on the morning of the newsletter deadline (I know!), I am 79% complete on visits to clubs. I have 98% booked with all but one scheduled to be completed before Christmas. I have also done at least a half dozen other District events. It has been so fun getting to see you all. I look forward to all that is ahead as well.



The questions you ask, the stories and insights you share and the fellowship we have together are the best parts of my life. You really do inspire me and give me wonderful things to think about. Stay tuned for the upcoming District events where we try to bring you what you have been asking for.

So, what are *some* of the highlights for the past month?

Here we go!

1. We had a very inspiring Foundation Luncheon on October 25<sup>th</sup>. Such wonderful stories of all the good we are doing in the world were shared and enjoyed by all. Yes, guests at the event got up and shared beautiful stories about life changing events that were all foundation related. From Polio survivor stories, to grants that changed lives to the feelings you get and the memories you gain – and the friendships you create along the way in our work to make the world a better place through everything the Foundation touches and helps us accomplish. If you haven't heard PRID (Past Rotary International Director) Ken Grabeau tell his story of his Polio National Immunization Day experience you really need to!

Please remember to make your contributions to Polio Plus (PP), the Annual Fund (AF) and/or whatever area of focus you prefer. Keep in mind, PP and AF both count toward your Paul Harris Fellow giving totals and earn you both Paul Harris Fellow credit and points.

If you have never heard of EREY, that stands for Every Rotarian Every Year. It means every Rotarian giving something each year. Size doesn't matter when giving. It is simply that you do. So please consider making a contribution. If you aren't sure how, reach out and we'll help you!

2. Our first wave of surveys from the Public Image Committee went out – please remember to complete this. It is very important we have as many participants as possible to see the clearest picture. Remember, the information is anonymous, but we do ask for your Club area so that we can



feed back information to the clubs so they can use it for growing our reach (gaining members and raising awareness for all we do) and expanding our impact (the lives we can touch and make better).

3. Ruth, Lou and I have been meeting the incoming Presidents for their years on our travels. Please be sure to select your Presidents for the 2026-2027 (Ruth's DG Year) and 2027-2028 (Lou's DG Year) years now and Save the Date for PELS (where they can attend together) on March 20-21, 2026.

We have had wonderful feedback on our new President Elect Learning Seminar (PELS) that lets two years of leadership attend. The two folks learn together and get to plan and work together so you are not alone in what you are trying to do to help your clubs. This also helps foster camaraderie and affect lasting change in our clubs and communities that we serve.

4. Members of at least six clubs in NH (Bow, Capital City Sunrise, Concord, Franklin Falls, Hopkinton & Milford – apologies if I missed anyone!) gathered at the brand new Veteran's Complex in Boscawen, NH for food, fellowship, tours and learning all about what they offer. Yes, we even did it on Veteran's Day. What a perfect way to honor those who have served to protect our homes and our freedoms. How wonderful it would be to have a Veteran's Rotary Club in our District! If you have interest in helping us get that started, please let me know.

5. A month for me would not be complete without seeing our Youth Exchange kids. We had a spectacular weekend in Boston. At one point there were 19 kids from 4 Districts in greater New England covering 4 states (NH, VT, MA & NY) and a 5<sup>th</sup> District represented by their Youth Exchange representative (but no kids this time).



The kids shared with me that the monthly gatherings of exchange students are the highlight of their experience so far. Not just because we do cool things with them but because they are with other kids who are going through all of the things that they are. Like: missing their homes and families; trying to fit in to their new homes and schools; making friends; constantly taxing their brains spending most all day in constant translation mode speaking in English rather than their native tongues. The list goes on. These kids are beyond remarkable. The mere fact that they left their homes, families, friends and all things comfortable to live among strangers in a foreign land for a whole school year blows my mind. They have my utmost admiration for their bravery and heart to even take the leap much less give it all they have to be successful.

Yes, tears are running down my cheeks as I write this. Not a big surprise though is it? :D



6. Last, but certainly not least, the icing on the cake – for me personally, and many – was *Cheers to Chartering!* held just last night in Hooksett, NH. Where we congratulated the Hooksett Area Rotary Club for officially leaving behind their status as a “Satellite” Club and becoming a full-fledged Rotary Club of their own! I am beyond proud to have witnessed their journey.

Thanks to both the Souhegan Valley Rotary Club and the Bow Rotary Club, the six to seven year journey from one great idea to becoming their own proud club standing on their own was achieved. Again, we had lots of clubs represented and even two Districts. HARC (Hooksett Area Rotary Club) also had several former members at the event to celebrate with them and even representation from the venue where they regularly meet. Talk about a variety of supporters! It does take a village and they sure have one (actually several)!

There were smiles and cheers, laughs and yes, tears. Tears of joy, of pride, of pleasure and I’m sure relief. This was a long and special journey culminating with a beautiful event. This new, unique and forward thinking club is certainly one to keep your eyes on.

So, yes, we really do have the best people and clubs in our District! Thank you all for being so amazing.

Again, you are what I am most thankful for and proud of. Thank you for welcoming us into your clubs and your lives. Thank you for sharing your accomplishments, your goals and you trepidations as well.

I encourage all of you to get out of your regular routine of only attending your club meetings. Please, explore all that our District has to offer you. Find out just how big your circle of Rotary friends is. Rotary truly is International and you are a part of all of that. Please, step outside your own comfort zone and explore. If you don’t want to go it alone, reach out, come find us. We are happy to go visiting with you.

Wishing you the most wonderful Thanksgiving Season, on behalf of the District Leadership Team,

DG Donna

P.S. If you’d like to share what you are most thankful for, feel free to send an email to me at [deosome@yahoo.com](mailto:deosome@yahoo.com) and also let me know if what you are sharing is okay to share with others (or not).



## District News

### **District Conference - Saturday, May 20, 2026**

Mark your calendars for DG Donna's District Conference which will be a one-day conference at the Keene Best Western Hotel on Saturday, May 30, 2026. The Conference Committee is working hard to put on an excellent meeting. Thus far, we have lined up the following:

- Keynote Speaker – Dr. Randy Pierce who will inspire and entertain you with his powerful life experiences. He creates a powerful connection with his audience through his unique viewpoints on the adventures and challenges of a man who chose a life filled with incredible adventure-laden experiences despite his being suddenly stricken with a neurological disease rendering him blind at age 22.
- The Top Contestants from the 4-Way Test Speech Contest will make their presentations in the finals of this great competition. These speeches always impress you and make you proud of these very impressive young students.
- The District 7870 Exchange Students will share with you their incredible experiences. These young people will make you cry, make you laugh, and will also make you proud about these impressive young people.
- Other presentations and speakers about the many facets of Rotary.
- The lunch will be catered by the Tempesta Restaurant.

We are also working on a fellowship event for the evening and have negotiated special rates with the hotel should you wish to stay over on Saturday night. We will continue to provide you with information in the months ahead. But, make sure you put it in your calendar right now!!!!

Chris Parkinson, PDG  
District Conference Chair



## Club News

### **Springfield Rotary Club Donates 14th Trex Bench in Honor of Lifetime Member**

#### *Over 6 tons of plastic film collected since February of 2023*

The Springfield Rotary Club has once again shown its dedication to community service and environmental stewardship by donating a Trex recycled bench to Springfield Hospital. The donation follows the successful collection of 1,000 pounds of thin-film plastics by residents as part of the Trex Thin Film Plastics Challenge.

This marks the fourteenth bench awarded to Springfield through the Trex Recycling Program. The latest collection effort drew contributions from several local sources: 49% from the Springfield Town Library, 16% from the Springfield Food Co-op, 15% each from Magee Office Products and the Springfield Food Co-op, 12% from Bibens Ace Hardware, and the remainder from Springfield Hospital, Waterbury's Factotum Design, and Springfield GMC. Since February 2023, the Springfield Rotary has collected more than 12,148 pounds—over six tons—of plastic film, roughly the weight of three hippopotamuses.



The Trex Challenge promotes the recycling of everyday materials such as grocery and produce bags, bubble wrap, and cereal bags. Once a group collects 1,000 pounds, Trex awards a 48-inch Yacht Club Bench made from recycled materials like milk jugs and water bottles. These plastics are upcycled into Trex decking, helping to support a circular economy.

Thin plastic film is one of the most difficult materials to recycle, often clogging standard sorting equipment. The Trex Challenge offers a creative, community-based solution to this growing environmental issue.

This newest bench joins others already placed throughout the community—including The Common, Park Street School, North Springfield Bog Trailhead, Main Street, the Springfield Town Library, Elm Street School, the Springfield Community Players Theater, the pollinator habitat hillside at Springfield Hospital, and Springfield Parks & Recreation facilities.



Volunteers from the Rotary Club and the Springfield Town Library manage the ongoing collection, weighing, and delivery of plastics to Shaw’s Supermarket, the nearest Trex drop-off site. The collection bin remains available at the Town Library.

The bench is dedicated to the 95th anniversary of the Springfield Rotary Club and to Lori Muse-Gurney, a beloved member who passed away on March 12, 2025. Lori served the Rotary for 22 years, chaired committees for three years, and was a proud Paul Harris Fellow Award recipient.

Looking ahead, the Rotary Club has already begun collecting materials for its next Trex bench, which will be donated to Union Elementary School.

Founded in 1927, the Rotary Club of Springfield is a vibrant organization of more than 30 members dedicated to service—both locally and globally. Learn more at [springfieldvtrotary.org](http://springfieldvtrotary.org).

## Ludlow Rotary Chili Cook-Off Great Success

The 34<sup>st</sup> Annual Chili Cook-Off this past Holiday weekend was a major success. The weather was perfect, hundreds of “taste testers” were treated to a large variety of chilis, and the many chili providers were happy with the reception of their unique brands of “real” chili. Additionally, the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) gained resources to continue providing assistance to local projects.



“We had over 20 chilis to taste and be judged by well over 700 eager customers,” commented Kevin Barnes, LRC President. “There was everything from Thai chili, venison, vegetarian, and even white bean and chicken to sample. At times, the line to get into the chili tent circled around the block and down Main Street”. Barnes noted that “every kind of chili you can imagine was offered at the cookoff from very hot, veggie, and everything in between. It truly was a chili-lovers festival!”

Kathy Burns, one the chili providers noted “It was so fun to participate. Thanks for the push in all the years I added this great fun filled event to my check list. Very nicely done!”

Some of the winners of the tasters voting were no strangers to winning at the cook-off”, Barnes noted. As a result of the voting by the many “taste testers”, the recipients of the People’s Choice awards were: **1st.** Chili Con Carlos - Carlos Inglesias; **2nd.** Birds Nest - Shelli Steinfeld; **3rd.**



Contractor Approved - Contractors for Christ; **Honorable mention.** Saylor Family Chili - Chris Saylor

The Judges for the following awards were three area educational leaders: they include Ema Vastola - Cavendish Elementary principal, Lisa Marks - Ludlow 4th Grade, and Zoe Trimboli – Green Mountain Paraprofessional/After School Program, decided the following winners in these categories: **Best in Show.** Thai Curry - Stemwinder; **Team Spirit.** Singleton's Best - Singleton's Store; **Spiciest.** Saylor Family Chili - Chris Saylor

Barnes expressed the club's thanks to the many businesses and folks who made the cook-off possible. They were: **Cayenne level:** William Raveis Vermont Properties, Mary W. Davis Realtor and Associates, Master Plumbing and Heating, Servpro-Ryder Restorations, Cota and Cota Plumbing and Heating, Green Mountain Fireside, Main and Mountain, Jeff Milligan Builders, Wright Construction, Belmont Septic, High Country Contractors  
**Chili Pepper:** Ted Stryhas Builders, Black River Mechanical, HB Plumbing and Heating, Burns and Associates, Sue Star-Adams, Diamond Point Wealth Partners, James Young Attorney at Law,  
**Jalapeno level:** Wine and Cheese Depot, Gassetts Group Builders,  
**In Kind:** Benson's Chevrolet, Shaws Supermarket, Wilcox Dairy, Ralph Pace, Okemo Mountain Resort, The Castle Inn, DJ's Restaurant, Frank Ellison, The Hatchery

The proceeds from the cook-off will be used by the LRC to continue its programs of aiding local groups and schools.

*PHOTO: Four of the Chili providers at the Ludlow Rotary Club's 34th Annual Chili-Cookoff.*

## **Sizzling Success: Wantastiquet Rotary Club Raises \$550 for Scholarships at Peru Fair**

The Wantastiquet Rotary Club brought the heat — and the heart — to this year's Peru Fair with their beloved annual hot dog stand, serving up smiles and sizzling franks for a great cause.

With 165 hot dogs sold throughout the day, the club raised an impressive \$550 in net income, all of which will go directly to their scholarship fund supporting local students.

The Peru Fair, known for its vibrant community spirit and eclectic mix of food, crafts, and entertainment, provided the perfect backdrop for the



Rotary's tasty tradition. Volunteers from the club manned the grill with enthusiasm, engaging fairgoers and sharing the mission behind every bun and brat.

The scholarship fund helps local students pursue higher education and vocational training, making the Rotary's efforts at the fair more than just a fundraiser — it's a launchpad for dreams.

With full bellies and generous hearts, fairgoers helped make this year's hot dog sale a resounding success. The Wantastiquet Rotary Club extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who stopped by the stand, supported the cause, and helped make a difference — one hot dog at a time.

## 71st Annual Springfield Rotary Penny Sale a Success

The 71st Annual Springfield Vermont Rotary Club Penny Sale was held on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at Riverside Middle School in Springfield with an enthusiastic crowd of over 300 in attendance. Over 330 prizes with values from \$15 to \$500 were distributed.

The Penny Sale netted over \$16,000. Angela Markwell of Springfield was the winner of the drawing for the Grand Prize of \$5,000 in cash. In addition, Laura Farnum of Springfield, was the Door Prize winner, selected from the Grand Prize tickets, for \$500 in cash.



The Springfield Rotary Club has raised over \$750,000 since the inception of the Penny Sale. The Club annually awards scholarships to Springfield students who are going to college. The total scholarships donations resulting from the Penny Sale exceeds \$230,000.

Rotary International is an international service organization with over one million members in over 200 countries. The Rotary Club of Springfield, founded in 1927, is an active community service club of 30 members who engage in community and human service projects both locally and internationally. For more information, visit <https://springfieldvtrotary.org/>

*PHOTO (l-r): Laura Farnum, Springfield Rotary Club President Sue Phelps, and Angela Markwell.*



## Habitat for Humanity of Rutland County Vermont awarded \$50,000 Grant from Rutland South Rotary Club

The Rutland South Rotary Club is proud to announce that Habitat for Humanity of Rutland County, Vermont has been selected as the recipient of the Club's \$50,000 Grant, the largest single philanthropic award in the Club's 50-year history.

A few months ago, the Rutland South Rotary Club launched this special initiative to commemorate its 50th anniversary by providing a major grant to a nonprofit organization serving Rutland County. The award reflects both the Club's long-standing commitment to community service and the growing needs faced by local organizations in today's challenging economic climate.

The \$50,000 grant will support the creation of a new home panelizing workshop for Habitat for Humanity of Rutland County Vermont. This climate-controlled facility will allow for the year-round construction of 8'x8' housing panels, which will later be assembled on-site into completed homes. This new approach will increase the organization's building capacity, lower costs, reduce waste, and engage more volunteers—including students from area technical centers and youth groups. With the support of this Rotary grant, Habitat for Humanity of Rutland County expects to increase its annual affordable housing production from two homes to more than five within the next three years, with a goal of reaching ten homes per year within five years.

"With the creation of our home panelizing workshop, this grant will support our ongoing efforts to provide the opportunity for affordable homes to Rutland County families for decades to come," said Rebekah Stephens, Executive Director of Habitat for Humanity of Rutland County Vermont.

"It is moments like this that make us proud to be Rotarians," said Peter Tobin, President of Rutland South Rotary Club. "Habitat for Humanity of Rutland County is doing exceptional work creating a sustainable project that will expand their affordable housing stock and provide homes to folks that need them."

This significant collaboration between the Rutland South Rotary Club and Habitat for Humanity of Rutland County Vermont underscores the shared mission of both organizations: strengthening communities and improving quality of life through service, partnership, and compassion.



**About Rutland South Rotary Club:** Founded in 1974, the Rutland South Rotary Club is part of Rotary International, a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, and leaders who unite to create lasting change locally and globally. The Club is dedicated to supporting initiatives that improve education, health, and economic opportunity throughout Rutland County.

**About Habitat for Humanity of Rutland County Vermont:** Habitat for Humanity of Rutland County Vermont is a nonprofit organization dedicated to building and renovating homes in partnership with families in need of safe, affordable housing. Through volunteer labor, donations, and community partnerships, Habitat empowers local families to build better futures through homeownership.

## Okemo Mountain School Head of School Speaks at Ludlow Rotary Club Meeting

The Ludlow Rotary Club welcomed Mariel Meringolo, Head of School at Okemo Mountain School (OMS), as the featured speaker at its recent meeting. Meringolo shared the inspiring story of OMS, founded in 1991 to meet the academic and athletic needs of competitive winter sports athletes. Over the years, OMS has guided numerous Olympians and professional skiers and riders, earning a strong reputation for excellence both on the slopes and in the classroom.



During her presentation, Meringolo emphasized OMS's deep commitment to community involvement. The school offers eight scholarships each year to students from towns within the Two Rivers Supervisory Union, helping make world-class training and education more accessible to local families.

She also highlighted how OMS students have been giving back since the 2021–2022 season, volunteering with the Ludlow Elementary School snow sports program, skiing and riding alongside young students during their Wednesday afternoons at Okemo.

In addition, OMS runs The Three Maples Summer Day Camp, launched in 2022 as a low-cost camp opportunity for local children. The camp has become a popular summer tradition, offering fun, adventure, and outdoor education for area families. Applications for OMS scholarships and financial aid are available online.



In other business, the Ludlow Rotary Club presented a donation to the Mount Holly Fire Department, continuing its long-standing tradition of supporting essential local services and community organizations.

The meeting also featured guest speaker Erin Ladd, the new Director of Planning and Zoning for the Town of Ludlow, who shared information about the town's Better Connections Grant application through the Vermont Department of Transportation. The initiative could bring funding for safer streets, improved pedestrian walkways, expanded parking, and the creation of a master plan designed to strengthen the local economy and enhance village life.

Heidi Bates, representing the Black River Academy Museum, spoke about the upcoming Festival of Lights fundraiser — a festive four-weekend event featuring beautifully decorated trees. Visitors can purchase raffle tickets to win a tree of their choice, with the drawing and celebration scheduled for Wednesday, December 17.

The Ludlow Rotary Club also welcomed Lori Wright as its newest member, continuing Rotary's mission of bringing together community leaders in service and fellowship.

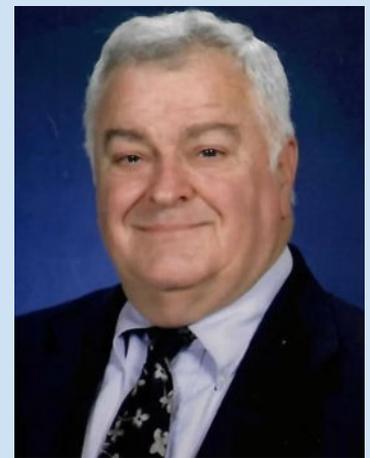
About the Ludlow Rotary Club: The Ludlow Rotary Club is part of Rotary International, a global service organization dedicated to promoting goodwill, peace, and community engagement. The club meets Tuesdays at lunch to discuss local issues, coordinate volunteer efforts, and support programs that strengthen the Ludlow region and beyond. If you would like to attend a meeting and learn how you may 'Serve Humanity' while enjoying the fun and fellowship of others, please contact any Rotarian or drop a note to Ludlow Rotary, PO Box 216, Ludlow, Vermont.

## **Rotarian Peter Flynn, Rest in Peace**

On October 31, the Henniker Area Rotary Club said goodbye to our dear friend and fellow Rotarian, Peter Flynn.

Peter wasn't just a member of Rotary he was the heart of it! From the moment he joined in 2002, he poured himself into everything he did. He believed deeply in Service Above Self, but for Peter, it wasn't just a motto, it was how he lived every single day.

He was the kind of person who made everyone feel welcome, whether you were walking into your first meeting at 7 a.m. on a Thursday or you'd been there for years. He had this way of making you feel like you



belonged, like you mattered. And before you knew it, he was inviting you to join Rotary too, not because he wanted numbers, but because he truly believed in what we do and wanted you to be part of it.

Peter went on to serve as Club President not once, but three times a true testament to his commitment and leadership. He led with warmth and humor and gave so much of himself to projects he loved. Some of his proudest efforts were the Four-Way Test Speech Contest, inspiring young voices to think critically and lead with integrity, something that always filled him with hope for the future. He especially loved attending the District Conferences, where he would listen with pride to the talented students from New Hampshire and Vermont share their speeches and stories. As a member of the Membership Committee, Peter found immense joy in sponsoring and mentoring new Rotarians, many of whom were drawn in by his warm welcome and enthusiasm. And we can't forget Charter Night (his pride and joy) a tradition that brought us all joy and fellowship. A project that usually takes a full committee, Peter would often take on himself, organizing everything from the venue to the meal to the passing of the gavel.

Early on, Peter also started what became known as The Grange Project. When Henniker High School merged with John Stark Regional High School, local students had to wait in the center of town for the bus each morning, often out in the cold or rain. Seeing this, Peter arranged for them to use the old Grange building (a town-owned building), giving them a warm, safe place to gather. This gave younger students a chance to meet and connect with older ones, helping make a new high school feel less intimidating. He even stocked the space with snacks and drinks, paying for much of it himself. When the Club learned what he was doing, Rotary stepped in to help and continues to support the project today. That's Peter in a nutshell: always noticing who needed help, quietly doing something about it, and never expecting recognition.

He loved this community with his whole heart, and he showed it in countless small ways: a conversation, a handshake, a smile, a helping hand. We will miss him dearly.

Peter, thank you for everything ! For your friendship, your guidance, and the way you made each of us better. You've left a mark on our hearts and on Henniker that will never fade. Rest easy, our friend. We'll carry your spirit of service and kindness forward, always.

With love, your Henniker Area Rotary family.



## Rotary Reminded of Manners

Amy Reagle Meyers presented a pertinent PowerPoint on the topic "Professional Etiquette." at the November 6 breakfast meeting of the Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary Club at Franklin Pierce University. Powerful points of her advice included first impressions, appearance, social graces for greeting, attendance at social events, kindness and gratitude. She recalled these same lessons she had offered to young people in the 10 year Rotary Quest program. Amy is currently the Chair of the Jaffrey Planning Board and is a board member of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests.



## Greater Keene Rotaract - Ugly Sweater Party

Don your ugliest sweater, drink, and be merry with the Greater Keene Rotaract Club! Join us at 21 Bar & Grill in Keene, NH on Saturday, 11/29 from 6-8pm as we celebrate the most wonderful time of the year. To support our 8th annual Operation Elves, guests can purchase raffle tickets for a "Night Out on Us" and compete in our Ugliest Sweater competition. We will also be collecting donations of wrapping paper, gift bags + boxes, gift bows + ribbon, gift tags, clear tape, new hats and mittens (infant to 18yrs old), and AA + AAA batteries.



Piloted in 2018, the mission of Operation Elves is twofold: create holiday magic for local children in need and empower their families to be involved in this process. Upon receiving information about each child from their family, our organization shops and curates an inventory from which families are able to select their children's gifts. Each child receives about half a dozen items catered to their interests in addition to a new outfit, hygiene supplies, and winter gear if needed. In 2025, our goal is to support 65 children in need.

We can't wait to welcome the holiday season with you!



## Fill the Cart from the Heart Springfield Rotary Thanksgiving 2025 Food Drive

The Springfield Rotary Club will be holding a Fill the Cart from the Heart Food Drive on Saturday, Nov. 22 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., in the Springfield Shopping Plaza, to benefit the Springfield Family Center Food Shelf. Please come grab a bag and fill it with nonperishable food items or personal care products to help those in need. The Rotary Club will be set up by Shaw's in the plaza and hopes to see you there.



## Raymond Area Rotary Club - Visitors Welcome!

The Raymond Area Rotary Club proudly carries the Rotary International mission of “Service Above Self” forward in the communities of Raymond, Candia, Deerfield, Epping, Nottingham, and Fremont. The club meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m. in the Great Room at Raymond Baptist Church, 145 Route 27 in Raymond, NH. Visitors are always welcome to enjoy light breakfast, interesting speakers, camaraderie, and discussions about how to make a positive impact in the six towns encompassing the Raymond Area Rotary Club.

For those who can't attend weekly morning meetings but still want to get involved, the Rotary Club has launched a new Community Impact Team — a flexible, project-based group for people who want to serve but have busy schedules. The team's second meeting was recently held and their first focus will be addressing food insecurity in the local area. This is a great opportunity to help shape the group from the ground up and make a difference close to home. Reach out by email to [info@raymondarearotary.org](mailto:info@raymondarearotary.org) to find out when the next meeting or service event is.

For more information, visit our website at [raymondarearotary.org](http://raymondarearotary.org), the Raymond Area Rotary Facebook page, or email [info@raymondarearotary.org](mailto:info@raymondarearotary.org).



## Grand Monadnock Rotary Celebrates Their 100th

On Saturday November 8, 2025, the Grand Monadnock Rotary celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Roaring Twenties themed dinner dance. The event was held at the Monadnock Country Club. Michelle Stahl, Bob MacDonald and Jamie Trowbridge presented a history of the club and the area. Throughout the evening music was provided by Maple Grove, the joining of the Maple Trio and the Grove Street Band, along with Alex Murray. The Grand Monadnock Rotary Club is the 2020 union of the Peterborough Club and the Monadnock Club. The Peterborough Club formed in 1925 and the Monadnock Club was formed in 1990 with both of them serving the Monadnock region.



## New London Rotary Hosts Membership Morning

NEW LONDON, N.H. — On November 7, 2025, the Cleveland Hall at the historic New London First Baptist Church was filled with the warmth of fellowship and purpose as 20 Rotarians and 5 guests gathered for a special Membership Day event.

The morning program, organized by the Rotary Club’s Membership Committee under the leadership of Tina Helm, welcomed community members interested in learning more about Rotary’s mission of “Service Above Self.”



As a Club slide deck played on the screen, committee chairs took turns describing their areas of focus — from community service and youth programs to international projects and club administration — sharing how each contributes to the overall mission and vision of the New London Rotary Club.

Adding to the sense of hospitality, Colby-Sawyer College provided a full breakfast for members and guests alike, setting a convivial tone for conversation and connection.

The event reflected the New London Rotary Club’s ongoing commitment to community engagement, leadership development, and service. With an open invitation to all who share these values, the club continues to strengthen its ties within the community and beyond.



For more information about the Rotary Club of New London, visit the club's web page at [www.newlondonrotary.com](http://www.newlondonrotary.com) or attend a Friday 7:30 AM biweekly meeting.

## Keene Elm City Rotary - November Submission

Greetings from Keene where we have joyfully made a full recovery from our signature fundraising event, The Clarence DeMar Marathon! The running on the 47<sup>th</sup> DeMar boasted nearly 700 runners of the full and half distances as well as over 100 Super Seniors (runners over 70 years old) and 600 children completing their specialized 1.2 distance. But here's the real beautiful statistic; every single Elm City Rotarian participated in helping make the



event a success in concert with over 400 community partners and volunteers!!! This is a massive event with hundreds of moving parts and a logistics plan that is expertly executed. This event helps fund many wonderful things in our community. Among those many things is our sneaker project. Every second-grade child in Cheshire County receives a brand new, entirely free pair of New Balance Sneakers! We are excited to share a link with you that will send you to a podcast where you can learn more about the DeMar Marathon. You can hear about how our club acquired to event and how we work to make it a true community story. Race Director, Alan Stroshine was a guest on a popular running podcast and he perfectly articulates our club's history with DeMar and what it has grown into. We hope you will enjoy hearing all about it!

<https://open.spotify.com/episode/0Tn46GvzpNLOothzkZoRXa?si=cM4bJMxMTLOP--ojRcq07>

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# International

## International Coffee with JB - An Informal Zoom Get Together

The next International Coffee With JB will be held at **8:30AM** on **Friday, Nov. 7th**. You can join by using the link:

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



The flyer is for a Zoom event titled "International Coffee with JB". It features the Rotary District 7870 logo at the top left. The event is scheduled for Friday, December 5, 2025, from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM. The speaker is David Saturley, District 7870's Past District Governor. The flyer is divided into three main sections: Presentation, Q&A Period, and Questions. The Presentation section states that David Saturley will talk about issues relating to Rotary International, emphasizing Youth Exchanges, and Rotary Leadership Training. The Q&A Period section indicates there will be a Question and Answer period for about 20 additional minutes. The Questions section notes that questions should be submitted in advance to ensure timeliness and guest preparation. At the bottom, there is contact information for jay4steel@jaysteel.com and a Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88423560494?pwd=vB3qxek1ajK8k47skmHlwJRImlua0Y1r. A QR code is also present, labeled "Coffee with JB".

**Rotary**  
District 7870

**COFFEE WITH JB**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5 2025,**  
**8:30 - 9:30 AM**

**ONLINE CHAT AND Q&A WITH**  
**DAVID SATURLEY**

District 7870's Past District Governor

**PRESENTATION**  
David Saturley will talk about issues relating to Rotary International, emphasizing Youth Exchanges, and Rotary Leadership Training

**Q&A PERIOD**  
There will be a Question and Answer period for about 20 additional minutes

**QUESTIONS**  
Questions should be submitted in advance to ensure timeliness and guest preparation

**CONTACT** jay4steel@jaysteel.com

**ZOOM LINK** Zoom Link  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88423560494?pwd=vB3qxek1ajK8k47skmHlwJRImlua0Y1r>

Coffee with JB

This month on international coffee with JB our speaker will be my friend and Past District Governor David Saturley. David will share his passion about the impact of Rotary International Youth Exchange. Our District 7870 Youth Exchange program is enacted under the support and guidance of Essex, (Eastern States Student Exchange). David is currently one of the Rotary District 7870 Officers who oversees our District Youth Exchange programs. David and his Team work tirelessly to coordinate, participate in and shepherd our District's exchange students and other students for several other Rotary Districts in New England. Our youth exchange initiatives strive to create a positive impact on young people's lives, while students, Rotarians and the Community at large all gain from the students' exchange journey. For those involved in the program, the overall exchange experience is fun, educational, and mostly it's incredibly inspiring. It's a

wonderful way to learn about other cultures and contribute to building a world with better understanding and respect between people.

The experiences of Global Exchange are hard to sum up in this flyer so please join us on December 5<sup>th</sup> for our opportunity to hear David's passion and story. Our District 7870 Exchange Program is truly phenomenal and creates so many examples and opportunities to "Unite for Good"!



## **Amigo de Honduras Mission Team Trip - Jan. 31-Feb. 7, 2026**

As noted previously, the 2026 Amigos de Honduras mission team is beginning preparation for their mission trip which is scheduled to leave on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> and return on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup>.

The team roster has been filled and, under the guidance of Vice Chair, Jill Pierson, the planning for the mission is well underway.

As in the past, our team requires medical supplies and many of these items can be purchased over the counter. Attached is a list of needed supplies and if your club, or your club members, would like to donate supplies, go to the attached list and click on the item and it will tell you where these can be purchased. If you do this, we'd ask that you contact our Medical Supplies Coordinator, Jeanne Conde, at [jeannec@simpleportals.com](mailto:jeannec@simpleportals.com) to let her know which supplies you are going to acquire so we don't over purchase any items.

If instead you'd like to make a cash donation for medical supplies, but would prefer the Amigos Committee to make the purchases, that would be great. Please make checks payable to Amigos de Honduras and send your donations to my address which is noted in the header above. Whichever approach you choose, we need to have this completed by the end of September due to the documentation requirements.

Last year, my Bow club had already made a generous donation for the projects. But, then they passed the hat and members generously contributed toward the purchase of medical supplies and the club matched those donations. This resulted in a second donation being made with the express purpose of purchasing medical supplies.

However, your club and your club members decide to contribute, we very much appreciate your support.

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 \$12,000 and \$18,000.

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 would like a copy of our 2025 report, please email me at cep617@comcast.net The report highlights this past mission trip, but also provides an overview of our activities over the past 25 years. Also, please let me know if you would like one of us to present to your Rotary Club.

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

## Fundraisers

### **Raffle Tickets Still Available to Support Ukrainian Humanitarian Projects**

Raffle tickets still available to support Ukrainian humanitarian projects

If you like to ski and are interested in supporting Ukrainian humanitarian projects, this raffle is for you! The Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club is raffling a \$200 gift certificate for a one-night getaway at the Common Man Inn and Restaurant in Claremont. Located on the banks of the Sugar River, the Inn is within 30 minutes of ski resorts in both New Hampshire and Vermont. Ski a day in one state, enjoy a stay in a luxurious room, and wake up fresh for another day of skiing elsewhere.



Raffle tickets are \$10 each and the drawing will be held once 100 tickets are sold. All proceeds will benefit club or district projects for Ukrainians who are facing another winter in wartime. Raffle tickets can be purchased online at [Common Man Inn Getaway](https://www.commonmaninn.com) The gift certificate is valid for a mid-week stay, subject to availability and date restrictions.

For more information about the Common Man Inn and Restaurant in Claremont, please visit their website at [Home - The Common Man Inn Claremont](https://www.commonmaninn.com)

Together we can make a difference!

Charlene Lovett  
Claremont-Sugar River Rotary, Past President



# Rotary Club of Nashua - Charity Car Raffle - Dec. 1, Jan. 5 and Grand Prize on March 4, 2026

We increased the cash prize option to \$40,000! Get your ticket to be included in the next two \$500 early bird drawings. Winning early bird tickets remain in the drawing for the Grand Prize. More information and tickets purchases at [www.nashuarotary.org](http://www.nashuarotary.org)



**Rotary Club of Nashua**  
6th Annual **Charity Car Raffle**

**2026 BMW X3 30 xDrive OR \$40,000 CASH!**

**THREE \$500 EARLYBIRD DRAWINGS!**  
Nov 3, Dec 1 & Jan 5  
Winning tickets remain in drawing for Grand Prize

**ONLY 1000 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD!**  
Ticket Price: \$100

PURCHASE TICKETS & MORE INFO  
**[www.NashuaRotary.org](http://www.NashuaRotary.org)**

**GRAND PRIZE DRAWING**  
March 4, 2026 @ Tulley BMW of Nashua

BMW pictured is for advertising purposes only and may not be color or equipment delivered.

## Miscellaneous

### 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](mailto: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

## 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](mailto:prrotary7870@gmail.com) to be included in the Monthly Newsletter. **Please limit your photos to one per article.** 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: December 14th, 2025 at 6 PM.**

## Website and Social Media

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

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

