



# The District Times

The Official Newsletter of District 7870  
August, 2008



## Changing of the Gavel

The changing of the gavel on June 30<sup>th</sup> at the Little Red School House in Wallingford, VT saw beautiful blue skies and a delightful breeze for all who attended this once a year event. President Dave Ballou, opening the meeting to a full house of Rotarians and guests, thanked District Governor Chris Parkinson for his year and welcomed incoming District Governor Alley Boucher.

Carol Pratt and her assistants prepared and served the annual ham dinner with blueberry cobbler for dessert. The blueberry cobbler was the first meal Rotary's Founder, Paul Harris, had when he first came to live with his grandparents at the age of three. The cobbler was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

Dave then introduced District Governor Chris Parkinson who introduced all Past District Governors and then thanked everyone for making his year such a memorable one. Since he was dubbed the singing Governor, he did sing some farewell words from his latest skit of the Bow Rotary Club.

Chris then turned the reigns over to incoming District Governor, Alley Boucher. Alley began the evening with a quote from Past RI President, Cliff Dochterman, in which Cliff says that, "Rotarians come and go but Past District Governor's just accumulate." She

(Cont'd on Page 2)

## Step Back in Time . . .

### 2009 District Conference

### The BALSAMS Grand Resort

Dixville Notch, NH

May 29-31, 2009

## Why The Balsams?

By Merry Lee Corwin

During these hot days of summer, we can be comforted by thoughts of the cool, clean, ultra-fresh air of The Balsams, in northern New Hampshire, that we will all be appreciating during next May's District Conference.

Long-time guest and Philadelphia furniture manufacturer, Henry Hale purchased the Dix House from the Parsons family in 1895 and when it opened for the 1896 season, he had renamed his "pride and joy" The Balsams. During the three-day conference, we will be surrounded by lakes, mountains and these striking, stately trees providing us with their new oxygen.

Balsams firs are true natives of the Great North Woods, thriving in Canada and the far northern reaches of the eastern United States. These conifers often grow in pure stands or with their companion tree, the white

(Cont'd on Page 2)



Alice (Alley) Boucher

District Governor

[aliceboucher@metrocast.net](mailto:aliceboucher@metrocast.net)

Home 603-293-8439

Cell 603-455-1834

The District TIMES

Published periodically by District 7870

Al Posnack, editor

[alposnack@metrocast.net](mailto:alposnack@metrocast.net)

## Belmont Club Honors Omer Ahern, Jr.

On July 10th 2008 at The Lodge in Belmont, NH the Belmont club celebrated its 20th Anniversary.

**Doralyn Harper** was honored as the first woman president of Rotary and the Change of Gavel honored **Omer C. Ahern, Jr.**, Club president. A Paul Harris Fellowship was awarded to Omer by his club and friends. Omer is a member of the Belknap County Farm Bureau, Bishop Leo O'Neil third Degree, Council Knights of Columbus, NH & Belknap County Bar Association, NH Converts Project member, Harmony Grange #99, 4th Degree Knights of Columbus, Belmont Rotary Club President, and a member of the Belknap County 4-H Foundation.

### Changing of the Gavel Continued from P. 1

thanked all those who have helped prepare her for her new role as District Governor, particularly her husband Charlie and District Trainer Dave Benson.

Alley then thanked Chris for his year as District Governor and for bringing forth new ideas for the district. They then exchanged the traditional pins and gift giving. Also presented with a pin was incoming District Governor Elect, Michael Swinford.

During this coming Rotary year all incoming Presidents have been asked to help raise money for the eradication of polio while still supporting the annual funds programs. They have also been asked to have a net increase in membership, and to encourage clubs to install Club Runner to improve communications between clubs, club members, and the district.

The incoming Assistant Governor's that were in attendance were acknowledged and Alley had a swearing in ceremony for all her incoming Presidents.

Those in attendance also received a pewter ornament which Alley said represented the sunrise of a new Rotary year in NH & VT with its beautiful mountains and lakes and asked everyone to work together to "Make Dreams Real." The meeting was closed by Dave Ballou's daughter, Tatha Lewis, who is the incoming President for the Wallingford Club.



Omer Ahern, Jr. is flanked by previous District Governor Chris Parkinson, and current District Governor Alley Boucher

### Why the Balsams?

Continued from P. 1

birch, in rocky soil near mountain lakes and streams. A balsam tree can be recognized by its short needles (dark green on top, silvery below), smooth, blistered bark, spire-like crown and, above all, aromatic scent. The resin-blisters from its bark yield an oleoresin that is clear, sticky and refracts light to the same extent as glass, making it an ideal substance for use in mounting microscopic specimens. Many consider it to be the perfect Christmas tree.

For many Balsams guests the spicy scent of a balsam pillow, a fresh balsam wreath or a Christmas tree evokes memories of pleasant hikes through the magnificent woods surrounding The Balsams.

# Club Notes . . .



**The Springfield Club** recently returned to the Hartness House Inn **as its weekly club luncheon location.** After many years of meeting at this historic location, the club had moved to another location when the Inn stopped its lunch service.

**The Springfield Club** has started **a weekly newspaper column** called *Rotary Round Up*. Their weekly club bulletin is converted into the column.

**The Derry Club** will be holding **its annual auction and raffle** on 8/23 at 10:00 am at the Shaw's Supermarket parking lot in Derry. There will be many new items and some gently used items along with many gift certificates from local merchants. The club would welcome any donations and attendance from fellow Rotarians and friends, and can make arrangements for pick ups for good stuff. This is the Derry Club's largest fund raiser of the year.

**Both Keene Clubs** will be conducting **a joint fundraiser** at Heberton Hall on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM. It will be a Combination Penny Raffle and Silent Auction for the benefit of International and Community Children's Projects.

Plenty of **great prizes** including a weekend trip for two, a \$1000 cash prize and 100 gallons of heating fuel. Food and cash bar.



**The Newport Club** is hosting the **Fourth Annual Pinnacle Challenge**, a multi-sport adventure race Sunday October 12, 2008. It includes a 13 mile road bike, 5 mile road run, 5.5 mile trail ride and 3.4 trail run. The race can be done by a solo participating in all four legs or by a two to four person team. . It would be great if there were a couple of Rotary Clubs that sponsored a team.



For more information go to [www.team-pinnacle.org](http://www.team-pinnacle.org) and click on Pinnacle Challenge.

The Wallingford Memorial Rotary Club will be having their **Annual Lobster Bake** in September. They have been running this since 1997. Here's the scoop:

**Wallingford Memorial Rotary**  
**ANNUAL LOBSTER BAKE**  
**Sunday, September 14, 2008**  
**WALLINGFORD LODGE, ELFIN LAKE**  
**4:30 – 7:30 P.M.**  
**Cash Raffle & Door Prizes**



Proceeds go to MRUHS scholarships, Bike Safety Day and other Community projects. Cost: \$25/person (Steak can be ordered for those who do not want lobster). Dinner includes salads, corn, dessert and coffee & tea (iced). BYOB.

Tickets need to be pre-purchased. Contact any Wallingford Rotarian or call Ann at 802 446-2693.

The Henniker Club will be holding their **6th Annual Chili Fest** on August 24.



### **HENNIKER CHILI FEST**

**August 24**

**PAT'S PEAK, Henniker, NH**

**1:00 – 4:30 PM (rain or shine).**

**Featuring two chili tasting competitions  
for area restaurants, individuals & organizations.**

Event includes chili sampling, barbecue, classic car show, activities for the kids, concessions, an afternoon of classic rock with radio station 96.5 The Mill on site and many other family-friendly activities. Proceeds benefit local, regional and international service and humanitarian projects sponsored by Rotary.

**Wanted Chili Makers for organization & Individual Contests! Win cash prize for your club or favorite cause.**

**For entry information call:** Jan McElroy (603)428- 7436 or visit our website for more information.

[www.ChiliNewHampshire.org](http://www.ChiliNewHampshire.org)





## DISTRICT GOVERNOR - OFFICIAL VISIT SCHEDULE



### Week of Aug 10

Tuesday, 12	7:15 AM	Derry Village, NH
Tuesday, 12	12:15 PM	Concord, NH
Wednesday, 13	7:15 AM	Hollis/Brookline, NH
Thursday, 14	7:00 AM	Poultney, VT

### Week of Aug 17

Monday, 18	12:00 PM	Peterborough, NH
Tuesday, 19	7:00 AM	Lakes Region, NH
Wednesday, 20	7:15 AM	Hopkinton, NH
Thursday, 21	7:15 AM	Keene Elm City, NH

### Week of Aug 24

Monday, 25	12:00 PM	Windsor, VT
Wednesday, 27	7:15 AM	Brattleboro Sunrise, VT
Thursday, 28	7:30 AM	Jaffrey Rindge, NH

### Week of Sept 7

Wednesday, 10	7:30 AM	Raymond Area, NH
Thursday, 11	7:30 AM	QC Manchester, NH
Friday, 12	7:30 AM	Bow, NH

### Week of Sept 14

Monday, 15	12:15 PM	Nashua, NH
Tuesday, 16	7:00 AM	Franklin, NH
Wednesday, 17	7:30 AM	Londonderry, NH
Thursday, 18	7:30 AM	Henniker, NH
Friday, 19	7:15 AM	New London, NH

### Week of Sept 21

Wednesday, 24	12:15 PM	Milford, NH
Wednesday, 24	6:15 PM	Pittsfield, NH

### Week of Sept 28

Monday, 29	12:00 PM	Keene, NH
Tuesday, 30	7:30 AM	Monadnock, NH

### Week of Oct 1

Wednesday, 1	7:30 AM	Bedford, NH
Thursday, 2	7:30 AM	Hudson/Litchfield, NH
Thursday, 2	12:00 PM	Derry, NH

### Week of Oct 5

Thursday, 9	7:15 AM	CCS Concord, NH
-------------	---------	-----------------

### Week of Oct 12

Thursday, 16	7:15 AM	Merrimack, NH
Thursday, 16	12:00 PM	Laconia, NH
Friday, 17	7:00 AM	Gilford, NH