



# The District TIMES

The Official Newsletter of District 7870  
June-July, 2009



## Miss Daisy's Reign Nearing the End

It is hard to believe that my term as District Governor will be coming to an end in less than a month. It seems like only yesterday when I became District Governor.

I want to thank my family for their support especially my husband, Charlie. He has driven me to all the clubs and sat in on all the board meetings and listened to my speech 59 times. I think he could have given the speech himself after hearing it so many times. I even asked him if he wanted to give the speech at our club meeting, but he declined. Charlie has helped me immensely this year with computer issues, editing my writings, and giving me support when needed.

I want to thank my club, Gilford Rotary, for nominating me to seek the position of District Governor and for the nominating committee for choosing me four years ago. This year has been the best year of my life as a Rotarian and if anyone has any interest in being District Governor I say, "Go for it as you will never regret it".

As I traveled in Vermont & New Hampshire, I saw the most beautiful scenery in both states that I would not have seen had I not been District Governor. I urge all of you to travel to each others state to view the beauty in our district and see how other clubs are run. Each club has their own unique ways of doing things.

I believe that my goal of having better communication between the clubs and the district has been accomplished this year. This was evident when I asked people who were coming to the district conference to bring a children's book for the Colebrook Library, canned goods for the Colebrook Food Pantry and a raffle item for our plenary sessions. The response from everyone far exceeded my expectations and I thank you all.

District 7870 is the best district around and it has been an honor this 2008-2009 Rotary year to have been your District Governor. We have all "Made Dreams Real" in one way or another and mine was made when I became your District Governor on July 1, 2008. I leave now on a sad note as this has been the greatest experience of my life and you have all helped to make it special in so many ways.

Thank you,  
*Alice* DG



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**The District TIMES**  
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# **The District Conference: These Are a Few of My Favorite Things**

**By Merry Lee Corwin**

We really did step back in time -- in mind, body and spirit – during the three days we savored the old world charm and service of The Balsams. The accompanying pictures capture the learning and the high spirits of the 2009 district conference.

Attendance was high, with 357 of us gathering for the weekend conference. Fifty-one out of District 7870's 59 clubs were represented, for a participation rate of 86%. We also had Rotarians from North Carolina (former 7870er Al Kerr), from The Balsam's district, 7850 (District Governor T. Tall, who welcomed us), and from England.

The president of Rotary International, Dong-Kurn Lee, unable to attend, sent, as his personal representative, John Hockin from England, one of RI's foremost trainers for senior leaders in both Rotary and the Rotary Foundation. John's messages brought us RI wisdom on membership and the foundation.

Did the novel ticket system contribute to the high punctuality? Exchange students handed out attendance tickets at the door just until the session began. Then tickets were drawn at the session's close and prizes given away. Clubs donated the terrific array of prizes.

Clubs also brought non-perishable food, which was donated to the Colebrook Food Pantry, and book, which went to the local library.

Another innovation was the sprinkling throughout the conference of brief descriptions of ways in which different clubs carried out this year's theme to "Make Dreams Real" -- Deerfield Valley's garden of hope, Bennington's high school radio show, Derry's World War II veteran reunion, Ludlow's blankets for senior citizens.

We danced away Friday evening in the Switzerland of America Room to the groovy music of DJ Andy Pratt. Saturday night was left suspiciously blank on the program, and we found out why when Governor Alley surprised us with an invitation to go outside to The Balsams veranda. Suddenly, the big sky lit up with spectacular fireworks – and continued to hundreds of ohs and ahs. It was an exciting end to a satisfying day and our thanks go to the anonymous donors who underwrote the show.

To ensure that we, our children and our grandchildren won't forget this conference or The Balsams, each participant received a little balsam fir seedling to take home with a label instructing us to "Plant Me To Remember Gov. Alley's District Conference."

The conference flew by, thanks to precise schedule adherence and the tone set by the many-costumed Sergeant-at-Arms Roger Louiselle. He appeared at each session attired in a different Balsam's era garb – Keystone cop, barnstormer, old-time baseball player, prohibition gangster, Victorian bather, zoot suiter, 1890's straw boater -- and played in with era-specific music by PDG Paul Bordeleau. His entrances were some of the most suspenseful moments of the conference and his in-character monologues educated us all about each Balsams era.

Governor Alley's sweet 15-year-old granddaughter Samantha sang to us during Saturday's dinner.

## Rotarians Help Save Lives

Matching Grant 60086 has been completed and closed by TRF. The project was made possible by contributions from Rotarians in New Hampshire and Texas. A total of 165 biosand filters were deployed in five villages in La Moskitia, Honduras. The villages were recommended by the Health Dept of Gracias a Dios, the state/department in which La Moskitia is located. Rotarians personally confirmed a major problem with diarrhea from drinking contaminated river water in each of the five villages. Rotarians also personally confirmed that in each village after filters were implemented, the incidence of illness either was dramatically reduced or eliminated. Based on the technology and our verification that the villagers are able to properly maintain the filters, their impact should be indefinite.



In addition, 8 shallow water wells were drilled in two villages. We also verified they are working and these initial wells paved the way for another 64 wells that were later drilled on a separate Matching Grant. While almost all wells are operational now, there is a long-term issue of maintenance. This Matching Grant has been an outstanding success and has changed the lives and health of over 1000 Moskito Indians who now associate Rotarians with help and caring.



This project is a testament to what Rotarians can accomplish together. This is just one area that the money you give to the Rotary Foundation has gone.

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### Paul Harris Fellows

Patricia Clement (non-member)- Henniker  
Richard Edmunds (non-member)- Henniker  
Peter Flynn- Henniker  
Philip Hustis (non-member)- Henniker  
James McElroy (non-member)- Henniker  
Robert Vaughn -Henniker  
Kay Ross, White River Junction

### Multiple Paul Harris Fellows:

Charlie Boucher, Gilford PHF +2  
Dave Benson, Fair Haven PHF +5  
Cathy Dias , Henniker PHF +1

### Major Donors:

Miles & Sally Garrod, Nashua West

### Paul Harris Society Members:

Cassandra Bradley, Laconia  
David Hoopes, Wantastiquet-Londonderry

## **Rotary Clubs in Rutland Area Donate \$4,400 To Buy Mosquito Nets to Combat Malaria in Togo**

On April 17, in the rural African village of Mire, Dapaong-Togo, 422 insecticidal mosquito nets were distributed free from Rutland area Rotarians to school children, their teachers, pregnant women, the aged and the rest of the population, who were gathered and waiting at the school playground. Every child that belonged to a family in Mire received one net. Some were held in reserve for the sick that could not make it to the distribution site.

Insecticide-treated mosquito nets are the principal way to protect children from nocturnal Anopheles mosquitoes that feed indoors. Mosquitoes stick to the nets and die before they can bite and infect a human. Nets cost about \$10 each and last approximately five years.

Prior to the distribution there was a speech by the Rev. Charles Sakpani Tchankoume, who coordinated and executed the purchase and distribution of the nets. He made clear to the eager audience that the nets were a gift from the Rotary International Clubs of Rutland, Vermont, USA in order to assist them to stop the deadly disease that was especially killing children in their village. He added that, "they were running out of words to express their gratitude and they were thankful for choosing their village, far away and almost lost and forgotten about."

Where is Togo? Actually, it is a small country in West Africa bordering Ghana to the West, officially the Togolese Republic. It gained its independence from France in 1960.

What is important to Rotarians is that in Africa a child dies of malaria every 30 seconds and they are compelled to take action to alleviate the suffering through the many programs of Rotary International, or in this case by a locally coordinated direct effort with a small village in Togo.

The Rotary Club of Rutland has a long relationship with Mire, Togo. One of its members, Bob Miller, whose son-in-law was a missionary serving there over 14 years ago saw the need for equipment to draw clean drinking water. Bob called the Club's attention to the need and it responded with the funds to purchase the needed pumps. A few months ago, Bob seized the initiative once again, this time to take action to halt deaths from malaria and together with fellow Rotarian Barbara Giancola, visited all the Rutland area Rotary clubs and invited them to participate in this worthy project.

Rotary Club of Rutland president George Ambrose said, "We are proud to change lives for the better, one at a time; across town or in this case, across the world."

The following Rutland area Rotary Clubs participated in this project: Rotary Club of Rutland, West Rutland Rotary Club, Wallingford Rotary Club, Killington/Pico Rotary Club, Rutland South Rotary Club and Fair Haven Rotary Club.

Rotary International is the world's first service club organization with more than 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs worldwide. Rotary club members are volunteers who work locally, regionally, and internationally to combat hunger, improve sanitation, provide education and job training, promote peace, and eradicate polio under the motto Service Above Self.



## District Conference '09 at the Balsams

All photos by  
Bill Luring, except  
where otherwise noted.



Governor Alley's sweet 15-year-old granddaughter **Samantha** sang to us during Saturday's



An obviously-surprised **Pete Powers** was awarded our District Rotary Treasure award for the highest level of Rotary involvement - he's a charter member and past president of his club, past district governor, has chaired numerous club and district projects, facilitated the charter of three new clubs, is a Major Donor to the Rotary Foundation, a Paul Harris Society member and a strong supporter of the Polio Plus challenge. Looking on are Pete's wife, Connie; Conference Chair Dave Benson; Al Kerr, first winner of the Rotary Treasure award, and RI president's representative John Hockin. **Photo by Tony Gilmore**



**Dave Benson** was selected for the Rotary Foundation's Citation for Meritorious Service for raising \$350,000 over three years of district relays for the foundation and Polio, for serving as District Foundation Chair for three years and for inventing the renowned "bucket" presentation to make the foundation clearer to us all.

## District Conference '09 at the Balsams

The most colorful event: At Saturday evening's dinner, the district's **17 Exchange Students**, dressed in their national dress, presented the flags of their home countries.





## District Conference '09 at the Balsams



**Walt Coleman**, our motivational speaker, emphasized the benefit of associating with people who are the best at what they do - as, he noted, we do in Rotary, where we make each other better. He should know; he's an NFL referee, who works among the best football players, owners and coaches in the world. As Conference Chair Dave Benson said in his introduction of Walt, "He's loved by hundreds and hated by millions." Walt was uncomfortable with our welcoming applause, but more at ease with our hearty, collective "Boo."



A very serious group

## District Conference '09 at the Balsams



The food at The Balsams was splendid. From the long, extensive breakfast table every morning, through the long, gourmet lunch table each noon to the superb, multi-course, epicurean dinners, we ate our ways through the award-winning chef's menus (yes, that was filet mignon Saturday night) and enthusiastically explored their celebrated wine cellar.

Clubs cast their ballots for district officers in The Balsam's historic Ballot Room, where Dixville Notch citizens cast, count and announce their votes in national elections before any other polling place. Here, President David Sturm casts the Milford club's vote.



The Four-Way Speech Contest is one of the most popular events of any district conference. After a year-long competition, here are the four top finalists. Proud winner Josh Andrew, sponsored by the Bow Club, is second from the right.



## District Conference '09 at the Balsams

The conference flew by, thanks to precise schedule adherence and the tone set by the many-costumed Sergeant-at-Arms **Roger Louiselle**. He appeared at each session attired in a different Balsam's era garb - barnstormer, old-time baseball player, prohibition gangster, Victorian bather, zoot suiter, 1890's straw boater -- and played in with era-specific music by PDG Paul Bordeleau. His entrances were some of the most suspenseful moments of the conference and his in-character monologues educated us all about each Balsams era.



## District Conference '09 at the Balsams

Attendees thanked organizers for the amount of free time and used it well - to tour the magnificent grounds and historic buildings, attend culinary or wine-tasting classes, golf, enjoy the Tavern or cruise the Rutland South and Nashua West (with its humungous blender) hospitality rooms.



Dave  
and  
Walt  
Coleman

GSE Visitors from The Philippines



***You're invited to***



**District Conference  
2010**

**May 14-16, 2010**



at the Sheraton Burlington  
Hotel & Conference Center  
Burlington Vermont.



*We look forward to  
seeing you there.*

*C. Michael Swinford*



# Club Notes . . .



## **MANY CLUBS HONORED AT THE BALSAMS . . .**

**Governor's Bell** went to **Capital City Sunrise Club**.

**Membership Initiatives for Retention** Award went to **Henniker Club**.

**Membership Initiatives for Recruitment** Award went to **Nashua West Club**.

**Presidential Citations** went to:

**Bennington Catamount, Bethel Area, Brattleboro, Brattleboro Sunrise, Concord, Deerfield Valley, Derry, Gilford, Henniker, Hollis-Brookline, Jaffrey-Rindge, Keene Elm City, Killington-Pico, Laconia, Manchester NH, Milford, Nashua West, Monadnock, Queen City Manchester, Wallingford and Wantastiquet-Londonderry.**

**Recognition of Smaller Club Membership Growth to 15 or more members** went to **Wantastiquet-Londonderry Club**.

**Recognition of Smaller Club Membership Growth to 20 or more** members went to **Wallingford Club**.

**Membership Development and Extension Awards:**

**Highest growth rate in percentage** - **Raymond Area Club**.

**Highest retention in percentage** - **Goffstown Club, Bethel Club, and Killington-Pico Club**.

**Concord Club** recruited **the most new members** with 12.

**Hollis-Brookline** won the **Best Website** category.

## NASHUA WEST

Announces . . .

### **THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ROCK 'N RIBFEST**

The Rotary Club of Nashua West has announced plans for their 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock 'N Ribfest, which will be held on **June 19-21, 2009** at Anheuser-Busch in Merrimack, NH. 25,000 people attended this family-oriented event last year.

The Rock 'N Ribfest will feature nationally-renowned ribbers and local restaurants serving up barbecued ribs and other specialties. There will be entertainment all weekend long for children and adults starting with a Teen Band Competition on Friday at 4:00 p.m.

In addition to musical performances, there will be hot air balloon rides, aerial acrobatic performances, Wildlife Encounters, race cars and antique fire trucks will be on display Sunday and many other activities for children. The American Defenders of New Hampshire mascot will make appearances on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

There will be a Military Appreciation Day on Sunday, June 21<sup>nd</sup> with free admission for active military personnel and active reserve personnel with a military ID and up to four family members. The Military Appreciation Day is co-sponsored by Anheuser-Busch and Rotary Club of Nashua West.

The Rock 'N Ribfest is also the official site for the NH State Barbecue Championship. Judges will sample food from over 30 of the Northeast's best grillers and will select the NH State Barbecue Champion, who will then qualify for National Barbecue Championship in the fall.

Leading the business community is Anheuser-Busch, Inc. as the Event Sponsor for this year's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock 'N Ribfest. They have been the host since the inception of the event in 2003.

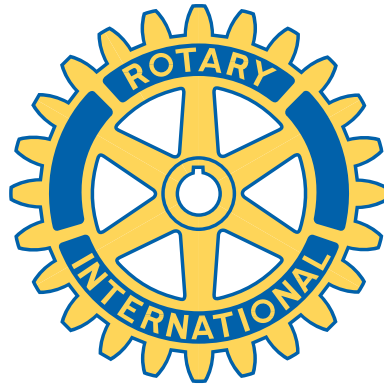
Other major sponsors include Comcast, Manchester Union Leader, WMUR, WZID/The Mill, (Media Event Sponsors), The Telegraph, Will Barratt Productions, The HIPPO (Media Sponsors), Helfman and Lasky, Sovereign Bank, Melanson and Heath, Ocean National, Eaton & Berube, Merrimack County Savings Bank, Nashua Corp., American Environmental, Brusters Ice Cream, Pennichuck Water Works, Digital Credit Union, Lowes, Bellavance Beverage/Responsibility Matters, First Colebrook Bank.

Limited Sponsorships still available, if you are interested in being part of this exciting event by being a sponsor, please contact the Rotary Club of Nashua West at 603-889-2333.

Admission is \$5.00. Children eight and under are free. Proceeds from the event will benefit many local, non-profit organizations through the Rotary Club of Nashua West's annual giving program. To learn more about this event please check on-line at [www.rotaryribfest.org](http://www.rotaryribfest.org).

**Contact: Marc Berube or Sandy Pelletier**  
**(603) 882-2766 (603) 459-2701**

# ROTARY NASHUA WEST 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL



## ROCK'N RIBFEST



## NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE BARBECUE CHAMPIONSHIP

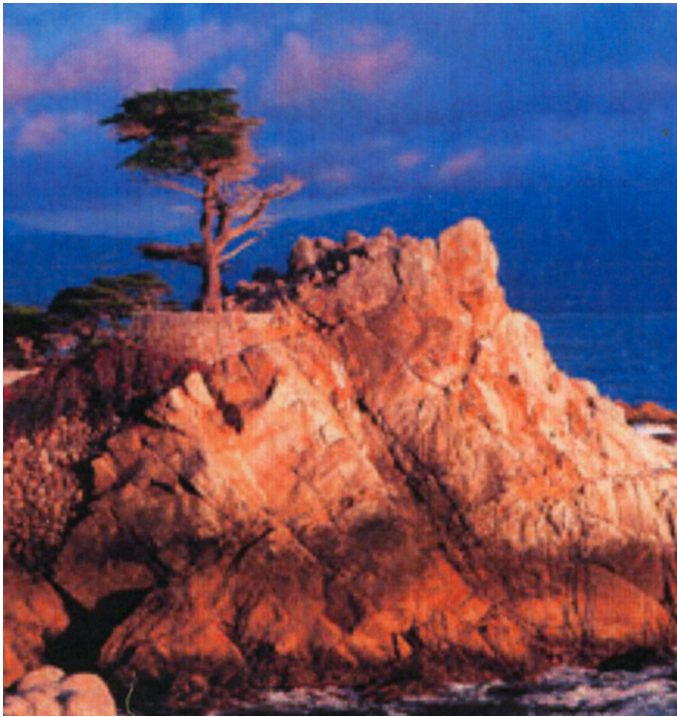
*Anheuser-Busch • Merrimack, NH*  
**June 19-21, 2009**

**A FAMILY EVENT BENEFITING COMMUNITY AGENCIES**

*Professional Ribbers from  
around the World. Music,  
Entertainment, Children's Activities,  
Hot Air Balloon Rides and More...*

PO Box 75 • Nashua, NH 03061 • (603) 589-2333 • [www.rotaryribfest.org](http://www.rotaryribfest.org)





**Rotary Club  
of Concord  
Golfer's  
Dream Raffle  
(300 Tickets – \$100  
per Ticket)**

**First Prize - Trip for Four to Pebble Beach**

(Includes Airfare, 3-Nights Accomodations, 3 Rounds of Golf (Pebble Beach, Spanish Bay, Spyglass) Transportation Allowance) Option of trip or cash payout of \$7500. (Timing subject to availability)

**Second Prize - \$1000 Cash**

**Third Prize - Titleist Irons, Custom Fitted**

Drawing will be July 13th at the Rotary Golf Tournament  
Concord Country Club.

Proceeds Benefit and Support Rotary Community Projects.

Trip/Cash option must be decided by December 31, 2009.

Make checks payable to Rotary Club of Concord

Must be 18 years of age or older.

For Information or Tickets Call: Bobby 225-4000 Ext. 597  
Vince 224-9876 Ext. 315  
Dick 230-4208



# 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament

## Rotary Club of Concord, Concord, NH

**JULY 13, 2009– CONCORD COUNTRY CLUB** (rain date is July 14<sup>th</sup>)

**8:00 AM REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

**8:30 AM SHOT-GUN START, FOLLOWED BY LUNCHEON & AWARDS**

**CORPORATE SPONSOR**



**HELP SUPPORT THE CONCORD ROTARY CLUB FUNDRAISER**

**EAGLE**

Foursome & Tee Sponsor

**\$850**

Four Golfers AND Hole Sponsor

**BIRDIE**

Foursome Entry Fee

**\$700**

Four Golfers ONLY No Sponsorship

**INDIVIDUAL**

Individual Golfer

**\$175**

Green fees, cart, prizes lunch and charitable donation

**TEE OR GREEN SPONSOR**

No golf, Just Sponsorship

**\$250**

CONTACT: Vincent Trento at (603) 224-9876 [vincetrento@rumfordstone.com](mailto:vincetrento@rumfordstone.com)  
Richard Holden at (603) 230-4260 [holden@laconiasavings.com](mailto:holden@laconiasavings.com)

**RESERVATIONS AND DONATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY JUNE 26, 2009**

SCRAMBLE FORMAT \_\_\_\_\_

BRAMBLE FORMAT \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME FOR SIGN AT HOLE OR ON PROGRAM:**

**CONTACT FOR FIRM OR FOURSEOME (INCL. PHONE NUMBER)**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please make all checks payable to:**

**Rotary Club of Concord Charitable Foundation**

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Rotary Club of Concord

Attn: Phil Wallingford

PO Box 2246, Concord NH 03302-2246

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_