



Reach Within to Embrace Humanity

# Rotary In Action

Volume 1 Number 5 November, 2011

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## Fun and Fundraising for Polio: November 5th at the Monarchs Hockey Game

Join the Rotary Clubs in our District and the Manchester Monarchs to give hope for life without polio to the world through our contributions.



tickets, go to: <https://www.monarchsjungle.com/rotary-club> (Ctrl + click or paste into your browser) Gold tickets are \$25; Silver, \$20. 40% of ticket's price sold through the Rotary link goes to the Polio Challenge.

### Save November

**5th** for a district sponsored Polio Awareness Night at the Monarch's hockey

game at the Verizon Arena in Manchester, NH beginning at 7:00 pm. For information and

Bring your family and friends and join the fun, fellowship and fundraising for Polio.

## IN MEMORIAM: AL KERR, PDG-1918-2011

Albert Charles Kerr, 93, passed away on Thursday, October 20, 2011, in Port Orange, Florida. He has lived there with his son, Jack and daughter-in-law Georgeanne for the past year.

Many Rotarians remember his life as an exemplary Rotarian, a mentor, friend, a gracious, gentle leader and a devoted husband to Alba.

In 2006, he was named the first "District 7870 Rotary Treasure" for exemplifying the qualities of Service Above Self and a deep commitment to the principals of Rotary.

He joined the RC of Dunellen, NJ in 1956. After moving to Vermont in 1986, he joined the Brandon Club and served as District Governor in 1987-89.

He tirelessly urged clubs to raise money for the then-new Polio Plus project. In 1989, Al served on RI's Council on Legislation in Singapore and was proud to say, "I voted to let ladies into Rotary."

For three years, he belonged to the Newfoundland RC in Pennsylvania, where he started making his chocolate Rotary emblem and selling them to benefit the Rotary Foundation. He returned to NH in 2003 and joined the RC of White River Junction, where he continued selling his candies and maintaining his perfect attendance record.

### FRIENDS REMEMBER AL

"Al was the ultimate Rotarian in the vain of Paul Harris and will be sorely missed by all.

When our Brandon Rotary club was moving from the Brandon Inn where we had met for 80 years, Al rescued 80 years of Banners from the basement, had them cleaned, stored them until he sold his house, then entrusted them to me for safe keeping. Al and Alba will always be remembered as the first citizens of Brandon Rotary." PDG Ben Lawton, Brandon

"To those who did not know Al, you missed knowing a great and gentle gentleman who lived Rotary. Al said once that Rotary to him was a life style." PP Phil Hammond, White River Junction

**Contributions** can be made to The Rotary Foundation and sent to The White River Rotary/Al Kerr Memorial, P.O. Box 4003, White River Junction, VT 05001



Al Kerr at the Expo 2007

**Governor's Schedule for Club Visits**

- November 9 Milford
- November 9-10 Hudson-Litchfield

**Rotary Factoids**

- \$192 million raised for the \$200 Million Challenge

**What your contribution can do ?**

- \$60 — 100 children immunized against polio
- \$100 — 200 posters promoting immunization
- \$250 — 500 aprons to identify health workers, volunteers, and vaccinators

**Governor's Byline-Jan McElroy**



On Sunday August 28<sup>th</sup>, Hurricane Irene, downgraded to a Tropical Storm, struck Vermont and New Hampshire. Sitting at home on that very wet and windy day, I felt very comfortable enjoying the pleasure of being home after a week away and planning for my next week's visits to Vermont. Little did I realize how quickly things would change for me.

My visit to the southern part of Vermont, viewing some of the effects of the storm first hand, talking with and getting emails from club presidents in Vermont, seeing the images of the damage to roads, bridges and houses on TV and Facebook, convinced me that Rotarians and the District had an important role to play in responding to this catastrophe. In the short term, Rotarians could assist in the clean-up and repair efforts and many clubs and individuals did organize immediately to assist in this way. Some responded by setting up special bank accounts to receive funds that could be used in helping meet

many of the immediate needs for people who suffered damage to homes and businesses. It was truly remarkable to hear about the community mobilization that Rotary and others undertook to restore a functional level to their communities in parallel with FEMA and state services.

On September 6th, four Vermont Assistant Governors and President Dan Cotes and I met in Chester to discuss the idea of doing a Matching Grant to assist in the on-going recovery of families in the state. All strongly supported this idea and agreed to explore working with the Vermont Community Action Agencies (CAA) as our cooperating organization.

Since the northern part of Vermont is in District 7850, its governor, Marilyn Bedell, and I had been in close communication throughout this period and we had agreed that we needed to work together on this since the storm respected no boundaries and affected both districts. A Matching Grant from Rotary requires an international partner. Normally the US club or district is the International Partner to a Host Country somewhere else in the world, but this time our District 7870 will be the Host country, the Rotary Club of Sherbrook, Quebec in Marilyn's District 7850 will be our International Partner.

On September 10, I announced at the multi-district PETS planning meeting that Marilyn and I would be fund raising for a grant and that our goal was a grant for \$250,000. A week later I sent out a solicitation letter to the District Governors in Zones 24 and 32, and we each sent them to our respective clubs and others whom we thought might be helpful.

On September 22, Marilyn and I meet with the Executive Director of the lead CAA to assess how we would work with them, if we got this grant. It seemed very promising.

Soon, pledges started coming in and on October 26, I received a \$10,000 pledge from a District which put our total raised plus potential match over the \$250,000 mark. If all the pledges we expect come in, we may actually be asking for a \$300,000 grant.

We have received district pledges from Taiwan, South African, British Columbia, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maine, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire, and club pledges from Quebec, Ontario, New Jersey, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, and Ludlow in Shropshire, England.

The generosity of Rotarians is amazing, and this shows the value of our international connections through Rotary.

**Host Clubs for Youth Exchange Needed**

Our district is currently looking for clubs to host an exchange student for the 2012 - 2013 Rotary year. As you know District 7870 has a very active program, providing opportunities for our students to go abroad for a full year and giving that same opportunity to international students hoping to come here.

District Chair Bob MacDonald or District Inbound

Chair Jim Rumrill can provide any information you need and will be happy to speak to your club.



Our district needs to make a commitment soon so please e-mail or call Jim Rumrill if you are interested in hosting. You can reach Jim Rumrill at [jrumrill@hotmail.com](mailto:jrumrill@hotmail.com) or on his cell phone at 802-380-2766.

## November is Foundation Month-By Foundation Chair- PDG Alley Boucher

November is Rotary Foundation month. It's a time to reflect on the importance of the foundation and where your contributions go. The goal of the foundation is to achieve world understanding, goodwill and peace through improved health, education and the alleviation of poverty.

Below are some examples of where the Rotary Foundation has been used.

- We have almost eradicated Polio. India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria are the four major countries left in the eradication of polio. We are so close, but we still need the financial support to make Rotary's 1985 goal to eradicate Polio a reality. As of Oct 31, 2011 this district has donated \$348,089.51 towards the \$200 Million Dollar Bill & Melinda Gates Challenge. Thank you all in your contri-

bution to help a child from getting this dreaded disease.

- We are improving health by providing clean water to families in rural areas of countries such as Honduras and Haiti and alleviating dysentery that is killing thousand of children each year.

- Locally through our District Simplified Grants, we are helping our communities through purchase of food, books, clothing, equipment, fuel assistance and working towards the beautification of various towns and so much more.

- Through DG Janice McElroy, our district and others are requesting a matching grant to help communities in Vermont after the devastation that Hurricane Irene left. Other matching grants are helping people in Nicaragua with the help of the Woodstock Club and with

DGE Tony Gilmore's help a grant is helping the people in the Dominican Republic.

- Through Rotary Foundation grants we are helping start small businesses for poor mothers working towards a better life and providing hearing aids, prosthetic limbs and wheelchairs to give people physical opportunities they never had before.

There is so much that is not being done that is so desperately needed. I ask all of you, as Rotarians, take the month of November to learn more about The Rotary Foundation and how you can help. Read your *Rotarian* magazine and make an effort to support our Rotary Foundation.

Remember, "**No donation is too small**" and your donation is tax deductible.

Paul Harris once said,

**"If Rotary has encouraged us to take a more kindly outlook on life and men, if Rotary has taught us greater tolerance, and the desire to see the best in others; if Rotary has brought us helpful and pleasant contacts with others, who are also trying to capture and radiate the joy and beauty of life, then Rotary has brought us all that we can expect."**

**MEMORIES OF ROTARY  
March 1952 from The  
Rotarian  
by Harry Ruggles  
(The fifth original Rotarian)**



## Celebrating World Polio Day

On 24 October, Governor John Lynch signed a Proclamation declaring World Polio Day in New Hampshire. World Polio Day originally brought people together to remember the birth of Dr. Jonas Salk., the man who led the first team to develop a vaccine against polio. It was

the development of this vaccine, and its successor oral polio vaccine, that enabled the world to embark on an ambitious journey – the eradication of polio.

Now World Polio Day is an



opportunity for the polio eradication community to renew its promise to future generations. Now that 99% of the work is done, and most children born today live free of the threat of polio, it is more important than ever that the entire world re-

mains committed to the disease's eradication.

On this World Polio Day, we think of the 467 people who have been paralyzed by polio this year, who would be walking today if polio had been eradicated. We think of the family in China mourning their

son who contracted polio and died last month. This week, 80 million children are being vaccinated in Africa and Asia in an effort to make sure that their families do not suffer the same fate.

### Who's Who in the Photo?

Pictured in front: Gov. John Lynch and DG Jan McElroy. Club Presidents from left to right: Jim Walsh, Henniker; Steve Lauwers, Bow; George Brooks, Londonderry; Rick Moses, Gilford; Rick Herrick, Nashua West; Chris Parkinson, PDG, Bow; Don Bennert, Concord; Ric Buzzanga, Derry Village; Jim McElroy, DG Spouse.

Related Videos:

[The Last Percent](#)

[Ice-cream Kills Kids](#) and

[Why Eradicate Polio?](#)

Visit the RI Website:

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

Register for Member

Access to contribute online  
to the Foundation or check  
out your contributions.

Visit the District Website:

[www.Rotary7870.org](http://www.Rotary7870.org)

Secretaries should update  
their membership and club  
officers data.

### Group Study Exchange to Germany

The deadline for applying has been extended to **November 18**. Interviews are scheduled for November 19th. A Rotarian Team Leader and four non-Rotarian professionals between the ages of 25 and 40 will be selected for a cultural/vocational exchange with northern Germany. Travel, lodging and meals will be covered by Rotary. Application is on the district website or contact Ruth Clough for information at: [Rclough\\_bethel@yahoo.com](mailto:Rclough_bethel@yahoo.com)



**BREMEN TOWNHALL**

## Club Events- See District and Club Websites for Details

Polio Awareness Night at Monarch's Hockey Game Verizon Arena-District Event		Nov 5
Rotary Auction	Bow	Nov 5
Rotary Leadership Institute	Rutland	Nov 5
Hurricane "Releaf" Barn Dance	Bennington-Catamount	Nov 5
Penny Sale	Charlestown	Nov 5
New London Inn Rotary Dinner	New London	Nov 6
Bethel International Dinner	Bethel	Nov 7
Foundation Dinner in NH	Crowne Plaza, Nashua	Nov 8
Foundation Dinner in VT	Jackson Gore Inn, Okemo, Ludlow	Nov 10
Peterborough's 40th Birthday	Peterborough	Nov 10
Monday Night Football	Souhegan Valley-Nashua	Nov 11
RYLA at Sargent Center, Hancock, NH	Monadnock	Nov 19
International Film & Food Festival	Brattleborough	Nov 20
Merrimack Rotary 5K Road Race	Merrimack	Nov 24
Polar Express	White River Junction	Dec 10-11

## News in Brief from the District

\* The District Nominating Committee has selected Richard "Rich" Berryman from the Rotary Club of Concord as the District Governor Nominee Designate for 2014-15. PDG Rick Manganello chaired the committee composed of Bob McFadden, Sally Sugarman, Carter Bard and PDG Alley Boucher. Congratulations, Rich!

\* Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar Gukdo Byun from Korea is studying for a second Masters degree in Management at Southern New Hampshire University in Manchester. Gukdo earned his Master of Science in 2008 from Seoul

National University and his Bachelor of Engineering from the Korea Military Academy. He has served 12 years in the military, earning the rank of Major. He will be bringing greetings from Korea at the Foundation Dinner in Nashua. Jean Esslinger from the Queen City Rotary Club is serving as his Host Counselor.

\* We welcome two new Interact Clubs that have been certified this year in the District. The Interact Club of Kearsarge Regional High School, sponsored by the New London Rotary Club, was organized on September 9, 2011. The Rotary Club of Tilton-Northfield is

sponsoring the Interact Club of Winnisquam Regional High School which was certified on October 12, 2011. All the best to both clubs and their Interactors. This can be a great experience for everyone involved.

\* David McBee of the Milford Rotary Club has been named the Chair of the New Generations Committee. David is spearheading an effort to identify potential sites for Rotaract Clubs in the District and speaking to clubs about what Rotaract is and how to form one, whether campus based or community based or a mixture. For information contact him at: [Davidmcbec@tds.net](mailto:Davidmcbec@tds.net)