



# THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



December 2020

District Newsletter 2021, Number 6

Steve Puderbaugh  
District Governor

[www.rotary7870.org](http://www.rotary7870.org)

**Rotarian Editors**  
**Maureen Mooney and Martin Cohn**



**Rotary Theme of the Month:** December is [Disease Prevention and Treatment Month](#)

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## Greetings From Your District Governor Steve Puderbaugh



### **Our District in 2020: We can be Proud of It!**

We all know that 2020 has been an unusual year in many ways. Certainly this pertains to the challenges we have faced in Rotary as we have learned to adapt in the face of our many changes.

All of our clubs have had to figure out how to best use new (to most of us) technologies like Zoom, Facetime and YouTube to connect virtually when we haven't been able to do near as much in person. We will continue to figure out the best way to have our meetings in the future as the first of the Covid 19 vaccines have just been approved this past week. The landscape is still changing rapidly and I applaud how you are all figuring out the best ways for your clubs to

adapt.

Many of our clubs have found ways to support their communities with food collections and distributions, mask distributions, and have filled other community needs. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the things we have done on a district-wide basis this year.

### **Grants:**

We applied for and received a \$25,000 Disaster Response Grant from the Rotary Foundation which went to support our Vermont and New Hampshire Food Banks.

We developed, applied for and received three Rotary Foundation Global Grants to respond to Covid-19. These Grants totaled nearly \$341,000 and supported our medical facilities, our first responder and our nursing homes in communities across our district.

**Polio Eradication:**

In association with our Foundation Celebration we put together a raffle to raise funds for the global polio eradication efforts. \$6000 was raised for Polio Plus which is a record for this sort of event.

**Masks:**

Besides some of the local mask making and distribution early on, our district was able to acquire and distribute over 200,000 masks across our district. It looks like we will be getting another shipment that will include more N95 and children's masks.

**Speaker's Bureau:**

We have established a resource of many great speakers that can come to your club not only from around our district but from other parts of the world.

**Rotary training:**

We have had many excellent presentations online the last several months. Our Rotary Leadership, Education and Development Seminars (Rotary LEADS) was a great start. We have now had other educational opportunities including our Foundation Celebration and membership webinars and others. We have more coming in January including sessions for new and prospective Rotary members. The My Rotary offerings are adding more content on a regular basis also.

Again I want to say I am proud of all we have accomplished this year. I encourage you all to continue to find ways to serve the many needs in your communities. We have a great team of leaders in our district who are able and willing to help you develop your service ideas and help you with potential challenges. We have a strong foundation to build on for the future of our district in 2021 and beyond.

## Accountability and Inclusion: A DEI Series

Throughout 2020-2021, Rotary will host a webinar series to explore diversity, equity, and inclusion. Registration will be announced eight weeks prior to each webinar, and recordings will be posted [here](#). Topics are subject to change.

### Topics include:

Design an Inclusive Plan for your Organization  
The Power of Connection with Diverse Communities  
Stand Up and Speak Out: Inclusion is Everyone's Responsibility  
No Justice, No Peace  
Intergenerational Relationships  
Building an Inclusive Brand

### Click here for more information:

[http://msgfocus.rotary.org/files/amf\\_highroad\\_solution/project\\_188/DEIWebinar-Sept2020-Description.pdf](http://msgfocus.rotary.org/files/amf_highroad_solution/project_188/DEIWebinar-Sept2020-Description.pdf)

## District News

### Rotary Cares, Episode 30 - Community Service

In episode 30 of the award-winning, monthly show, Rotary Cares, Brattleboro Rotary Club past president Marty Cohn discusses community service with his guests, Windsor VT Rotary Club President Mary Springer and Jaffrey-Rindge NH Rotary Club public relations chair Owen Houghton. The show is produced by Brattleboro Community Television.

To watch the show, go to

<https://www.brattleborotv.org/rotary-cares/ep-30-mary-springer-and-owen-houghton>

To listen to the podcast, go to

<https://soundcloud.com/user-402413535/rotary-cares-ep-30-community-service>



## Letter from the New Hampshire Food Bank



*“November 23, 2020*

*Tony Gilmore Rotary District 7870  
awgilmore@yahoo.com*

*Dear Tony and Rotary Members,*

*On behalf of all of us at the New Hampshire Food Bank, thank you for your thoughtful gift totaling \$75,963.00, from the Rotary International District 7870 Major Grants to benefit the NH Food Bank and the following local food pantries. Your generous donation will help us continue the fight against hunger in the Granite State during this unprecedented time.*

*Capital City & Concord Rotary Clubs to support Friendly Kitchen  
Newport Rotary Club to support Dairy Project  
Alton Rotary Club to support Alton Food Pantry  
Alton Rotary Club to support Barnstead Food Pantry  
Manchester Rotary Club to support Amoskeag Health  
Bow Rotary Club to support Friendly Kitchen  
Bow Rotary Club to support Friends of Forgotten Children  
Hudson-Litchfield Rotary Club to support Nashua Soup Kitchen  
Hollis-Brookline Rotary Club to support Nashua Soup Kitchen  
Nashua West Rotary Club to support Meals on Wheels  
Nashua West Rotary Club to support Lamprey Health Care  
Keene Elm City Rotary Club to support Keene Community Kitchen  
Raymond Area Rotary Club to support New Life Food Pantry  
Raymond Area Rotary Club to support Deerfield Food Pantry  
Milford Rotary Club to support Share Outreach  
Goffstown Rotary Club to support Goffstown Network*

*Here at the NH Food Bank, we hear the stories and see the negative impacts of hunger daily. As you can imagine, in light of the recent COVID-19 crisis, these stories are only multiplying. Right now children across New Hampshire are threatened with losing their free or reduced breakfast and lunches, perhaps the only meal they are used to receiving. Other individuals and families are finding themselves displaced from work with a long list of financial burdens and as the weather begins to cool and the holiday season approaches, even more challenges begin to arise.*

*In anticipation of the continuing rise in demand, we have had to increase our food purchasing, double meal production, modify mobile food pantries and are actively working with our agencies to understand where the needs are greatest. As the only food bank in the state of New Hampshire, we serve over 400 of these agencies. Among them are after school programs, food pantries, homeless shelters, senior centers and many other emergency feeding programs. In 2019, we distributed more than 14.2 million pounds of food across the entire state, receiving no federal or state funding for food distribution. Your contribution to our organization makes all of these solutions possible.*

*There is no question we are experiencing a time full of many uncertainties. If there is one thing we are certain of, it is that our mission remains the same; to feed hungry people. We are truly grateful to community members like you, who believe in that mission and selflessly give to support our efforts. Let this be a reminder to all of us that hunger can affect anyone at any time. Your parent, friend, co-worker or maybe even you. Hunger may persist, but no matter the crisis, we are here for New Hampshire.*

*Warmly,*

Nancy Mellitt  
Director of Development

For more information about the New Hampshire Food Bank, visit [www.nhfoodbank.org](http://www.nhfoodbank.org) or [www.facebook.com/nhfoodbank](https://www.facebook.com/nhfoodbank)

*This receipt is for your tax purposes. New Hampshire Catholic Charities D/B/A the New Hampshire food Bank is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, #02-0222163. Since no goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution, it is tax deductible to the full extent allowable by law."*

## Foundation Celebration Honors Top Clubs and Donors

At the District Rotary Foundation Celebration on November 12, DG Steve Puderbaugh recognized the names of Foundation Awards (2019-2020) for eight Rotary Clubs:

Our District 7870 has achieved Rotary International awards in four categories:

1. Highest Per Capita Annual Giving
  - a. Wallingford RC (Highest)
  - b. Hollis Brookline RC (Second Highest)
  - c. Capital City Sunrise RC (Third Highest)
2. Every Rotarian Every Year
  - a. Hollis-Brookline
  - b. Wallingford RC
3. 100% Foundation Giving Club
  - a. Wallingford RC
  - b. Hollis-Brookline
  - c. Fairhaven RC
4. End Polio Now (Min. \$1500.00)

- a. Charlestown RC
- b. Chester RC
- c. Gilford RC
- d. Nashua RC
- e. Hollis Brookline RC
- f. Nashua RC

DG Steve Puderbaugh also recognized the names of Rotarians who achieved the next level of Major Donors for the Rotary Year 2019-2020:

1. Arthur and Delphine Clough for achieving Major Donor LEVEL 1.
2. Francis Jones for achieving Major Donor LEVEL 1.
3. Another Rotarian couple who wishes to remain anonymous reached Major Donor LEVEL 1.
4. David Ballou for achieving Major Donor LEVEL 2.
5. Gautami and Venu Rao (Hollis Brookline Rotary Club) for achieving Major Donor LEVEL 4.

This year our district's annual Rotary Foundation Dinner has become the Rotary Foundation Celebration. There was lot in common between the annual Foundation Dinner and Zoom Foundation Celebration.

The Rotarians still had to register for the District Foundation Dinner. With registration everyone got a free Raffle Ticket. The Rotarians were encouraged to buy as many raffle tickets as they wish (10 tickets for \$10). Every Rotarian is invited and encouraged to invite a friend to join the Zoom Conference. Requested every Rotary Club to provide a raffle gift. We had Rotary International Director Brenda Cressey as our Keynote Speaker. She addressed the future of Rotary Foundation and various Global Grant Projects funding options Foundation Trustees are exploring.

The important changes were, registration was made FREE this year. There were four breakout sessions to discuss various aspects of Rotary Foundation and Global Grant Projects. We promised the Rotarians that all the raffle money collected will be donated to Rotary Polio Plus Fund. Rotarians will get Paul Harris recognition points equal to the amount of Raffle tickets they bought. Rotarians bought raffle tickets very generously. District Foundation Celebration raised

\$6000.00 for Polio Plus. The event was attended by around 141 Rotarians, that is a record. Overall, Foundation Celebration was very successful event.

**PDG Venu Rao**

**DRFC District 7870**

## **Rotary Rocks!**

### **2020-21 District-Wide Membership Contest**

Congratulations to the Rotary Clubs of Deerfield Valley, Derry Village, Killington Pico, Milford, Poultney, and Tilton Northfield for increasing their membership numbers from September through November.

DG Steve has challenged us with the Rotary Rocks contest which ends on April 1. Clubs with the highest net (per capital) growth will be eligible for grand prizes of a cook-out of steak tips and chicken tenders, a breakfast prepared by DG Steve and his team, and a pizza party with plenty of drinks.

Are you ready for the challenge? Let's increase membership and have some fun. Here again, are the details of the contest and suggestions of ways to get your members involved.

Rotary is a great organization and a vital part of our lives. The relationships and experiences that are available through Rotary locally and around the world are amazing. The challenge we have is getting our members to reach out and invite other potential Rotary members to come join us.

### **Is your club up for a challenge?**

#### **Goals:**

- Increase membership by inviting potential members to visit our clubs.
- Create a contest within your club to encourage participation. Offer prizes to provide incentives.

- Participate and compete for prizes in a district contest.

### **The Specifics:**

- The Rotary Rocks Membership Contest will run from September 1<sup>st</sup> to April 1st.
- Your club will make the rules for your club's contest and decide what "rewards" can be earned locally.

### **Ideas:**

Divide your club members according to the alphabet in equal teams or some other criteria.

Assign points for different accomplishments.

Invite someone to attend	1 point
Having them show up to a meeting	2 points
Having a new member join	5 points

(Secretary or membership chair will tally votes and keep the contest visible with a chart or regular announcements at the meetings.)

**District Contest Rewards:** (Based on active members on September 1, 2020.).

**Grand Prize:** The club who has the highest net (per capita) growth in the 8-month period will be the winner.

- A cookout of marinated steak tips and chicken tenders prepared by DG Steve and Deb and other District leaders for club members and their guests.

**Second Prize:** DG Steve, Deb and other District leaders cook breakfast for their club at a mutually agreeable time and place.

**Third Prize:** A pizza party with 4 bottles of wine, 30 pack of Coke, and a case of variety pack of Sam Adams beer. The Puderbaughs are willing to host the cookout or pizza party using their house and game room if the club members want to make a road trip to Candia.

Each Rotarian who personally sponsors someone will have their name entered into a drawing for a free district conference registration. We plan to hold the drawing April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Are you ready for the challenge?**

**Let's increase membership and have fun!**

## Club News

### **A Fresh Start**

Queen City Rotary Club Partners with Rotary Club District 7870 and Rotary International in providing donation to Manchester Police Department

The Queen City Rotary Club is pleased to announce a donation of two special cleaning machines to the Manchester Police Department (MPD) to protect the force and the public from COVID-19.

“This is a critical donation, and we are grateful to the Queen City Rotary Club and District 7870 for their kind support,” said MPD Chief Allen Aldenberg. “The two devices are being used to clean cruisers between shifts as well as common areas around the station.”

Rotarian Ken Yie said the donation of the two units comes as a result of a collaboration between the Queen City Rotary Club, local Rotary District 7870, and Rotary International. “Through this partnership, we were able to leverage matching funds in support of COVID-19 initiatives.”

According to Lieutenant Paul Thompson of the MPD, the two machines save the department time and money. “Previously, we had to hire a cleaning company to clean our building and the cruisers. The fogging machines, which are quite easy to use, and the surfaces treated are dry in about one minute.” Lt. Thompson added that an important additional benefit was that the department was now able to sanitize its fitness area. “As you might imagine, the gym is a critical place to not only maintain fitness but relieve stress,” he said. “To be able to keep it open and clean is a major benefit to the women and men of the force.”

Rotarian Ann Butenhof, who serves on the Club’s Foundation Committee with Yie, said that the donation was very much in keeping with the club’s community focused mission. “During this trying pandemic, it is essential that first responders have the equipment they need to keep themselves and the community safe. We are pleased to have been able to assist the MPD in obtaining these portable sanitizing machines, to witness how quickly and effectively they were put to use, and to learn how significantly they have benefitted the day to day work of the department.”





## Merrimack Rotary: Fall Update

The Rotary Club of Merrimack has continued helping the community this fall during these challenging times. Recently, the Club donated 17 "Coats for Kids" to the Town of Merrimack's Welfare Department for families in need. The Club was recognized in a letter from the Chairman of the Town Council.

The Club continues to contribute food and money to the St. John Neumann Food Pantry in town. The pantry particularly needed donations for Thanksgiving preparations.

Although the annual Turkey Trot 5K on Thanksgiving Day was cancelled due to COVID precautions, the Club still supports the Lioness Operation Santa in conjunction with the town's Welfare Department. The Rotary board approved a 50% match for donations from Club members who wish to support this cause.

The Club is selling Christmas Trees at Watson Park until sold out. The delivery of the trees came earlier than usual with the unexpected surprise of unloading the trees from a stranded truck on Daniel Webster Highway. The delivery truck from Canada "bottomed out" resulting in Rotarians

and volunteers hauling trees from a longer distance than anticipated! When completed, the Rotarians agreed the rescue of the trees would make a great children's Christmas storybook!





## The Christmas Holiday Spirit is Alive and Well within the Rotary Club of Concord

Rotary Club of Concord participated in the 69th Annual Christmas Parade in Concord, NH! Dr. Shannon Mills, Pres.- Elect Pieter Hollenberg, Past-President Dr. Warren Emley, Vice- Pres Ginny Finer, PJ Cistulli. Peter Grant and Lynn Cistulli, Friend of Rotary stepped ( or drove out) out for the 1.1 mile walk. Shannon, Ginny and PJ drove some great looking classic autos! What a great day! Throngs of folks masked up enjoyed the show and many open;y thanking Rotary Club of Concord, in person! It was rather gratifying and something I wish all of our club members and all Rotarians, could have heard with their own ears.

As a "Gold Sponsor", the Rotary Club of Concord partnered with the Concord Grange #322 The Grange organizes the Christmas Parade, Concord Christmas Tree Lighting, Community Recognition and Awards Night, Community Meet, Eat, and Greet Night at Keach Park with Nevers Band Concert; and Revival of the Easter Egg Hunt in April. Concord Grange was organized May 12, 1914 with membership open to men and women from ages 14 and older.

In addition to the Christmas Parade in Concord, the Club was among many sponsors, who, once again stepped up to honor a tradition and request for financial assistance! The Concord Christmas Tree lighting was a delight for all who attended and a sorely needed bit of joy in this "Year of the Pandemic 2020"! Thanks Rotary Club of Concord!

As the Rotary calendar inches toward the half year, we look with a sense of optimism that the second half of the Rotary calendar year might have a few more entries for meeting together in person once again!

Best of wishes to all in District 7870 from President Tim Britain and the entire Rotary Club of Concord!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2bpTWJVrf2g&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR2xmfwI04p5gKpteF1UtY5ANb95iaRG0zwVehyYaf4MhsSRJE4p-hor67c>



## Inter-Lakes Interact Keeps Feet Warm in Winter

During each October Inter-Lakes Interact Club, sponsored by Meredith Rotary the club, holds its annual 'Soxtober' where the club collects socks donations to be distributed to local charities who distribute winter clothing to those in need. The club set out collection bins in local area businesses and schools. The Rotary clubs of Meredith, Lakes Region, Laconia and Gilford also collected socks donations. Over the past six years the Interact club has collected and donated over 10,000 pairs of socks to those in need. This year the club collected 3,000 pairs of socks.



## Bedford Rotary Rings the Salvation Army Bell for the 52nd Year

The Bedford Rotarians know what it means to live by their mission, 'Service Above Self'. For 52 consecutive years, the Rotary has participated in the Salvation Army Bell Ringing as one of the top collection sites raising between \$10,000 - \$18,000 each year.

The Bedford Rotary, along with the help of many area companies and volunteers, rings the bell from Thanksgiving until Christmas Eve whether it is sunny, raining or snowing. The money collected in these infamous 'red kettles' are put to good use by providing meals and shelter to hundreds of New Hampshire families in need. In addition, this money has assisted the organization to provide more than 200 hot meals each day to those turned away from local shelters and soup kitchens overwhelmed by the pandemic.

During these 52 years, three Bedford Rotary Presidents have also become The Salvation Army Board Presidents. John Wood, Richard Bellerose and Alan Heacock have served as President for the both the Bedford Rotary and the Salvation Army Board, making the annual bell ringing event even closer to the heart of Bedford Rotarians. Through the support of many local businesses such as Goedecke Decorating, The Masiello Group and Primary Bank as well as organizations such as New Hope Christian Fellowship and the Bedford High School Interact Club, the Rotary has been fortunate to continue this long-standing tradition of volunteerism.

This year will prove to be challenging but is quite possibly the most important year yet with so many families in need having been affected by the pandemic. If you, your business or organization is looking for volunteer opportunities, we welcome you to reach out and join us to support the Salvation Army Bell Ringing event. You can help ring for an hour or a day by contacting Alan Heacock at 603-714-0250. The Bedford Rotary rings between the hours of 11:00am – 7:00pm.

Also, if you believe in ‘Service Above Self’, we encourage you join us at a weekly breakfast meeting held on Wednesdays at 7:30am at the Manchester Country Club. Please follow us on Facebook at **bedfordnhrotary** and message us if you would like to learn more about your local Rotary or the membership opportunities available.

The Rotary is an international organization of more than 1.2 million leaders and problem solvers who provide service to others, promote integrity and advance goodwill through our fellowship of business, professional and community leaders. Rotary members believe that we have a shared responsibility to take action on our world’s most persistent issues, from literacy and peace to water and health.



## **International**

### **J-R Rotary Zooms to Nicaragua**

At the Thursday evening Jaffrey-Rindge Rotary meeting on December 10, the club took a Zoom trip to FNE International's Executive Director and in-country project coordinator in Nicaragua. A partnership with this non-profit dedicated to improving housing, health and education with the Leon Club has been strengthened by numerous trips by club members and Interactor members over the past six years. The programs of FNEI in Leon have received increasing interest and support with a local club commitment to sponsor a number of high school and college students' educations.

One member, Dr. Tom Bennett, took his whole family on a visit to assist with a house building project, and learned about the value of scholarships to students in the area, who benefit from assistance with learning resources, including travel to classes. The health and educational projects have been called "pathways out of poverty", and the passion generated by this human relationship of service to another culture has resulted in several Christmas donations from Jaffrey and Rindge members for student scholarships.

With 14 schools and 90 teachers, the challenge is great but the opportunity to be involved has been called life-changing. Patti McCarthy, advisor of the Interact team, stated "the relationships formed by the kids at Conant have been eye-openers to a different culture, and our aid in this time of Covid is critical to the sustainability of the program."

Members John McCarthy, Dr. Tom Bennett and Travis Kumph have been preparing a major global grant to be submitted to Rotary International. Focusing on essential needs for teacher education and sanitation with the Leon Club, this regular Rotary trip via a Zoom meeting highlighted the passion of members and as stated by club President Jed Brummer, "shines a light on the club's commitment on a global scale."



Bennett family with the community to build house in Nicaragua

## Calendars

### District 7870 Calendar

So much going on within the clubs in the district! Be sure to regular 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. Here are the ones for this [Rotary year](#):

#### **August 2020**

Membership and New Club Development Month

#### **September 2020**

Basic Education and Literacy Month

**October 2020**

Economic and Community Development Month

5-11 October — Rotary Alumni Reconnect Week

24 October — World Polio Day

**November 2020**

Rotary Foundation Month

2-8 October — World Interact Week

**December 2020**

Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

15 December — Last day for early registration discount for the 2021 Rotary Convention

**January 2021**

Vocational Service Month

**February 2021**

Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

7-11 February — International Assembly, Orlando, Florida

23 February — Rotary's anniversary

**March 2021**

Water and Sanitation Month

8-14 March — World Rotaract Week

31 March — Preregistration discount ends for the Rotary International Convention

**April 2021**

Maternal and Child Health Month

30 April — Rotary International Convention registrations and ticket cancellations are due

**May 2021**

Youth Service Month

**June 2021**

Rotary Fellowships Month

12-16 June — Rotary International Convention, Taipei, Taiwan



Rotary Opens  
Opportunities

## 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](mailto: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: January 15th, 2021 at 9:00AM.**

### 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:

