



THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



July 2020

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**Steve Puderbaugh
District Governor**

www.rotary7870.org

**Rotarian Editors
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Greetings From Your District Governor Steve Puderbaugh



Welcome to the 2020-21 Rotary year!

As your new District Governor as of July 1st, I don't need to tell anyone we live in a very unusual time. All of us in leadership of our clubs, our businesses, our families and in my case the Rotary district are faced with a myriad of decisions that have to be made. While it can be daunting during "normal" times, it is certainly more evident during a worldwide pandemic.

In spite of all the challenges we continue to face, I want to congratulate all the clubs who are doing great things in their communities in spite of the challenges of Covid-19. Many made masks and distributed them when they were in short supply. We now have a Rotarian in CT who is offering masks to any clubs who want to supply needs in their communities. Past Governor Nancy is taking charge of that effort. A couple days ago we were bringing in 10,000 and counting.



Rotary Opens
Opportunities

Many of you are involved in our District-Wide Covid-19 Global Grants. This has been a huge effort that has been challenging for both our district and the Rotary Foundation in its scope. Our clubs raised nearly \$114,000 for these grants. With district and Rotary Foundation matching funds we are looking to put \$340,000 into our communities to support medical personal and first responders. We hope to hear whether our grants will be fully approved any day and we will be celebrating in the August newsletter and other news outlets..

We are also encouraging clubs to continue to focus on Global Grants. Deb and I are pledging \$1000 for each new Global Grant project initiated this year. Past Governor Venu Rao has agreed to match my donation so clubs will have \$2000 to come alongside club funds out of the starting gate.

While my official title is District Governor for 7870, I would like to be thought of as the current chair of our District's Leadership Team. Besides our DG line of Nancy Russell, myself, John Siemienowicz and Randell Barclay we have our 11 Assistant Governors, including 5 who were not serving last year who have stepped up. We also have many leaders who have stepped up to serve on district-wide teams focused on membership, Public Image, New Generations, the Rotary Foundation and others.

We have several other new initiatives. Our Rotary Rocks District Membership contest and our new speaker's bureau are discussed in separate articles.

I am looking forward to connecting with as many of you as possible. A lot of my outreach will be via Zoom and other platforms for most of 2020. We are hoping to move to attending more live meetings and events as we get closer to 2021.

Thanks for all you do in your clubs and communities!

District News

Club Speaker Options by Steve Puderbaugh

By Steve Puderbaugh DG

We are excited that we have a new resource to help all of our clubs have meaningful meetings. This is especially important in the current situation where most of our clubs are meeting online on Zoom and other platforms. One of the most important ingredients in having a good meeting is an engaging speaker who is actively doing great things either in conjunction with Rotary or out in the community and the world.

With this in mind, we have put together a link on our website where we are listing great speakers that will do presentations at our Rotary clubs. In the current situation where most of our clubs are going to be meeting online or doing a hybrid of online and in person, the door has opened wide as to who is able to come to our meetings.

If clubs need a speaker they can click [Club Speaker Options](#) or go to the district 7870 website and click it there. We are compiling a great list of speakers from around our district and beyond who can be invited to speak at club meetings. We will be adding a lot of names to this as time goes on. We also want to encourage Rotarians to put their own information in if they are willing to speak on a topic that would be of interest to other clubs and put in other information for great speakers that they have heard who are willing to be on our list.

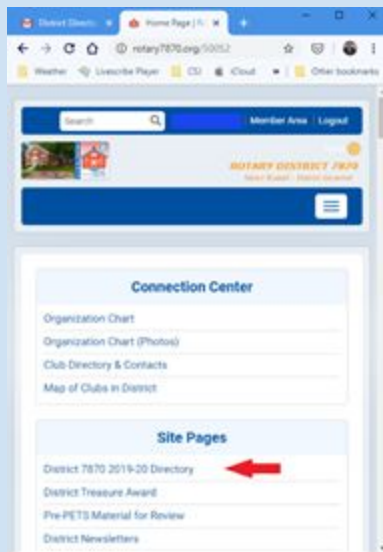
Potential speakers can click

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSebwVX2-MIH1-hO9GrfmFKHIHAOiXBShUcVH1ya5gwHzAENQ/viewform> to pull up the form. The form will populate the listing. Several of our Rotarians will be able to speak on multiple topics so they are encouraged to make entries for those various topics.

Digital Directory for You

One of the neat things that District 7870 is doing is making efforts to make a digital directory available to you. The intent is to make the digital directory available for you on your computer or your smartphone.

To view the directory for download on your phone, start the web browser (“Chrome” or similar) on your phone. Type in the address for the District website <http://www.rotary7870.org>, then log in to the website using your District login information. Ask your club secretary if you have forgotten that information. Once you have logged in, slide down the page to “Site Pages” and click on “District 7870 2020-21 Directory”



Under files click again on “District 7870 2020-21 Directory”. Download the file 2020-2021 District Directory to your computer or smart phone. Once the directory is stored on your device and ready for use, it will allow you to search through the directory.

We are currently working on making the links for phone and email “live” and will provide an update once that is successfully completed.

Thank you for your patience as we develop this paper-saving way to keep you up to date.



Rotary Rocks! '20-'21 District-Wide Membership Contest

Rotary Rocks!

2020-21 District-Wide Membership Contest

Rotary is a great organization and many of us feel that it has become 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.

Goals:

Get all the Rotarians in the district to focus on inviting people to visit our clubs and hopefully want to join us in our efforts.

Encourage the clubs to make it a contest both within the club and at the same time participate and compete for prizes in the district contest.

Contest will run from September 1st to April 1st. Your club will make the rules for your club's contest and decide what "rewards" can be earned locally. You can divide your club members according to the alphabet in equal teams or it can be geographical or some other criteria. Assign points for different accomplishments. The club secretary or membership chair will need to tally the points during the contest. We would recommend keeping the contest visible with a chart or regular announcements in your meetings or bulletin.

Club Contest Example:

Here is an example of how the Raymond Area Rotary club did their contest in 2015. We divided the club into two teams. We then developed a point system.

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

(If the guest was a woman or from the town of Fremont they scored double the points in all categories since we wanted to focus on growth in both these areas).

In our case, the team that lost the contest had to sing something at each club meeting in June. We are not a “singing” club. As it turned out we had some very unique and “colorful” songs that were produced.

The results in Raymond over the next 3 years. 24 to 36 members. The number of women Rotarians went up about 50%. It had been several years since we had a female president. As of this coming year, it looks like we will have a string of five ladies in a row as president.

District Contest:

For the district contest the baseline will be those who are active members in your club on September 1st. It will behoove you to have your membership roster cleaned up by September 1st as to who is a dues paying member. This baseline will then go be compared to the club membership numbers on the roster April 1st. We can then figure the net increase in members compared to September 1st.

The winner will be the club who has the highest net (per capita) growth in the 8-month period. The grand prize will be a cookout for your members and guests where DG Steve and his wife Deb will lead a group of district leaders who will do all the cooking and furnish the food. We plan to include marinated steak tips and chicken tenders. DG Steve will need help from the club to set up the logistics including grills.

Second prize (or can choose third prize) will be to have DG Steve, Deb and other district leaders cook breakfast for their club at a mutually agreeable time and place.

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

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

Let's have fun and Grow Rotary in our communities!

Masks

My fellow Rotarians,

Please respond back to PDG Nancy (ngiaraffe@aol.com)

I hope this finds you and yours healthy and safe.

PDG Jack Soloman has contacted us with an offer that I am now passing along to our district. A generous Rotarian in his district is importing masks (surgical, flat) to help the states in New England. He has already donated 120,000 to Jack's district, 24,000 to district 7910, 6,000 to district 7950, 6,000 to district 7890.

The masks are being provided to Rotary clubs and the clubs donate them to organizations in their towns who need them – first responders, child care centers, visiting nurses associations and many other organizations.

There are two advantages to this donation:

The organizations in the clubs' towns will get badly needed masks
The Rotary clubs will establish relationships with those organizations.

PDG Nancy Russell is heading this project. PDG Jack Solomon will be receiving approximately 30,000 masks next week. Please let PDG Nancy (ngiaraffe@aol.com) know if you are interested so that she and President Wayne can get them delivered to you. She needs to know the name of your club, a contact within your club, the organization to which you will be donating the masks, and the number of masks needed. In most cases, we don't go beyond 2,000 masks to any one organization.

Yours in Rotary Service,
DG Steve Puderbaugh

Vermont Rotary Clubs Join Vermont Dairy Recovery and Food Assistance Effort

Vermont Rotary Clubs donate over \$10K to help Vermont Foodbank food assistance efforts

June 18, 2020 | Montpelier, VT – As a result of a generous donation from Vermont Rotary Clubs across the state, Vermonters in need will continue to receive fresh dairy products from the Vermont Foodbank for weeks to come. Continuing a collaboration begun earlier this year to connect Vermont dairy assistance to Vermonters, the Foodbank will receive food donations of Vermont yogurt and butter in support of their food assistance efforts. Ten Vermont rotary clubs joined forces to raise over \$10,000 dollars, adding significant financial support to the effort already in place to recover Vermont milk.

In collaboration with Dairy Farmers of America, Commonwealth Dairy LLC and Ploughgate Creamery are turning milk from Vermont dairies into yogurt and butter. Earlier this year, the Vermont Agency of Agriculture helped coordinate the original dairy recovery program that began with \$60,000 in funding from the Vermont Community Foundation. This generous donation covered the cost of milk, ingredients, and processing to create 48,000 cups of Green Mountain Yogurt and 11,500 gallons of Hood Dairy 2% Milk.

“When we heard about the need to recover raw milk from local Vermont dairy farms while creating a new, temporary food supply for the Vermont Foodbank, Rotarians sprang into action to help Vermont farmers, children, and food-insecure families,” said Martin Cohn, past President of the Brattleboro Rotary Club. “We hope that the collaboration shown in this project will serve as a model for other states.”

Below is the list of Vermont Rotary Clubs and members who supported this effort:

Rotary District 7850	\$2,250.00
Brattleboro Rotary Club	\$1,500.00
Brattleboro Sunrise Rotary Club	\$1,500.00
Manchester VT Rotary Club	\$1,500.00
White River Junction VT Rotary Club	\$1,000.00
Wallingford Memorial Rotary	\$1,500.00

Killington-Pico Rotary Club	\$ 500.00
Rotary Youth Exchange	\$ 350.00
Windsor Rotary	\$ 200.00
Wendy & Tristram Johnson	\$ 100.00
Rotary Club of Goffstown	\$ 100.00

Joining the effort, Ploughgate Creamery of Waitsfield is receiving cream from Weybridge's Monument Farms to produce 110 pounds of handmade butter per week for 4 weeks.

"I am proud to live in a state where the community comes first! Thank you to the Vermont Rotary Clubs and Food Bank for organizing this amazing program," said Marisa Mauro, owner/operator of Ploughgate Creamery.

"This is a wonderful example of how Vermonters respond in times of strife! Everyone works together to reach common goals," said Jon Rooney of Monument Farms.

The Rotary donation also supports Commonwealth Yogurt's continued supply of 48,000 cups of yogurt over 4 weeks. These donations will serve hundreds of people over the course of the coming weeks, providing nutritious dairy products to Vermont communities in need while preventing the waste of valuable food

Additional support in the form of transportation of yogurt to the Vermont Foodbank will come from Cabot Cheese. Cabot will be picking up Green Mountain Creamery yogurt from the Commonwealth Dairy plant in Brattleboro and delivering it to the VT Foodbank's Barre distribution center for the next three weeks, enabling more Vermonters to benefit from this charitable effort.

Secretary Anson Tebbetts of the Vermont Agency of Agriculture said, "This is what Vermont is all about. Neighbors helping neighbors. Thank you Rotarians, farmers, and businesses. You and so many are helping those in need."

To find out more about how you can join in the many efforts to help in your communities, visit:

- Vermont Foodbank [COVID-19 Hunger Relief Fund](#)
- Vermont Community Foundation [Responding to COVID-19 in Vermont](#)
- Dairy Farmers of America [Farmers Feeding Families Fund](#)

*May 6, 2020, Initial Announcement: [Vermont Dairy Farmers, Dairy Producers and the VT Community Foundation Collaborate to Donate to the VT Foodbank](#)

*“Rotary image below from Left to Right:

1. Carla Lineback, president, Brattleboro Rotary Club
2. Mary Springer, Windsor Rotary Club
3. Nancy Russell, Rotary District 7870 District Governor
4. Barbara Muench, president, Manchester Rotary Club
5. Martin Cohn, past president, Brattleboro Rotary Club
6. Louisa Tripp, Rotary District 7850 Past District Governor
7. Roger Allbee, vice president, Brattleboro Rotary Club



For questions or more information, please contact:

About Rotary

Contact: Martin Cohn - 802-221-4821 | martin@cohnpr.com

Rotary International brings together a global network of volunteer leaders dedicated to tackling the world's most pressing humanitarian challenges. Rotary connects 1.2 million members of more than 35,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries and geographical areas. Their work improves lives at both the local and international levels, from helping those in need in their own communities to working toward a polio-free world. Rotary District 7870 consists of 60 Rotary Clubs in southern Vermont and southern New Hampshire. Rotary District 7850 consists of 43 Rotary clubs in northern Vermont, New Hampshire, and Canada.

About the Vermont Community Foundation

Contact: Nate Clark - 802-388-3355 x246 | nclark@vermontcf.org

The Vermont Community Foundation inspires giving and brings people and resources together to make a difference in Vermont. This includes helping to coordinate philanthropic response in times of crisis and challenge. The Foundation is committed to helping Vermont communities that are impacted by COVID-19 by responding to immediate needs and long-term recovery efforts. Visit www.VTCOVID19Response.org to learn more.



**Rotary Opens
Opportunities**

About the Vermont Foodbank

Contact: Nicole Whalen - 802-505-0123 | nwhalen@vtfoodbank.org

The Vermont Foodbank is the state's largest hunger-relief organization, providing nutritious food through a network of more than 300 community partners – food shelves, meal sites, senior centers, after-school programs, schools, and hospitals. Food insecurity has increased dramatically as a result of the pandemic and the Vermont Foodbank and its network have been on the front lines, working to ensure that everyone has the food they need to maintain their health. Learn more at www.vtfoodbank.org.

About Dairy Farmers of America

Contact: Kiersten Bourgeois - 802-793-4899 |

Kiersten_Bourgeois@stalbanscooperative.com

Dairy Farmers of America is a national, farmer-owned dairy cooperative focusing on quality, innovation, and the future of family dairies. While supporting and serving more than 13,000 family farmers, DFA works with some of the world's largest food companies to develop ingredients that satisfy their customers' cravings while staying committed to social responsibility and ethical farming. For more information, please visit dfamilk.com.

About Commonwealth Dairy, LLC

Contact: Tori Partykevich - 617-585-5783 | tpartykevich@360pr.plus

Commonwealth Dairy, LLC, owner of the Green Mountain Creamery brand, is an all-natural dairy business born in the hills of Vermont, with a mission to make delicious dairy products affordable. Using a unique blend of yogurt cultures, Commonwealth Dairy, LLC has perfected its signature Green Mountain Creamery® mild and creamy yogurts. As a committed member of the communities in which it does business, Commonwealth Dairy, LLC has donated thousands of pounds of yogurt to the Vermont Foodbank and promotes innovation among farm and food businesses as a primary component of its corporate mission.

About Ploughgate Creamery

Contact: Marisa Mauro - 802-345-3601 | marisa@ploughgate.com

Ploughgate Creamery is a farmer-owned and operated by butter maker and entrepreneur, Marisa Mauro. Ploughgate Creamery has been crafting small-batch, cultured butter of the finest quality in Vermont since 2014.

About Monument Farms Dairy

Contact: Jon Rooney - 802-545-2119 | jon.rooney@monumentfarms.com

Monument Farms, Inc. milks approximately 500 cows in Weybridge, VT, processes, bottles and distributes their fresh pure fluid milk throughout the Champlain Valley and Central Vermont. A family business since 1930. You must try their chocolate milk!

About Cabot

Contact: Roberta MacDonald - 802-496-1203 | rmacdonald@cabotchese.com

Cabot is owned by 800 farm families throughout New York & New England. We manage four plants in three states, employing over 1,000 people, who make the best dairy products on the planet. Award-winning cheeses made with love and pride in Cabot and Middlebury, Vermont, and Chateaugay, NY. The best premium butter churned with care in West Springfield, Massachusetts. And in Cabot, we're also making light cheddars, flavored cheddars and rich Greek-Style Yogurt, cottage cheese, and sour cream. Your purchases mean the world to our future.

The 2020 Rotary Dairy Project is a partnership between Rotary International Districts 7850 and 7870 in support of the New England Dairy industry and providing fresh dairy products to New Hampshire and Vermont Foodbanks for distribution to those in need. During Phase one we raised \$10,000 resulting in the diversion of 32,000 gallons of excess milk into yogurt and butter for the Vermont Foodbank. This project truly demonstrated Rotarians in Action!

In phase II, we are working to divert more excess milk in Vermont and New Hampshire into yogurt, butter, AND cheddar cheese for both the New Hampshire Foodbank and Vermont Foodbank. Any donation of any size is welcome as we work towards raising \$60,000 by mid-August 2020! So far, District 7850 has pledged \$5,000 towards this project!

Please talk to your fellow club members and friends and consider a donation towards this project to benefit Vermont and New Hampshire dairy farmers and food-insecure families. Contact Martin Cohn at martin@cohnpr.com with any questions or concerns or to arrange a presentation at your club meeting.

Rotary Cares, Podcast Episode 27 - Passing the Gavel

In episode 27 of the award-winning, monthly show, Rotary Cares, Brattleboro Rotary Club past president Marty Cohn discusses “passing the gavel”, a time when a club president steps down. Our guests are Brattleboro Rotary Club Past President **Sandy Rouse** and Brattleboro Sunrise Club Past President **Kevin Yager**. The show is produced by Brattleboro Community Television.

To watch the show, <https://www.brattleborotv.org/rotary-cares/ep-27-passing-gavel>

To listen to the podcast,

<https://soundcloud.com/user-402413535/rotary-cares-ep-27-passing-the-gavel>



Rotary Opens
Opportunities



You Go Goals!

Hello from the Public Image Committee of District 7870!

My name is Sam Cassista, I am the chair of the Public Image Committee for the district this year, and I wanted to share some thoughts with you about goals as we embark on a new Rotary year! From a Public Image perspective, we have some goals of our own and some good starting points for you to consider for the coming year.

Goals for Your Club to Consider:

1. If you still have a virtual component of your meeting, invite guests, record speakers and share condensed videos with your audience on social media and on your website.
2. Tell your local Facebook pages and community groups what you are doing! Make partners, get celebrated, make your work more impactful by sharing your great efforts with others. They might give you the biggest compliment of all (apart from joining) by imitating your projects! Spread good by connecting smart - do not just rely on press releases.
3. Make richer connections with other clubs in the District! Let's Partner, Let's Promote, Let's Encourage each other as we do good things.

Goals for the Public Image Committee:

1. Take on big projects individual clubs do not have bandwidth for - such as doing a trial run on managing and promoting an online virtual gala... (Check!)
2. Promote the benefits of Rotary membership, the core mission of Service Above Self, and learning opportunities that come from Rotary and Rotary-adjacent programs.
3. Build greater bridges between clubs within the District.

4. Highlight great members of our community through new platforms and in ways that will garner attention, inspire engagement and recruit prospective community members easily.

As a new, first-time President of my club, I can tell you I was underwhelmed by the lack of direction in Club Central for Public Image goals. They are loose concepts at best - but I will be taking that as an opportunity to make what I think is best for my club and I will do so in conjunction with the Public Image Committee members and my Rotary friends. I ultimately you do the same! Do not be discouraged, just take a leap of faith and share why you love Rotary. Your message is so important and it will land!

You can reach the Public Image Committee at PRDistrict7870@gmail.com. All the best you #PeopleofAction who put #ServiceAboveSelf.

Club News

Rotary Hosts Garden Event - July 18 from Noon to 4pm

DEERFIELD VALLEY — Even though the Rotary Club of the Deerfield Valley was not able to hold its normal fundraising events, it has continued to serve the community.

In lieu of all canceled events, the club has decided to host a new event called the Garden and Music Tour. It will be held Saturday, July 18, from noon to 4 p.m.

Many beautiful and interesting gardens will be available for a self-guided tour in West Dover and Wilmington. Musicians will be playing at most of the venues and strict guidelines will be in place due to the coronavirus situation.

Online ticket sales are available at

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/deerfield-valley-rotary-garden-and-live-music-tour-tickets-110360990694> or <https://rotarygardenandlivemusic tour.eventbrite.com/>

Only 250 tickets will be sold, to ensure the safety of all participants. Advance tickets are \$25. "Day of" tickets will be for sale if available. The club hopes that even if people are not able to attend, they will purchase a ticket as a donation to Rotary.

All proceeds benefit those in need, in many different ways. For more information, contact Bonni Pactor at Bpactor@connectmecapital.com.

Rotary International is an organization that works globally to help people around the world in many different ways. There are thousands of clubs in the United States, and thousands more around the world. However, this pandemic has created a problem in regards to the way that Rotarians are able to help people.

The Rotary Club of the Deerfield Valley is comprised of 45 members, who gather at the Deerfield Valley Rescue Building on Wednesdays for breakfast meetings. The bulk of their fundraising activities normally begin Memorial Day with a BBQ, Memorial Hall ceremony, and parade. Throughout the summer they host a plant sale, car wash, pancake breakfast, golf tournament, jazz concert, and Farmers Day Fair booth. They also deliver free lunches throughout the summer for summer programs to kids in need. The club provides volunteers for Chamber of Commerce events, Mt. Snow events, and the Southern Vermont Wildlife Museum events.

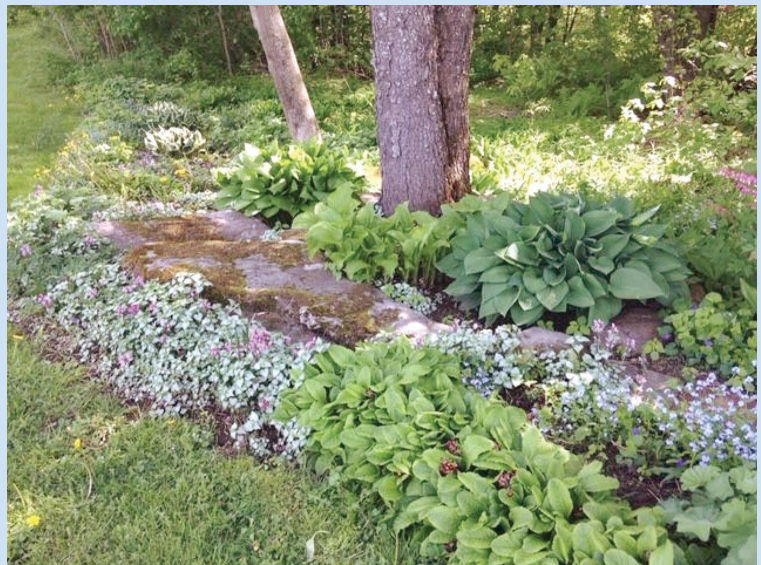
Due to COVID, all of this has changed drastically. Every Rotary fundraising event has been canceled for the summer. All volunteer projects have also been canceled or postponed. Instead of meeting in person, meetings are held weekly on Zoom, which has been a learning curve for many Rotarians. The Deerfield Club had to find a way to continue to serve the community without putting any of its members at risk.

The first project initiated was purchasing art supplies for kids in need, who were suddenly not able to attend school. This was done in conjunction with the Food for Kids Program.

The second project was the collection of Thank You and Cheerful cards for first responders and nursing home residents. Hundreds of cards were collected and delivered.

The next project was in collaboration with the Lions Club. Banners were made up which thanked First Responders and Essential Workers, and were hung in locations in three towns.

A phone chain was set up to check on seniors or those living alone, and a resource guide made up with phone numbers for various help organizations.



From the beginning of COVID, though, the main project of the Deerfield Club was making face masks and providing them at various locations in Wilmington and West Dover. Each mask was packed in a bag with cleaning information and the Rotary address. All donations benefited the

Deerfield Valley Food Pantry. More than \$2,500 was collected for the food pantry and more than 1,000 masks were made.

Manchester Rotary Club - Reaching Out, Staying Busy

On May 1 President Sue Manchester handed over the reins of leadership for the Manchester Rotary Club to President-Elect David Crespo. Her outstanding service to the Club over the past two years has been very much appreciated. Sue will stay on as a Director and as the Chair of the Foundation Committee. Sadly, because of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, one of President Crespo's first duties was to announce that the Club has canceled Cruising Downtown, our annual fundraiser. One of the largest car shows in New England, it had been scheduled for September 5 2020, and was expected to attract 30,000 people. The Club is planning to hold the 20th anniversary Cruising Downtown on September 4, 2021.

In recent weeks the Club has been meeting virtually. Of course, our members miss the camaraderie of getting together in person, but the online format has not inhibited our ability to keep in touch with happenings in the local community, and to find ways to serve. Among our guest speakers were representatives of local health care and social service agencies who provided updates on their current activities including Catholic Charities New Hampshire, Granite United Way, Good Samaritan Network, Amoskeag Health, Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester, and Building Community in New Hampshire. The Club also learned about the Factory on Willow, a large commercial and residential development venture in Manchester.

The Club has been busy engaging in service projects, including distributing hundreds of free, reusable face masks through the Mask Up effort spearheaded by the Plymouth (NH) Rotary Club, and the Common Man Family of restaurants; fielding a team for the Virtual Walk Against Hunger 5K to benefit Families in Transition-New Horizons, raising \$2,000; and donating food, personal items, and games to Webster House, a residential facility for youth. Club members also helped with a food distribution program for children organized by the City of Manchester and Southern New Hampshire University; and with the YWCA Summer Lunch Program for Kids. On the agenda for the coming weeks is a diaper drive for Catholic Charities New Hampshire, and work sessions at Camp Allen in Bedford, New Hampshire, which provides day and residential camp experiences for children and adults with developmental and physical challenges. The camp is closed this year due to the pandemic, but Club members will be helping out with buildings and grounds maintenance and improvement projects.



Photo caption: (Center) Manchester Rotary Club members Jeanine Tousignant and Mark Burns and other Rotarians at the Mask Up event on Saturday, May 16, 2020 in front of the Holiday Inn Manchester Airport. They gave away hundreds of reusable cloth face masks to local residents.

Henniker Rotary Rush Square Garden Project

For the fifth year, Henniker Rotarians and Master Gardener Gayle Kimball from the Hopkinton Rotary Club, planted Community Gardens and raised planting beds at Rush Square, a 40- resident low income, elderly housing complex in Henniker. 30 of the residents participated this year on May 30th. The raised planting beds were built by a Henniker Rotary work crew led by current president, Steve Neuhoff, while Ruth Zax coordinated all the plant orders and purchase of the plants. Henniker Rotary donates funds to purchase the plants, which is matched by the Caleb Group, non-profit manager of Rush Square.

The event generally includes a pre-gardening session with the residents helping them choose plants appropriate for their location, a slide show of the flower and vegetable varieties available and a Q&A with UNH Master Gardeners on how to care for their gardens. Planting Day follows and involves a morning of soil preparation and planting followed by a social hour and cook-out with the residents sharing home made salads and goodies with the volunteers. In past years our Rotary Club contingent has been bolstered by high school volunteers from Henniker and Hillsboro, several New England College students and three UNH Master Gardeners. However, due to COVID-19 this year, we needed to minimize exposure at the facility, so we did not hold the earlier session and just had a basic 5-person volunteer crew on Planting Day plus several Rush Square staff assisting the residents and did not finish the day with the cookout. Despite this, the event went smoothly. We all followed social distancing practices and masked-up during the planting and by

noon had planted all 30 gardens. Two weeks later, June 15th all the gardens are looking fabulous and the residents are tending them lovingly. For more information contact rbzax@comcast.net.

4226 – Rush Square resident, Nancy Chernis and Hopkinton Rotarian and Master Gardener, Gayle Kimball plant the Community Gardens.

4775 Henniker Rotarian Judy Miller plants one of the raised planting beds

813 Henniker Rotarians Judy Miller and Ruth Zax help Rush Square Services Coordinator, Sue McElroy sort all the plants to deliver to the residents.



Lake Region Rotary Charity Car Show Goes Virtual!

Take a virtual ride with the Lakes Region Rotary this July, as the Club hosts its 8th annual car show from July 25th through August 1st. Fueled by Graham & Graham, PC, this year's event features a virtual tour of cars from all over the country. Viewers will have the opportunity to take a leisurely 'scroll' through the entries and vote for their favorites in a number of categories.

The cool thing about the virtual show is that participants can enter their car, and have it featured and viewed before a global audience without having to leave their driveway. Car owners will be able to register their entry beginning July 11th, with a deadline of July 24th. Up to 4 pictures of the show car may be submitted, along with a brief description of the car's features.

People can register online and begin viewing the entries and categories of vehicles July 11th at <http://lakesregionrotary.org/carshow/>. The Show will run for one week beginning July 25th, allowing viewers plenty of time to vote for their favorite cars for the **People's Choice Award**, and a panel of judges will select the winners of each category with cash prizes awarded.

As the main purpose of the show is to raise funds for local charities, the cost to register a vehicle is \$10, and voting is only \$1 per vote. This year the Rotary Club is supporting a children's charity that works year-round to provide children of the Greater Lakes Region with clothing and other necessities - the **Santa Fund of the Greater Lakes Region**. The Club will also donate raised monies to the New Hampshire Food Bank in support of their efforts responding to the food insecurity needs of our fellow citizens; needs that have increased during the virus pandemic.

You can make this a successful event by checking out the Virtual Car Show and voting for your favorite show cars. The Lakes Region Rotary is very grateful for the generous support of our presenting sponsor, **Graham & Graham, PC**; our Roadster Sponsors – Foley Oil & Propane, and Bank of New Hampshire; and Cruiser Sponsors – Meredith Village Savings Bank, Cross Insurance, and the Insurance Outlet.

For more information, visit <http://lakesregionrotary.org> or email carshow@lakesregionrotary.org.



Photo Caption: The Show will go on, but with a COVID twist. Fueled by Graham & Graham, P.C., the **Lakes Region Rotary Charity Car Show** in July will offer a virtual tour of hundreds of cars from all over the country. The Car Show is the Rotary's main fundraising event, and will run July 25 through August 1, 2020. Pictured is Lakes Region Rotary President, Mike Robichaud (left) with the show's lead sponsor, Jeff Graham, Graham & Graham, P.C.

White River Rotary Thanks Front Line Workers

HARTFORD – If a picture is worth a thousand words, a huge blue and gold banner with the Rotary logo and a thank-you message in letters 12 inches high will get the message across just as well – particularly when the banners are put up in five prominent areas of town.

The Rotary Club of White River Junction recently put up the banners to express appreciation to front-line workers during the Covid-19 pandemic. The banners are twelve feet long and four feet high, and read: “The Rotary Club of White River would like to say THANK YOU to All Front Line Workers for keeping us safe & healthy during this pandemic.”

The banners were put up in mid-May at the entrance to the Veterans Administration Hospital, the entrance to the Village of Quechee near the iconic Quechee Gorge, and across from the Hotel Coolidge in the heart of downtown White River Junction. Two more banners were put up in front of the Hartford Police Department and Hartford Fire Department last week.

The banners were the brainchild of Rotary President P.J. Skehan, who noticed that Windsor Rotary had put up banners thanking first responders in the downtown area. Skehan decided that thanking “all front line workers” would get the message across “without leaving anybody out.”

Skehan, incoming president Wayne Russell, past president Rich Hoffman, Ray Stanford and club photographer Ken Baldwin recently spent a morning putting up the banners and documenting the event for the club’s Facebook page and on-line Rotary newsletter, The River Log.

The feedback was so positive that the Club ordered two more banners which were put up last week.

“I received several phone calls and a number of e-mails thanking us for putting up the banners,” said Skehan, who is the Executive Director of the Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce. “So we decided to add two more.”

The White River Rotary also arranged for 450 pizzas to be delivered to the staff of the VA Hospital and for pizzas to be delivered to the Hartford Police and Fire Departments; helped the Hartford School District with the loading of food deliveries (school lunches) along the school bus routes through the remainder of the school year; delivered breakfasts and lunches to housebound families, and helped a local food shelf secure 400 Community Dinners from an out-of-town restaurant. Since mid-March, the club has met virtually through the on-line Zoom platform and published links connecting the Club website with the local Chamber website to share weekly updates on Covid-19 at the local, state and national level.

Most recently, the Club approved a donation of \$1,000.00 to help the Brattleboro Rotary Club and other Rotary Clubs in southern Vermont secure the matching funds needed for a District

grant to help Vermont dairy farmers find markets for their excess milk. Instead of dumping the milk as surplus because the restaurants and markets were closed, the dairy farmers will be paid for milk that will go to food pantries or be made into yogurt and cheese.



THANK YOU – White River Rotarians, from left, P.J. Skehan, Wayne Russell, Ray Stanford and Rich Hoffman stand with a banner near the entrance to Quechee Gorge (Photo by Ken Baldwin).

White River Rotary Charitable Fund Scholarships and Awards for 2020

HARTFORD – The Charitable Fund of the Rotary Club of White River Junction awarded \$18,000.00 in scholarships and awards to graduating seniors from Hartford High School and the Hartford Area Career and Technology Center (HACTC) this year.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions the High School and Technology Center were unable to have the usual award assemblies; video presentations were made where possible.

The Charitable Fund was established many years ago by three White River Rotarians who desired to provide a sustainable means of funding graduating Hartford seniors who wanted to pursue post-secondary education or establish a career path. The Fund has been sustained by individual giving and the Club's ambitious and rewarding fund raisers.

Several of the awards and scholarships are given in memory of outstanding Club members who exemplified the Club's motto, "Service Above Self."

Cayden Shaw received the Larry Chase Award, chosen by the Hartford High School faculty and administration for the most improved student in four years of high school education, of \$1,000.00 and the White River Charitable Fund Scholarship for an HHS student of \$4,000.00.

Other awards and scholarships given to Hartford High School students were the Barwood-Droun-Kerr Scholarship of \$4,000.00, to Caroline Usher and the Frank Kenison Scholarship of \$5,000.00 over a two-year period, to Alannah Cole.

Awards and Scholarships to HACTC students were: Richard Miller Award, \$2,000.00 to Jordan Sarah Contois; the Jerry Cote Awards, chosen by the Chef in the HACTC Culinary Arts program, \$500.00 each to Haleigh Clark and Avery Hunneywell; and the White River Rotary Charitable Fund Scholarship for an HACTC student, \$4,000.00 to Nicole Harrington.

Local Rotary Honors LHS 2020 Grads

Whenever a project is brought to Londonderry Rotary for consideration it must pass the 4-Way Test: Is it the Truth; Is it Fair to All Concerned; Will it Build Goodwill and Better Friendships; Will it be Beneficial to All Concerned. So when Ken Sensus, Londonderry Rotary President-Elect for 2020-2021, approached the club with a proposal to honor Londonderry High graduating seniors, it passed unanimously and with enthusiastic support.

With Covid-19 limiting all types of activities, and forcing delay or cancelation of the annual LHS graduation ceremonies, Ken didn't want to see our young men and women graduate without receiving proper acclamation and credit for a job well done. Ken's proposal: create a banner honoring each of the 350 LHS graduating seniors and hang the banners on Mammoth Road between Litchfield Road and Route 102!

With unanimous support from the membership of Londonderry Rotary, Ken, with the able assistance of his wife Carla, set about to lead the project, with a goal of having the banners completed and hung by mid-June. Much work needed to be done. Approval from Jason Sargent, principal of LHS, and from Katie Sullivan, assistant principal at the school needed to be granted. The town needed to be on board, so approval from Kevin Smith, Town Manager, also a Rotarian, was necessary. Bob Beane, owner of Minuteman Press in Londonderry stepped up and committed to get the banners printed. Further, Bob made sure to print some samples so the size and presentation of the students' pictures would work when hung on the poles lining Mammoth Road.

Paul Schacht from Londonderry Public Works agreed that his team would hang the banners. Ken then reached out to Tim Kenney of Eversource to make sure the company would agree to allow hanging of the banners on their power poles. Necessary hardware needed to be purchased so Madaline Gonsalves and Jeff Mack, representatives from Home Depot, stepped in to help. Minuteman Press completed the printing of the banners using durable material such that the banners can be handed to each student as a memento of their graduation. The project is now completed, ahead of schedule! As you take a drive up Mammoth Road you will see both sides of the road adorned with the pictures of LHS' 350 graduating seniors.

Many thanks to Ken and Carla Senus for conceiving the project; to Rotary for approving and funding the project; and to all those listed above who came together to make sure it happened. Finally, congratulations to each of LHS' graduating seniors for a Job Well Done!



Concord Rotary Spring Cleanup

The Concord Rotary Club established the first of three Rotary Parks in Concord, NH in 1986 on Old Turnpike Road. This was a neglected area along the Merrimack River. The area was cleared and an asphalt parking area with granite curbs and wooden rail fence installed. The Second Rotary Park was established several years later at the corner of Main and Bridge Streets. With recent urban renewal Main Street projects, this corner is now maintained by the City of Concord. The Third Rotary Park was established in the mid-90s and dedicated in the name of longtime Concord Rotarian and Veterinarian Dr. James G. Paine Sr. at the Sewells Falls area on the Merrimack River.



Below are photos of the 2020 Spring cleanup of the Rotary Park at Old Turnpike Road.
PDG Rich Berryman

Pictured Clockwise:

Tim Britain (Concord)

Matt - friend of a Rotarian

Tim Robinson (CCSR) and John Ransmeier (Concord)

Rich and Connie Berryman (CCSR) not pictures (taking pictures)



Hollis-Brookline Rotary Creates Online News Site as Community Resource

HOLLIS, NH - It was a couple years ago when three members of the Rotary Club of Hollis-Brookline expressed frustration with the lack of news resources for local information in Hollis and Brookline. Years ago, each town had its own biweekly paper but after each ceased publication, people lacked information about town government, candidates and issues, local business, nonprofit and community club activity, school information and events. It felt to them like a news desert.

According to David Leonhardt, columnist for the NY Times, it's a problem that a growing number of communities have been facing throughout the country as more and more local papers fail. In an op-ed piece last April, Leonhardt writes that "the disappearance of this information has big effects. [Academic research has found](#) that voter turnout and civic engagement tend to decline when newspapers shrink or close. Fewer people run for office. Political corruption and polarization rise."

This was a problem that these Rotarians saw as an opportunity, a perfect place for someone to step in and be of service in a huge way. Why not Rotary?

According to Juliana Rowland, a member of Hollis-Brookline Rotary and lead for the effort, the club approached this project with three objectives, (1) to communicate information for better community awareness, understanding and local involvement, (2) engage and grow local student participation through writing, photography, videography, and business, and (3) promote awareness and opportunities for being of service through Rotary or other avenues.

The digital news site, [Hollis Brookline News Online](#), launched on April 10. The Hollis-Brookline Rotary has a 501c3 Foundation, so the project operates as a non-profit with no cost to readers. There is no advertising at present other than a thank-you ad for the club's existing business Partners who offer financial support for the club's programs and service projects. A "donation" button will soon be added to the site to allow readers to contribute in support.

An undertaking of this size requires hours of effort and organization. Without reporters, Rowland says that news information and posting-ready content, photos and videos are being solicited from town departments and committees, schools, organizations, businesses, and individuals. Rotarians Peter Webb and Vince Chamberlain, as well as several other club members, review local websites and other resources for items of interest that can be shared, writing the content as needed.

Analytics show that reader visits and views are growing quickly, and club members are encouraged by the excitement that people in Hollis and Brookline have shown. Subscribers for an optional weekly news email are increasing and the first edition went out on May 21.

The news site is offering more too, with the Events Calendar and online Yellow Pages growing in popularity, classified ads are soon to come, and an app is in development for mobile devices. And, true to addressing an initial lack of information, a political page for local and state office candidates will be in place before the end of July.

The news site is garnering attention from outside the local area as well, with other organizations requesting information about the site creation process, and even requesting permission to republish an original article that was written for the site.

In creating a news resource to serve the people of Hollis and Brookline in the highest way, Rowland said the overall project and content are guided by the tenets of the Rotary Four-Way Test: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned? For the people of Hollis and Brookline, it's highly likely that the benefits of this news site are just starting.

International

Keene Elm City Rotary Supports Relief in El Salvador

In June, the Keene Elm City Rotary club raised \$5,600 to bring food supplies to the village of Talnique, El Salvador. The village was hit by tropical storm Amanda, resulting in devastating floods that destroyed the two main roads in and out of the community.

For several years, members of the Keene Elm City Rotary, Greater Keene Rotaract and Monadnock High School Interact clubs have traveled to Talnique, El Salvador, to help build homes in cooperation with a local San Salvador-based Rotary club. When word of the destruction in Talnique reached Keene Elm City Rotarian Alan Stroshine, he reached out to club members to help.

The funds are being used to provide emergency food boxes and seeds for vegetables and other crops that grow well in the local environment, in order to help establish a more sustainable source of food for people the village.

"We've built a lasting relationship with the village of Talnique, El Salvador, over the past eight years, working side by side with multiple families, building homes and life long friendships," said Stroshine. "I am grateful beyond words with how the individuals in our club have responded to these friends in need."

My Life After My Rotary Youth Exchange

By: Freja Gudmundsson, Rotary Exchange Student to Hollis, NH, 2012-2013

I had the pleasure of participating in the Rotary Youth Exchange program in 2012-2013. In the summer of 2012 at merely 15 year old I traveled from my host country Denmark to Hollis, New Hampshire, USA. I was welcomed with open arms by the whole community and especially the Hollis-Brookline Rotary Club. I had the most amazing year of my life and I still consider Hollis my home. The host families I stayed with have truly become my family and I visit them as often as possible. Since my exchange I have been to Hollis every year to visit my families, friends and Rotary Club, and many of my family members have been to Denmark to visit me.

After I came back from my exchange I completed my last three years of high school and then took a gap year where I worked and traveled, mostly in the US visiting friends and family from my exchange. In the summer of 2015 I participated in a 2 month summer program at Cornell University, NY. These past three years I have completed my bachelor's degree in law at the University of Copenhagen. I have also been working part time for the Danish Government's Data Protection Agency, where I give legal advice to the Danish citizens and companies regarding the rules on the protection of personal data. In my free time I volunteer once a week at The Copenhagen Legal Aid Clinique where I offer legal guidance to citizens who cannot afford an attorney. In the summer of 2019 I attended a summer course at the London School of Economic, studying the subject Cyberlaw. After the summer I will begin my Master's degree in law at the University of Copenhagen. I am hoping to be able to do either a six month study abroad program in the US or an internship, preferably in the Boston area.

After returning from my exchange I've had the pleasure of doing a little work with Rotary. In January 2019 my host dad Venu Rao brought me with him to India to join him in the Rotary District Conference taking place in Bangalore. At the conference I learned about all the amazing projects the District does and I met people who have dedicated their lives to Rotary and to helping others. It continually amazes me how many truly good and selfless people there are in the Rotary community. During my trip I got to participate in the Polio immunization of children and I learned about an exciting new International Grant Project between the Indian Rotary Club Bangalore Sadasivanagar and the Hollis-Brookline Rotary club. The project will build check dams in the rivers of nearby small towns where the animals and villagers are struggling to get water. After returning to Denmark I presented the Check Dam Project to the local Rotary Club of my hometown and the club has now agreed to contribute to the project. My hope is to bring the Danish Rotarians with me back to India to visit when the project is finished and to introduce them to the wonderful Rotarians in Bangalore. I recently joined a Rotary Youth Professionals group in Copenhagen and in the future I'm planning on joining the Rotary Club that sent me out as an exchange student.

Rotary has brought so much joy and so many experiences to my life, and I am forever grateful to Rotary for that. I look forward to many more wonderful experiences with Rotary to come.

With love and respect,
Freja Gudmundsson

Pictures Below Clockwise:

First: My High School Graduation

Second: With my host sister Anu Rao at Cornell University

Third: Summer program at London School of Economics, UK

Fourth: My trip to Chicago in US





Events and Fundraisers

Rotary District 7870 Open at Bretwood Golf Course- August 21.

Rotary District 7870 Golf Open – Friday, August 21, 2020 Bretwood Golf Course

Rotary District 7870 is pleased to announce that it will once again hold its annual golf tournament on Friday, August 21, 2020, at Bretwood Golf Course, South Course, [365 E Surry Rd, Keene, NH 03431](#). Golfer spaces are \$100 each or \$400 for a team and each player will get a bag lunch, golf balls, cart, prizes, and a take-home dinner. The shotgun start will be 11:00 am. To play contact Rich Berryman at rberrymandds@gmail.com

All money raised, after expenses, will be used to benefit Rotary.

District 7870 consists of 60 Rotary Clubs located in Vermont, south of Addison and Orange Counties, and all of New Hampshire, south of Grafton and Carroll Counties and west of the 71st Longitude.

If you would like to learn more about District 7870, or find a Rotary Club in your area, please visit <https://www.rotary7870.org/>.

More information will be posted on the District website as it becomes available.



Rotary Opens
Opportunities

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.

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

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 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: August 15th, 2020 at 9:00AM.

Website and Social Media

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

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

