



THE INSPIRATION



Rotary District 7870



November 2021

District Newsletter 2022, Number 5

**John Siemienowicz
District Governor**

www.rotary7870.org

**Rotarian Editors
Maureen Mooney and Martin Cohn**



Rotary Theme of the Month: Rotary Foundation Month

In this issue:

Greetings From Your District Governor John Siemienowicz

District News

District Public Image Committee - "Tip of the Month"

District Treasure Award 2021 - PDG Rich Berryman

Coffee with Ken! Rotary Rocks!

Club News

Milford Rotary Club Serves Up The Pancakes

White River Junction Rotary Club Donates Flags

Ludlow Rotary Donates to Mountainside & Hears State of the Town Address

The Vermont Journal features Rotary DG Visit

International

Where Are They Now?

Fundraisers

Look No Further for the Gift that Gives Back this Holiday Season



The Trees Are Coming!! 39th Milford Rotary Christmas Tree Sale

Calendars

District 7870 Calendar

Months of the Rotary Year

Miscellaneous

Have Something You'd Like to Share with the Entire District?

Website and Social Media

District Governor - Closing

Greetings From Your District Governor John Siemienowicz



Rotary Foundation November 2021:

As my dear friend District Governor Trainer PDG & past DRFC Rick Manganello puts it, "if we catch Rotarians hearts', their pocketbooks will follow". You may have already heard this (more than once), but it is true. Hopefully, the communications from the District are making us all aware of the life-altering impact our local and international Rotary projects have on humanity. The results being achieved by our District 7870 are very encouraging, last year (2020-2021) our District was one of the top four most improved donors to the Rotary Annual Fund in our Rotary Zone 32. It proves that District 7870 Rotarians are very generous. We hope to also continue to educate everyone as to how many ways there are to contribute to the Foundation and be recognized.

We neither believe in, nor pursue, individual Rotarians specifically asking one another to contribute to the Rotary Foundation, but we do believe in the positive work the Foundation funding makes possible and we hope to encourage others to support those good works. Please remember that our Rotary Foundation giving this year will help fund District designated funding in the Rotary Year of 2024 -2025 which will be David Saturley's year as our DG. Please consider joining me and Allise in participating through making a donation(s).

Please accept this as my personal thank you for what you have done and are doing to make my year as District Governor so rewarding.

District News

District Public Image Committee - “Tip of the Month”



Did you know that all District 7870 newsletters are archived on the District website? Check out the full list here:

<https://rotary7870.org/SitePage/district-newsletters>



District Treasure Award 2021 - PDG Rich Berryman

Intro Remarks From IPDG Steve Puderbaugh:

“In 2006, District 7870 initiated a special honor for extraordinary Rotarians in our District called the Rotary Treasure Award.

The first recipient was Al Kerr who exemplified every aspect of Rotary; be it attendance, Foundation support, attracting new members, new club creation and attending District and Rotary International Conventions as well as demonstrating solid participation in community and international humanitarian projects. The recipients of this award are definitely a Rotary Treasure!

Each year District Clubs nominate candidates for the Award with selection being made by a committee appointed by the District Governor.

The successful candidate needs to emulate and have shown Al Kerr’s level of involvement and dedication to the ideals of Rotary and his focus on ‘Service Above Self.’

This year I am honored to give this award to an individual who has exemplified the ideals of this award.



A quick overview of how this year's recipient has served Rotary and our district include:

Rotarian since 1976

Many leadership position in the Concord Rotary club

Past President Concord Rotary 1988-89

Current President of Capital City Sunrise Rotary

District Governor 2014-15

Current Chair of District Grant Committee

Past-President of District Executive Council

Chair of District Golf tournament Committee past 5 years

Dental Mission with Amigos de Honduras 2009

Dental Missions to Holy Spirit Clinic, Maggotty, Jamaica 2015,2018,2019, 2020

Initiator of a Global Grant of Dental/Medical Equipment (\$90,000)and supplies to Holy Spirit Clinic, Maggotty, Jamaica

Several years as the local chair for the Rotary Leadership Institute

Avid supporter of the Rotary Foundation

Without further ado, join me in honoring this year's recipient of the District 7870 Rotary Treasure Award: Dr. Rich Berryman"

Message From PDG Dr. Rich Berryman:

"PDG Steve,

Thank you and the District 7870 Treasure Committee for the District Treasure Award. It was a wonderful surprise and I was "almost" speechless.

No Rotarian does our good works for the awards we may receive, but the recognition is certainly appreciated.

*Thanks again
PDG Rich"*

Coffee with Ken! Rotary Rocks!

Hi District 7870 Rotary Clubs: I'm inviting you to Coffee with Ken! What is Coffee with Ken?

As you all know, many of our district events have been canceled due to COVID. As a result, we've been missing building connections to members at other clubs. In January, I reached out to John Siemienowicz of the Milford Rotary Club and we did a virtual coffee over ZOOM to catch up. John liked it so much that he suggested that we have this as a regular event and open to all of the clubs. So, as a result, we started Coffee with Ken. We meet on the first Friday of the month at 8:30 am. This event is an informal open space with no agenda, and the goal is to create and cultivate personal connections between clubs.

Time: First Friday of every month, 08:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada):

- Dec 3, 2021 08:30 AM • Jan 7, 2022 08:30 AM
- Feb. 4, 2022 08:30 AM • Mar. 4, 2022 08:30 AM
- Apr. 1, 2022 08:30 AM • May 6, 2022 08:30 AM
- June 3, 2022 08:30 AM • July 1, 2022 08:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/78773960966?pwd=QkFlTTZkdDJyRzJIa3phTmhzam1kQT09>

Meeting ID: 787 7396 0966

Passcode: DuQ4J3

Thanks, Ken Yie, Foundation Co-Chair, Queen City Rotary

Club News

Milford Rotary Club Serves Up The Pancakes

For the 53rd consecutive year, the Milford Rotary Club hosted their annual Pancake Breakfast to benefit the communities of the Souhegan Valley. After hosting a virtual breakfast last year due to Covid-19 we were very excited to be holding the event in person once again! The Milford Rotary Club serves the communities of Amherst, Milford, Mont Vernon, and Wilton, donating thousands of dollars annually in the form of grants to various local and international charities, as well as providing thousands of dollars in annual scholarships to the students at Milford High School, Souhegan High School, and Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative High School.



The first Milford Rotary “Pancake Sale” was held in September of 1968. In the early years, these events took place in a tent in the parking lot of the old “Super Save” market in Milford (currently the parking lot of the Rite Aid on Mont Vernon Street). In 1976, the Pancake Breakfast moved to the Edgewood Plaza parking lot on Nashua Street in Milford where it remained for the next 30 years.

Many area residents will remember the big tent that would be erected every year in front of County Stores, where “The King of Pancakes” George Infanti would preside and cheerfully serve breakfast to all-comers. During his life, George held the distinction at different times of serving as Selectman in the three towns of Amherst, Milford, and Wilton, and his spirit of civic and volunteer enthusiasm continues to serve as a reminder to members of the Milford Rotary of how this club is truly dedicated to serving the entire Souhegan Valley community. In 2016, to help commemorate the fallen heroes of 09/11, the Pancake Breakfast was temporarily housed and operated in conjunction with the generous cooperation of The Milford Fire Department at the main firehouse just off the Oval in Milford. The Breakfast remained at the Milford Fire House for 2017, and now, just in time for our 50th anniversary, The Milford Rotary



Pancake Breakfast moved to the Boys and Girls Club of Souhegan Valley in 2018 in their beautiful new gymnasium, which has been our home ever since.

Thanks to the hard work of all the Club members this year's event raised over \$25,000 and served nearly 400 breakfasts! We are incredibly thankful to the many sponsors and volunteers that made this event so successful this year. The community both young and old came out to support the Club and got their fill of pancakes, sausage, bacon and locally made maple syrup. It is a great community event and we look forward to the 54th Annual Pancake Breakfast in 2022!

White River Junction Rotary Club Donates Flags

White River Junction Rotary Club had the pleasure of donating new United States, and Vermont flags to be flown at the White River Elementary School and ones to be hung in classrooms on Friday, November 5th, 2021.

Below are pictures of White River Junction Rotary Club Past President and Rotary District 7870 Assistant Governor, Wayne Russell presenting the new U.S. and Vermont outdoor flags to Mr. Parsons at the White River Elementary School. He also presented new classroom flags to kindergarten teacher, Linda Trombley amidst the clapping and hoorays from the students and teachers. AG Russell is a USAir Force Veteran.



Ludlow Rotary Donates to Mountainside & Hears State of the Town Address

The recent luncheon meeting of the Ludlow Rotary Club (LRC) featured two special events: 1 – Ludlow's Municipal Manager's 'State of the Town' and 2 – the LRC donation to Mountainside, part of the Windsor County Youth Services.

In keeping with its tradition of making awards to local community organizations that provide necessary and important services, the LRC presented a \$2,000 check to Mountainside, located on Mill Street in Ludlow. Accepting the award was Jacqueline Hanlon, Director of the youth shelter. The award recognized the important contribution Mountainside makes in supporting and assisting young people from troubled home situations. Half of this amount was contributed by LRC members, the other half by the district headquarters.

Scott Murphy, Ludlow's Municipal Manager, presented a detailed outline of recent town activities and projects plus some plans for the future.

Among the subjects Murphy covered were:

- The recent High Street water line replacement and run-off controls
- The Vail Bridge over Jewell Brook will be replaced starting next summer
- A burst waterline in front of The Timber Inn saw a loss of 360,000 gallons of water where to pipes involved were relatively new
- No progress as of yet on the rental registration proposals
- A local option tax planned may be discussed in the near future
- The proposed local charter to permit the select board to determine whether elections are done by Australian ballot or town meeting is in progress



Pictured here is, left to right, Rotarians Brigid Sullivan and Paul Rix; Jacqueline Hanlon, Mountainside Director; and Rotarian Kim Lampert as the LRC presents a \$2,000 check to Mountainside, a Ludlow emergency shelter for youth.

The Vermont Journal features Rotary DG Visit

The Ludlow Club's PR Committee does a great job with almost weekly appearances in the local press. Here is the story on DG John Bob's Official Visit that ran in last week's edition (Page 2, col. 4) of *The Vermont Journal*.

A special thanks to Ralph and Brigid for working together and getting this one done!

ported into a new strategic plan for the library.

The participants highlighted three important areas for the library to focus on: creating a comfortable place,

and Board of Trustees to grateful to the participants who gave their input during this community engagement process. Thank you to everyone who responded to the library survey over the

creating and taking the new strategic plan for the remainder of the year. We will proudly share the strategic plan with the community once it is completed and approved.

Rotary governor plans changes for future growth —

LUDLOW, Vt. – Ludlow Rotary Club heard about the plans for the future of the southern Vermont and New Hampshire Rotary District at lunch Tuesday, Oct. 26. Hosted by Ludlow Rotary President Art Randolph, District Governor John Bob Siemienowicz addressed the club accompanied by several other Rotary district officers.

John Bob spoke about the importance of change as a way for Rotary to stay relevant in their efforts to be an important vehicle of change in the world. The motto of Rotary International this year is "Serve to Change Lives." John Bob emphasized the importance of service internationally, nationally, and

locally.

John Bob congratulated the Ludlow Rotary Club on the number of new members it has recruited in the past couple of years, the fundraisers it has held, and the support it has offered to Rotary International's high priority campaign to eradicate polio in the world.

Emphasis on service to others is embodied in the work of the Ludlow Club, he said. He also recognized the major contribution of the Ludlow Club, and its incoming president Jim Rumrill, in the area of the international Youth Exchange program, which focuses on improving global relations through this important program.

He encouraged those in at-

tendance to look for ways to be more inclusive in recruiting and retaining new members. He encouraged the club to look at all aspects of the organization to make membership more attractive to prospective members and to work to retain its new members. Consider the cost of being a member, as well as welcoming non-traditional members such as younger members of the community, LGBTQ residents, and those who have been excluded for reasons of ethnic or racial heritage.

As a thank you for his service to Rotary, President Art presented the District Governor with a gift basket of Vermont foods from Green Mountain Sugar House.

International

Where Are They Now?

This month we feature Meg Miller, an outbound student from New Hampshire to Spain in 2013 – 2014. Meg's story is one of personal growth and perseverance, which continues to serve her to this day. Meg tells her unique exchange story below.

I was a stubborn teenager, and my parents found it impossible to change my mind once I decided that I was going to study abroad in Spain in high school. My own Rotary club in southeastern NH did not participate in the exchange program, motivating me to start sending monthly follow-up emails to our district chair asking him to find me another sponsor club. If only to stop the emails, Phil Ehret got me an interview with the Hollis-Brookline club, who eventually agreed to sponsor my exchange. Less than a year later, I landed in Sevilla, Spain to spend the 2013 – 2014 school year living with a local host family.

Those involved in RYE at the time heard about the more challenging moments of my exchange. I found myself facing problems with my host family and host club, and all my efforts to improve the situation repeatedly backfired – and in one case, blew up in my face spectacularly. I spent that Christmas with my Geography teacher's brother and sister-in-law, who heard about my situation and took me in. With this new family, I soon found myself flourishing. Months sped by in a blur as I passed my courses in a foreign language, learned how to dance flamenco through classes at a local dance academy, explored the city with friends each Saturday night, and spent Sunday afternoons with my host family reading by the river.



How then can I summarize the impact of Rotary Youth Exchange? I struggle with the question, because the truth is that my time in Spain was an inflection point in my life. The exchange changed me in countless small ways, from my enduring love of La Roja (Spain's national soccer team) to the way I write my q's. Taking social science classes in my Spanish high school and engaging for the first time with foreign politics and culture sparked an interest for the first time in international affairs. After my exchange, I decided to enroll in the transatlantic joint degree program between the College of William & Mary and University of St Andrews to study International Relations (IR). I graduated with a B.A. (International Honors) summa cum laude with first-class honors, as the top IR student at both William & Mary and St Andrews. After graduation, I joined a D.C. non-profit working to reduce the threat of nuclear use and proliferation, eventually deciding I wanted to pursue a PhD.

I am currently a PhD student in MIT's Department of Political Science, with subfields in IR and security studies. My research broadly focuses on the intersection of international security, technology, and psychology—in other words, how humans use and interact with technology for the



purpose of organized violence. I have not yet started a thesis, but my ongoing projects include automaticity in nuclear weapon systems, the military strategy of autonomous weapon systems, and the escalation dynamics of attribution of political violence. You can read a report I recently co-authored on artificial intelligence and nuclear weapons [here](#), as well as a blog post about the psychology of relying on automation in nuclear-weapon infrastructure [here](#).

I hope I can demonstrate the inherent value in spending time outside of your own community

and country. I am forever grateful that I did so as a teenager, with the support of the District 7870 heroes who kept me sane and safe during the worst moments of my exchange. I've returned to Spain several times since 2014 – working at a Madrid hostel for a summer, volunteering at a Sevilla hostel for a few weeks, hiking in the Canary Islands and Mallorca, and catching up with my (second) host family a few years ago. COVID-19 has closed borders and shut off avenues of opportunity for so many people, and I truly hope that RYE is not a permanent casualty of the pandemic.

Fundraisers

Look No Further for the Gift that Gives Back this Holiday Season

Nashua Rotary Car Raffle tickets make great gifts for your spouse, family members, grown children, employees, and/or special business customers.

Contact Patricia Conard via email patricia@conard.com or phone (603-494-4349) to make arrangements for purchasing Nashua Rotary Car Raffle tickets as gifts. When you purchase raffle tickets as gifts you will receive a Gift Certificate and holiday envelope you can send to the gift recipient. Tickets are \$100 each or 11 for \$1000.

For yourself, tickets may be purchased through our Club website

<https://portal.clubrunner.ca/2946>

or by click on the following link:

[https://rafflecreator.com/pages/39601/2022-nashua-rotary-car-raffle---bmw-x3-or-\\$35000](https://rafflecreator.com/pages/39601/2022-nashua-rotary-car-raffle---bmw-x3-or-$35000)

Rotary Club of Nashua
2nd Annual **Charity Car Raffle**



BMW pictured for advertising purposes only and may not be color or equipment delivered.

**2022 BMW X3 xDrive30i
OR \$35,000 CASH!**

Buy tickets & more info
www.NashuaRotary.org

ONLY 1000 TICKETS WILL BE SOLD!
Ticket Price: \$100

THREE \$500 EARLYBIRD DRAWINGS!
Nov 15, Dec 13 & Jan 24
Winning tickets remain in drawing for Grand Prize

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING
March 9, 2022 @ Tulley BMW of Nashua

*Nashua Rotary Car Raffle
Gift Certificate*

A CHANCE TO WIN 2022 BMW X3 or \$35,000

To: _____

From: _____

Ticket Number: _____

Grand Prize Drawing
March 9, 2022 @ Tulley BMW of Nashua

Find more information about raffle at
www.NashuaRotary.org

Raffle proceeds benefit local non-profits



The Trees Are Coming!! 39th Milford Rotary Christmas Tree Sale

The Milford Rotary Club is gearing up for its 39th annual Christmas Tree sale! Harvested less than two weeks before their delivery, our select Colebrook, NH grown balsam trees will be delivered on Sunday November 21st. Thanks to the wonderful and very generous support from Sue Robert and Fred Lozier, we have an excellent sales location on Route 101A in Amherst at their Frederick's Pastries parking lot.



Caption: It was all hands on deck in 2019 to unload 700 trees in a bit of drizzle. Thanks to the energetic help from our local High School Football and Soccer Teams, the task was completed in record time!

Once again this year, customers can purchase their trees in-advance online at www.MilfordRotaryTrees.org. We will be offering gift certificates for individuals, families, and companies who would like to gift a tree to a friend, faith community, social service agency, employee, or more! For customers concerned about picking out a tree in-person, we are again offering the Serendipity Christmas Tree Delivery service for Milford, Amherst, Mont Vernon and Wilton destinations.

With the “Serendipity Service” customers can specify online the size of tree they want, pay for their purchase, and select their preferred Saturday delivery option. We’ll select a tree from our vast supply of quality balsam trees, wrapped just as it was by the tree farmer for easy carrying into their home. Milford Rotarians will deliver the tree “curb side” on the Saturday selected by the customer. The tree’s look will be a mystery until unwrapped by the customer, but serendipity is part of the fun.

Our tree display was enhanced last year thanks to the Nashua Rotary Club’s donation of their “retired” tree display racks! We appreciate the continued support from the Club that sponsored us back in 1950.

As always, the proceeds from our Christmas Tree Sale support the Milford Rotary Club’s charitable giving and scholarship programs. The funds we raise help improve lives not only in our own community but internationally as well. In just the past 15 years, the Milford Rotary Club has donated well over 1.3 million dollars in charitable grants and scholarships!

Have some free time? Interested in some fun Rotary style fellowship and sisterhood? Then, Come Join Us for a few hours! Our online volunteer sign-up page is available on Clubrunner at www.MilfordRotaryClub.org.



39th Annual Milford Rotary Club Christmas Tree Sale
Frederick's Pastries Parking Lot 109 Rte 101A Amherst
These select NH grown trees sell out FAST! Get yours while they last!
Sale starts Friday 11/26/21 9:00AM - 7:00PM
Weekends (Sat & Sun) 9:00AM - 7:00PM
Weekdays (Tue to Fri) 5:30PM - 8:00PM
Fresh NH Grown Balsam Trees 6-8 ft tall and UP! Starting at \$50 each
Online Purchasing, Gift Certificates and Serendipity Delivery
Please visit www.MilfordRotaryTrees.org for more details
All proceeds support charitable giving and local scholarships!

Calendars

District 7870 Calendar

So much going on within the clubs in the district! Be sure to regularly 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:

July New Rotary Year

August Membership and New Club Development Month

September Basic Education and Literacy Month

October Economic and Community Development Month

November Rotary Foundation Month

December Disease Prevention and Treatment Month

January Vocational Service Month

February Peace and Conflict Prevention/Resolution Month

March Water and Sanitation Month

April Maternal and Child Health Month

May Youth Service Month

June Rotary Fellowships Month

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: December 15th, 2021 at 9:00 AM.**

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:



District Governor - Closing



Closing Thoughts

This Rotary Year of “Serve To Change Lives” is continuing to yield wonderful interaction and impact for our District 7870 members. I am pleased to say that our District Leadership Team just brought to our District Members an awesome District Conference in Meredith, NH at Church Landing/Mill Falls. I truly want to thank IPDG Steve and his wife Deb for providing the vision and preparation for making it an outstanding experience for those who attended. I would be remiss if I did not make significant note of the extraordinary efforts of the production Team of PDG Chris Parkinson, AG Gary Dehnel, DGE Randell Barclay, DGN David Saturley & DGND Bill Stevens. You and the many others that were called upon brought this event together in true District 7870 fashion. The Speakers and fellowship were so good that I couldn’t help but be inspired. The friendships and opportunities that we have before us are a path destined

to lead us to numerous (at this point unrealized) successes. I believe that we made Past RI Director Ken Grabeau and his wife Ruth proud with our approach, delivery and impact. They certainly had no worries of our event disappointing our Keynote speaker Rotary International Director Elect Drew Kessler and family in showing what District 7870 is all about. Thank you to all who attended and thank you to all who helped make this event so special.

Until Next Month,
Be Well,
JB DG 7870
2021-2022