Governor's Message

Only three months more to accomplish my goals

By Jim Fusco

As I come off of a busy week, I want you to know how proud I am of our clubs. I introduced a new procedure at the beginning of my year to help clubs have a great year. It was a tracking tool called the Club Planning Worksheet. There was a deadline to have the sheets submitted by April 1 and I am proud to report that 38 of our 51 clubs have submitted their form in time. Thank you!

In addition, the deadline to have the club goals and accomplishments entered into Club Central in order to qualify for the Presidential Citation was also April 1. The clubs worked hard to qualify for the Presidential Citation and I will be thrilled to announce the Presidential Citation recipients at the District Conference in May.

With that being said, I want to tell you about my busy week last week.

Welcome, New Members

Please welcome the newest Rotarians in our district (alphabetical order by last name):

- Marc Duci, Acton-Boxborough
- Russell Gamber, Concord

Post-PETS Team Training (formerly District Assembly)

By Pat and Skip Doyle

For the Agenda, click here

Friday, April 8
4:00-8:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn, Boxborough


Who attends?

- Presidents-Elect, Presidents-Nominee, and Board Members
- 2016-2017 Treasurers
- 2016-2017 Secretaries
- 2016-2017 Public Image Chairs
- 2016-2017 Membership Chairs
- Members new to Rotary
- And all other interested Rotarians!

Post-Pets Training registration starts at 3:30. Opening session begins at 4:00 sharp - and ends at 8:00. At 5:00, we break for hors d’oeuvres, and resume with breakout sessions at 6:00.

The cost is $20 per person and may be reimbursed by your club.
We featured a keynote on creating a social media strategy, followed by "beginner" and "experienced" tracks for users of all levels. We learned the basics of Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter, getting Facebook tips and tricks, advice on posting to multiple social media platforms at the same time, and creating quick and easy videos to highlight your club. Mix-and-match sessions were held to meet attendees knowledge and skill level.

Click here to view and download the seminar flyer, in PDF format.

Questions? Contact Laura Spear, District 7910’s Public Image chair.

District Membership Webinar Set for April 27

By Satya Mitra

District 7910’s Membership Committee has set a Membership Development Webinar for Wednesday, April 27 at 7:00 p.m. To register, click here. After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the webinar.

Increasing the number of members should be a top priority for your Rotary club. As we approach the beginning of the 2016-2017 Rotary year, every club should have a Membership Development Plan in place to increase and retain membership.

The webinar will include the process of creating a Membership Development Plan plus provides strategies and tools you can use to attract and engage new members.

Club-assessment tools will be shared that will enable you to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of your club related to attracting and retaining members. There will be a review of best practices to be a vibrant club, which is essential to attracting new members.

The webinar is intended for club officers, club Membership chairs, Membership Committee members, assistant governors and anyone interested in learning how to increase membership in your club.

Satya Mitra, who chairs the District Membership Committee, may be reached at satya@thegurutax.com.

Registering for the online webinar is open. Click here to register now, and pay with credit card or check.

For the Agenda, click here

For more information, contact District Governors-Elect Pat and Skip Doyle at pwdoyle2@verizon.net and skipdoyle2@verizon.net, respectively.

Foundation Notice: Timeline for 2016-17 District Grants

By Sanjay Deshpande

The District Foundation Committee has received several requests for a timeline for the 2016-2017 District Grants. The timeline is explained, below. Club qualification has started and must be completed before a club can apply for either a district or a global grant in the ‘16-’17 Rotary year. Qualification is completed when all three eligibility criteria are met. Read more

Foundation Q&A: Global Grant Partnerships

Question: Can several Rotary clubs in the U.S. can partner together with one or more Rotary clubs in another country in order to apply for one Global Grant for the U.S. clubs to share equally for use in this country? The club (or partnership of clubs) in the other country would then apply for another Global Grant for use there, to use either solely or in equal sharing with the other clubs in that country. Read more

RYLA Reminder: Online student registration is now open

By Christine Pinney

Check out our online student registration for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards.

Registration is open! Click here, for online registration.

Please inform selected students and alternates that they must:
The Rotary Club of Auburn has raised $2,814 in Rotarian donations to help fund upgrades to the Town of Auburn's Goddard Memorial Park, which is located behind the town fire station at 48 Auburn St. The 72-year-old "service above self" club has begun raising funds to make the park a place" for the whole town, according to John DeSisto, the club's president. 

Auburn Rotary Launches Goddard Memorial Park Upgrades, Raises $1,000 For ShelterBox

By Steve Jones-D'Agostino

Nashoba Valley Rotary seeks volunteers for, offers experience Financial Reality Fair

The Rotary Club of Nashoba Valley is sponsoring its fourth Financial Reality Fair on Friday, April 15 from 7:00 to 11:30 a.m. at Nashoba Regional High School, located at Green Street and Route 117 in Bolton. Here's your opportunity to volunteer and experience firsthand what a Reality Fair is all about.

We have the opportunity to provide a valuable life lesson to all 260-plus 10th graders at the high school - yes, you have to pay for electricity - and have fun at the same time! Volunteer materials will be provided in advance.

To sign up, or for more information, contact Nashoba Valley Rotarian Laura Spear at laura@spear.net.

Newton Rotary's 'Newton Has Talent' Accepting Auditions

The Rotary Club of Newton's "Newton Has Talent" is again accepting auditions for its 2016 competition, which takes place on May 21. More than $1,500 in prize money is available, and anyone who is over 13 and lives, works or goes to school in Newton can compete.

"Newton Has Talent" is a major fundraiser for Newton Rotary. Each year, the club gives out scholarships to graduating seniors and grants to local organizations. The club also recognizes a "Student of the Month" each month, collects food and toiletries for local food pantries, provides camperships for kids who need some help with their summer plans, and does a variety of hands-on service projects that help the Newton community.

For more information, contact Newton Membership Chair Susan Peghiny at suefo503@gmail.com.

Find yourself among the guests at Concord Rotary's 41st Rotary Pops night on Friday, April 8 at 7:30 p.m. at 51 Walden in Concord. Jazz singer Amanda Carr will keep the tempo upbeat, bidders will vie for great Silent Auction items, and everyone will have fun at this important fundraiser.

Tickets are available for $25 per person from Dick Hale, at 508-878-6577. Table seating. Call now!
District Governor

Your website here

To download in PDF format,

RI Membership Resource

2016

To read Zone 24 & 32’s February

the PowerPoint presentation for it.

download

watch video of it, and

Giving.”

to Improve Foundation

a webinar titled “Best Practices to

improve Foundation Giving.” If you missed that

webinar, click here to watch video of it, and click here to download

the PowerPoint presentation for it.

To read Zone 24 & 32’s February

2016 Beyond Borders newsletter, click here.

RI Membership Resource


To download in PDF format, click here

also raised money in

1969 to help fund the

original construction of

the park, which contains

a pond and a dam. That

was the same year the U.S. landed the first men on the moon, using liquid-

fuel rocket technology first launched successfully 90 years ago this month

in Auburn by Worcester native Robert H. Goddard – an historic aerospace

milestone that will mark its centennial anniversary in 2026.

The initial park-renovation work that is being funded by Auburn Rotary

consists of the purchase and installation of six park benches and one

American Disability Act-accessible picnic table. The Auburn club is funding

50 percent of that work with its $1,350 of its own money and the other 50

percent with a $1,350 matching grant from District 7910.

In addition, Auburn Rotary is launching a Goddard Memorial Park

Sponsorship Drive to raise money for future park enhancements and

maintenance. All sponsors will have their names displayed prominently on-

site, on Auburn Rotary’s Goddard Park Dedication Stone (shown, right)

located at the park’s entrance. Sponsor levels, values and benefits are as follows:

- **Full Bench, $2,200:** Name on a plaque on the Goddard Park Dedication Stone; a donor plaque on one park bench; a one-year individual or corporate membership in Auburn Rotary; and name recognition at the Park Benches Dedication Ceremony.

- **Half Bench, $1,000:** Name on a plaque on the Goddard Park Dedication Stone; a half-year individual or corporate membership in Auburn Rotary; and name recognition at the Park Benches Dedication Ceremony.

- **Quarter, $500:** Name on a plaque on the Goddard Park Dedication Stone; and name recognition at the Park Benches Dedication Ceremony.

Shown, left to right, are Auburn Rotarians: Jon Manning, Heather Chivallatti, Tom Dufour, President Marcia Davis, Treasurer John Convent and President-Elect Steve Jones-D'Agostino, posing at Goddard Memorial Park.

Meanwhile, the students at Auburn Middle School recently completed their goal of raising $1,000 to purchase a ShelterBox to assist in worldwide disaster relief. Rotary International has become an international partner for the ShelterBox organization, and the Rotary Club of Auburn worked with middle school students to achieve their goal.

As Auburn MA Daily reported on March 30: “Each Box is outfitted for the disaster it is being shipped to, but essentials are a tent, warm sleeping gear, and a water-purification system. ShelterBox is based in Great Britain, but their humanitarian assistance stretches across the globe. Each year, tens of thousands of people are helped after a natural disaster or man-made conflict. According to Principal Joe Gagnon, students made cash donations after seeing a presentation on the program. Later, the Student Council and National Junior Honor Society held a school dance to raise the remainder of the $1,000 to sponsor a Box. Elizabeth McCarthy served as the faculty liaison and event organizer for the middle school. Since this was an internal fundraiser, no solicitations were made to the public. There is also an added bonus for the students. Each Box is outfitted with a GPS locator, so they will know where their box is helping around the world. Excellent work AMS!!”

Shown, left to right are: Auburn Middle School Principal Joe Gagnon; Auburn Rotarian Heather Chivallatti; AMS Student Council President Efthia Fotos; National Junior Honor Society President Elyse Whitemore; NJHS Advisors Melissa Dupuis and Sherri Watson; and AMS Student Council Advisor Tammy Bailey.

Steve Jones-D’Agostino, Auburn Rotary’s PR Chair, may be reached at srdagostino@icloud.com.

Acton-Boxborough Rotary welcomes new members

District Governor Jim Fusco (third from
Looking to enhance your club membership experience? Do you want to find opportunities for growth in your club? Club and district leaders now have a set of updated Membership Assessment Tools (formerly Club Assessment Tools) to help them strengthen club membership and add value to your club membership experience, so that more people will join and fewer members will leave.

For your convenience, you can download the entire publication, or just the individual assessments that are most relevant to your club.

The individual assessments, which walk users through evaluation and development of an action plan, include:

1. Representing Your Community’s Professions: A Classification Assessment
2. Diversifying Your Club: A Member Diversity Assessment
3. Finding New Club Members: A Prospective Member Exercise
4. Improving Your Member Retention: A Retention Assessment and Analysis
5. Enhancing the Club Experience: Member Satisfaction Survey
6. Understanding Why Members Resign: Exit Survey

Historical trends show that there’s an increase in membership soon after the new year, so this is the perfect time to consider how you welcome new members into your club. Read how one club is using our New Member Welcome Kits to enhance their welcome and orientation.

Rotary Global Rewards: Sign Up Today!

Click here to learn more.

New Tools For Membership Tool Belt

Rotary Club of Westborough has...attention to the prevention of even the appearance that Rotary Foundation funds are being used in an improper manner, whether such appearance may be in the eyes of Rotarians or the general public. Such attention is expected to go beyond that afforded to the use of private or corporate funds.

3. Assure competent and thorough oversight of the project with clear delineation of responsibility. Read more

Polio Plus Report: District contributions status: New RI funding; New vaccine type

Status of District 7910 club contributions

By Carl Good III

To review and download the District 7910 polio-contributions report compiled by Rotary International, click here. Only four clubs have contributed more than $500 each, and only four have exceed our district’s goal of $1,500 per club. The good news: Our district is 58 percent ahead of this time last year.

Carl Good, chair of District 7910’s Polio Plus Committee, may be reached at carlgood@yahoo.com. RI provides $35 million in new funding

Polio Plus Committee, may be reached at carlgood@yahoo.com. RI provides $35 million in new funding

Rotary International has released $35 million in new grants to support the global effort to eradicate polio. The funds will build on last year’s historic achievement of stopping transmission of the wild poliovirus in Nigeria and all of Africa. Just two countries reported wild polio cases in 2015. Afghanistan and Pakistan. Rotary’s funds will go toward efforts to end the disease in those countries and seven others. Read more

New type of polio vaccine

A new type of polio vaccine has been produced that can provide a better injectable to people in Third World countries. Click here to watch a recent Australian TV news report.

Milford Rotary Hosts Watershed Moment

Elisabeth Cianciola (center), aquatic scientist for the Charles River Water Association was the guest speaker last week for Milford Rotary. She gave a very detailed review of how the river is monitored and discussed key issues such as how they are working to deal with invasive weeds such as water chestnuts as well as phosphorus levels. She stressed that the goal of the CRWA is to “protect, preserve and enhance the Charles River and its watershed through science, advocacy and the law.” She noted that “initiatives over the last four decades have dramatically improved the quality of water in the watershed and fundamentally changed approaches to water resource management”.

Cianciola also discussed the fish-restocking program and the desire to make the river more enjoyable for all. She encouraged everyone along the river to get involved either through hand-pulling weed projects or direct donations to help support mechanical weed-harvesting opportunities. Well prepared professional presentation followed by an informative Q & A session.

Milford Rotary was also excited to have District Governor Jim Fusco (right) in attendance along with his guest, businesswoman Leanne Velky of Hopedale. Governor Jim is shown posing with Milford Rotary President Alan Villatoro (left) and Elisabeth Cianciola (center).

Westborough Rotary Sponsors ‘Be Like Brit’ Child

The Rotary Club of Westborough has received the name and photo of the child whom the club is sponsoring through the Be Like Brit Foundation. Her name is Darlandyna (shown, left), she is five years old, and she is just adorable. Our sponsorship covers her housing, education, and more.

District 7910 Celebrates Successful Guyana Playground Project

Every year, a group of Rotarians from District 7910 travel to a third-world country to accomplish a “hands-on” project with...
Have you tried Rotary Global Rewards — Rotary International's new member-benefit program that offers discounts on travel, hotels, dining, entertainment and more? Rotary Global Rewards will make your Rotary membership even more rewarding.

Rotary Global Rewards helps you share Rotary by:

- **Doing more good work:** Involve more members in Rotary projects with savings on truck rentals, airfare, and hotels.
- **Building Rotary friendships:** Forge richer friendships with fellow members with your dining and entertainment offers.
- **Sharing our story with someone new:** Tell people about Rotary's work when you use discounts at coffee shops and restaurants.

Our rewards program is even more special now because members are invited to build it. This fall, Rotarians can add their company’s special offers to our growing portfolio of Rotary Global Rewards.

Where will Rotary Global Rewards take you? Sign in to My Rotary, go to the Member Center, and learn more. If you don’t have an account, create one now at www.rotary.org/myrotary. The good you do comes back to you!

Click here to tell us your Rotary story. How has your life or your community been touched by Rotary? We'd like to hear about your experiences, your accomplishments, and your favorite moments. Add a photo, a video, or just a few sentences to share your Rotary Story.

2016-2017 Rotary Theme: ‘Rotary Serving Humanity’

To download the image in JPEG format, click here.

Check Out Rotary Voices Blog

Check out Rotary Voices, the official blog of Rotary International. This blog features stories by and about Rotary members, Rotary program alumni, and the people we partner and work with.

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Brookline Rotary Signs Up Candidates To Launch Interact Club

By Bob Anthony

During District 7910 training, District Interact Chair Ron Bott suggested community events are an opportunity to sign-up candidates to launch an Interact club. That is exactly what Marina Brodskaya of the Rotary Club of Brookline did on February 28. She helped community leaders, Urban Improv, and Wellesley Interact teens schedule a Teen Wellness Workshop, which identified teens interested in creating an Interact club in Brookline to perform service focused on mental health and wellness promotion.

Shown right, standing, left to right, are Merle Perkins of Urban Improv and Nicole Frontero of Wellesley Interact (Photo: Bob Anthony)
audience in skits on problem-solving and coping with life's worries, including awareness of suicidal ideation in oneself or a friend. Peer leaders showed an excerpt from the documentary Break Free From Depression and facilitated small group discussions. After the workshop, age 12-18 participants were invited to sign-up for training as Interact peer leaders. The event was hosted by United Parish with volunteers from other congregations, healthcare providers, Brookline Rotary, Brookline High School, the Teen Center, and Adolescent Wellness.

Shown, above, are Wellesley Interact teens introducing teen leaders from Brookline (Photo: Bob Anthony)

The content used in the event was the Break Free From Depression documentary and manual from Boston Children's Hospital. It is included in a kit called "Wellness in a Box" (shown, right), which any Rotary club may order from the Rotary Club of Wellesley. It provides the resources to create an Interact club with a Mental Health & Wellness Promotion project.

Bob Anthony, Brookline Rotary's Interact chair, may be reached at bobanthony@adolescent-wellness.org.

Bedford Rotary To Pack Meals For Stop Hunger Now On May 14

The Rotary Club of Bedford will attempt to feed 250,000 children with their fourth annual Meals for Kids food packaging event in partnership with Stop Hunger Now on May 14 at the Bedford campus of Middlesex Community College.

The Rotary Club, composed of just a few dozen business professionals from Bedford and its surrounding communities, began feeding hungry children in 2013. That first year they established their relationship with Stop Hunger Now, they raised enough money and gathered enough volunteer packagers to put together enough packaged meals to feed 15,000 hungry children.

Read more

District Conference: Things I want you to know

By Jim Fusco

We have two prepaid options for you to celebrate your free time on the afternoon of Saturday, May 21. Free time will be from 12 noon to 4 pm. Register for only one of these options because they will be occurring at the same time.

- Harbor Cruise aboard the Pilgrim Belle: click here. Five-minute walk from the hotel. 1-1/2-hour cruise of Plymouth Harbor. You must register and pay for this event in advance because space is limited. Your price includes a box lunch: for Deli Box lunch $30, click here; and for Lobster Roll, $40, click here.
- Golfing at the Squirrel Run Golf Course: click here. 14 minute drive from the hotel. Tee time is 12 noon. A great opportunity to golf at the beautiful Squirrel Run Golf Course. Price is only $40 person and includes your golf cart. Space is limited so make your reservations early: click here.

Many other things to do

There are also many other things in the Plymouth area you can do. Here
are a few suggestions. Registration is not required for these activities:

Ukraine Rotary Clubs Need Our Help With Recent Polio Outbreaks

Twenty-five years ago, the Rotary Club of Shrewsbury co-sponsored the first Rotary club in Ukraine, which was the Rotary Club of Kiev. Now, a quarter-century later, Ukraine needs our help with recent polio outbreaks in that eastern European nation.

Rotary in Ukraine has now grown to more 43 clubs. Click here to watch a video posted by our fellow Rotarians in Ukraine regarding the recent outbreak of polio. It demonstrates that with low awareness and low vaccination rates, one plane ride can cause this disease reappear again overnight and anywhere - even in America. Ukraine Rotary clubs are looking for help. The best way is to make a donation of any size. To make a donation, click here.

Every donation gets amplified by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, which donates $2 for every $1 donated by Rotarians. That causes each donation of $1 to triple to $3. Click here to learn more about that match.

Major District & Club Happenings: Spring & Summer 2016

Wednesday, April 6: Tewksbury - 'Taste of the Town'

Click here for taste details, in PDF format

Friday, April 8: District 7910: Ad Deadline for District Conference 'Souvenir Book'

Click here for the order form, in PDF format

Friday, April 8: Concord - 'Pops Night'

Click here for pops flyer, in PDF format
Saturday, April 9: Uxbridge - 'Wine and Chocolate Tasting'

Click here for tasting details, in PDF format

Friday, April 15: District 7910 - Deadline for 'Facebook "Like" Contest'

Click here for contest details, in PDF format

Wednesday, April 20: District 7910 - Deadline for District Conference 'Hospitality "Sweets"'

Click here for request form, in PDF format
Thursday, April 28: Acton-Boxborough Rotary - 'Best of Times Wine, Beer, Food and Dessert Tasting'

Click here for tasting flyer, in PDF format

Sunday, May 1: Northborough Rotary - '5 & 10K Road/Trail Run'

Click here for run flyer, in PDF format

Friday, April 29: Wachusett Area - 'Roaring '20s Dinner Dance'

Click here for dinner-dance flyer, in PDF format

Thursday, May 5: District 7910 - Sign-Up Deadline for District Conference 'House of Friendship'

Click here for friendship flyer, in PDF format
Thursday, May 5: District 7910 - Sign-Up Deadline for District Conference 'Golf Outing'

Click here for golf flyer, in PDF format

Saturday, May 21 or First 90 People to Sign Up: District 7910 - Sign-Up Deadline for District Conference 'Harbor Cruise'

Click here for cruise flyer, in PDF format

Saturday, June 4: Worcester - 'Celebrate Community Gala'

Click here for event details, in PDF format

Click here for sponsorship opportunities, in PDF format

May-September: District 7910 - 'Golf Fellowship'
Click here for golf flyer, in PDF format

Submit Major Club Happenings

Send flyers of your club's major events and activities, in either JPEG or PDF format, to Jim Fusco at jim.fusco2@gmail.com.