

Rotary
District 7780



News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS
SERVICE, FUNDRAISING AND
CELEBRATIONS
FEBRUARY 1, 2021



Bethel

Just before Christmas, members of the Bethel Rotary Club joined hands with the bus drivers of SAD #44 (the Bethel region school district) to pack 38 boxes with a complete turkey meal with all the fixings, to be delivered to families in need throughout the district.

On each weekend between Thanksgiving and Christmas, Bethel Rotarians took turns greeting shoppers in front of our grocery store, promoting our Christmas for Children program and collecting donations to assist local families in need with funding to ensure their children have a Merry Christmas. We have averaged approximately 150 children each year and have been doing this program for 35+ years.



Bridgton-Lake Region

ROTARIAN DR. LISA RYAN RECEIVES HER FIRST DOSE OF MODERNA VACCINE

Rotarian and Pediatrician Lisa Ryan received her first dose of Moderna vaccine on her day off, Thursday, December 31, 2020. "When I entered the field of medicine 25 years ago, I never could have imagined a year like this one. I hope the vaccine will be available to everyone soon." Lisa lives in the lakes region and works at Mercy Northern Light in Windham and Portland and is a member of the Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club.





Dover

At a recent Rotary Club of Dover meeting, President Gregg presented Jim Munro with a Paul Harris Fellow +5 pin. Jim, as Foundation Chair, went on to present a Paul Harris +1 award to Malcolm McNeill and a Paul Harris award to Doug Locy. Congratulations Jim, Malcolm and Paul. Thank you for your support of the Rotary Foundation.



Jim Munro & Pres.
Gregg



Brunswick

Every January, we hold a 're-gifting' auction. Members are encouraged to donate items they may have received during the holiday season that aren't their cup of tea so to speak. Many members use this opportunity to clean up/clear out as well. The funds raised during this event are used to cover dues for any member that may need assistance with unused funds reverting to the community fund for the club. It was daunting to take this event online but not only did we accomplish it, we raised more money than any other previous event, \$1355. Some of the items were sold with caveats: "must not reappear in next year's auction" and "must be worn at our first in-person club meeting after the pandemic." A shining example of a successful fun-raising.

The Rotary International emblem, a yellow gear-like wheel with a blue center and spokes, and the words "ROTARY" and "INTERNATIONAL" in blue around its perimeter, is centered behind the text.

The Brunswick Rotary Club Annual Regifting Auction 2021

Participation limited to Club members.

Durham-Great Bay

The Rotary Club of Durham-Great Bay continued a 20-year old Christmas tradition. Each year the need changes and due to generous donations made by our Club members and outside sponsors, those requests have always been met. This year, 140 turkeys and hams were delivered to three local food pantries to be included in their wonderful Christmas food baskets. Two special thank-you's go out to the Lee Market Basket and Service Credit Union. Market Basket again generously discounted the turkeys and hams so that the Club could meet the requests of the food pantries. Service Credit Union provided a generous \$750 donation for the cause.





Fryeburg

Only a few months after giving a try at hybrid meetings at our beautiful new facility in North Fryeburg across from the North Fryeburg Community Chapel, we returned to zoom-only meetings after December 7th. Other than our weekly meetings, we are sending out a fundraising letter to those who usually attend our Bountiful Harvest event, which was cancelled due to Covid.



Hampton

Wreath Across America - Hampton Rotarians participated in laying 1000+ wreaths on the graves of Veterans in greater Hampton, NH graveyards

Salvation Army Bell Ringing - For 3 Saturdays in December, Hampton Rotarians rang the Salvation Army bell from 9 am to 5 pm at the Seabrook, NH Walmart to help raise money for the Salvation Army.

<https://www.facebook.com/hamptonrotarynh>





Kittery and Kittery After Hours

Thanks to the Kittery Rotary Clubs, masks will be going out with the bags this week. The masks were distributed by the Clubs through the Rotary program and carefully, and hygienically, rebagged for distribution. Several of our volunteers are Rotarians and our program was one of several around the community to receive the masks.





Ogunquit

Member John Clancy coordinated with Lt. Buttrick from the Ogunquit Police Department to determine who should be called and Rotary sprang into action with about 15 Ogunquit Rotarians each calling a dozen 75+ senior citizens each week. In many cases, the conversations provided practical resources, like where to get masks (Rotary provides them at the Chamber of Commerce) and how to get food delivery. Over time, Rotarians have spoken with folks so often that friendships have developed, and the calls are uplifting and helpful to both the seniors and the Rotarians.





Sanford-Springvale

- Each year we partner up with the Sanford School District and our local Kiwanis Club to provide winter gear to children in need. This year we served 135 families who received their gear before the first snowfall! A great couple of hours spent wrapping the gifts.
- President Cassandra Mosher and Past President Diane Gerry present a check for \$1,000 to York County Shelter Program's Mike Ouellette at the Food Pantry in Sanford to purchase Thanksgiving Day meal boxes for those in need in the community.





SOUTH PORTLAND- CAPE ELIZABETH



PDG John LoBosco went unshaven from March through December 31. The club held a foundation fundraiser by allowing club members to “vote” by making a \$20 (or more) donation to TRF and emailing their vote to the election idea-man and coordinator Matt McAleney. The election results were a close shave (!) – out of 19 votes cast, 10 were in favor of making John look like a civilized person again. Several people took advantage of the opportunity to donate more than the minimum, so the fundraiser netted a little over \$1,000 for the foundation.



Yarmouth

The Rotary Club of Yarmouth recently completed a 170' boardwalk in the most remote section of Yarmouth's new Riverfront Woods Preserve. This boardwalk was funded by a combination of a \$5,000 District Grant, \$1,500 from the Club and \$500 from the town. The project also included coordination with town staff and the Royal River Conservation Trust. Here's a link to a story map that shows the complexity of the project and the final result: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/b1c11f17f48447e1b0cdf13125d7d115>.



Wrap-a-Smile

Wrap-a-Smile is one of the District's favored projects and many clubs have supported this effort. Due to the cancellation of Rotaplast missions bringing children here for medical treatment and the generosity of quilters, we have at least enough quilts for two years when the program recommences. Ann is now seeking initiatives here in the U.S. for its backlog of beautiful handmade quilts. If you have ideas where these quilts could provide comfort, contact Ann Demeranville at quilts7780@gmail.com and check wrapasmilequilts.blogspot for monthly updates.

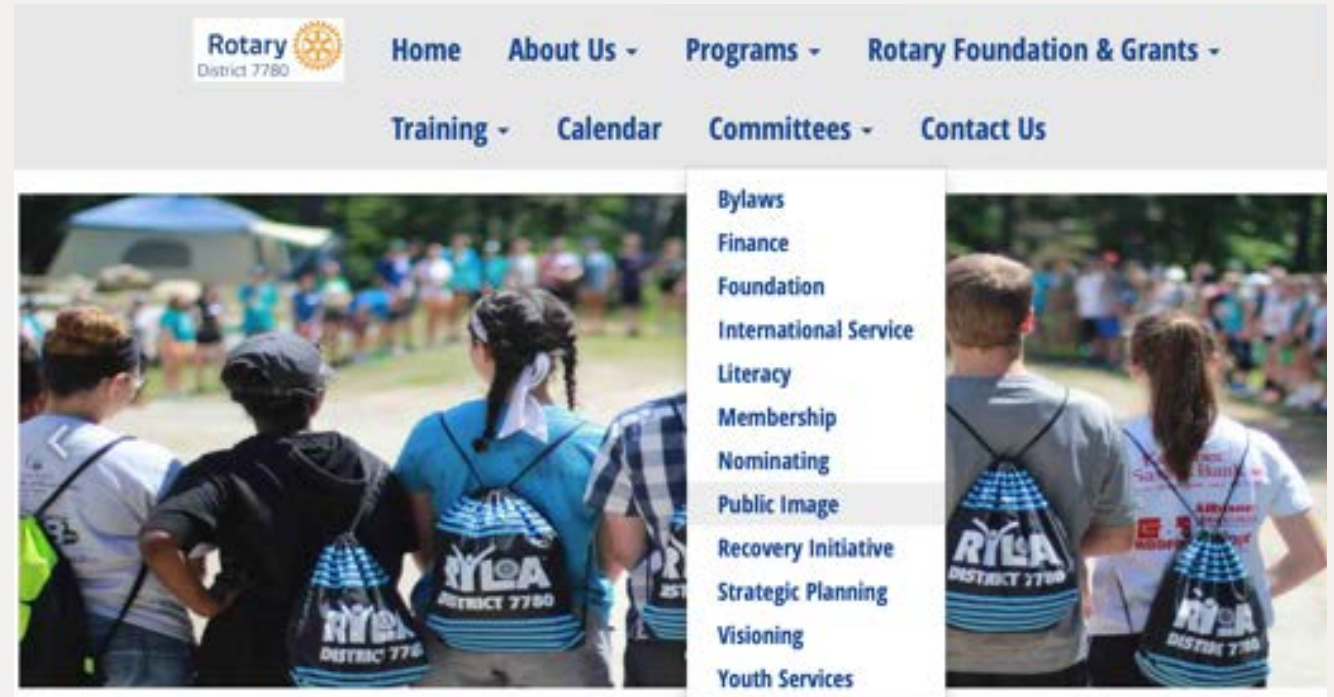


A beautiful quilt
providing comfort.



District PR/Image Chair

Rather than hosting yet another Zoom meeting, I plan to post helpful ideas and suggestions on the District website on a regular basis. To access these ideas, please go to the District Website, make sure you are logged in as a member, and then simply select “Public Image” under the Committees selection on the navigational bar. At this time, there is a tutorial of building a year end presentation for your club as well as several sample press releases. Every PR/Image chairperson that has an idea to be shared is encouraged to send it to me for posting: mlester97@hotmail.com.





If your club wasn't represented here...

- Please ask your club president or club public information coordinator to email club news to:
 - rotarynews7780@gmail.com
- Photos and stories courtesy of the respective clubs and their websites, members and Facebook postings.