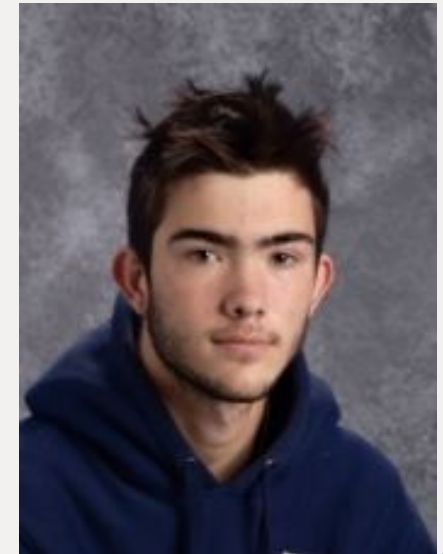


News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS &
COLLABORATIONS

APRIL 1, 2023



Bath Sunrise

Bath Sunrise Water Project in Tanzania

Club member Susie Reed recently traveled to Tanzania and purchased water filters with help from our own club members, as well as two members from neighboring clubs! The filters were given to some Massi women who were getting their water from a mud hole where animals also come to drink. The filters came from Safe Water, and they will follow up to be sure the filters are being used correctly. If anyone is interested in working on a similar project, the link to [SafeWater](#) will provide more details. [SafeWater Ceramic Filters - Grand Circle Foundation](#)



Bethel

The members of the Rotary Club of Bethel had a wonderful month, filled with informative meetings & guest speakers, a distribution of our funds to worthy local organizations, the recognition of four top-notch Telstar High School students (see front cover, Club News) and the induction of our newest member. Rotarians Scott Hynek and Jean Benedict flank our newest member, Tammy Vermette, on her induction day (top photo clockwise). Our club Vice President, Richard Tummon, gave an very informative classification talk. Richard has been a lifelong educator. Noah Tanguay-Collins, Executive Director, River Fund Maine, shared information on all their important programs to support Bethel area youth. Our club works collaboratively with the River Fund Maine on these youth programs. We provided a sizable donation to the local dance academy, Toe, Tappin' Jazz, to provide scholarship assistance to young people who require the financial assistance to access their wonderful dance workshops. Lizz Peacock, on the right, from Maine Adaptive Sports & Recreation, spoke to our club about their year round programming for Maine folks of all ages. Our club voted to donate funds to this wonderful organization, which has been around for 41 years!

For more info on our club's happenings, see bethelrotary.org.



Bridgton-Lake Region

President Elect John Eliassen, pauses at PETS for a photo. He remarked, “Thank you, DGE Marion Cheney for your thoughtful Rotary gift. I’ll wear my socks with pride.” John has many great ideas for his year 2023-24. The rest of the members can hardly keep up with him.

Another go-getter is Joanne Cohn, pictured her with husband Dan and colleague Rachael Sylvester of Bridgton Public Library at the Little Free Library in front of her home. Joanne is heading up the Club’s LFL team, the local VoTech students who are building the LFL’s, and others who are seeking sites for libraries in Denmark, Sweden and Waterford. More to come.

Both John & Joanne are long time Rotarians who came to the Bridgton club during the pandemic.

For more information on Club activities visit:
<https://lakeregionrotary.com> or its FB Page.



Brunswick

A \$4500 District 7780 Grant was awarded to the Toolbox Initiative last summer at the initiative of the Brunswick Club. This volunteer effort, led by a local community member Tim McCreight, assists nomadic jewelers in west Africa to create beautiful jewelry. It also funds schools, and most recently has purchased sewing machines, all of which help sustain a dramatic and long-lasting improvement in the lives of the jewelers, their children and women.

Toolbox developers Tim McCreight and Matthieu Chemineé were recently awarded the prestigious Interweave 2022 Top 5 Community Leaders Award. Interweave celebrates luminaries of the craft community. Tim has credited generous community donors like Rotary for making the Toolbox Initiative work possible. The award and nomadic jewelers are pictured.



Dover

The Rotary Club of Dover recently donated over \$1,000 to the Southern New Hampshire Ukulele Group for their Ukulele Kids Club! #makingadifference ,#ukulelekidsclub, #NothingsGonnaStopUsNow.

It was a amazing to listen to one of our Rotary Scholarship recipients, Katrina Breen. She joined us to share her journey. She offered continuous thanks for being the recipient of the Megan DeColfmacker Scholarship as she continues her studies as a sophomore at the Rochester Institute of Technology's Physician Assistant Program. Currently carrying 20 credits this semester with a minor in business and communication, she has accepted a role as a videographer and is pursuing a combination career focused on advocacy and global health. This summer she will attend the Florence University of Arts in Florence, Italy, where she hopes to gain more skills and find ways to use her passion to shed light on projects that need it.

Another club donation to help kids in our was to support the HAVEN kid coloring book project.



Kennebunk

During some club visits, DG Claudia can be quite the cheerleader. She showed up for the Kennebunk Rotary Club's annual attendance challenge. Lesa Angelos was Team Captain for the Guys Team and Christ Angelos was Captain for the Gals Team. At Christ's request, DG Frosty sent a video, in which she encouraged my Gals Team to win and described women in Rotary as the "Bad A--es that saved Rotary." Right after playing the video, in charged DG Frosty to lead the Guys Team in a merry cheer. Pictured are Lesa and Christ with DG Frosty. The Gals Team went on to win the attendance challenge after all! Much Fun was had by all. Thank you, DG Claudia Frost, for being such a good sport.



Oxford Hills

The Rotary Club of Oxford Hills recently participated in the 2nd Annual Bowling with the Businesses fundraiser. All monies raised were donated to Cents for Kids, a program in the Oxford Hills School District to help fund athletic equipment and other needs for students in the area. Our Team included Lindsay Fox, Tina Fox, Peter Kaurup and Becky Kaurup. Even though we didn't place in the top 3 teams out of a total of 33 teams, our team had fun, and that's #5 of the 4 Way Test, to Have Fun!!

The Club also held a local fundraiser, a Chili & Chowder event to raise money for our 7-\$1,000 scholarships for OHCHS graduates. It was all hands on deck in the preparation process and was held as a drive-thru only event. President George Rice with President Elect Beth Abbott pose with our 'runner' Corbyn Berry, son of our newest member, Alisha Berry. In the group photo, L to R: John Griffith, Evy Marshall, Alice Paul, Peter Kaurup, Becky Kaurup (hidden) and Alisha Berry, our newest member.



Portland

Work by Day, Fun by Night - Portland Rotary has partnered with The Locker Project to help end food insecurity for Portland students and their families at more than 40 schools and neighborhood sites in Cumberland County.

On March 16th, we packed purple bags filled with healthy staples including rice, pasta, shelf-stable milk, soup, cereal, tuna, and peanut butter for children and their families.

Afterward, we kicked back at Salvage BBQ for a social time of fun, fellowship, and a few. Birthday boy, Larry Gross at the cake, was surprised.

Patty Byers was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow pin by President Bruce Jones.

Last but not least, The Mud Sale, An Auction of Good Value and Unexpected Fun, April 8-15. The latest item is an African Safari, but there is something for everyone. For more information, go to <https://portlandrotary.org>.



**Portland Rotary
Presents**

The Mud Sale

An Auction of Good Values and Unexpected Fun



Portsmouth

CLUB MARCH NEWS: The club continues to hold meetings in the sunny confines of the Service Credit Union on Lafayette Road. We eat delicious take-out meals from various area restaurants. Our 100th Birthday party is Thursday April 20 at the Elks Club. Cleo Villaflores and her committee promise a very special event. In the meantime, the club's official 100th anniversary was toasted on March 28st in a brief late afternoon gathering at the Library Restaurant.

Ted Alex led a hands-on project at Connections, painting floors and ceilings (top photo) and President-elect Yvonne Legge earned a well-deserved Paul Harris Award.

The club made several donations: \$1,000 to the Portsmouth Middle School's summer program (bottom photo). Another \$2,000 to Annie's Angels, a nonprofit that helps financially struggling families. Finally, \$3,000 to Camp ExSighting Adventures, a start-up camp for visually impaired youth in Northwood.

Our raffle pay-off reached \$700 dollars before there was finally a winner .



Saco Bay Sunset

Thornton Academy Middle School recently celebrated its 100th day of school in a unique and meaningful way. The school community came together to collect nonperishable food items, to give to those in need. This gesture of kindness and generosity was made even more special with the support of the RC of Saco Bay Sunset, which provided a check to help support the school's efforts. The food donations and monetary contribution made a significant impact in the lives of those who received the donations.

President Carol Marcotte presented a \$600 check to the Old Orchard Beach (OOB) Community Food Pantry. The Board of Directors stated that the funds will go to purchasing food and other necessities for the community. The OOB Food Pantry is a community based non-profit organization with a mission to provide nutritional aid and other essentials in a respectful and supportive environment to members of our community in need.





Sanford-Springvale

In 1985 the Sanford-Springvale Rotary Club created a scholarship fund to help students from Sanford High School further their education. A few years later we expanded the scholarships to cover students from Massabesic High School from the neighboring towns of Alfred, Waterboro, Shapleigh, Lyman, Limerick, and Newfield. That fund has grown to over \$300,000 and each year we take out enough money to fund around 10 scholarships. Now we have expanded it again to cover students at the Sanford Regional Technical Center, who can come from a number of surrounding towns, and from Noble High School which covers North Berwick, Berwick and Lebanon. We have given out more scholarships than we can count over the years. And sometimes the good that you do comes back to you. This year a former recipient of one of our scholarships, Bob Myott, will be our incoming club president. Several recent recipients in top photo. In bottom photo, 2005 Recipient PE Bob is 2nd from right, back row.



South Portland- Cape Elizabeth

SpringFest 2023 activities start in May, and the finale weekend with featured events is May 19-20 in South Portland's downtown Mill Creek-Knightville area. SpringFest is dedicated to elevating the art of having fun while bringing everyone together to get involved in the community and encourage connections between more people and cultures. It's a partnership between SP-CE Rotary and the City of South Portland and generously supported by Bath Savings Bank, Hannaford, DiMillos On the Water, Port Harbor Marine, Gorham Savings Bank, M&T Bank, Bangor Savings Bank, Saco & Biddeford Savings Institution, and more than thirty area businesses. 100% of sponsorship proceeds are donated to area non-profit agencies and organizations focused on food security, community building, senior citizen projects, youth services, behavioral health, veterans needs, safe and stable housing, and community service projects.



PRODUCED BY
South Portland
Cape Elizabeth
Rotary
City of
South
Portland

SPRING FEST COMMUNITY CELEBRATION 2023

SCHEDULE

READING GNOMES
Mid-April through SpringFest
Reading, crafts, activities, story walk
Presented by So Portland and Cape Elizabeth Public
Libraries & Cape Mother's Handouts

**GNOME-WEEK
DISCOVERY SEARCH**
May 12 to 19
Find gnomes hidden at local
businesses
Presented by Hannaford

**GNOMES @ KNIGHT
STREET DANCE PARTY**
May 19
Whimsical evening street festival
at Thomas Knight Park
Presented by Bangor Savings Bank

**SPRINGFEST IN
MILL CREEK PARK**
May 20
Best-in-Gnome Cornhole Tournament
Gnome Home Village Art Program
Gnome Salsas
Little Gnomes Play Area
Gnomes Depot
Gnom to Gnome Us
Gnome Eats and Treats
GnomesSport Basketball Clinic

For more event information,
visit SP-CE-Rotary.org

**SOUTH PORTLAND
DOWNTOWN MILL CREEK
PARK AND KNIGHTVILLE
MAY 19-20**

MADE POSSIBLE BY
Bath Savings
Hannaford
DiMillos On the Water
Bangor Savings Bank
M&T Bank
Gorham Savings Bank
Port Harbor Marine



Westbrook-Gorham

The best Rotary lunch around is at the Westbrook Regional Vocational Center. The culinary students at WRVC, under the direction of chef Steve Ogden, are building vocational skills by preparing and serving our Tuesday lunches.

Club VP Phil Spiller and committee members have been hard at work pulling together a Pizza Challenge fundraiser for April 20, 4:30-7PM at Westbrook Community Center. Everyone is welcome to join us for this family-friendly event and JetBlue Raffle during April vacation week. Tickets for the Pizza Challenge at the door - \$12 adults, \$5 under 12, under 5 free. JetBlue Raffle tickets are available from any W-G Rotarian. Two round trip tickets to anywhere in the world that JetBlue flies!! \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Message us for information and payment options - info@westbrookgorhamrotary.org.

William Benson, Director of <https://boots2roots.org/> was a recent speaker. Boots2Roots is assisting active-duty military members, Veterans and spouses in finding meaningful work and putting down roots in Maine.



DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

If you didn't see your Club's News in this issue of the District Newsletter, it is likely we did not hear from your President or PR person. We would love to hear from every club. Forward about 75 words in a Word document and a couple of separate photos with the identities of people in them, especially Rotarians. Keep photos flattering, please. Send your material to: RotaryNews7780@gmail.com.

Thank you for all you do for your Club, the District and the World.

Carol Madsen, District Newsletter Editor, RC of Bridgton-Lake Region

Michelle Lester, District Newsletter Publisher