

Rotary
District 7780



News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS
& COLLABORATIONS

MARCH 4, 2022





Clubs Collaborating

Ongoing Nature Program by Chewonki at Perryman Village in Brunswick Maine sponsored by Brunswick Coastal Rotary and Brunswick Rotary. Once again the two Rotary Clubs in Brunswick Collaborate on an interesting project: "Mammals of Maine"

Kyle from Chewonki did a fantastic job presenting the Mammals of Maine, complete with learning centers, lots of animal examples in cases, pelts, feet, claws, skulls and a surprise live guest from Virginia, "Ginny the Possum." The community room was packed and participation was high. Thank you Brunswick Housing Authority for covering expenses for this event. Special thanks to Art Van for its support. We are looking forward to warm weather and hosting Chewonki back out in the pavilion!

As a side note, research shows that reading comprehension is enhanced when students have positive experiences outside their communities that enhance understanding of different environments and cultures. And besides that, it's FUN!!





Bath & Bath Sunrise

Bath Rotary Clubs Sponsored February Food Drive to Benefit the Bath Area Food Bank. Bath Rotary and Bath Sunrise Rotary held a food drive at Shaw's Market on Saturday, February 12th, to address food insecurity in the Bath communities. In five hours, Rotary volunteers from the two clubs collected 4,325 pounds of food and \$1,227 in cash and checks.

"Food needs often increase after the holidays, especially among our fellow citizens whose livelihoods are impacted by the ongoing COVID pandemic," said Kimberly Gates, Executive Director of the Bath Area Food Bank, and a member of Rotary.

The Bath Area Food Bank serves the communities of Bath, West Bath, Woolwich, Arrowsic, Georgetown and Phippsburg. Rotary is proud to serve and meet the needs of our region through the work of the Food Bank.

A shout-out to Shaw's Market and the generous patrons of Shaw's for making the food drive a successful community event.





Bethel

The members of the Rotary Club of Bethel have been pleased to donate funds to the two elementary schools in our school district - to help the staff purchase needed school supplies. Rotarian Ellie Andrews inspired the donation for the past few years! Happy students and happy teachers! For more information on activities of our club, see bethelrotary.org





Bridgton-Lake Region

The Bridgton Lakes Region Rotary Club Cooks up another Successful Community Kettle on 2/24.

The Club held its first Community Kettle for 2022 on Thursday, February 24 at the Bridgton Community Center. Rotarian and Chef Nick Orgo, owner of Stella's on the Square, guided a group of enthusiastic volunteers from the Rotary Club and the Interact Club of the Lake Region High School in the preparation of a hearty combination of chili, cornbread, salad, and cookies. The delicious take-out dinner was well-received, as usual.

Please look for our next Community Kettle and join us for a special gourmet meal. Special thanks to Rotarians: George Klauber, Aaron Hagan, Joe Barth, Skip Sullivan, Cathy Pinkham, and not pictured, Joanne Cohn, Carol Rothenberg and Jesse Walsh. More at LakeRegionRotary.com and our FB page.





Brunswick

Rotary Club of Brunswick salutes healthcare workers for all they have done and are doing. The Club purchased a large valentine banner to span Maine Street in Brunswick for several weeks to express how much the community appreciates each and every health care worker.

Jeff Gillis, owner of WellTree, a long-time business supporter of Rotary community projects, donated the use of equipment to erect the banner, and professional photographer Andrew Estey took a photograph to mark the occasion for Rotary.

After the regular Feb. 14th Club meeting, a group of Rotarians braved the frigid windchill temperatures and stood under the banner to applaud the healthcare workers.



Brunswick Coastal

Brunswick Coastal Rotary member Mac Lloyd (middle) stands with Jessica Convery (right), manager of Hannaford at Cooks Corner, and John Nikon (left), also of Hannaford. Brunswick Coastal gathered donations of personal hygiene supplies from Hannaford, Lowe's, Shaw's, and Pathways Vineyard Church for the guests of Tedford Shelter of Brunswick. Brunswick Rotary members Patty Biggs and Kyle Morrison also contributed. Thanks to all for donations and help packing!





Damariscotta-Newcastle

Damariscotta-Newcastle Welcomes 6 Additional New Members, totalling 8 for the new year. Two are 20+ year members from “away” clubs.

Rotarian Eddie Cheung, formerly of Durango CO and southern California, and his wife Nancy moved to Pemaquid ME to be near daughter and her family. Eddie was District Service Chair and District Youth Chair in 5470 as well as Past President of Durango Daybreak Club.

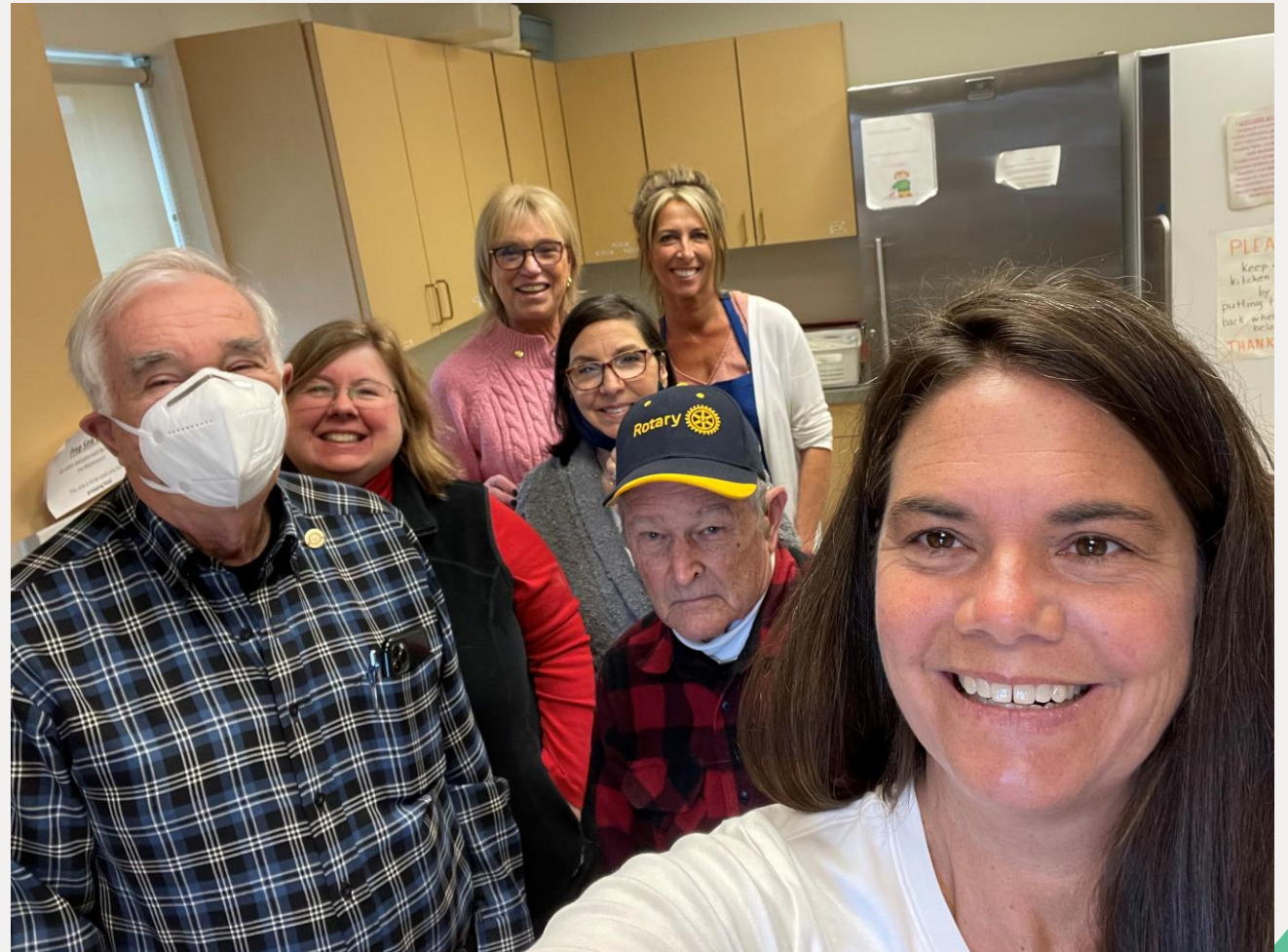
Rotarian Dorrie Hipschman and husband David moved here from Fort Myers FL where she was Exec. Director of the National Seashell Museum on Sanibel Island. She began her Rotary adventure in Appleton WI in 2002 and is a Paul Harris Fellow. She is the Director of Development at the CLC Y.

Several other new members have joined via our L.E.G.S. (Leaders Engaged in Group Service) satellite program: Robin Scates (Office Manager at Floor Magic, sponsored by PP Bob Duke), Jessica Day (Branch Manager First National Bank, sponsored by PP Jane Gravel), Alyssa Allen (Business Development Officer First National Bank, sponsored by PP Gary Stone) and Kacie Gallant (Community Life Director, The Lincoln Home, sponsored by PP Jane Gravel)



Ogunquit

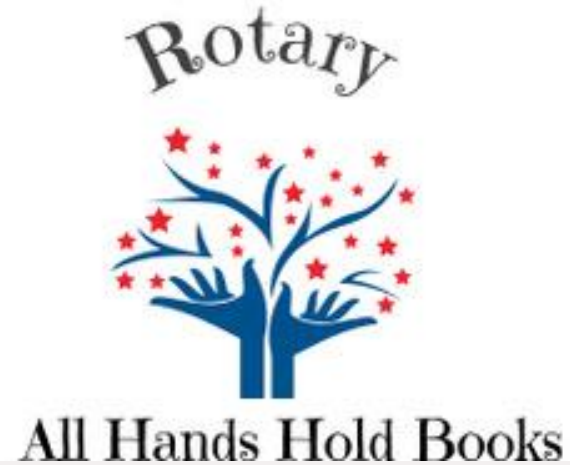
It was a wonderful Day of Warming in chilly February at the Wells Ogunquit Senior Center and a fantastic community collaboration! 50+ meatloaf dinners were prepared and donated by The Front Porch. Erin Haye baked cupcakes for all attending, Naomme Paris did beautiful decorations, and Brenda Cressey donated a stunning quilt she had made. The grand finale was the raffling of the lapquilt. Pictured are Brenda Cressey, Erin Haye, Naomme Paris, Susan DeQuattro, Tracy Smith, Pete Woodbury, Dr. Joe Boyle, and Ed Seppa (not pictured) who all worked behind the scenes and served the guests who enjoyed a delicious meal and a memorable afternoon!





Portland

Rotary Club of Portland thanks Rotarian Dr. Elizabeth Whitney Fagan SLP.D, for her terrific community service project titled "All Hands Hold Books". The concept of this project is to get books off shelves and into the hands of readers and learners. It was inspired by the COVID global pandemic that restricted access to educational materials and books. Heading into the potential for more pandemic isolation, there is considerable concern regarding not only child development but mental and emotional health for all. This program began as an international project when Liz, who is a speech language pathologist, was teaching in Kosovo. She asked her colleagues from around the U.S. to send textbooks to the Kosovo students. This expanded into sending children's books as well. Now, donated books are being distributed to neighborhood community centers and senior citizens residential communities in Maine and New Hampshire.





South Portland Cape Elizabeth

WinterFest-South Portland Rescheduled Due to Weather

Our January 29th WinterFest event, a Rotary collaboration with the City of South Portland, was canceled due to inclement weather. However luckily, the following weekend, we were able to have an exciting fireworks display at Fort Williams in Cape Elizabeth. The event is being rescheduled for May 2022 and will be called SpringFest. The theme will continue be "Coming Together Again and Celebrating Community". All the activities will be scheduled in and around MillCreek Park in South Portland and designed to take advantage of the beautiful venue.





Westbrook-Gorham

Two years of work with the Oradea Art Nouveau Rotary Club in Oradea, Romania culminated in the clubs forming an official twinning agreement. Members from each club joined each others Zoom meetings for the club's signings. Kathi Perkins signed the agreement on behalf of the Westbrook-Gorham club.

The partnership began with Past President Kathi Perkins staying with President Sorina when she visited Romania as part of a District cultural outreach in 2019. Last year the club applied for and received a District Grant to assist the Oradea club in providing a set of laptops and two multi-use printers to a rural K-8 school near Oradea. We then collaborated with the local Altrusa Club through members Christine Johnson and Judith Reidman to send multiple copies of English books to the school to use in their English Discussion Club with the older students. This year we are again working, thanks to another District Grant, with the Romanian club to refurbish the school's library, purchase more appropriate books and create reading nooks in the younger students' classrooms.

As Oradea is less than 200 miles from Ukraine's southeastern border, all five clubs in the city are working to assist refugees from Ukraine and have repurposed some of their project money to that effort. Hopefully, the war in Ukraine will not continue for long, but if it does, there may be more news in next month's newsletter.





DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

If you didn't see your Club News in this issue of the District Newsletter, it is likely we did not receive it. We love to hear from all of you. About 75 words and a couple of photos. 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 Bridgton-Lake Region