

Good News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS
& COLLABORATIONS

APRIL 1, 2024



Bethel

Bethel RC is celebrating its 50th Anniversary on Saturday, June 8th at the Ordway Hall facility of Gould Academy from 4-8pm. We invite our friends from all over District 7780 to join us for an evening of visiting, celebration, dinner and dancing! Tickets will be available soon so please **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

Our club, which was very involved in the Dec. 18th "Grinch Storm" flood relief, disbursed the last of the \$85,000 we collected from 200 donors. Pictured here is club member Mark Beck presenting a check to Erin Martin from Bethel Outdoor Adventure & Campground. Club member Richard Kenney, who builds dollhouses as a hobby and donates them to area organizations and schools for their various causes, is pictured here (center back) presenting one of his dollhouses to the students of Woodstock Elementary School.

The club is well underway with planning and pick-ups for our Annual Yardsale, scheduled for August 6-11th. We have several large facilities already filled with the generous donations of furniture, housewares and lots of other treasures! Here Mac McConathy helps with some of those donations.

SAVE THE DATE!



**Bethel Rotary Club
50th Anniversary Celebration**

**Saturday, June 8th
4pm - 8pm**

Gould Academy's Ordway Dining Hall

Dinner & Program,
followed by live music and dancing

More information forthcoming!



Bridgton-Lake Region

The club has taken on two new fundraisers this year which we hope will be successful. Both have been popular fundraisers for the Bridgton Library in the past and we decided to take them on.

Rotarian Joanne Cohn brought the Shred-a-thon, which she ran at the library the past few years, to the Club. It's been years since DGN Emma Bodwell and PP Dave Barber ran them for us. As Dave said, "Emma could run one with one hand tied behind her back". We hope she can help on this one scheduled for Saturday, May 6th, 8 a.m. to 12 noon. Rain or shine. \$18/box (standard Banker's Box). Shredding on site at Food City parking lot, 295 Main Street, Bridgton, ME. Sponsors welcome. All are invited. Contact Joanne at joanne.cohn@comcast.net.

The 2nd event is a pasta feed at the Stephens Brook Elementary School in Bridgton from on July 3rd 5-7 p.m. right after the Kid's Fun Run and before the fireworks. \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 years. Bridgton has some of the best fireworks!!! All are invited.

For more about our activities, see <https://lakeregionrotary.com>.



Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary
SHRED-A-THON
On-site Shredding

Suggested Donation:
\$18 per box
(15"x12"x10")



For More Information:
lakeregionrotary.com
(617) 306-1956

Sat. May 4 @ Food City
8am-12pm 295 Main St. Bridgton



Damariscotta-Newcastle

You are invited to a zoom presentation about a Rotary project in Tanzania

Tuesday, April 16th at 7:30 AM EST for Street Children of Tanzania.

The Rotary Club of Damariscotta-Newcastle joined with the Rotary Club of Moshi Tanzania to sponsor a two-year project with the Amani Center for Street Children based in Tanzania. The multi-year project got underway in May 2023.

The goal is to build a network of community volunteers who will reach-out to street children while encouraging them to take advantage of Amani's many programs.

The project will also establish two "drop-in centers" for the street children. [Amani Children's Home – Tanzania](#)

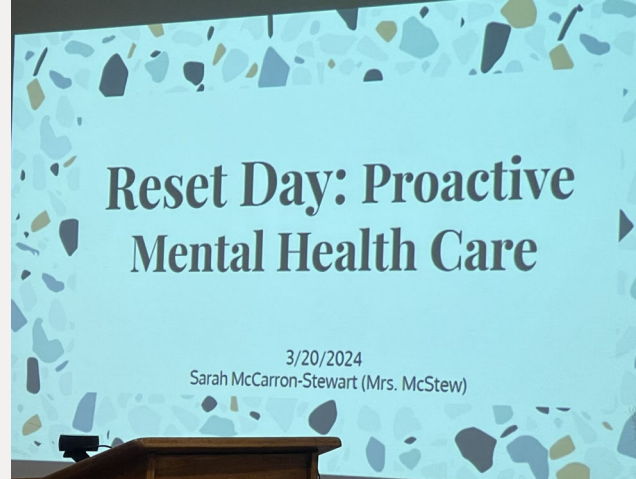
On Tuesday, April 16th Amani's Executive Director and staff will provide a video tour and presentation about the project. The zoom presentation will be at 7:30AM EST / 2:30PM EAT.

Contact DamariscottaNewcastleRotary@gmail.com by Friday, April 12 for the link.



Our Club was a sponsor of the first Reset Day at Dover High School, designed to recognize the reality of student and teacher burnout, their struggles to find balance and to learn the value of rest. Students chose one of six types of rest in six different school locations to begin and were able to move back and forth during the day. Areas included physical, mental, emotional, social, creative and sensory. 80 local volunteers participated in the rest sessions activities such as basketmaking, succulent planting, creating a Zen garden, making slime, playing Sponge Bob, and crashing proms. So successful this may become an annual or even quarterly event at the school. Photo right top, some of the Reset Day crew.

Two Rotarians received Paul Harris pins. Past President Megan Keil (Photo bottom left) and Past President & Treasurer Phil Rinaldi. Bottom photo right Rinaldi's pin presented by President Kathy Fink and Jim Munro on right.



When kids are home for the summer, families feel the strain of providing meals and snacks usually provided at school. Exeter Rotary helps The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Exeter Community Assistance Center prepare for this need. We are asking for assistance by visiting Hannaford in Exeter or Shaws or Market Basket in Stratham from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 6 to purchase prepackaged bags and gifts cards to help us Stuff the Bus. Interested in volunteering, scan the QR code on the flyer.

In Photo Co-presidents Marilyn Kellogg (l) and Julia Lanter (r) flank Club member and Sergeant-at-Arms Julia Lanter, receiving her 2nd Paul Harris pin.

HUNGER DOESN'T TAKE A SUMMER VACATION.



Rotary Club of Exeter
Stuff the Bus Food Drive
Saturday, April 6th, 2024

When kids are home for the summer families feel the strain of needing to provide meals and snacks usually provided at school. You can help the food pantry at **The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Exeter Community Assistance Center** prepare for the increased need. The need is greater than ever, our community is using the pantry 33% more than last year.

Please visit **Hannaford** of Exeter or **Market Basket & Shaw's** of Stratham from **9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.** Pre-packaged bags of items are available at all stores in varying dollar amounts and gift cards donations are encouraged. Interested in volunteering or learning more? Scan the QR Code



Freeport

With community partners, Freeport Rotary successfully launched the Aging in Home Project to provide low income seniors with repairs to make their homes safer, warmer, and drier.

With funds from a district grant, a used trailer was purchased and many donated items were secured including a table saw and power tools. Rotarians have completed two projects. These required building a ramp and steps and weatherization of a mobile home. Photos of Edgar Leighton (rt) and Dave Giampetuzzi (below), both are Rotarians from Freeport active in this project.

Visit our website for more information Freeport-Rotary.org.





Kittery

Kittery Rotary recently celebrated its 100th Red Cross Blood Drive. Headed up by Pam Gray, the Club has been doing 6 blood drives per year since 2005 having collected an estimated 400 gallons of blood. Attending the celebration, at our most recent drive, were representatives from the American Red Cross, Ray Poulin and Jenna Palladino. PP Dave Gooch and PDG Marie Williams were recognized for helping at nearly all of the drives, and received citations from DG Marion Cheney. In the photo are: Dave Gooch, Dave Sutton, President Pam Gray, Andy Glazier, Marie Williams and Jenna Palladino



Ogunquit

A Day of Warming Celebration

It was a beautiful day of celebration, warmth, partnership, and service with more than 10 Ogunquit Rotarians volunteering at the annual Wells-Ogunquit Senior Center Day of Warming. The food was donated by Crew, a local restaurant, and Rotarians planned and decorated with a Valentine's Day theme and served food to a happy room full of seniors.

Photo of Rotarians in the kitchen (l-r) Dr. Joe Boyle, Brenda Cressey and Tracy Smith. Photo setting up and displaying 100 homemade cupcakes (l-r) Elizabeth Ford and cupcake baker Erin Hays. A wonderful time was had by all!



Oxford Hills

The Club recently presented a check for \$500 to Honor Flight Maine in memory of our past club member, Royal Earle who passed away at the age of 99. Accepting the donation was Charlie Paul representing Honor Flight Maine. Charlie has attended many of the trips to Washington DC as a guardian or facilitator. Both Roy and Charlie were members of the Marines.

PP George Rice then presented Alice Paul with her first Paul Harris Fellow award for her many hours of Rotary service when she was a member, and for all she has done in the community since then. Truly a very deserving award.

Photo Top : Charlie Paul (It) from Honor Flight Maine with Club President Beth Abbott

Photo Bottom: PP George Rice (It) with PHF Alice Paul.

FMI, go to oxfordhillsrotary.org or find us on Facebook [rotaryclubofoxfordhills](https://www.facebook.com/rotaryclubofoxfordhills)





Our third annual online auction is right around the corner. Famously called “The Mud Sale”, a nod to the Pennsylvania Dutch spring (mud season) yard sale tradition, is a home-grown ONLINE auction event, with 100% of all proceeds going to the Rotary Club of Portland’s Charitable Fund.

Here are some highlights to entice and inspire you!

- ❖ White Limousine and Driver for a “Night on the Town”
4 hours for up to 6 people. Go out to your favorite dining spot in Portland, Yarmouth, or Falmouth. Pick you up/bring you home in style!
- ❖ 4-night stay at a Lakehouse in New Limerick, ME (next to Houlton in Aroostook County) during a mutually agreed upon time in any season in 2024 or 2025.
- ❖ Four Course Gourmet Dinner and Wine for 6-9 people.
Hosted by Rotarians at their Award Winning Down East Home and Garden in Falmouth.
- ❖ Stiga ST3100 Table Tennis Table & Paddles – Used, but mint!
- ❖ Tour and sampling for two, plus a case of assorted Freedom’s Edge Cider blends at the new Freedom’s Edge Cider Tasting Room opening in April, downtown Portland.

For more information, visit <https://portland-rotary.rotary7780gives.org/mudsale2024>.



River Valley

Club member Jerold Cohen was recognized for achieving his 40 years membership with Rotary effective March 4, 2024! Jerry has been a very active Rotarian having held most positions with the Club several times over but the one most near and dear to his heart is being the Local Clubs Chair of ROTOPLAST!

Photo (lt) is Rich Allen, current Club President, and Jerold Cohen.

A recent speaker was Allie Burke of the River Valley Health Community Coalition! She spoke at a Fellowship Luncheon hosted by HOPE Association. The RVHCC mission is to promote health and wellness by working together with individuals, businesses and organizations in the greater River Valley region to provide education and positive support service. For more information visit: WWW.RVHCC.COM

Photo (rt) Dick Lovejoy, Rotarian of the Day, and Allie Burke of RVHCC!



South Berwick-Eliot

HELPING CHILDREN IN PERU

The South Berwick – Eliot Rotary Club will support the efforts of a Marshwood HS Interactor who is raising funds to help Children in Peru. Serving as the fiscal agent and liaison with the Pachacamac Rotary Club, representing an area of Lima, we will ensure that funds are properly transferred and spent to help this project succeed.

Nellie Young is an active Interactor who channels her passion for education, environment, and food security into meaningful initiatives. She is actively raising \$10,000 in funds for constructing a new nursery school damaged by humidity, plumbing issues, and a lack of clean water supply and purchasing school supplies.

The Rotary clubs of Kittery, Dover, Rochester and Durham have joined us raising \$3,300 for the project. Through a GoFundMe campaign, an additional \$1,400 has been raised.

For more information or to invite Nellie Young as a speaker at your club, contact her at nellie.young@rsu35.org.



Westbrook-Gorham

April will be a busy month for our club!!

Monday April 15—Since 1949, we have held a Patriot's Day Road Race for local high school athletes. 10AM Riverbank Park in Westbrook. With a few years off over the years due to weather and the pandemic, this will be the 71st running. Entry is free and trophies are awarded!!

Thursday April 18— 2024 Pizza Challenge – This year will be even bigger!! All you can eat pizza. Desserts & Beverages available. Judges awards, peoples choice award, DJ, facepainting, caricature drawing, bounce house, mini-massage, and more! 4:30-6:30pm.

Thursday April 18— Drawing for two RT JetBlue tickets, wherever JetBlue flies. \$5 each or 5 entries for only \$20. To enter, email info@westbrookgorhamrotary.org, text or call 207-653-0869, or message us on Facebook at WestbrookGorhamRotary. Don't miss your chance!!




Westbrook-Gorham Rotary  2024
YOU'RE INVITED! MAKE CONNECTIONS! DO GOOD! WGRotary.org

PIZZA

Challenge

Thursday, April 18
4:30-6:30pm

Westbrook Community Center Gymnasium
426 Bridge Street

ADULTS = \$12 · UNDER 12 = \$5 · UNDER 5 = FREE

Help Determine the Best Pizza in Westbrook & Gorham!
All-You-Can-Eat • Desserts Available • DJ w/Music
Mini-Messages • Face Painting • Cornhole • Caricature Drawings
Jenga & Connect4 Games • Bounce Houses • 50/50
JetBlue Raffle Drawing for Pair of Roundtrip Tickets

FMI, Call Phil
@ 850.529.3283
or Christine
@ 207.653.0869

RAFFLE TICKET YOUR TAB		RAFFLE TICKET
2 JETBLUE ROUND-TRIP TICKETS ANY CITY TO ANY CITY		No. 0100
TOTAL VALUE UP TO \$900.00		1 ticket - \$5.00
VALID 6/1/2024 to 6/1/2025		5 tickets - \$20.00
Blackout dates and restrictions apply. International taxes and/or other fees may apply.		Name: _____
DRAWING — 4/18/24, 6:30 PM 2024 W-G Rotary Pizza Challenge Westbrook Community Center		Phone: _____
		Email: _____

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, Bridgton-Lake Region RC

Dennis Moulton, District Newsletter Publisher, Portsmouth RC