



Good News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS
& COLLABORATIONS

AUGUST 1, 2023



Biddeford-Saco

Biddeford Saco RC celebrated 103 years of service to the community. Guests of honor were Rotarians Jill and Euan Eddie from Bideford, England. The Rotary Club of Biddeford-Saco and the Rotary Club of Bideford, England are Sister Clubs. A great time was had by all.

At a celebratory changeover event, PP Brenda Pollack passed the gavel to Paulette Bonneau, who is the director of the Center of Technology at Biddeford High School and only the 5th woman to serve as president of the Club in its 103 years.

For more information on the Rotary Club, visit their website at: www.Biddeford-SacoRotary.org or their Facebook

page: <https://www.facebook.com/BiddefordSacoRotaryClub>.





Bridgton-Lake Region

Our Club is holding its 14th Annual Golf Tournament on September 16 at the Bridgton Highlands Country Club. Sponsorship information and golfer and team registration can be found at our website

<https://lakeregionrotary.com> or contact Team Leader and PE Lisa Ryan for more information. We are seeking sponsors and golfers.

Our Interactors are excited about work we have begun in Colombia and were at a major venue Music on Main in Bridgton on Saturday to help raise money for the project. Pictured here are President John Eliassen with several Interactors and their display for a raffle and products for sale.



Damariscotta- Newcastle

The Club has named Laura A. Fortman, the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Labor, a Paul Harris Fellow. A member of the Club, Fortman was recognized for her many contributions to her community and her State. Forman has served as deputy administrator of the [Wage and Hour Division](#) at the [United States Department of Labor](#) in [Washington, D.C.](#) as well as the executive director of the [Frances Perkins](#) Center, the [Maine Women's Lobby](#), and the Sexual Assault Crisis and Support Center of [Augusta](#). She was inducted into the [Maine Women's Hall of Fame](#) in 2007.

The Rotary Foundation has approved the Club's request for a Global Grant (2234075) working with the Rotary Club of Moshi, Tanzania, (the host club) and District 9211, to begin an outreach program by Amani Children's Home, rescuing street children in Moshi. Amani Children's Home mission is rescuing children, restoring hope and transforming lives. For further information see AmaniKids.org. The Moshi Club in Tanzania was founded in 1948 and has partnered with many Global Grants and District Grants. For more information, contact John Atwood, Chair of the D-N Club International Committee, at Atwoodjohn134@gmail.com.



Dover

At this week's Rotary Club of Dover meeting, Rotarian Jim Munro presented Tom Dunnington with the life-size copy of the Declaration of Independence that he reads on the steps of Dover City Hall every 4th of July.

What a difference a few hours make as the Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Dover went to work to make the Rotary Gardens beautiful!

Dover Rotarians were thanked for their donation to the New Hampshire Black Heritage Trail which recently unveiled a new marker honoring Dover-born siblings Nellie Brown Mitchell and Edward Everett Brown. Their family was influential in Dover's cultural life and city government during the 19th century. Mitchell was one of the country's first Black concert sopranos, and her brother was a lawyer and civil rights activist. For more information and to register for a tour, visit www.blackheritagetrailnh.org



Hampton

Charlie Davidson is the new president of the Rotary Club of Hampton for the 2023-2024 year. Charlie, who succeeds co-presidents Larry Marsolais and Martha Clyde (pictured here), has been a member of the Hampton Rotary Club for 2 years. He is a resident of North Hampton and an IT professional. Charlie has been a very active member of the club since joining and is looking forward to leading the club through the next year.

One of Charlie's goals is to continue educating the community on what Rotary is all about and all that the members do for the community. Ultimately, he would like to bring more service minded community leaders into the club.

Recently, the club has moved their meetings to Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. at The Community Oven's Side Bar (845 Lafayette Rd in Hampton).



Kennebunkport

Name Change!

Exciting news - to better reflect the area and community we serve, we have changed our name from the Rotary Club of Kennebunk Portside to the Rotary Club of Kennebunkport! We look forward to continuing to support the community under our new name!

Duck Painting for Riverfest 2023!

Members of the Rotary Club of Kennebunkport came together to support our Riverfest Duck Sales! We had a duck painting party, creating new designs we will sell between now and Riverfest on August 12th. Ducks are adopted for \$5 each, and all proceeds go to support the programs and initiatives we do in our community. A great evening of camaraderie and service to the club and our community.



Ogunquit

Heath Ouellette handed the Rotary Club of Ogunquit presidency over to Alice Pearce at the Changeover dinner at the Beachmere Inn on June 28. The production team of John Clancy, Melanie Tromblee and Erin Haye outdid themselves with an amusing takeoff on Jeopardy. Brenda Cressey, former Rotary Foundation Trustee, presented outgoing president Heath Ouellette with an award for his leadership in raising over \$3000 for Rotary International Polio Plus. Master of Ceremonies Matt Buttrick awarded Heath his 2022-23 Presidential plaque. At the end of the evening, Heath thanked the board and all members for the good work during the year. After he handed the gavel to Alice, she expressed optimism for the coming year and, as is her style, shared hopeful words with the club.



Portland

Summer is here, and Portland's summer reading program is underway. Since 2015, Portland Rotarians have been reading and distributing books to local children throughout the school year and during the summer, too.

This strong tradition continues again this summer. On Mondays and Thursdays each week at noontime, a team of Rotarians read to ten to thirty children, ages five to ten, at the North Deering Gardens housing complex in Portland.

A district grant helped kick off the Club's reading program in the schools seven years ago. Now, thanks to the generosity of two Portland Rotarians, we continue to have books to read and distribute to the kids. As the group photo attests, a good time is being had by all!





Portsmouth

The club began new president Yvonne Legge's reign after an absurdly funny "Changing of the Guard." Now Past President Joanie Dickinson went out in style, literally and figuratively. The festivities included three Rotarians dressed in Joanie's trademark tight leopard skin dress and wigs mimicking her hair. The Rotations sang a take-off on "Footloose" (*Lose your Blues, Everybody pay your dues!*)

Earlier, June saw huge participation in the club's annual Golf Tournament, again successfully directed by Marie Brownell. Further, we gave away thousands in scholarships to deserving local graduating seniors as well as recognized four selfless Vocational Award winners. The club has several hands-on projects lined up for the summer.





South Berwick- Elliot

Our Club raised \$8000 to support Camp Kita, a week-long summer camp for youth who are suffering trauma from suicide of a loved one. It is free of charge for all campers between the ages of 6-18. A fundraising event consisting of a dance party, silent auction, 50/50 raffle and a few generous sponsors raised the \$8000. The dance was held at the Regatta Room in Eliot in April. The band, Under Cover, donated its time and talent for the event. Folks danced all night long. Project co-leader Robin Wheeler, along with Erica Place made this whole event happen, is seen handing the check to Sydney Mosher, a Camp Kita co-founder.





Westbrook-Gorham

DO GOOD! PLAY GOLF!



SAVE THE DATE! MONDAY, SEPT. 25, 8 AM

Our 29th Annual Golf Tournament

@Val Halla Golf Club

Great sponsorship opportunities!

Great games! New prizes!

Shotgun start!



**Play golf and do good supporting Rotary
community causes and scholarships.**

Info & register at WestbrookGorhamRotaryGolf.org
Registration now open! (space is limited)



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

Dennis Moulton, District Newsletter Publisher, RC of Portsmouth