



News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS &
COLLABORATIONS

JANUARY 2, 2023





Bethel

What a wonderful month of carrying out our mission! The members of the Bethel Rotary Club gathered to pack 35 complete turkey dinners to distribute to families in need throughout our area! Club members pictured l-r: Steve Wight, Carol Nichols, Scott Parker, Richard Kenney, Ellie Andrews, Richard Tummon, Mac MacConathy, Alison Aloisio, Per Nygren, Kevin Finley, Rene McGrew, Mary Scanlon, Scott Hynek, Pat Aroma and Bruce Powell.

Recent speakers from programs we support shared their activities. Dave Bean, director of the Bethel Food Pantry invited us to support their efforts in providing needed food to individuals and families. Amy Connell, Executive Director of the Mahoosuc Kids Association, shared details of the amazing work they do to provide after school care and enrichment, as well as an 8-week summer adventure program to hundreds of area children. Finally, Laurie Fitch from the Mt. Abram Ski Club spoke to us about the free after school ski & snowboard programs they provide to 150 area students. Our club generously supports each of these programs.





Biddeford-Saco

MORE THAN \$9,500 has been collected to date!

In Rotary fashion, it is no surprise that Earl Goodwin chose to give back to Rotary when he passed. In lieu of flowers, he and his wife Stasia requested donations be made in Earl's name to the Rotary Club of Biddeford-Saco's Charitable Giving Fund. The Rotarians of the Biddeford-Saco Rotary Club were honored to hold the first KINDNESS in the COMMUNITY DAY on December 7, 2022. At this meeting, Rotarians picked up a lunch-to-go and selected a KINDNESS TASK envelope. They had one hour to fulfill an ACT OF KINDNESS in the name of Earl Goodwin, known affectionately as "Earl the Pearl" among club members. The Earl A. Goodwin Charitable Fund benefits local children, seniors, and veterans. Pictured I-r Denis Robillard, ADG; Reny's Saco Employee; Heather Gendron and Joseph Moreshead, club members. For more information, see Biddeford-sacorotary.org.





Bridgton-Lake Region

Rotarians from Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club bought new and delivered needed winter outer garments to Crooked River Elementary School in Casco, Songo Locks School in Naples, Stevens Brook School in Bridgton, and Harrison Elementary School. Requests were for winter coats, pants, boots, gloves and hats to be distributed to students on an as needed basis. Several items were also made available to those in need through Crosswalk Outreach in Naples. Thanks to Rotarians and Santa's helpers President Aaron Hagan (upper left), President Elect John Eliassen (upper right), Treasurer George Klauber and Foundation Chair Lisa Ryan. For more information, see <https://lakeregionrotary.com> or its Facebook page.



The Rotary Club of Dover had a FUN afternoon putting together our Vintage Tree for the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce Festival of Trees. Lights were in place, handmade card and bingo ball ornaments were beautiful, and the amazing tribal pursuit tree topper was going to be loved by everyone. Someone bought the tree who appreciated it as much as we loved planning and decorating it.

We continued to buy and then distribute healthy snacks to area schools. And we enjoyed a holiday potluck and Yankee Swap. Yummy pierogi casserole, sweet sausage, pasta salads, brownies, and turtles! Laughter filled the air as we swapped gifts back and forth, played holiday charades, and voted for the best ugly sweater! A good month was had by all. See <https://www.doverrotary.com> for more about our projects.





Kittery

The Rotary Club of Kittery would like to give a “Shout Out” to the Interact club of R.W.Traip Academy. In a school with an enrollment of only 280 students, the Interact Club has attracted over 50 members, all actively participating in service work. Inspired by the commitment and energy of Advisor Blayne Matty, the Club has initiated their own projects in school and around the community. Some of the latest have been support for the Kittery Land Trust and “Warmth Packages” for the Seacoast Community Fridge. The club has also been there with smiles and helping hands for our Rotary Club Recycling fundraiser, our Red Cross Blood Drive support, and our service at the local Table of Plenty meals. We could not be prouder of this very large group of young people putting “Service Above Self” in our community. At our December 15 Blood Drive, Interact Club members join Superintendent (and Rotarian) Eric Waddell, some assisting, some donating.





Oxford Hills

The Rotary Club of Oxford Hills presented a Paul Harris Fellow Award to David Knox. David, the spouse of Club Treasurer Liz Knox, has been a huge supporter with many of the club's service projects, including restoration of the Moore Park gardens and gazebo, beautification of the Pioneer Cemetery on Paris Hill, and many other projects where 'he just shows up'! Shown L to R: Past Co-President Peter Kaurup presenting the award to David Knox.

We are pleased to welcome our newest member, Leanna Bowie. Leanna's classification is Insurance-Marketing. She is employed at WJ Wheeler Insurance in South Paris where she is the Marketing Manager. Leanna lives in South Paris and loves to make art and bake sweets to share. Congratulations and welcome to OH Rotary. Shown L to R: Club President George Rice presenting her Rotary coffee mug, new member Leanna Bowie, and sponsor Curtis Cole.





Portland

For 35 years, the Portland Club has been serving Thanksgiving meals at the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen in Portland. Our “Rotarians at Work” prepared this year’s meal for 150 guests. For as far back as anyone can remember, Sysco Northern New England (SNNE) has been donating food for this Thanksgiving feast.

In December the Club presented a Paul Harris Fellow to Jane Brett, President of SNNE, expressing gratitude for their support. Dick Giles, former Portland member, now of the Palm Beach FL club, accepted the award on behalf of Sysco. He is the former President at Sysco who originally organized this event donation.

Last but not least, 5 new members were inducted into the Portland Club in December. Bowen Depke, Membership co-chair, Michael Taylor, Doug Packard, Dan Fahey, Bishop Jean Faustin Gapira, David Patterson and Laura Young, Membership co-chair.





Saco Bay Sunset

You can help save a life!

Rotary Club of Saco Bay Sunset is sponsoring a Narcan Training on Tuesday, January 10, at 6:30 pm at Old Orchard Beach High School. This training is open to all! Please register by the extended registration date of Saturday, January 7th to ensure you receive a Narcan kit.

More about happenings at our club at <https://www.sacobaysunsetrotary.org>.

LEARN TO **Free**
SAVE  **LIVES**

FREE NARCAN TRAINING

Narcan is a life saving injection administered by any trained person to an individual who has overdosed on opioids

WHEN: Tuesday January 10, 2023 @ 6:30PM

WHERE: Old Orchard Beach High School
40 Emerson Cummings Blvd, Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064

HOSTED BY

PRESENTED BY

Rotary
Club of Saco Bay Sunset



**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

Lacey Bailey BS, CADC- York
County **OPTIONS**

*(Overdose Prevention Through
Intensive Outreach Naloxone
and Safety) clinician*



Please RSVP by December 30, 2022, to cmarcotte@une.edu

Those who RSVP are guaranteed a Narcan* Kit.

*WHAT IS NARCAN (NAXOLENE)? Narcan is an opiate antidote. Opioids include heroin and prescription pain pills like morphine, codeine and oxycodone. Narcan is a prescription medicine that blocks the effects of opioids and reverses an overdose. Narcan trained individuals are allowed to possess and administer Narcan in case of emergency.



Sanford-Springvale

Members of the Sanford-Springvale Club enjoyed long-standing traditions during December. 1. We welcomed the members of the Treble Choir of Sanford High School to our meeting just before the Christmas weekend. The most poignant part of their program was their special rendition of SILENT NIGHT which they sang four times: 1st was just a-cappella singing; 2nd they sang and also signed the lyrics; 3rd was simply hummed accompanied by their signing; 4th was in total silence, with only the signing of the beautiful carol by Franz Gruber. 2. Over the SNOW-MAGEDDON weekend, stalwarts from our club stood for hours outside the entrances to the local WalMart, ringing the bells for the local Salvation Army's red kettle initiative. Members have been following this traditional community service project for more than four decades! In years past, our club has challenged the local Kiwanians, and as history will show, we have "out-rung and out-raised" our counterparts a substantial number of times.





South Berwick - Eliot

The South Berwick – Eliot Rotary Club's project, aka We Care Solar, was implemented last month with the Marshwood Middle School. Our district grant funded 2 solar suitcases, but the school liked the idea so much, they had teacher Scott Carson offer it to the entire 6th grade and, with a grant from the Marshwood Educational Foundation, were able to acquire 10 more units and build this into their 6th grade curriculum around solar energy. The suitcases, built by teams of students, become solar energy units, and 2 units each year will go to villages in eastern Africa to help light up classrooms and clinics. The school will build into their budget the purchase of 2 additional units each year so that this program can continue in the future with the total of 12 units constructed and dismantled by the students. Rotarians from our club volunteered to work with the students and learned how to do this as well.



South Portland- Cape Elizabeth

Delivering Toys 2022 - Toy donations exceeded our expectations. Over 3500 toys and books for young kids filled the new, larger SoPo van. Last year's total was 2600 pieces. Half the toys were distributed to the Food Cupboard, Family Promise, Judy's Pantry, and St. Luke's Cathedral. The other half went to South Portland High School and the South Portland Providers group through school liaison Gretchen McCloy. We are grateful to the outpouring of generosity.





Westbrook-Gorham

The Westbrook Gorham Rotary opted to do good while celebrating, turning its annual party into a Children's Literacy Project. Hearing that the teachers of the Early Childhood Occupations Program at the Westbrook Regional Vocational Center had been unsuccessfully trying to fund a classroom lending library for several years, WGRotary chose to get involved and grant their holiday wish. Members and friends presented the teachers and students a library of all 40 children's books on their wish list plus a few more. In addition, Rotary friend Pam Leo, "The Book Fairy," gifted each of the 21 preschoolers a new book to take home. Meanwhile, the culinary students of Westbrook Regional Vocational Center provided a delicious prime rib lunch complete with hors d'oeuvres, breadboards, and a delightful yule log with cookies for dessert.



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. About 75 words and a couple of photos with the identity 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 Bridgton-Lake Region

Michelle Lester, District Newsletter Publisher