



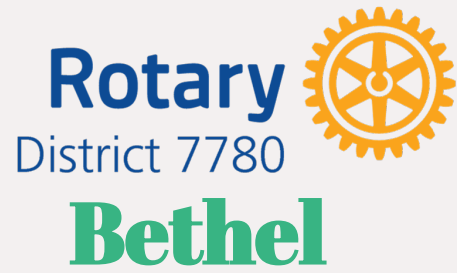
Good News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS &
COLLABORATIONS

JULY 1, 2024





The Rotary Club of Bethel was chartered on June 24th, 1974. More than 100 Rotarians and friends, including 3 of our charter members, celebrated the Club's 50th anniversary on June 8th. It was a joy-filled occasion with recognitions and remembrances. Incoming Club President Richard Tummon and his wife, Laura (Top left). Outgoing President Jean Benedict (Top right). Bethel Charter Members Fred Burke, Les Otten and John Gasser with their partners, were our guests of honor.

Additionally in June, we had presentations from the Bethel Library and the Telstar Middle/High School Northstar Program, an amazing alternative education and mentoring program that our club is supporting. We are also preparing for our annual week-long yard sale, August 6-11th. More news at bethelrotary.org

To learn more, see our website and our Facebook and Instagram pages.



Rotary
District 7780

Bridgton-Lake Region

Something Old; Something New.

This year we are celebrating our 25th Annual Great Bridgton Duck Race. It's a community institution. We love it and the community loves it. But it's not enough! So we are constantly on the search for a new fundraiser, especially one which can support the club in its administrative, membership development and other things that don't immediately give back to the community.

So this year, for the first time, we are hosting a Spaghetti Dinner. A long standing tradition before the Bridgton fireworks on July 3rd, it was abandoned by Friends of the Bridgton Library about 6 years ago. The Friends just couldn't sustain it. So the Club is taking it on. Join us!

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

**25th Annual
Great Bridgton
DUCK RACE!**

July 4, 2024 11:30 AM
Stevens Brook Bridge,
Main Street Bridgton

CASH PRIZES
1st Duck: \$500
2nd Duck: \$250
3rd Duck: \$100

TICKETS
\$5.00 each
or
5 for \$20.

Rotary
Bridgton-Lake Region

Buy tickets!

Outside Renys on Saturdays
From Rotarians at any time
At July 3rd Fireworks - SBES
July 3rd Spaghetti Dinner - SBES
Just before the race at Stevens Brook Bridge

July 3rd, 2024
5-7pm

Rotary
Bridgton-Lake Region

Spaghetti Dinner!

STEVENS BROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
14 FRANCES BELL DR. - BRIDGTON

Menu:
Homemade Marinara or
Meat Sauce
Garden Salad
Italian Bread
Dessert

COST:
Adults, \$12
Children under 10, \$7

Welcome to
our 4 on the
Fourth Road
Race
Runners!
FMI please visit <https://lakeregionrotary.com/>

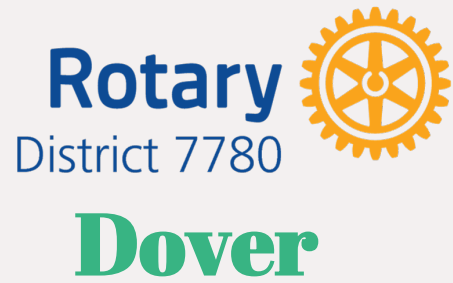
Rotary
District 7780
**Damariscotta-
Newcastle**

Treasurer and Environment Chair Justin Ward received the D-N Rotary Step Up Boots for 2023-2024. Chosen by Stephen Searles, the outgoing president, this unique honor recognizes the club member who has stepped up to fill needs during the past year. (Bottom photo)

At our annual meeting on June 18th, the Club recognized two outstanding local organizations, Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust and Wawenock Golf Course. Coastal Rivers has partnered with Rotary for several District Grants: our Community Business Forum, the completion of the accessible path and Rotary Way Bench at Round Top Farm and the Pollinator Garden. Wawenock has partnered with D-N Rotary and Lions for 27 years for our annual golf tournament, raising funds for both organizations to help meet local community needs. Barry Knott and Alden McFarland (Lions), Rick Hagen and Wilt Jones (Rotarians).

As of the annual meeting, almost all club members were Paul Harris Fellows. Seven members were newly pinned and almost all others were upgraded. We are honored to be able to support the work of The Rotary Foundation, both worldwide and locally. (Top photo)





Be sure to checkout the @Rotary Gardens as you drive through downtown Dover. A week ago, we planted flowers in the upper gardens and this past week, in the lower gardens. We will continue to maintain the gardens throughout the Summer & Fall. After working hard in the gardens, Rotarians and their families gathered at Wing-Itz to enjoy food and fellowship.

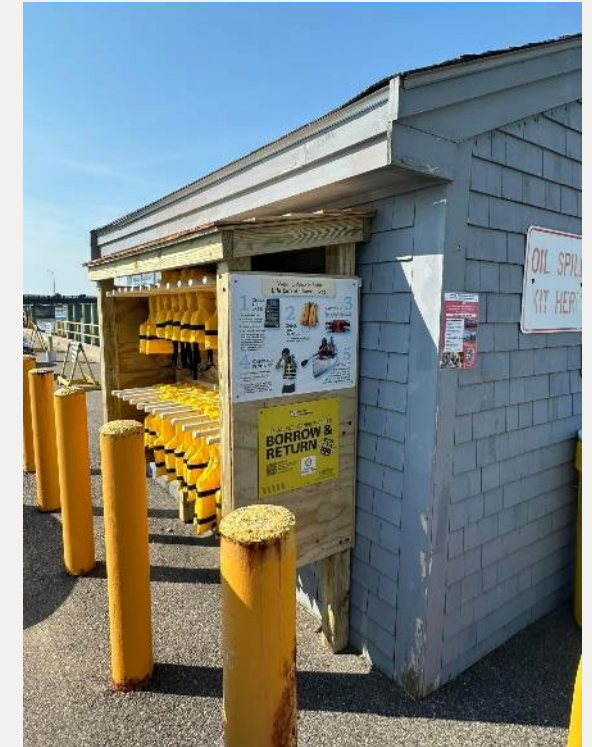
Recently we presented Amy Rich Crane of Reach for the Top Therapy Services \$250.00 to construct a “Resources Wall” at their offices in the McConnell Center.
#reachforthetop #ServiceAboveSelf #dogoodverygood

Erin Parkins and Patty Menard of Community Action Partnership of Strafford County accepted Rotary’s check for \$5,000 for CAP’s Summer Meals Program, now an annual practice of our club, to help overcome kids’ food insufficiency when they’re not fed in school.
#communityactionpartnership #ServiceAboveSelf #dogoodverygood



Member Dave Considine's idea of a life jacket loaner stand came to fruition this year with a grant from the Sea Tow Foundation through our Club providing the life jackets. The Club funded the wood and supplies for the lean-to to protect the life jackets. A huge shout out to Rotarian John Catizone for building the lean-to. Big thanks to all the Hampton Rotarians for supporting the effort!

Lifejacket loaner stations are designed to allow a family, putting a boat in at a boat ramp, to borrow a lifejacket for the day if they do not have enough lifejackets on board or the right sized jacket. The Hampton Rotary stand is located near the fuel shack at the Hampton State boat ramp at Hampton Harbor. Thanks to the NH Port Authority for allowing us to place the stand at their facility!



Rotary
District 7780
Oxford Hills

Our Club had a busy June. We celebrated the top 5% of the graduating class of Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School at a breakfast to honor them. Also in attendance were the Superintendent, High School Principal and Tech School Principal.

Club members cooked and served all the graduates at their Senior Picnic and also cooked and served faculty at an end-of-school year celebration. Burgers and hot dogs are our specialty!

Lastly, because of the success of our many fundraisers, we presented 8-\$1,000 scholarships at Class Night. Highlight of the night was our first ever George W. Rice Community Service Scholarship awarded to Dakota Morgan, a member of our Interact Club for 3 years and current Interact President. She logged over 200 community service hours during her high school career. Shown making the presentations are recipient, Dakota Morgan, George Rice, Tina Fox, and Club President Beth Abbott.

FMI go to oxfordhillsrotary.org or find us on Facebook.



Shred the Dread

Inspired by Kittery, Kennebunkport, and other Clubs in the District, Portland conducted a community paper shredding event called “Shred the Dread” on a sunny Saturday morning in mid-June.

The first-time project provided a valuable service to the community, raised funds to support the Club’s local and international service programs, and was a fun time of fellowship for members.

In their down time, the Rotarians came up with a new dance to occupy themselves: The Shred. Look at those moves!!



Rotary
District 7780

Portsmouth

Nicole Clark and Katie Fleisher, new leaders of our annual golf tournament, pulled off another hugely successful event. \$26,000 was raised for the club's scholarship efforts. Played at Pease Golf Course, this year's competition was dedicated to the late Marie Brownell. (Top Photo)

Speaking of Scholarships, graduating Portsmouth High senior Alex Maillet and his mom Samantha were special guests. Alex won a full \$3000-dollar Rotary Scholarship but not because of his academics. All he did was save the life of his boss at the Dollar Store. The latter suffered a cardiac event and Alex's quick thinking, and proper CPR administration pulled him back from the brink. (Yvonne, Alex and his mom, left to right, bottom photo)

The Club won kudos for its support of the May 8th United Way Virtual Community Baby Shower. Diapers, wipes, and gift cards were distributed to needy families for babies six months or younger.

The annual Changing of the Guard featured an outrageous Barbie skit that saw a host of different "Barbies" on parade, The Rotations serenaded outgoing president Yvonne with a customized version of "She's A Rainbow." Photo bottom right, Now President Midge Nelson on left & Yvonne Legge on right in the Barbie box.



Rotary
District 7780



River Valley

The featured speaker at the River Valley Rotary Club fellowship meeting held on June 3, 2024, was Dereck Taber, fellow Rotarian and President of the Envision Rumford Project!

Derek brought us up-to-date on the events that are going on in Rumford through the Envision Rumford project.

They are working closely with other volunteer groups in town on the Pennacook arts celebration, the Strathglass park green space investment, hosting seasonal events and working on their mission to preserve the historic heritage and improve economic development in the downtown area!

Derek mentioned that there is an opening on the board and asked anybody who is interested to apply for it. Also they are looking for volunteers with a variety of skills to help Envision Rumford. See Derek with your questions and expressions of interest. In photo with Derek on left is Ed Paterson, Rotarian of the day.





Saco Bay Sunset

Members of the Rotary Club of Saco Bay Sunset participated in two community events recently with raffles as fundraisers. At the Corvette Show held by OOB 365 we held a 50/50 raffle. The winner of the 50/50 received \$224. The Rotary Club will use the other 50% for local charities in OOB.

Members volunteered at OOB 360 Scottishfest and raffled off quilts. The winner of the queen size quilt was ecstatic! The proceeds of the raffle, \$150, were donated to Olivia, the Town of Old Orchard Beach's Social Services Navigator. Past President, Carol Marcotte, presented both items to recipients.



Rotary
District 7780

Sanford-Springvale


As a significant act closing out his presidency, Elias Thomas presented a check of \$12,426 to the Sanford Housing Authority with funds raised through the Club's 2024 JANUARY THAW. Pictured: Rotarians Kim LaChance, chair of the Sanford Housing Authority; Sgt. Colleen Adams of the Sanford Police Department; incoming president Bob Myott and Elias Thomas. The presentation took place at the regular meeting of the Sanford City Council, in the council chambers. Not only did the club raise and donate over \$28,000 in the past three years, but literally hundreds of warm coats, jackets, hats, and gloves to assist the homeless in Sanford.

Club members celebrated the installation of our 24-25 president, Bob Myott! Outgoing president Elias Thomas named Bob a Paul Harris Fellow for his numerous contributions to the club's success. A plaque was then shared with Elias, recognizing his strong leadership and unwavering commitment to the Rotary Club as president for the past two years.

For more information about these and other events, check out the Club's FB Page.



Rotary
District 7780



South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

We held our annual SpringFest recently, in partnership with the City of South Portland with an evening event on Friday and then the daytime event on Saturday in a different location. A local child remarked “This is the best day of my life!” We’ll have to go back. This is a free community event attended by more than 3,000 people. Solicited by Rotary members, the participation of over 70 local business sponsors made the event possible. This is proving to be a very successful fundraiser for us. At right John Lobosco passes out popcorn and stickers to youngsters. At bottom, our 20 foot high gnome.

More information can be found on our FB page.



Rotary
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Westbrook-Gorham

From mid-October to mid-May, we enjoy one of the best lunches in Rotary, prepared and served by the students of the Westbrook Regional Vocational Center Culinary Arts Program (WRVC). We love to watch their skills and confidence grow over the course of each year!

This past year, we were treated to a trip around the world with lunches inspired by the cuisines of Italy, Korea, Greece, India, Mexico, the Middle East, and more! Their work, which is documented by the chef with recipes and pictures, can provide them college credit at SMCC and other schools.

At the end of each school year, we thank the students and present them with a small token of our appreciation for their hard work. This year we gave each of ten seniors in the program \$50 cash and an Aroma Joe's drink card.

During the summer months, we continue to meet at the WRVC dining room most weeks but use this time to take periodic "field trips" to local venues and points of interest. So far this summer, we have enjoyed lunch at Brookside Food & Drink, co-owned by Rotarian Eli Small, and have met at the Gorham Historical Society in the historic Mosher Barn at Shaw Cherry Hill Farm.

We are looking forward to our annual Lobster Bake on July 30, at the Sebago Lake home of our 2024-25 President Phil Spiller. Everyone is welcome to join us!! For more info: info@westbrookgorhamrotary.org



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