



Good News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS
& COLLABORATIONS

NOVEMBER 1, 2023



October was another busy month in Bethel.

We presented a check of funds raised through our recent 5K to Amy Connell from the Mahoosuc Kids Association, the after school and summer enrichment program of SAD 44. Presenting the check was Co-President Jean Benedict (l-r). (Photos identified clockwise, starting at top left.)

We continued our ongoing mission to deliver household goods and furniture to the Lewiston New Mainer community. Rotarian Scott Parker used his truck to deliver most of the items with members of the community enjoying receiving and helping unload.

Last but not least, 5 new member inductions: (l-r Co-president Jean Benedict, new members: Brandy Rodney, Michael Rodney, Anne Carter, Carl Blond, co-president, Scott Hynek and new member Dan Hart.)

For more information, photos and videos, see our Facebook page, imbedded on our website, bethelrotary.org





Bridgton-Lake Region

Our club joined with the Fryeburg Area Club for 2 Polio Events this year. The first, Pints for Polio, was held at the Saco River Brewing Company in Fryeburg. On World Polio Day, representatives from the 2 Clubs walked from Stella's on the Square to the Queen's Head Pub in Bridgton, where we treated ourselves to a nice lunch. Participating were, front row (l-r) in photo: President John Eliassen, and Bridgton Rotarians Carol Madsen, George Klauber, Nick Orgo and Dave Barker. Back row: Friend of Rotary Marion Gibeley, Bridgton Rotarian Mike Daley, President of the Fryeburg Area Club Laura Naughton, Fryeburg Rotarian Nancy Boros, and Brighton Rotarian Jesse Walsh. Bridgton Rotarian Skip Sullivan took the photo.

In honor of Veteran's Month, President John Eliassen presented a check for \$500 to Darcey Pomerleau, Executive Director, Bridgton Community Center, to assist with support of Veterans. Thank you, Darcey for all you do.

For more information about the Club's activities, see our website:

<https://lakeregionrotary.com> or our FB Page.



Rotary

District 7780

Dover

We had our usual busy month, as the photos will attest to from top left and clockwise: 1. President Kathy Fink presenting a \$250 check to the Garrison School PTA. 2. In partnering with Don't Trash Dover, our members collected 30 bags of trash from the Willard Pond area. 3. Our Annual Shred It with the Dover Interact Club earned students over \$2500 for their International Project.

No room for photos here, but we were involved in the dedication, grand opening and ribbon cutting at the new Dover Skate Park. The Club underwrote Twenty-One Senses Family Respite Area & Calm Room which was featured at Apple Harvest Day. Dover Rotarians know how to have fun and have been inviting other rotary clubs in NH to not only partake in their Bingo fundraiser but to their Fellowship Together on Tuesday as well.

All our work comes with its rewards (bottom photo on left, l-r Gregg Dowty, President Kathy Fink, DG Marion Cheney and Jim Munro) when DG Marion presented all 3 awards to our club -- Annual Funds/Annual Giving, Polio Plus and Every Rotarian Every Year.

For more information and photos about Dover activities check out our FB Page.



Induction of a new member:

Wendy Stallings is a physics professor at Phillips Exeter Academy and has initiated a Robotics club for middle schoolers in Exeter at the Exeter Seacoast YMCA. Affiliated with our club for some time, Wendy started by asking us to be judges in the statewide high school robotics competitions. Due to Wendy's passion and initiation for robotics programs, the club is pleased to support the new program at the YMCA for middle schoolers. We are so happy that she is officially joining us as a Rotarian and with her work with youth in our community.

Photo (l-r) - Kathy Flygare, past membership chair, Bob Hamilton, current membership chair, and Wendy Stallings, our new member.



Hampton

Dave Considine, Foundation Chair of the Hampton Rotary Club, dedicated the club meeting to watching the End Polio Now event live, and supporting our district's own Brenda Cressey, but also educating all of their members on the most up to date information on the fight against polio!



Ogunquit

News from Ogunquit Rotary – the passing of a friend - Larry Carlson. Ogunquit Rotary has lost a vibrant member of our club, suddenly and unexpectedly, on October 24. On October 19 at our luncheon meeting, Larry Carlson contributed, as he always does, in many ways and we were fortunate that he had volunteered to give a member talk that day. Larry spoke about how he and his wife of 47 years made the choice to move to Maine after vacationing here for many years and how after retirement he became active in Ogunquit's Parks and Rec Committee, the Facilities and Space Needs Committee, and the Municipal Campus Workgroup, in addition to Rotary. At the start of this meeting, Larry read two inspirational messages for the Moment of Gratitude. "Discipline yourself to start each day identifying something to be grateful about. The world opens to those who approach it with a grateful heart." Attributed to Michael Josephson. "The more you practice gratitude, the more you see how much there is to be grateful for, and your life becomes an ongoing celebration of joy and happiness." Attributed to don Miguel Ruiz. We are grateful to have known Larry, inspired by his joy and passion, and our club will mourn his loss.

Obituary: [Lawrence Carlson Obituary - Wells, ME | Bibber Memorial Chapel \(bibberfuneral.com\)](#)





Oxford Hills

The Oxford Hills Club spent 4 hours in the road on Sunday, October 15 collecting tolls for Polio. Members raised \$1896.32. With the 2:1 match from the Gates Foundation, that becomes \$5688.96 towards the effort to eradicate polio!! This is a longtime fundraiser for the Club which builds awareness and is an excellent money-maker.

Photos: L to R:

Collecting Tolls: Connor Burnam, Patty Rice, Bob Schott

Counting cash: President Beth Abbott and George Rice



Portland

SEE THE
FRONT PAGE
FOR
PORTLAND'S
END POLIO
NOW NEWS.

Portsmouth

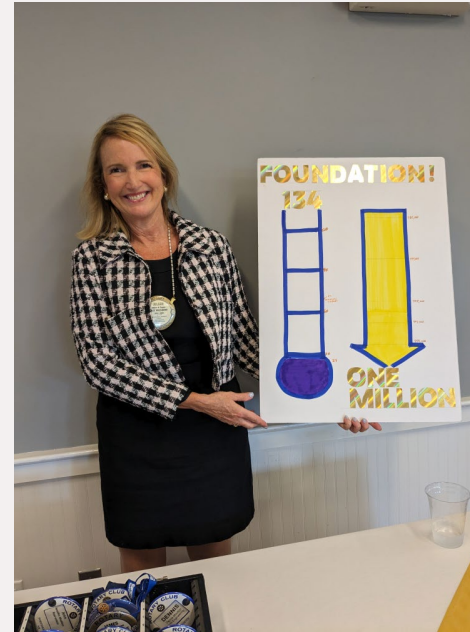
Priscilla MacInnis, Thanksgiving Dinner chair, announced sit-down meals are back. The effort, which takes a huge volunteer corps, brings hundreds of festive meals to those who would otherwise go without. Meanwhile Sara Treacy's volunteers continue to staff the Salvation Army dinner truck each month.

Club Rotary Foundation Chair Aileen Dugan says we have now surpassed \$1 million dollars in total all-time gifts to the Foundation. Twenty-seven of us recently stepped up to get us to the \$1,000,176 mark. Photo top left.

Marie Brownell spearheads an effort to support Pets for Vets through Annie's Angels, a non-profit that pairs therapy animals with US Veterans. Donations of bagged or canned food, gift cards or cash will be provided to veterans who have a therapy animal. The initiative ends appropriately enough on November 11. Photo on right.

We welcomed Ashley Madden as a new member and placed Stephen Bianco on Seven-day notice.

Notable guest speakers for the period included presidential hopeful New Jersey Governor Chris Christie. Photo below.



ANGEL PETS FOR VETS

Angel Pets for Vets pairs therapy animals with US Veterans. We are asking for donations. We would deeply appreciate bagged or canned dog food, gift cards to pet stores, and/or cash, which can be used for dog food/supplies. The food/supplies will be provided to Veterans who are receiving a therapy animal to improve their physical, social, and emotional well-being. Please help us thank a Veteran for their service!

Time: Now - November 11th (Veteran's Day)

Drop off: Rotary Meetings or 860 Lafayette Rd #2

Hampton, NH 03842



Contacts: marie@brownellinsurance.com

travis@brownellinsurance.com



River Valley

River Valley has a speaker at almost all our weekly fellowship meetings. Focus of recent talks include housing the homeless and those in recovery, protective custody for children, the growth of Rumford, student grades and absenteeism, and gun safety, to name a few. Pictured top left (l-r) Thomas Danylik, Principal of Mountain Valley High School; Matt Gilbert, Assistant Superintendent of RSU 10; Pamela Doyon, Superintendent of RSU 56 and Principal of Dirigo High School, and Club President Dave Duguay. Pictured top right (l-r) Ed Paterson, Rotarian of the Day; Melanie Allen, speaker from her position as an attorney for protective custody, representing parents and works with guardian aightem, and President David Duguay.

In the past 2 months, our club inducted 7 new members. Pictured bottom right (l-r) Rotarian Ed Paterson, Derek Taber, Local Investor, Lorinda-Miki Skehan, Director of HOPE Association, and President Dave Duguay.

This time each year we undertake our Weatherization Project. Any citizen, disabled or 60 years and older, in the towns of Dixfield, Mexico, Peru and Rumford, are eligible to benefit from this project. Photo bottom left (l-r) PP Roger Whitehouse; Kevin Jamison, Store Manager of Aubuchon Hardware at Mexico, Maine, recognized for the store's contribution to the 2022-2023 Winterization project and President Dave Duguay. For more information about this project, contact Committee Chair Roger Whitehouse at roger.riverside@gmail.com.





Rochester

Rochester RC was awarded a grant to help Hope on Haven Hill, Abi's Place and The Center for Hope and Wellness with an expansion of an outdoor area for children and parents.

Outside picnic tables, new fencing for a playground area, and new playground equipment were provided for the families residing in the programs. Grant monies and club contributions paid for the equipment; Rotarians assembled it.

The project is focused on helping families in the community and statewide which are working towards mental and physical health.

Hope on Haven Hill provides gender-responsive residential, outpatient and recovery support for substance use disorder services for pregnant, post-partum and parenting women in NH.





Saco Bay Sunset

Rotary Club of Saco Bay Sunset and Old Orchard Beach High School Interact Club are collaborating with Courage Lives/St Andre Home, Old Orchard Beach Recreation Department and Old Orchard Beach Social Services Navigator to FILL THE BUS at Old Orchard Beach High School, 40 Emerson Cummings Blvd., 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 7th.

We are looking to obtain personal items, clothing and cash donations to support local survivors of human sex trafficking as well as CourageLives/St Andre Home. Needed are new or gently-worn winter clothing, jackets, shoes, and unused sock and under garments. Unused and unopened hygiene products, new or lightly-used bedding, and cash donations.

The Old Orchard Beach Recreation Department has graciously allowed us to use their bus so we can fill it with items noted on the poster. **HELP US FILL THE BUS!!!!**





Sanford-Springvale

Club members welcomed students from Sanford High School at their regular club meeting on October 19th at Nasson's Little Theater. Pictured above (l-r) are Richard Terrell and his son Ben Terrell, Rishi Patel and his mother Binal Patel, and Sadie Sevigny and her mother Amy Turgeon Sevigny. Below: (l-r) Rishi, Ben, Sadie and Tala Soule during RYLA.



Each student shared their experiences at the RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) program, held at Camp Hinds this past June. Students having completed their sophomore year in high school are invited to participate in the program which helps to build self-confidence, teamwork, and trust. These alum also volunteered at the Club's ice cream booth at the Acton Fair in August.

After each student shared one or two experiences, Club President Elias Thomas invited the parents to share their experiences as well, which ran the gamut from apprehensions of separation from their children to pride in seeing their growth and maturity upon return home.



Sebago Lake – Windham Area

The Club held another successful fall Lobster Roll Dinner fundraiser on September 29th. Thank you to the following Windham businesses for donating to the event - Hannaford Supermarkets, Kentucky Fried Chicken, McDonald's and Erik's Church. Proceeds from the dinner help fund the club's charitable account, allowing them to support local programs such as Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Feed the Need and the Windham Middle School Assistance Program.

Photo top l-r - Don Drew, Roy McPhail, Max Bangs, Deb McPhail and Ingo Hartig

Photo middle l-r - Robin Mullins - Club President, Richie Vraux

Photo bottom - sitting - Cyndy Bell and standing l-r - Suzy Burkholder, Wayne Burkholder and Marie Jacobs





South Portland - Cape Elizabeth

Indigenous Peoples Day Collaboration - The South Portland Human Rights Commission hosted the third annual Indigenous People's Day event at Redbank Community Center in South Portland. The Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth helped sponsor and cook the Passamaquoddy Maple Pancake Dinner for all who attended! The guest speaker was Michael Cory Hinton, a citizen of the Passamaquoddy Tribe and an attorney with Drummond Woodsum. He spoke about the importance of learning history, understanding current issues and truly engaging with Native people in Maine. Additionally, vendors from Casa Areyto and Nonesuch Books were there with books written by Indigenous authors and other goods available for sale.

Photo l-r: Pedro Vazquez, Chair of the South Portland Human Rights Commission and Speaker Michael Cory Hinton, citizen of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.



Westbrook-Gorham

Tuesday, October 17, was a landmark day for us.

We delivered \$600 worth of food to the Gorham BackPack Program, including 160 cans of vegetables, 80 mini-boxes of cereal, 96 cans of Spaghetti O's, and multiple boxes of healthy snacks and sanitary products. Pictured here with just a few of the donations are some of the club members and friends who helped raise the funds. And some of the folks at Gorham Middle School who received the food. We're so glad we could help supply items for the next "pack"!

We were pleased to present a \$1000 donation to Lucas Schrage, Project Home Manager (center), and Grier Burgoon Miskell, Housing Navigation Coordinator (left), from Quality Housing Coalition. This organization is working hard to identify and develop opportunities for stable housing, and helping people remain in that housing. Presenting the check is President Crystal Norton Brown (right).



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