



Good News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING, CELEBRATIONS
& COLLABORATIONS

NOVEMBER 1, 2024





Biddeford-Saco

The Biddeford Education Foundation honored the Rotary Club of Biddeford-Saco as a longtime community partner and contributor to learning at its Seventh Annual Pillars of Pride event on October 19, 2024. Pictured left to right are Rotarians and other community leaders: Jim Godbout, Kathy Shea, Pierre Giroux, Joanne Landry, Julie Villemaire, Susan Gajewski, Haley Thompson, Rotary Club of Biddeford-Saco President Bill Paterson, Dr. Joe Boyle, Biddeford School Department Superintendent Jeremy Ray, Karen Garnett, Shelley Kane, Paulette Bonneau, Cynthia Giroux, Joe Moreshead, Mark Nahorney, Paul Deschambault, and Ken Farley. The dinner and silent auction raised over \$17,000 for the Foundation. Over half a million dollars has been contributed since January 2000 to support our students.

For more information, www.biddeford-sacorotary.org.



Rotary

District 7780

Boothbay

The Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club had held a Big Auction the first Saturday of August for over 40 years. It started small and grew into a big event on the High School ball field with as many as six big circus tents. In 2020, the Auction was cancelled because of the pandemic. The amazing BBH Rotary Club building crew had already built a big, gray barn to store our neighbors' donations for the Big Auction. So, since the Barn was full, we decided to try selling out of the Big Gray Barn that summer.

It was a huge success, and even easier than the Big Auction. So every year since then the BBH Big Grey Rotary Barn is open every Saturday morning from April until mid-December. We open at 8:30 and there is usually a long line snaking around our parking lot. We are a community meeting place. You can see most of your neighbors at the Rotary Barn Saturday morning. We have a wonderful pickup crew that picks up donations of furniture, household goods, collectibles, tools, even boats, just about anything.

The flexibility to change something we'd done for over forty years is one of the most powerful gifts of Rotary. And, at the same time, we are still having fun and building community!





Bridgton-Lake Region

GROWING READERS AT STEVENS BROOK - The most basic of skills—reading—is the fundamental skill that all children need to succeed in school and in life. Yet many children, regardless of intellectual ability or family income, have difficulty reading and will struggle in every course. Our Club hopes to make a difference by teaming up with the Stevens Brook Elementary School (SBES) to support striving readers. The Club was awarded a \$4000 grant by the District and with an added \$500 of its own has provided specialized classroom reading materials and new books for the school library.

But more books aren't the answer unless the children can read them, so the Rotary Club is recruiting Rotarians and community members to give children in the third and fourth grades an extra opportunity to practice reading. Jessica Emery, the Literacy Instructor for SBES, is thrilled with the additional new classroom books. "These are all high interest books that the children will want to read." The classroom teachers provide guidance to the volunteers and encourage the children's participation.

Recently, Justin Ward, co-owner of Bridgton Books, delivered the first of \$2250 in new books for the school's library. The deep discount that Bridgton Books offers non-profit organizations allowed Aliza Wyman, the school librarian, to get the most out of the grant budget.

The program started on October 15 and will continue for the rest of the academic year. The children and the volunteers are enjoying working together and both are learning something new. Dr. Lisa Ryan, President of Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club, remarked "As a pediatrician I see children every day and know that reading adds to their health and wellbeing. Our Rotary Club is so excited about this project." FMI, contact Joanne Cohn at joanne.cohn643@gmail.com or call 617-306-1956. Photo: (l-r) Aliza Wyman, SBEC Librarian; Rotarian Dr. Lisa Ryan, President; Jessica Emery, Instructional Coach; Principal Valerie Young; Justin Ward, Bridgton Books; and Rotarian Joanne Cohn, Rotary Project Leader.



Rotary
District 7780

Damariscotta - Newcastle

October was a busy month, beginning with assisting with parking control for the 3 final days of the Damariscotta Pumpkinfest and Regatta. Literally thousands of visitors enjoying the sights, sounds and splashes (as well as a parade featuring 2,635.5 lb pumpkin grown by Charlie LoPesti). Next was our own Karl's Kids program fundraiser fun afternoon featuring a corn hole tournament (Wicked CornHole sponsor), food, and music by North County Band as well as yellow-vested Rotarians directing parking.

Members also enjoyed their annual old-fashioned lobster bake hosted by Past President Linda and Dirk Brunner.

In support of Polio eradication, members designated all Happy Dollars to Polio Plus.

District 7780 Area 8 Assistant Governor Lorraine Faherty presenting Central Lincoln County Y Executive Director Casey Clark Kelly with Paul Harris Fellow award. The Y and the Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary have had a very productive relationship over the 10+ years that the Y has been a corporate member of the club.



5th ANNUAL COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER

KARL'S KIDS PLAY SPORTS.
Making Dreams Real for Lincoln County Youth

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Let's Support the Kids!

NORTH COUNTY - BAND -

LIVE AT DUCK PUDDLE CAMPGROUND

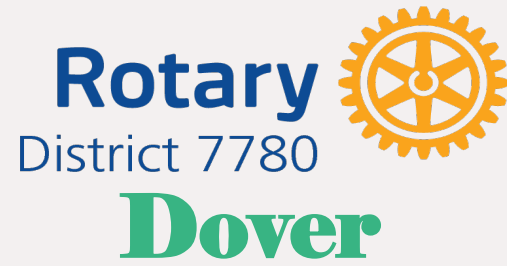
SUNDAY (RAIN OR SHINE) 12-7PM

5TH ANNUAL KARL'S KIDS FUNDRAISER

HELPING LOCAL YOUTH WITH ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT
EVERY DONATION HELPS REACH MORE YOUNG PEOPLE!

OCTOBER 15th

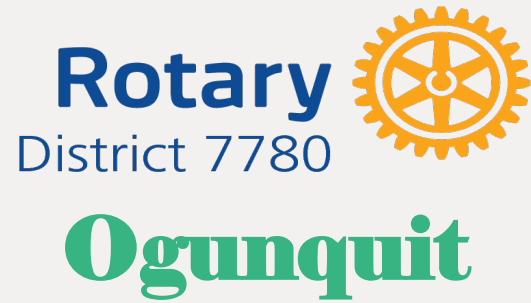
CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT 12-3PM
N.C HUNT'S PORK AND CHICKEN ROAST 3-6PM
LIVE MUSIC AND DANCING 3-7PM
60 CAMPGROUND ROAD - NOBLEBORO, ME.



PDG Marion Cheney, as Club Secretary, led the induction of new Rotarian Bjorn Sigurdsson, who was warmly welcomed by members. #doverrotary #wedogoodverygood

With our Rotary Foundation Trustee, Marty Peak Helman on hand at our meeting, we had the pleasure to give out a Paul Harris +2 award to long-time member Kathy Fink for her organization and leadership of last year's Peace Concert at Noble High. Marty called it the "best district event ever held"! The concert, with matches, netted \$32,000. Thank you for coordinating and to those that attended to support the Rotary Peace Centers.





Spreading the Word about OGT Rotary

OgunquitFest on Oct 26 could not have been a more perfect Fall day and the Rotary Club of Ogunquit was happy to be part of the festivities. The amazing early bird team (pictured from left to right) of Peter Woodbury, Elizabeth Ford, Barbara Leazes and Tyler McOsker set up the Rotary tent where Rotarians sold bread donated from When Pigs Fly and baked goods donated by club members. Most important was the interaction of club members with residents and visitors to OGT. It was a great opportunity to share information about our club and Rotary in general. Thank you to all of the OGT Rotary members who volunteered throughout the day!



Rotary District 7780 Oxford Hills

Oxford Hills Rotary together with our Interactors picked and delivered 300 pumpkins to The McLaughlin Garden and Homestead for the annual Jack O' Lantern Spectacular to allow area children and families to carve pumpkins to be displayed during their annual fundraising event. Club member and Interact Chair Tina Fox coordinated the picking & delivering of the pumpkins.

Club members also held their annual Polio Road Toll recently and collected \$1845. With the Gates 2 to 1 match, that adds up to \$5,535 towards eradicating Polio! Shown are Chair Bob Schott with PP Beth Abbott holding the Polio sign.



Rotary

District 7780

Portland

The third annual *Bridge the Gap to End Polio* bridge walk and *Pints for Polio* fundraiser.

On October 17th, you couldn't miss all 50 of us, dressed in bright red *End Polio Now* tee-shirts and hoodies and carrying banners, as Rotarians with friends and family walked the Casco Bay Bridge. With varying distances completed, ultimately most ended up at Broadway Bowl for a good time, good drinks, and good food.

It was an afternoon of raising awareness and funds for PolioPlus, and a time for fun and fellowship for the Portland and South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary Clubs.



Rotary District 7780 Portsmouth

The club is preparing for its annual Thanksgiving Dinner and Christmas Tree Sales, beginning a week early this year, on November 23. Boosting morale is a new trailer!

At different meetings, the club hosted Russell Prescott and Chris Pappas, candidates to fill New Hampshire's First Congressional District. Earlier, Joyce Craig and Kelly Ayotte, gubernatorial rivals, joined us. We were also delighted to welcome our new District Governor Bob MacKenzie.

The club is helping to fund and/or stuff 130 "care packages" for members of the N.H. Air National Guard who are deploying for several months.

Finally, Jess Hamilton is leading the annual Rotary Raise the Roof, Habitat for Humanity, hands-on project. The work covers two days - Saturday, November 9 and Monday, November 11. This year's event takes place at 168 Four Rod Road in Rochester, NH. There are full-day events from 9 am to 3 pm.

On a sad note, Basil Richardson passed away in late October. He had served the club very well for 48 years. His daughter Beth joined the club earlier this year.



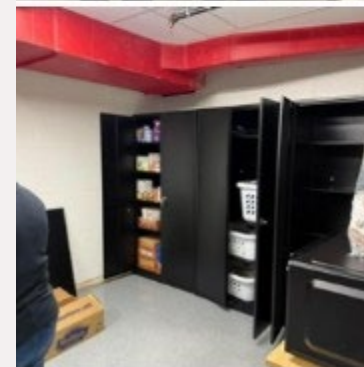
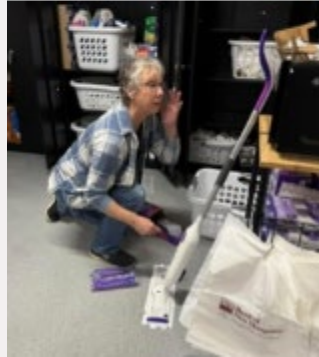
Rotary District 7780 Rochester

Rochester Rotary completed Phase One of the Rochester NH Rotary/District Grant 7780 project on October 4th. Rotarians put in 26 hours of planning, purchasing, building and stocking an on-site Red Raiders Pantry for students in need.

Phase Two will be completion of the Bud Carlson academy kitchen and Phase Three will be publishing the Rotarian written cook book with five ingredient dinners!

Volunteers from the club and some high school students worked together like a well-oiled machine and all items were organized and labeled, with expiration dates, Toiletries are stocked and snacks are overflowing.

Rochester Rotary Club chooses an area of focus annually and this year's focus is Rochester's children.



Saco Bay Sunset

If you enjoy seeing model trains operate, then this event is for you! The event is Free but donations will be accepted and will benefit the Rotary Foundation.

On Sunday December 15th, Bill Haley, a former Rotarian in Vermont, will open his layout from 11:00AM until 3:00PM. It's located at 41 Hampton Meadows, Hampton, NH. Because of limited parking, we are asking people to park at The St. Vincent de Paul Society building at 289 Lafayette Road, Hampton NH 03842. We will provide a shuttle service to and from Bill's house from this location.

There is no cost to attend but a donation basket will be put out and all proceeds will benefit the Rotary Foundation. Feel free to bring along any family members or friends.

If you have questions please call or write, Dennis Robillard, 207-468-0443 or risc@maine.rr.com



Sanford-Springvale

The Sanford-Springvale Rotary Club has merged forces with St. Thomas School to develop an Interact Club, promoting student leadership and service. Rotarians Lawrence Furbish, Barbara Sutcliffe, and Ericka Sanborn happily assisted St. Thomas students and families with their recent community bean supper. (Above photo.)

The Sanford-Springvale Rotary Club won its matchup at the 1st Annual Lip Sync Challenge, performing “Stayin’ Alive.” The event raised funds for the Sanford Backpack Program, which provides meals to children in need. Special thanks to our participants: Barbara Sutcliffe, Heather Beaupre, Roger Durant, Lawrence Furbish, and President Bob Myott. (Photo below.)



Rotary

District 7780

South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

For over 60 years, the Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth (SP-CE) has proudly kicked off the holiday season by selling Christmas Trees and Wreaths in Mill Creek Park, a tradition cherished by our community. Beginning the Friday after Thanksgiving, our Rotary volunteers, with the help of students from the South Portland and Cape Elizabeth communities, are ready to help neighbors select the perfect tree or wreath. All proceeds support vital programs for youth, veterans, food security, and more.

Our marketing and communications strategy is time-tested and effective, reaching across press releases, targeted ads, engaging social media with boosted posts, and word-of-mouth to ensure this annual tradition succeeds.

We're also excited to announce that planning is underway for the SP-CE Rotary SpringFest in May 2025! Thanks to the incredible partnership with the City of South Portland, this event has become a massive success, providing fantastic sponsorship opportunities for local businesses to engage with thousands of community members.

Whether by choosing a holiday tree or becoming a SpringFest sponsor, these investments directly contribute to the programs that keep our community thriving. We look forward to celebrating these special events together annually!



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