



**October 2025**

# Club News

**Rotary**  
District 7780





# Bethel

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The Bethel Rotary Club just concluded a busy month. We grilled lunch at the Mahoosuc Land Trust's annual Monarch Festival in late August.

Two weekends later we served as greeters and helpers at the annual Art & Agriculture Tour, which pairs local artists with a farm for the day. We not only support local non-profits' projects financially, but also with our hands!





# Bridgton-Lake Region

## **Club Inducts Literacy Champion Barbara Jenni**

This summer the Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club proudly inducted Barbara Jenni, a dedicated literacy volunteer. At 96, Barbara brings decades of empathy and experience to her service. Throughout the 2024–25 school year, she volunteered weekly at Stevens Brook Elementary, helping children strengthen their reading skills. Her sponsor Joanne Cohn shared, “Barbara was so grateful for the opportunity to help that she decided to become a Rotarian.”

Barbara’s passion for literacy is deeply personal—she and her sons faced challenges with dyslexia during a time of limited support. Her warmth and humor made her a favorite among students, who eagerly read to her and once applauded her in the hallway. Barbara and her late husband Hans Jenni formerly owned local resort, Tarry-A-While. She truly exemplifies Rotary’s motto: Service Above Self.



Photo left to right: President Dr. Lisa Ryan; Literacy Team Leader and Sponsor Joanne Cohn; and Barbara Jenni, new Rotarian.



# Damariscotta-Newcastle

## September in the Twin Villages

Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary members and family enjoyed their annual traditional, old-fashioned lobster bake at the edge of the Damariscotta River at Clark's Cove. Hosted by Linda and Dirk Brunner, yet again the weather was ideal, the company exquisite, and the lobsters/clams/corn/potatoes, eggs and scrumptious desserts and side dishes brought by members made another perfect social event!

Rounding out the month, District Governor Emma Bodwell sparked (pun intended) our early morning meeting.





# Dover

## A Busy Month for Dover Rotary

September was packed with impact. Dover Rotary stocked snack shelves at local elementary schools and ACERT with 3,300 snacks and \$1,700 in gift cards through its Kids Closet initiative. (Photo Top Right I-r: Nick Pellman, Harry Cheney, Phil Rinaldi, Maggie Sinclair and Ramdev. Gregg Dowty not in photo.)

President Cathy awarded a \$1,500 Community Giving Grant to the Southern NH Ukulele Group for SNHUGFEST at Henry Law Park. (Photo Middle, Members of the group perform for club members.)

Another \$1,500 supported Chapala Sunrise Rotary's Kid's Kitchen in Mexico, feeding 200+ children daily. A multi-year project of the club, likely to continue. (Photo Top Left: Gregg D. giving check to Harvey Bernier.)

With District Grant funds, the club installed a mini-split HVAC system at End 68 Hours of Hunger, ensuring year-round comfort for volunteers packing food bags. (Photo Bottom: volunteers, food bags & HVAC on wall.)

Additionally, Cathy B. and Nick P. received Paul Harris awards, and Kim Hanson was warmly inducted as a new member.

Dover Rotary continues to live its motto: Service Above Self.





# Fryeburg Area

## Fryeburg Area Rotary Joins Meal-Packing Effort to Fight Hunger

On September 20, Fryeburg Area Rotary teamed up with North Conway Rotary (D7850), as well as Lions, Kiwanis, and Key Club volunteers to pack 30,000 meals for Maine and New Hampshire communities. Funded by an \$8,000 Rotary District 7850 Grant, \$800 from the Fryeburg Club and local contributions, the event marked the 50 millionth meal prepared by End Hunger New England. Fryeburg volunteers packed tomato basil pasta, mac & cheese, and cinnamon oatmeal—each packet serving six.

Over 2,000 meals were distributed to Fryeburg-area pantries. This cross-club collaboration made a real impact on food insecurity. Learn more or volunteer at [endhungerne.org](http://endhungerne.org).





# Hampton

## Hampton Supports 3 Community Events

The Hampton Rotary supported three key community events this season. At *Reach the Beach*, members staffed the beer tent—special thanks to Charlie Davidson for his coordination. During *Seafood Fest*, weather canceled our gate shift once we arrived, but members still gathered in fellowship; thanks to Joan Correll for organizing volunteers. Looking ahead, *Fall Fridays at Depot Square* in downtown Hampton run September 19–October 17, Fridays 3:30–6:30 PM, featuring live music, food vendors, and family activities. All are welcome!



*Fall Fridays* 🎵

ENJOY LIVE MUSIC, GAMES, FOOD, AND COMMUNITY

EVERY FRIDAY 3:30PM-6:30PM  
SEPTEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup> - OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>



*Join us*

At the Hampton Gazebo Downtown

PARKING AVAILABLE IN THE MUNICIPAL LOT

Rotary Hampton Area

Serving the communities of Hampton, Hampton Falls, North Hampton & Seabrook

In partnership with





# Kennebunkport

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## Club Highlights: Giving Back & Getting Involved!

We had an exciting few weeks of service and community connection!

- **A Special Visit:** We were honored to welcome District Governor *Emma Bodwell* and celebrate by donating a book in her name to a local school.
- **Ride for Autism:** On September 20th, our club proudly sponsored the *Ride for Autism* in support of the Autism Society of Maine. Bob Wester, Laura Andrews, Ki Leffler, and Jen Brooks (joined by Jen's daughter, one of our MSK Interact students!) are pictured volunteering on race day.
- **Back-to-School Support:** To kick off the school year, we visited teachers at *Kennebunkport Consolidated School* and gifted each a Staples card to help cover any remaining classroom supplies.

We're making a difference-one project, classroom, and community at a time!





# Kittery

## Tomorrow's Leaders Supported by Rotary

Twelve Traip Academy students attended the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) summer camp, thanks to funding from the Rotary Club of Kittery, with support from Kittery After-Hours and Kennebunk clubs—a great District 7780 collaboration! RYLA offers youth a chance to build leadership, teamwork, and communication skills while having fun and making lasting connections. Several students shared reflections at a recent Kittery Rotary meeting, calling the experience “transformative,” “eye-opening,” and “confidence building”—and yes, “HOT!” Camp took place during one of the summer’s hottest stretches. Activities challenged students to think critically, solve problems together, and discover new strengths. Many left with a deep sense of accomplishment and new friendships.

Congratulations to our RYLA 2025 graduates!





# Ogunquit

## A Powerful Message on Polio Eradication

The Rotary Club of Ogunquit welcomed guest speaker Douglas Dodd, author of *Our Father Who Art in an Iron Lung: A Memoir*. Doug shared a striking poster of his father in an iron lung and spoke movingly about the care provided by his family. He emphasized Rotary's vital role in eradicating polio and reflected on the challenges and life lessons of supporting a loved one with the disease. After retiring from home construction, Doug wrote his memoir to honor his father's journey and the resilience it inspired. His heartfelt presentation left a lasting impression.

To invite Douglas to speak at your club, contact Ogunquit Rotary Club Secretary Susan DeQuattro at: [sdequattro@alandrealty.com](mailto:sdequattro@alandrealty.com).



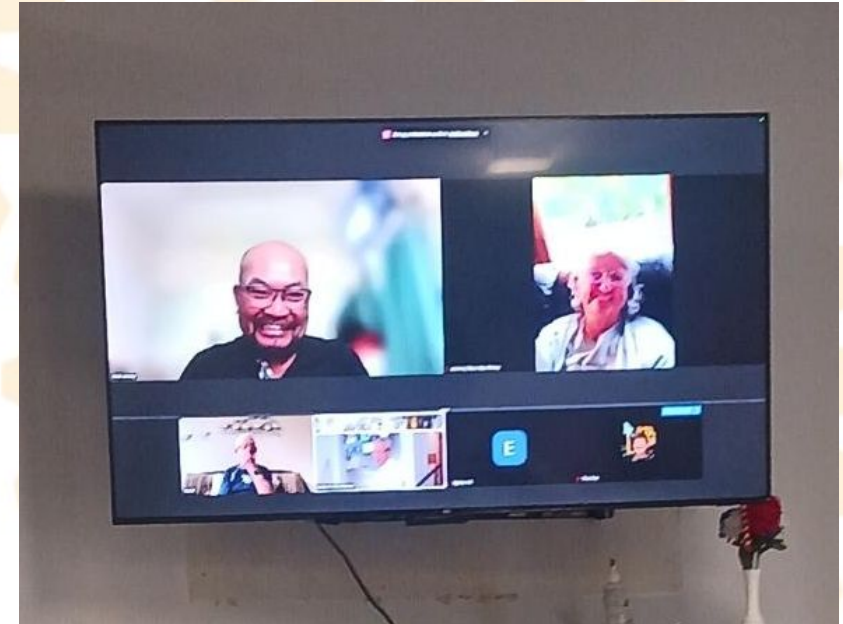


# Oxford Hills

## OH Rotary Hosts Philippines Outreach Team & Launches Cabot Cheese Sale

Oxford Hills Rotary recently welcomed the District 7780 Outreach Team to share highlights from their spring trip to the Philippines. Presenters included PDG Dick Hall, Engineer; Carol Madsen, Communicator; and Joanne Landry (via Zoom), Dancing Queen, with local host PDG Ariel Jersey joining live from the Philippines. Clubs are encouraged to invite the team to speak—FMI, contact Carol at [carjmad@hotmail.com](mailto:carjmad@hotmail.com).

It's also time for the OH Rotary Annual Cabot Cheese Brick Sale! Cabot extra sharp, 3-lb bricks are \$25 (same as last year). Shipping available or free delivery to clubs ordering 5+ bricks. Proceeds support the Club's dictionary project, May Day Play Day, and scholarships. Bricks arrive mid-November—perfect for holiday gifting! FMI: George Rice (207.890.3122) or Patty Rice (207.890.2332) [www.oxfordhillsrotary.org](http://www.oxfordhillsrotary.org)





# Portsmouth

## Portsmouth Rotary September News

The Club supports United Way's Community Baby Shower Drive. Basic Needs Committee Member Cathy Nickerson collects diapers, wipes, diaper cream, and cash through three meetings in late September and early October.

In addition to beginning plans for this year's Thanksgiving Dinner, Priscilla MacInnis spearheads a campaign to replace our old name badges, some of which date back more than 30 years.

Speaking of Thanksgiving, Priscilla and Betsy Scott acknowledged volunteer-extraordinaire Neil Cohn for his decades of service at the event. Neil was given a gift card.

While we're decking the halls, President-Elect John St. Pierre has placed the club's order for 1500 Christmas trees.

Bria Day and Steve Bennett coordinated a representative volunteer effort for the "Thunder over New Hampshire" air show at Pease. We received praise after enduring long shifts and demonstrating extra effort.





# River Valley

## Featured Speakers and more over the past few months:

Jack Gaudet, Mexico Town Manager, who shared latest happenings in town.  
(Bottom Photo)

Jamie Theriault, Mexico FireFighter, who spoke of upcoming vote for new fire station in town. (Middle Photo, with PP Roger Whitehouse)

Shannon Glover, Rotarian and Director of Holy Savior Food Pantry, spoke of their work and mission.

Melanie Dresser, Executive Director, Camp Capella. (Top Lt. Photo w/Mother & Daughter.)

Tina West, President of the Worthley Pond Association, spoke of their mission.

Jennifer Beauton, Shared Living Coordinator for HOPE Association, spoke of their mission to provide accommodations for individuals with disabilities.

Not all informative talks, however, Rotarian and current club president Rich Allen received his third Paul Harris Award, pinned by PDG Tim Placey. (Top Rt. Photo)

A social event at Tim Placey's Sommer home on Worthley Pond, where 20 plus Rotarians, family and friends assembled for fellowship and good food.

The Lobster Roll Lunch Fundraiser was successful thanks to donations from WalMart and others. Proceeds go to scholarships.





# Saco Bay Sunset

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Rotary Club of Saco Bay Sunset inducted three new members on September 23, 2025

## **New members**

Harrison Lambert

Robert Desrochers

Ian Blake

Photo left to right: Scott Simonds, Dennis Robillard, Harrison Lambert, Robert Desrochers and Ian Blake.





# Sanford-Springvale

## Club Honors 2 Outstanding People

We recently honored two outstanding members of the Rotary family - Mark Yerkes and his wife, Amy Josiah - naming them Paul Harris fellows. Presentations by President Bob Myott.

Mark and Amy have shared their time, talent, and treasure with the Sanford-Springvale Rotary Club in so many ways. In addition to volunteering for nearly every Rotary event, they were instrumental in reconstructing and repairing our booth at the Acton Fair, helped to spruce up the roundabout at the junction of routes 109 and 4, and are the driving forces behind the upcoming Sanford on Tap event.

We are so grateful for their endless support, tireless work, and unwavering commitment!

Congratulations, Mark and Amy!





# South Portland-Cape Elizabeth

## Rotary Collaboration Powers Food Cupboard Upgrade

On September 17th, the South Portland–Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club proudly presented a \$35,113 check to the South Portland Food Cupboard (SPFC) to fund a walk-in refrigeration unit at their new facility. This upgrade will expand access, enable pre-orders, and safely store fresh food for families in need.

The idea sparked last spring when Rotarian Tony Wagner identified the need. With support from then-President Nancy Irving, Community Service Director Sari Greene, and a \$10,000 commitment from the South Portland Housing Authority (SPHA), momentum grew. Ten Rotary clubs, a District 7780 grant and individual donors joined forces, raising the additional \$25,113.

This is Rotary in action—Service Above Self, collaboration across clubs, and a shared commitment to fighting hunger.

Photo: SP-CE and SPHA representatives present the award to Dwayne Hopkins, Executive Director of the SPFC. Front row l-r: Mary Jo Jakab, Sybil Riemensnider, Sari Greene; Back row l-r: Dwayne Hopkins, Peter Bennett, Mike Hulsey





# Westbrook-Gorham

## Mother Nature Teed Up Perfect Weather for Annual Fundraiser

We were thrilled to raise over \$33,000 from our 31st Annual Golf Classic on September 22nd. But the real overall winner is the Westbrook-Gorham community. These funds will be used by our charity to support education & literacy, fight food insecurity, mentor youth, support veterans and seniors, and provide scholarships in the Westbrook and Gorham communities. among other causes.

We extend a special thanks to Event Underwriting Sponsor IDEXX, and to over 100 incredible corporate sponsors, individuals, and teams for their generosity. We also thank Rotarian Scott Linscott of Maine ProPhoto and all of the amazing volunteers who helped to make this great event possible! To see the complete list of sponsors, visit our golf website at

<https://westbrookgorhamrotarygolf.org/>

If your club holds a golf fundraiser, let's talk. We're interested in sharing what has worked for us, but are also interested in what is working for other clubs. Email: [golf@westbrookgorhamrotary.org](mailto:golf@westbrookgorhamrotary.org)

