

**Rotary**  
District 7780



# News from the Clubs

ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CLUBS

SERVICE, FUNDRAISING AND  
CELEBRATIONS

JANUARY 7, 2022







## Bath

A long-standing tradition for Bath Rotarians is to help decorate downtown Bath for the holiday season. On Saturday, November 20th we hit the streets with ladders to string lights on the lampposts on Front and Centre Streets along with wrapping the trunks of the trees in Waterfront Park. We had some assistance from the staff at The Plant Home as well as some City of Bath employees.

At the Dec 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Club distributed \$15,000 raised at our 30<sup>th</sup> annual golf tournament., an all-time record for proceeds. Recipients and others pictured include (L to R) Bath Rotary President Michael Princiotta, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Bath/Brunswick Executive Director Lindsay McDonald, Bath Rotary Golf Tournament Chair Bob Warren, Chop Point President and Camp Director David Wilkinson, Midcoast Youth Center Executive Director and Midcoast Community Alliance Founder Jamie McDoor and Midcoast Youth Center Youth Outreach Coordinator Donna Verhoeven.







## Bridgton-Lake Region

The Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club donated 20 winter coats, 20 pairs of snow pants, 25 pairs of waterproof gloves, and 15 pairs of snow boots to the Crooked River Elementary School in Casco for distribution as needed by the school to children in need. Pictured are Rotarians George Klauber and President Elect Aaron Hagan with school officials. Also the Club donated several therapeutic devices to help students at Bridge Crossing adapt to classroom learning.

The Club hosted a Christmas Roast Beef Community Kettle Drive Thru Only and served 125 meals within 20 minutes. Rotarians Skip Sullivan and Cathy Pinkham assist Chef Nicholas Orgo with food prep. Joanne Cohn and George Klauber assisted by an Interactor, plate. Serving were Interactors from Lake Region High School and their helper, Santa.







## Dover

The Dover High School - Interact students helped with the Don't Trash Dover clean-up. Getting outside and earning Community Service hours allows them to earn while learning.

Club members gathered necessities for those who are in need during the Winter months. It's amazing how kind people are when they hear of the good you are doing for the homeless in the local community. Thank you to Kevin, Store Manager at Ocean City Job Lot. Behind Shopping Carts - Melissa Lesniak, Cate Rafferty, Jim Munro, Pam Munro.

The Rotary Club of Dover gathered supplies & items for the Rotary tree for the Annual Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce - Annual Festival of Trees. Can you guess our theme for this year's tree?







## Exeter

For the 21<sup>st</sup> year the Town of Exeter was filled with luminaries on Christmas Eve, thanks to the Exeter Rotary Club. Coordinated by Club President Burt Dibble, Past President Dottie Millbury, and Rotarian Donna Buxton, this time-honored holiday tradition kicks off in early December when each Rotarian is given a stack of bags to fold. During Christmas week, Rotarians began preparing the bags- over 1200 this year- by placing two inches of sand and a votive candle at the bottom of each bag. On Christmas Eve, a crew of Rotarians, their families, friends and community members loaded their cars and trailers, and headed out into downtown Exeter to fill the town with luminary bags. Other neighborhoods outside downtown have joined in the tradition by distributing luminaries on their streets as well. The result is a beautifully illuminated route through town that people from Exeter and neighboring communities walk through or enjoy from their cars as part of their Christmas Eve celebrations.







## Kennebunk Portside

The Club gained good visibility by marching in the hat parade for the annual Kennebunkport Christmas Prelude. Wearing duck hats to celebrate the upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> annual duck race fundraiser, Portsiders marched through the largest crowd ever assembled for the event. HGTV featured the annual Kennebunkport celebration as the “#2 Christmas Town in America.” A perfect venue for calling attention to Rotary. And it didn’t hurt to be first in the parade lineup in order to highlight the club banner!

On New Year’s Day, Steve Turner, Community Service Director of Kennebunk Portside Rotary Club, joined a pack of brave souls who plunged into the Atlantic Ocean to raise money for Caring Unlimited, York County’s domestic violence resource center. The 21<sup>st</sup> annual Atlantic Plunge off Gooch’s Beach in Kennebunk attracted dozens of plungers and a huge crowd of supporters. An event sponsor, Kennebunk Portside has supported this agency for more than a decade. Pictured is Steve Turner with Peg Belanger, Kennebunk Portside Rotarian and Immediate Past DG of 7780. And many of the brave souls.





# Kittery After Hours

Kittery Rotary After Hours Club Share Books During Holiday Parade!

After a year off in 2020, the Kittery Rotary After Hours Club once again participated in Kittery's annual holiday parade on Saturday, December 4, 2021. The Kittery Reads Program is alive and well as club members walked the parade route handing out books to children along the way. Bells were presented to older children and adults with the question, "Can you hear the bell?" Over 350 new books were shared.







## Ogunquit

The Rotary Club of Ogunquit was out in full force helping to make Christmas by the Sea weekend a special celebration. Rotarians decorated the beautiful tree in Rotary Park, where a huge group of people gathered for singing, s'mores provided by the Club, and a spectacular tree lighting. With Santa's help, the Club provided 95 meals to OGT seniors. The delicious meal, along with a box of chocolates, was delivered by car service to each senior. Kudos to Rotarians Erin Haye and John Clancy for organizing this event, and to all who helped serve. Luckily, the bad weather cleared and Rotary was able to have 2 cars in a festive parade. Pictured with the car from left to right are Rotarians Ed Seppa, Peter Woodbury, Carol Brennan, and Tracy Smith. Happy New Year to all! Visit us at: <https://www.ogunquitmerotary.org/>.







## Oxford Hills

Congratulations Interact! The Oxford Hills Interact Club won 1<sup>st</sup> Place for the non-profit business category at the Oxford Hills Chamber of Commerce 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Parade. Rotarian and Interact Advisor Tina Fox passing out candy in the photo.

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month OH Club has an evening social with a meal and no formal program. December 15<sup>th</sup> was a Yankee Swap gift exchange. Doors open at 5:00, dinner at 5:30, cost is \$15.00/person, reservations are required. This has proved to be a nice option for members, potential members and/or guests who aren't able to come to a morning meeting. Upcoming dates are 1/19/22, 2/16/22 and 3/16/22. Anyone interested in joining us, please contact Dan Hart at [dan.obed.hart@gmail.com](mailto:dan.obed.hart@gmail.com) to make your reservation.







## Portland

Bruce Jones, the Portland Board of Directors, and other club Rotarians will step up to take over leadership roles in the club for the departing Rotary Club of Portland's President Bob Martin, who is moving to Waterville, Maine. President Martin's last Rotary meeting with the Portland Rotarians is scheduled to be January 7, 2022. President Elect Bruce Jones and all the others will fill the club's leadership gap after that. Bruce is an example of "Rotarians in Action". He regularly contributes to the club's Community Service projects including serving Thanksgiving Dinner at the St. Vincent de Paul Soup Kitchen with volunteer Portland Rotarians.

Congratulations to Bob Martin for his years as a member with the Portland Rotary. Thank you to the fill-in leadership team for all of your "Service Above Self" Rotary service.







## Portsmouth

Our biggest annual fundraiser—Christmas Tree Sales--had to contend with a shortage of trees like the rest of the world. We received 1200 versus the contracted 1600, resulting in a much shorter selling period. To offset the deficit, Yvonne Legge and Joanie Dickinson's committee decided to ask for donations. The project finished comfortably in the black.

Meanwhile, Betsy Scott and Ann Bliss coordinated an extraordinary Thanksgiving Dinner effort. There was no sit-down meal, but 580 bagged dinners were delivered by a team of drivers after another large group of volunteers prepared 37 turkeys, hundreds of pounds of potatoes, squash, stuffing and hundreds of pies. Most of the dinner went to recipients in the Portsmouth area, but others were delivered to remote locations like South Hampton, N.H., Northwood and Cape Neddick, Me.

But stealing the limelight was Kevin McCloud our former host at Yoken's Restaurant. We were enthralled by his nostalgic trip down memory lane. A time when a steak dinner cost less than \$2. Where have you gone Joe DiMaggio?







## Sanford-Springvale

On December 17th and 18<sup>th</sup>, 20 Rotarians from the Sanford-Springvale Club and 8 family/friends rang bells for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle drive. A total of \$2,757.37 was raised, which will go a long way to help those in need. At one point a man in a car drove up and handed one of the ringers money. When they went to put it in the Kettle, they saw it was a \$100 bill! Thanks to all who helped ring and to all those who gave. The Rotarians in the picture from left to right are Bob Hardison, Barbara Sutcliffe, Lawrence Furbish, and former Rotarian Shawn Sullivan.







## S. Portland-Cape Elizabeth

Coming Together Again and Celebrating Community –

Winterfest 2022 is back at Mill Creek Park, South Portland. Friday, January 28 (5:30-8) and Saturday, January 29 (11:00-3). This family-friendly event, co-sponsored by the RC of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth and the City of South Portland, is free to all and, through sponsorships, will raise money for projects in our communities. All the activities will be scheduled in and around the park and designed to take advantage of ice and snow, as well as many activities not dependent on weather. Friday night's main attraction will be a designated food tasting area, including well-lit tables displaying food samples from area vendors. Also fire pits set up around the pond and music in the gazebo. Saturday will feature sports demonstrations, musical and theatrical presentations, a S'mores Station and Touch-a-Truck created by area organizations and youth groups. Also available will be fireworks at Fort Williams Park in Cape Elizabeth.







# DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

If you didn't see your Club News in this issue of the District Newsletter, it is likely we did not receive it. We love to hear from all of you. About 75 words and a couple of photos. Send your material to: [RotaryNews7780@gmail.com](mailto: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