



District Beacon

April, 1998

**Marie Williams
District 7780 Governor 1997-1998**



District Governor Marie's Monthly Message

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

Spring has "sprung" and we are into April already. April is Magazine Month so please be sure to encourage your fellow Rotarians to read The Rotarian. When you read this month's Rotarian Magazine, you will see the first article on page 2 is about District 7780's Disaster Relief. Be sure to read all of the wonderful articles in The Rotarian each month. There is a wealth of information contained in there that should be shared with everyone. Give your copy to someone outside of Rotary to read when you are through with it. Get a subscription to your local library. Help spread the word of Rotary.

We saw the outbound GSE team off to Finland on Sunday afternoon - Team Leader Linda, Members Helen, Helen, Ellen and Alan. We received word this morning that they arrived in Finland safe and sound but very tired. Their trip over went well and they start their adventure in Finland at 9 am tomorrow morning. By the time you read this, it will almost be time for their return. A week after their return, the team from Finland will arrive. I hope you all have your calendars marked for our clean-up day on May 16th at the Salvation Army Camp. We are helping the Salvation Army clean-up the debris from the ice storm so the camp will be in good shape when the Finnish team takes their rest break there. For more details, call Sarah Luck in the Portland Club. Sign up now to attend the District Conference so you will have a chance to hear and talk to both GSE teams

at the District Conference on Saturday, May 30th.

Speaking of the District Conference, I heard today from Anita Stengl of ROTOPLAST INTERNATIONAL, Inc. She is flying to Maine to speak at the conference late Friday morning. Anita led one of the Rotoplast surgery trips. She will share her story and many others as well as show some videos about the children this program helps. It will really touch your hearts!

The Conference Committee mailed out over 300 registration packets in mid-March. If you didn't personally receive one, please talk to your club president, president-elect or club secretary about registering or you can contact District Conference Chair, Thane Pearson, at 207-351-27811. He will gladly send you one. It is going to be an exciting weekend. The GSE and Rotoplast stories are only a couple of the exciting things taking place. There is going to be a

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The DGN News Corner

REFLECTIONS OF THE RECENT PAST, AND THE EXCITING FUTURE!!!!

We had been told about it, but it was one of those experiences that you are a part of, and you keep asking yourself, is this really happening, and am I a part of something so wonderful.

Gradually you realize that it is really happening, you are not dreaming, and YOU are a player in this wonderful organization called ROTARY. As you interact with the different DGN's from the other 526 Districts you come to understand their problems and dreams are alot like yours, yet their challenges are sometimes much different. I remember asking one of my new friends why they did not use small planes to drop notices in the remote areas of his country to announce the Polio vaccine distribution areas. He said to me, "Bill, the people can not read".

As I looked around the room in our large meetings, I thought, all these people are dedicated volunteers, giving of their time and talents. Not only are they

doing this, but to think that there is another person right behind each of us, training and anxious to follow us next year.

THE 1998 NORTHEAST MULTI-DISTRICT PETS

I hope you enjoyed your experience in Nashua as much as I did. Meeting some of you for the first time, and getting to know the rest of you a little better was a treat for me.

Many of you mentioned that fellowship was a big part of what you enjoyed, as well as the three main speakers, the training sessions, finding out how much there is to Rotary and on and on.

One of our president elects has said, "I am well on my way to the transition from Rotary member to Rotarian". This is our charge, to encourage more of our members of Rotary to become Rotarians.

Let us FOLLOW OUR ROTARY DREAM, and encourage our members to FOLLOW THEIR ROTARY DREAM, also.

I am looking forward to seeing you, and your team, at OUR ASSEMBLY April 25, 1998.

Your Friend in Rotary

Bill

District-Wide Cleanup at Camp Sebago

Mark your calendars for May 16, 1998 to join with your fellow Rotarians from around the District at Camp Sebago on the shores of Sebago Lake in Standish to help in the clean-up of the Salvation Army Camp, Camp Sebago! The Camp was the site for the RYLA last year, and will host our incoming GSE Team from Finland for two days during their visit here later in May. The Camp was particularly hard hit by the ice storm in January; your help on that day can mean a lot to this wonderful facility, which serves children from around New England, and provides Rotary with a wonderful location for its programs, too. Further details for the event will be provided to your club soon! See you on the 16th at Camp Sebago.

RYLA 1998

- EXCITING PROGRAM •
- LEADERSHIP SKILLS •
- FUN & FELLOWSHIP •
- WHERE? - CAMP HINDS, RAYMOND, ME.
- WHEN? - JUNE 25 - 28, 1998
- WATCH FOR DETAILS! •

District 7780 Officers - 1997-1998

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District 7780 Club Attendance For March

	Attendance %	Club	Members 6/30/97	Current Members	+/-
	A	B	C	D	E
1	93.22	South Berwick	36	41	5
2	91	Windham	33	40	7
3	90.3	Kennebunk Portside	39	38	-1
4	89	Bridgton/Lake Region	29	24	-5
5	88.2	Freeport	41	32	-9
6	88	Damariscotta-Newcastle	41	43	2
7	87.1	Kennebunk	96	93	-3
8	85.6	Biddeford/Saco	93	85	-8
9	84.7	Saco Bay	67	67	
10	84.24	Bethel	37	36	-1
11	84	Oxford Hills	59	57	-2
12	82.46	Bath	61	62	1
13	82.29	Boothbay Harbor	49	49	
14	81.67	Sanford/Springvale	52	53	1
15	80.95	Rumford	49	43	-6
16	80.38	Bath Sunrise	23	24	1
17	78.54	Durham - Great Bay	51	48	-3
18	77.66	Rochester	74	77	3
19	77.25	Exeter	48	48	
20	76.92	Fryeburg Area	26	26	
21	76.56	South Portland/Cape Elizabeth	48	50	2
22	74	Yarmouth	39	37	-2
23	73.44	Portland	220	218	-2
24	73	Newburyport	74	76	2
25	71.6	Brunswick Coastal	15	15	
26	70	Brunswick	145	145	
27	69	Scarborough	19	23	4
28	68	Hampton	53	60	7
29	66.4	Westbrook-Gorham	44	44	
30	66.15	Ogunguit	47	43	-4
31	64.755	Portsmouth	258	272	14
32	NR	Casco Bay Sunrise	30	28	-2
33	NR	Dover	84	80	-4
34	NR	Kittery	30	25	-5
35	NR	Seabrook-Hampton Falls	30	31	1
36	NR	Somersworth	21	23	2
37	NR	Wells	50	50	
38	NR	York	63	63	
39		TOTALS	2274	2269	-5
40	Deadline for attendance reports is the 10th of the month. Please FAX or mail to District Secretary Pam Gray.				
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News And Notes

Around District 7780

Sometimes good projects can be easy. The **Hampton** club recently produced notices telling where and when their Rotary club meets. They enlisted help from local high school students, who developed the artwork. Then the notices were mounted into small acrylic stands, and distributed to over 150 local hotels and restaurants. A great way to welcome and help Rotarians who are traveling! Hampton also has a "Sunshine Club", made up of past Presidents, who take charge of getting greeting cards delivered to anyone in their club family who has suffered loss or illness.

The **Fryeburg** club is also making sure visitors know of them - two new Rotary signs have been ordered for Routes 302 and 113. Club members are hosting, on March 28, a cross-over dinner for boys going from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts. They'll be preparing, serving and cleaning up dinner for the boys and families.

The **Oxford Hills** club hosted an Exchange Students Day, inviting all the area youth exchange students for a day of skiing. The student doing best in a fundraiser was rewarded with a free day of skiing!

In **South Berwick**, the club's literacy project is under way - a book drive, for which members are bringing in new and good children's books to be donated and distributed through the local food pantry. The Rotattler reported the weekly attendance figure for their March 19 meeting as Attendees: 0 Guests: 0. This record-setting stat was the result of an asbestos problem discovered in their meeting place. An alternate site has been found til the problem's fixed...

The **Windham** club recently came to the aid of a local family whose child is fighting leukemia. Hearing about the project, club members from **Ogunquit, Yarmouth** and **Hampton** were generous in helping out, too.

The **Ogunquit** club made a donation recently to the Junior Achievement group. Their March programs highlighted a talk from a Wells Youth Exchange student back from Mexico, and a club assembly at the end of the month. What's this about a NCAA pool??

The **Yarmouth** club is helping out with a bone marrow donor drive, scheduled for April 8 at Yarmouth High School. They also held a joint "60's Night" dinner meeting on March 18 with the **Casco Bay** and **South Portland /Cape Elizabeth** clubs.

Sanford-Springvale Rotarians are collecting books for children, and each member's bringing in two books - one bound (oohl sorry couldn't resist it!) for Camp Sunshine and another for donation to their local food pantry.

The **Rochester** club has an easy way to collect money for "Shots for Tots" - members throw loose change into a can as they come into weekly meetings, and it's adding up for this year-long district project to help immunize children in Ethiopia. The club's Bowl-a-thon is March 28, and golf tournament planning is already under way.

For all that Rotary clubs share, it's still true that each club has its own traditions. At the **Saco Bay** club, there's a long-standing one of the Postcard Patrol - sending the club's sgt.-at-arms a postcard anytime members travel. He duly reports on the cards to the club.

Woe to those who offer happy dollars for enjoying vacations if they've forgotten to send off their postcard before returning!

A long tradition for travellers in the **Brunswick** club is to bring in their spare foreign change once they're back home. The coins from around the world are cataloged and added to the excellent Brunswick Rotary Coin Collection. After Brunswick members completed a recent survey, the board and officers are planning a formal half-day retreat to refocus the club based on the many ideas and suggestions raised.

The **Portsmouth** club had a record-breaking auction this year, with all members pitching in to the effort. Plans are underway for continuing their Peirce Island project, rejuvenating this run-down and under-used park along the Piscataqua River. The Annual Lifetime Achievement Award has been announced, and the recipient is a friend to many around the district - PDG Jim Labrie. The award dinner will be in May.

As the **Portsmouth** club celebrates its 75th anniversary this coming month, it takes special pleasure in reminding all around District 7780 that there's "a new kid in town" - a great place to make up a meeting is at the new **Portsmouth Sunrise** (provisional) club. Meetings are Thursdays at 7:15 am at the Red Hook Brewery at the Pease Tradeport. Congratulations and welcome to all its members!

The **Kennebunk** club offered good food to the hungry hordes at a recent big home show - they're expecting salads, lasagnas and cookies to move well and raise funds for the club. Interact students were scheduled to lend

More News And Notes Around District 7780

club members a hand with the event. The club's also hard at work on their scholarship drive, and expect to give out \$12,000 among 35 winners this spring.

The **South Portland / Cape Elizabeth** club interviewed local students recently to find RLYA candidates - they found such a good bunch of applicants, the club has approved sending six of them to RLYA this spring. A recent meeting featured a presentation from our outgoing District 7780 GSE team on its way to Finland.

The **Dover** club has several major projects taking shape. The town just approved the club's plan for building a new roller rink - a safe place for in-line skating and skateboarding. Plans for a new band shell have also been approved, and fundraising for both projects will now start in earnest. A spring hands-on project involves doing grounds work, landscaping and painting

at Dover's Woodman Institute historical museum, tying in nicely to the town's 375th anniversary this year.

Throughout the year, the **Portland** club gets many of its members involved in their tennis league. Six teams compete, and it sounds like the "Nipmuc" tribe has the lead going into the playoffs. The league play ends with a big social event at Hadlock Field. Portland had the distinction of raising the most money of any club in the district for that orphanage in Romania we are helping.

The **Freeport** club is planning to have 70-80 presentations for students at their April 8 Career Day at Freeport High. As a follow-up to their recent planning meeting, several meeting programs have focussed in depth on the status of the four Avenues of Service at their club.

Quotes-Of-The-Month:

from the **Saco Bay BayWatch**:
"A little madness in the Spring is wholesome even for the King."
-Emily Dickenson

from the **Yarmouth Royal River Rotarian**:

"The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month."
-Henry Van Dyke

Happy-Dollars-Of-The-Month:

from the **Saco Bay BayWatch**:
"Con C. was triply delighted to be home from Florida; he dodged a tornado, hid in a closet to avoid a second tornado, and escaped from a leaking boat on the Okeechobee."

from the **Brunswick** club's **Merrymeeting Messenger**:

"Tom T. had a happy dollar for his son...having the thoughtfulness to date a girl who's father owns a winery in the Finger Lakes area."

District Governor's Message . . . continued from page one

magician on Friday evening. Wait until you see who is going to be cut in half! There are so many exciting things that have already happened this year and many more coming up. Come to the District Conference to help us celebrate the Magic of this year.

The Presidential Citation forms are on their way to Rotary International. Please bring your completed Governor's Trophy Challenge forms to the District Assembly. Let's all support DGN Bill and the president-elects by having the best attended District Assembly this District has seen to date. DGN Bill and his committee have worked to make this the best assembly ever.

Portsmouth celebrated their 75th anniversary at a gala event in March and we have two more clubs celebrating their 75th anniversaries in May. Sanford-Springvale on May 16th and Newburyport on May 23rd. Please join me in congratulating these clubs!

I hope to see you all at the District Assembly on April 25th as you continue to Show's Rotary Cares, for your community, for our world, for its people, when you Follow Your Rotary Dream.

Yours in Rotary

Marie

MEET THE FINNS

by Nancy Hawes

Our own very excited GSE team left for Finland on April 5 and the next morning we received the following e-mail from Eero Aalto, the GSE coordinator in Finland.

" Your team is here. They arrived 11:25 Finnish time and they were very tired. They told me that have been 24 hours awake so I think they like to go to sleep very early this evening. Everything on the trip went well and we eat a late lunch at Marina palace hotel and after that they went to change money and back to their hosts. Tomorrow the group start at 9 o'clock and went to Naantali spa."

They will be returning to the Portland Jetport on Saturday, May 2 at 6:25 p.m.

The inbound team is expected to arrive at the jetport on May 10th. It would be great to have a large welcoming party to greet them at the airport!

The team consists of:

Kai Laakso, who works at the Archipelago Sea Coast Guard headquarters;

Elise Huisman, a bank lawyer;

Ulla Palomaki, an English teacher;

Johan Stenback, a shipbuilder who builds replicas of old sailing ships; and,

Heikki Salpaoja, who designs office buildings.

The team would have to attend an average of two Rotary meetings a day in order to visit every club in the district! If your club is not one of the lucky ones on their itinerary, your club's GSE contact person can tell you of opportunities in your area to meet them. The team will also be at the District Conference on Saturday morning, May 30. Let's give them the warmest of possible New England welcomes!

Noteworthy News and Notes in District 7780

RI President Glen Kinross will be in neighboring District 7790, May 1 & 2. You have a unique opportunity to meet the President of Rotary International in Orono, ME on the evening of May 1 or 2 or in Rockland at The Samoset for brunch on May 2. If you are interested in going to Rockland, contact Ed Sleeper at 207-596-7405 NOW!! There is limited seating. It is \$15.00 per person. For the evening of May 1 & 2 at the Black Bear Inn, Orono, contact Mrs. Eloise McLaughlin by fax at 207-394-4403.

Remember the **WARNING** from Rotary International in last month's newsletter. Well, a young man claiming to be a Rotarian's son from Switzerland approached a member of the Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth. If you did not make this warning known to your club members please be sure to do so. South Portland-

Cape Elizabeth put it in their club bulletin, which may have saved a Rotarian from an unfortunate experience.

PDG Bob Patten sends me a club bulletin, "Fish Wrap" from St. Thomas-East Rotary Club in the Virgin Islands. Mentioned in the bulletin is the "Blankets to Bosnia" effort spearheaded by the Wells Rotary Club of our own District 7780. As Bob says in his letter, "Word sure gets around the Rotary world". You never know the affect a project can have in this small world of ours.

Meeting Place Changes . . .


* Casco Bay Sunrise is now meeting at the Double Tree Hotel.

* Saco Bay is now meeting at The Village Inn

* Seabrook-Hampton Falls is now meeting at the Hampshire Inn.



Show Rotary Cares

 Rotary International

APRIL DISTRICT 7780

ROTARY FOUNDATION NEWS

Editor-PDG George Rice PO Box 8 Norway, ME 04268 FAX 207-743-0764

1997-1998 Annual Giving

As of 28 February 1998 contributions of \$54,795.34 have been received from District 7780 Clubs. This represents 52.2% of Governor Marie's goal of \$105,000 for the 97-98 Rotary year. **Many thanks to the 34 clubs that have contributed already this year!**

Worldwide the Rotary Foundation continues to grow during 97-98. As of 31 January 1998 there are 623,730 Paul Harris Fellows, 35,775 Foundation Benefactors, and 1,870 Major Donors. **Are you included in any of these numbers?** These contributions have allowed more than one billion children to be immunized against Polio.

Siberian Rotarians Aid New England Ice Storm Victims

During the recent Ice Storm '98, PDRI Dan Mooers was pleasantly surprised and warmly touched when he received an E-mail message from a Russian Rotarian Colleague. Vladimir Solomatov, of Novosibirsk, Siberia, advised Mooers that the clubs in his area were collecting donations for District 7780.

Solomatov had learned of the plight of residents of New England and Canada from the Rotary Newsbasket. He had learned about this part of North America last year when Dan lived with him while serving as a Rotary Volunteer Advisor to Siberian not-for-profit groups offering legal services to the poor.

"Life is such a struggle in Siberia" said Dan "because of the harsh environment and the ravaged economy, that it is extraordinary but typically

Russian and Rotarian for such care to be expressed for the well-being of others so far away."

Opportunities to Provide Disaster Aid

The Governor of District 4300 in southern Peru reports areas of his district have been gravely affected by severe rains. In the city of Ica the resulting floods have destroyed over 1,000 homes and left 15,000 people homeless.

In southwestern Georgia, USA, over 12,000 people were evacuated to safety from flood waters sweeping through their homes and towns. The Governor of District 6900 welcomes assistance to help families in need.

In District 6880 in southwestern Alabama, severe weather caused by the El Nino weather pattern continues to cause extensive flooding. Relief efforts have been requested by their District Governor.

Forest fires are raging out of control in the Amazonian region of Roraima, Brazil in District 4720. Fires have spread to large farms and homesteads in the area. Assistance is urgently needed to mitigate the suffering of the affected population and to help get this environmental disaster under control.

In India, District 3260 residents are in need of funds to provide food, medicine and temporary shelter to those affected by a devastating tornado on 24 March 1998.

To find out how your club can participate in assisting Rotarians and non-Rotarians in these areas as they attempt to put their lives back together, contact Governor Marie.

Nominations Sought for District Officers

Clubs are asked to submit nominations for the following District 7780 Officers:

District Governor for 2000-2001

Finance Committee Member, Division C - 1999-2002

Qualifications for the duties of District Governor can be found in the Manual of Procedure and include:

- * Having been a member of a Rotary Club for at least 7 years prior to taking office.
- * Having served a full term as Club President.
- * Having the ability and commitment to meet additional qualifications called for upon taking office.
- * Be willing and physically able and otherwise to carry out the duties of District Governor.

Qualifications for Finance Committee Members include:

- * Must be a Past President of a District 7780 Club in Division C (Clubs in Bath, Bath Sunrise, Boothbay

Harbor, Bridgton-Lake Region, Brunswick, Brunswick Coastal, Casco Bay Sunrise, Damariscotta-Newcastle, Freeport, Portland, Scarborough, South Portland-Cape Elizabeth, Westbrook-Gorham, Windham and Yarmouth.)

* Must be willing and able to serve as a member of the committee for the term.

Nominations in the form of a resolution as described in the Manual of Procedure must be forwarded to DG Marie prior to June 30, 1998. Please feel free to call her with any questions relative to the process.

Welcome New Rotarians!

Damariscotta-Newcastle - Ann M. Angell

Hampton - Dan Dolan

Paul Willis

Oxford Hills - Maurice Convey

Mark Hatfield

Portland - Tad Atwell

Carl Laws

Pamela A Levere

Portsmouth - Lawrence A La Belle

Joseph W. Pace

Rochester - Jean Chevalier

Todd C. Grove

Judith A. Murch

Kelly Smith

Saco Bay - Victoria F. Charity-McGuirk

Sanford - Springvale - John M. Caramilhalis

Kent Kannenberg

Judith A. Morin

Westbrook-Gorham - Leo B. LaPointe

Susan R. Rossignol

Yarmouth - Timothy J. Kitteredge

Ashley B. Richards, Jr.

HELP WANTED

Several positions open - Rotary International District 7780 District committees - 1998-1999 In Maine, N.H. and Mass.

All skill levels. Age and gender not a problem
Compensation package consists of
Thank you's and the satisfaction of making a difference

Please phone or FAX today,
stating your area of interests to

DGN Bill Skinner at

Phone 603-868-7049

FAX 603-868-7175

Marie Williams - District Governor - P.O. Box 142 - Kittery Point, Maine 03905-0142



Show Rotary Cares

 Rotary International