



District Beacon

February, 1998

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



District Governor Marie's Monthly Message

Dear Fellow Rotarians,

January was a month that many of us will never forget - the great ice storm of 1998! Please see my articles about our dedicated newsletter editor and the Disaster Relief Grant. I want to thank everyone in the District that helped their neighbors and friends during this crisis by working in the shelters, your donations of food and money and those of you who opened your homes to those in need. You all *Showed Rotary Cares, for your community, for our world, for its people.*

March marks three quarters of our year together completed. It is time to think of completing such things as the Presidential Citation, the Governor's Trophy Challenge and submission of your recommendation for the 4 Avenues of Service Citation for Individual Rotarians. The deadlines are fast approaching - **Presidential Citation is April 1, Governor's Trophy Challenge and the 4 Avenues of Service Citation are both May 1.** I know you are all very busy but please take a few minutes to complete these forms and submit them on time. It would be a shame for any club that has met all the requirements not to receive the recognition. The Presidential Citation needs to be signed by the District Governor before it is submitted to Rotary International. The District Governor needs to get only a copy of the completed 4 Avenues of Service Citation form.

The District Conference registration packets will be distributed in March. Be sure to mark your calendar - **May 28-31, Sunday River, Bethel, Maine.**

February is World Understanding Month when we focus on World Understanding and Peace. Get those registration forms in along with your World Community Service Project sheets so they can be listed on the program for the dinner on February 28. Please join us in "celebrating" all that District 7780 has done, is doing and will do to *Show Rotary Cares, for your community, for our world, for its people.*

See you all on February 28th.

Yours in Rotary

Marie

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The DGN News Corner

Recently, I was having a lively discussion about Rotary with five active Rotarians. One of the group made the following statement, "I have been a member of Rotary for seven years, and two years ago, I became a Rotarian." When asked why he became a Rotarian, his answer was, "Because I got involved with two of the youth oriented programs in my club." Then he asked a very thought provoking question. "How can I share my enthusiasm with members of my club who have not become Rotarians?"

The four of us thought about the question, and made the following suggestions:

1. Write an article for the District Governor's newsletter telling your story as to how you changed from being a member of Rotary, to being a Rotarian.
2. Write the same article to be published in your club bulletin.
3. Have their sponsor in Rotary get them involved in a project or committee that they can get excited about.
4. Have a committee chair person approach them and

"Death By Chocolate"

Bath Sunrise Rotary hosts its annual "Death By Chocolate" event Saturday, Feb 14, 6:00-8:30 pm, at the Chocolate Church, Washington St., Bath. This promises to be an evening of elegant chocolate decadence featuring a seemingly endless buffet of chocolate desserts and treats donated by area restaurants, caterers, businesses and friends.

The Bath Municipal Dance Band Quartet will provide musical entertainment throughout the evening. Tickets cost \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door and may be purchased from club members, Bath Savings Institution, C & D Travel or that evening at the Chocolate Church. For more information, call 443-1117

ask for their assistance.

5. Have an officer of the club ask them to take over a specific responsibility.
6. Ask them what area or areas of Rotary sounds interesting to them, and then steer them in that direction.
7. When a Rotarian has finished an assignment, make certain their efforts have been recognized, in front of the club.

You can probably add to this list of how to help a member of Rotary become a Rotarian. Please do.

It is all of our jobs, as officers and leaders in our District to make this transformation happen. Let us continue this very important task !!!

REMEMBER, THE ONLY COMPENSATION WE RECEIVE FOR OUR EFFORTS, IS A THANK YOU, OR THE WONDERFUL SATISFACTION OF KNOWING THAT WE HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE.

Your Friend in Rotary

Bill

R Y L A 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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Secretary: Pamela Gray, P.O. Box 654, Kittery, Maine 03904

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Treasurer: Richard Thompson, 6 Whippoorwill Circle, Kennebunk, Maine 04043

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Immediate Past District Governor: Craig Wellman, RFD #1, Box 1916, Kennebunk, Maine

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Governor Nominee: William Skinner, 28 Garden Lane, Durham, N.H. 03824

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Newsletter Editor: Paul G. Thornfeldt, P.O. Box 108, Paris, Maine 04271-0108

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Group Study Exchange 96

FURTHERING WORLD UNDERSTANDING AND PEACE

by Nancy Hawes

Most of the clubs in the District have had the pleasure of hearing from one or more of last year's GSE team about their trip to Poland and Sweden. Here are some excerpts from the team members' reports, which remind us what the GSE program is all about.

Pam Levere's report, "The Trip to Nowhere - and Everywhere" explains the title as follows: "When friends would inquire about my social schedule I was often not available because of necessary attendance at a GSE preparatory meeting. Again, they would inquire and I would respond that I had been chosen as an alternate for a Rotary International trip.

"Oh, where are you going?" was the question. "Nowhere," was my usual answer. "I'm just the alternate." This became very evident as the days dwindled down to the "send off" date as it was written on my calendar. And then on Wednesday morning, 48 hours before the group departure, I received a phone call from an anxious team member whose son was ill and needed immediate attention from a Philadelphia specialist. Could I be ready on Friday? I gulped lots of air and replied "Yes!" - And the "send off" date on my calendar became the day I said goodbye to family and friends for a month!"

Gail Licciardello's fate: "To summarize my trip/adventure and experience, I will quote my horoscope which I read in the paper on May 8, 1997, in the Portland airport while I was waiting to leave for Warsaw. It was as follows: "Try to go someplace different today where you can mingle with a new group that offers fresh faces, ideas and experiences to refresh your attitude on life." For me, that is exactly what this GSE trip was about."

On Poland: "We spent a particularly memorable day with an acupuncturist doctor Rotarian who had prepared a special lunch of homemade pierogi. We dined on his terraced hillside on a May day with a view in one direction of a river and in the other of an old castle amongst the hills, all while a musician played his accordion in the background." (Pam)

"The hardships the Poles have endured and the energy and entrepreneurial spirit with which they approach life is simply amazing. I wondered often where Poland would be today had it not suffered through two world wars and communist rule. I no longer have an image of a gray colorless country, but remember Poland vitality." (Bob Kaiser)

On Sweden: "Our Swedish hosts were warm and welcoming and had a variety of activities for us to do from driving in a horse-drawn carriage to the front door of a Swedish palace, to touring the construction site of the new

Copenhagen to Sweden bridge - an absolutely mind-boggling project - to sampling smoked herring and eel as we dined outdoors at the seaport." (Pam)

"Per, our Rotarian for the day, took us to Dag Hammerskjold's retreat, acres and acres of fields with a small house. There was a spot called "meditation point" which overlooked the Baltic Sea. It was a round circle of stones that one could sit on, and then in the center was a rather large stone with the Latin word Pax engraved in the middle. Truly, it was a wonderful place to meditate." (Gail)

On the generosity of their hosts: "My host family experiences were the highlight of the trip - the most rewarding and the most difficult. I stayed with five families, three in Poland and two in Sweden. Each family were wonderful hosts, taking a complete stranger into their families and catering to my needs and wants. I must say that the last family I stayed with were outstanding. I believe they were the only people to read my application and take note of my personal interests, and actually did something about this. My last week with them was the icing on the cake." (Bob)

"After learning that I was looking forward to some of the shops in Gdansk because I wanted to buy some pottery, Christina and her friend immediately began talking in Polish. Her friend left and about an hour later she returned with a pottery set of a coffee pot, sugar, creamer, cups, saucers and dessert plates for 6 for me to take home." (Gail)

Overall impressions: "We saw many wonderful places, experienced new sounds, new tastes and different perspectives on the world. By far, however, most impressive were the incredible people I met who gave the most precious gift, that of their time" (Gail)

"The GSE surpassed my expectations. I never in my farthest imagination ever expected that all the Rotarians we met would be so generous. I was impressed with the seriousness of purpose which the Rotarians had." (Al Shinkel)

"This was a most unique opportunity to compare American, Swedish and Polish cultures and lifestyles. My remembrances are not about which is better or worse; my remembrances are of the people and their joy of sharing themselves and their country in a most unique and personal way." (Peter Johnson)

"Rotary is a wonderful worldly connection and proof that people around the world can be friends - if only they would meet." (Pam)

District 7780 Club Attendance For January

	Attendance %	Club	Members 6/30/97	Current Members	+/-
	A	B	C	D	E
1	100	Windham	39	37	-2
2	96	Brunswick	145	147	2
3	91	Kittery	30	26	-4
4	90.6	Freeport	41	32	-9
5	87.86	Saco Bay	67	69	2
6	87.82	Bethel	37	36	-1
7	86.92	South Berwick	36	41	5
8	86	Wells	50	44	-6
9	83.7	Biddeford/Saco	93	86	-7
10	82.8	Exeter	48	49	1
11	82	Damariscotta-Newcastle	41	42	1
12	81.4	Rumford	49	44	-5
13	81	Oxford Hills	59	59	
14	80.56	Boothbay Harbor	49	49	
15	80.55	Sanford/Springvale	52	53	1
16	79.23	Newburyport	74	73	-1
17	76.92	Fryeburg Area	26	26	
18	76	Bridgton/Lake Region	29	27	-2
19	75.65	Durham - Great Bay	51	51	
20	75.11	Rochester	74	75	1
21	74.3	Dover	84	80	-4
22	73.255	Portsmouth	258	272	14
23	66.7	Brunswick Coastal	15	15	
24	72	Hampton	57	56	-1
25	68.73	Ogunguit	47	46	-1
26	68.31	Portland	220	216	-4
27	66.7	Kennebunk	96	92	-4
28	66.67	South Portland/Cape Elizabeth	48	50	2
29	65.1	Westbrook-Gorham	44	43	-1
30	60.4	Yarmouth	39	37	-2
31	60	Bath Sunrise	23	25	2
32	56	Seabrook-Hampton Falls	34	31	-3
33	50.89	Casco Bay Sunrise	30	28	-2
34	NR	Bath	61	61	
35	NR	Kennebunk Portside	39	37	-2
36	NR	Scarborough	19	23	4
37	NR	Somersworth	27	23	-4
38	NR	York	63	63	
39		TOTALS	2294	2264	-30
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

"I say, I see icy days."...if you can repeat this four times very quickly, you can get a feel for the tone of many club bulletins this January. Rotarians throughout District 7780 met the challenge of the big Ice Storm, and help also arrived from afar. DG Marie's request for aid resulted in a disaster notice posted on the R.I. Web page and in club bulletins around the world.

Responding to a call from the Portland area Red Cross, the **South Berwick** and **Kittery** clubs teamed up to organize collection of much needed items from towels to juice for shelters throughout southern and central Maine. The two clubs set up a collection point at a local church, organized truck transport, and publicized the effort. Residents flocked to the church with arms loaded, and about \$1,500 worth of supplies filled the truck within two hours. The **Kittery** club is hard at work planning the district conference, and has also scheduled their "Roman Holiday" dinner event for March 7th. **South Berwick** is also planning a Feb. 5th joint breakfast meeting with the **Sanford-Springvale** club.

The **Bath Sunrise** club got iced out of its Jan. 9th meeting, but made up for it the following week, with a multitude of happy dollars from members who, reports the **Bath Sun**, had gotten through the storm, grateful to "see the light and feel the warmth" again.

Damariscotta-Newcastle had its share of thanks for making it through the ice storm on the same day that their speaker gave a ("great") presentation on a recent trip to Antarctica. Brrr. The club also started the New Year by polling its members on everything from breakfast food quality to the club's annual social events. They're also starting up a nineties

version of the old "fireside chats", and the first of these Information Nights is set for Feb. 26th.

The **Bath** club, where meetings feature a weekly "trivia" quiz by the Sgt.-At-Arms, scored high on the recent "Ice Storm '98" quiz, saving them some money, but this was offset by all the "electrical-power-generated happy dollars.

The mid-coast area around the **Brunswick** club was severely hit by the storm, and many members gave their time and resources to the community aid efforts. All fines at a post-storm meeting were earmarked for the hard-pressed Red Cross, and all members present managed to get fined for one reason or another. A special food collection for the drained local food pantry was also set up. The club will be helping in the allocation process for disaster relief money sent through R.I.

The **Sanford-Springvale** club put out a call to its members for emergency contributions for the local Red Cross which has been hard pressed by the recent storm. The club also devoted one January meeting to an open discussion of club activities and projects. One concern discussed was a need to do more for area teens, and before the meeting ended, many volunteers had already come forward to serve on a new committee to research the best ways of helping out. May 16th, the club will celebrate its 75th Anniversary.

Another club taking stock of its goals is the **Freeport** club, which has set Feb. 3rd for a special evening meeting on club objectives. Evaluation of their annual Xmas tree sale was also in process.

The **Fryeburg** club pitched in to help at the local storm shelter,

with members taking on kitchen duties, monitoring, and more. Many happy dollars marked one of the storm's main benefits - seeing how townspeople pulled together during the storm and giving thanks to friends, fellow club members and neighbors for shelter, food and hot showers when needed.

The **Kennebunk Bunk** reports that February has been set for a big attendance contest, pitting their club against **Wells, Portside**, and **Biddeford /Saco**. The winning club will get to give a Paul Harris Fellowship to a deserving person, paid for by the other clubs.

The **Ogunquit** club got many thanks from both seniors and children for their Xmas parties, and recently held a birthday party for their foreign exchange students. A highlight of the club's **Ocean Breeze** is the regularly appearing feature on Gordy's Helpful Duct Tape Uses. "Replace winter boots with socks wrapped in several layers of duct tape." Other tips have involved duct tape for easy matting of artwork and for keeping kids in high chairs safe from "mid-meal slippage". Will there be a book soon?

Congrats to **Somersworth** for its 25th Anniversary! And to **Durham/Great Bay** on its 11th!

Quote-Of-The-Month:

From the **Bath Sun**:
"Yesterday's meal will not satisfy today's hunger." - S.R. Covey

Happy-Dollars-Of-The-Month:

From the **Yarmouth Royal River Rotarian**: "Bruce was happy he had electricity, Ed was happy that he had half-power, Doug was happy for a hot shower, Jane was just happy, and Peter was hoping to be happy soon."

Thanks for continuing to send copies of your club bulletins to: M.J. Peabody, 6 Sherman St., Dover, NH 03820

ROMANIA: IS SHE READY FOR ROTARY?

Like most of eastern Europe, Romania is ready for Rotary. In November, 1997, six Rotarians from District 7780 embarked on a journey to this country of ancient traditions (the notable in this country: Dracula) mystical places (like Transylvania) and burgeoning democracy. If nothing else, it confirmed the inspirational commitment of Rotarians in their own communities to help others in need around them, and the potential for Rotarians to commit resources to aid those outside their own communities. But it was so much more.

Karen Dunfee, Chair of Youth Exchange for the District and a member of So. Portland/Cape Elizabeth, Sarah Luck, Chair of the International Service Committee for the Portland Club, Jeffrey Martin, President-elect of Windham, Brenda Thibodeau, Past President of the Fryeburg Club and Chair of the District's World Community Service Committee, Ken Toner, President of the Freeport Club and Jack Schraeter, President of the Windham Club, participated. The purpose of the trip was to investigate potential humanitarian projects for Rotary, and to evaluate potential increased participation in youth exchange with the country, currently an extended zone of Rotary, and not yet a District.

GOODNEWS/BADNEWS

Health Care: The bad news is, Romania has no primary health care system. It also has a high percentage of population which smokes tobacco and cancer mortality rates which are many times higher than in the U.S. The team visited a monastery converted to an elderly care facility. One room we saw has 19 single beds, side by side, and by walking outside to a porch one accesses the bathroom that services the 19 men of that room. The room is on the second floor, with a fairly worn and uneven set of wooden steps accessing it from below, outside. Undoubtedly treacherous in the winter. Woodstoves at either end of the long room provided what little heat there was.

Basically, without primary health care, you get a doctor's attention only if your life is threatened. Once in the hospital, exposure to poor sanitation is a threat to already compromised health. The team heard and observed the practice of patients bringing in their own bedding and food to the hospital. While physicians receive excellent training, their pay is very poor and the facilities and equipment barbaric. The team looked at projects including oncological equipment, medical library, computer server and LAN, elevator for the pediatric hospital, mammography, and the list goes on.

The good news is, Romanians are beginning to see the value of preventative health care, through the influence of groups such as ours, and as they are able to travel to and be visited by folks from other parts of the world where health is more of a priority. For example, as a result of the efforts of Jeff Martin (a physician) and Jack Schraeter, the team took with them approximately \$83,000 in medical supplies which were distributed to areas in need in Romania. Several boxes of clothing were also left and distributed. The team also visited the construction site of a new elderly housing facility. The town needs a lot of money to finish the project but it will have semi-private rooms and shared baths, all at ground level. The Rotarians would like to restore the monastery and give it back to the church once the new facility is completed. They visited a bathing facility with therapeutic baths which have

not been used in years, need serious plumbing repair and are to be made handicap accessible. This is a potential Rotary project. The public swimming pool in the adjoining park was bulldozed by the prior government and the club would like to see that renovated as well.

Environment: The bad news is, there are no emissions controls on vehicles or factories, and water and ground pollution is evident in both the cities and countryside. The good news is much like the health issue: The more they come into contact with people who live in other parts of the world where environmental health and preservation are a priority, the more Romanians will see the need to do the same at home. It is hoped that more involvement in the Youth Exchange Program will facilitate this on a long-term basis, and Karen Dunfee reports that ESSEX will be sending a student to Romania next year, and this District will likely receive a Romanian student next year as well!

The mineral waters in Romania are abundant, but the concentration of calcium is so high that it causes kidney stones which eventually lead to kidney disease in many people. The closest dialysis unit to one large city of several hundred thousand people was several hours drive away. Another potential project for this city is a dialysis center. Someday, water treatment facilities would make sense as well.

Children: The bad news is, there are still large populations of orphans in Romania, whose parents are not necessarily dead, but simply not prepared economically to support them. The children are sent to group homes, where they live until they reach majority, or until their parents can afford to raise them.

The team visited an orphanage built on the site of a mining facility, home to 128 children, age 7-17. The stove and refrigeration facilities need upgrading, and the water supply to the site is inadequate. They investigated what their needs in those areas are, of concern to their local Rotary club as well. Clothing, shoes, food - The most basic necessities of life, are in need and incredibly expensive for the people there.

Major deficiencies in their society include the absence of a banking and credit system, resulting in corruption and under taxation, and an overall under education about health and environmental issues. Larger long-term projects could include:

- * More intensive youth exchanges, to educate their youth about life and quality of life in countries where environmental and human health are a priority
- * Professional exchanges to expose the current working people to a system of commerce, health care, credit and culture that fosters the financing and efficient operation of the infrastructure necessary to grow an economy and sustain the health of the people and their environment
- * Overall continued information exchanges to maintain open lines of communication to a people just beginning to glimpse the promise of a democratic future.

Rotary's role in this can and should be one in which we can all be a part, and of which we will all be proud to support. Come to the District Conference this Spring to hear the Team's presentation about their experience in Romania and the projects growing out of it.

Disaster Relief Available for Ice Storm 98 Damage

District 7780 was badly hit by the ice storm in early January. The northern part of our District in Maine suffered some severe ice damage and lengthy power outages. We had at least 14 clubs in the state that were affected by this storm and then the second one at the end of January. As many of you are aware, I applied to The Rotary Foundation for a Disaster Relief Grant and it was approved. They also issued a Disaster Relief Notice that went around the world to all 521 Rotary District Governors.

We have been receiving donations of non-perishable goods and financial donations. The Rotary Club of Stafford, Ct. made two trips to Maine with goods. The first trip, we took them to the Newfield, ME. shelter. This trip received TV coverage from 6, 8, and 13. The following weekend, they came back and went to shelters in Limerick and Bridgton, ME. Channel 8 TV covered them in Bridgton.

We have received cash donations from all over the USA and as far away as Siberia! I have had numerous calls from

Rotarians from all over the country. The Disaster Relief Committee consists of PRID Dan Mooers, DGD Mike McGovern, District Treasurer Dick Thompson and myself. We are in the process of getting information in from the affected areas, so we can determine the areas of need and can distribute the funds most effectively. I never in my wildest dreams, ever expected to apply for a Disaster Relief Grant from the Rotary Foundation while I was District Governor. It just shows that donations do come back to the District to help your friends and neighbors when there is a real need! However, I hope that we never need a Disaster Relief Grant again!

News and Notes

The Rotary Club of Portsmouth will be celebrating their 75th Anniversary on March 28, 1998. Because of this great event, they will be having their meeting on March 28 at Yoken's instead of their regular meeting on March 26th.

The election for all Club Officers for the Rotary year 98-99 should be over and the Official Directory information sheet completed. Be sure to send the original to R.I., the pink copy to DG Marie and the yellow copy to DG Nominee Bill.

Skip Currier of the Casco Bay Sunrise RC writes that they are moving once again. Their new location will be the Double tree Hotel on 1230 Congress St. Portland, Maine. Their first meeting at the new location will be on Thursday, March 5th at 7:15 AM.

PDG Bob Patten's phone number has been changed to 207-799-3819 for home, work and fax. Please make note.

On a sad note, we have just received word that Mary Courtney, wife of PDG Al Courtney, passed away on Sunday February 8, 1998. If anyone would like to send Al a card his address is as follows: Alexander Courtney, Sr. Foxhill Village, 10 Longwood Drive Apt. 504, Westwood, Mass. 02090 Our condolences go out to Al and his family.

A Special Thank You to Newsletter Editor Paul Thornfeldt

As you know the northern part of our District was severely affected by the January ice storm. Being a dedicated newsletter editor that he is, Paul took his computer system apart, took it to a neighbors house who had a generator, reassembled it, connected it to the generator, completed the January Newsletter, printed a copy and took it to the printers so we could all receive it on time. That is true dedication and we all thank you very much for your dedication to being sure the District news got out on time! THANK YOU, PAUL !!!!!

*The Kittery Rotary Club and The Summit Hotel
Welcome you to join us at*

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

1998



MAY 28 -31 1998



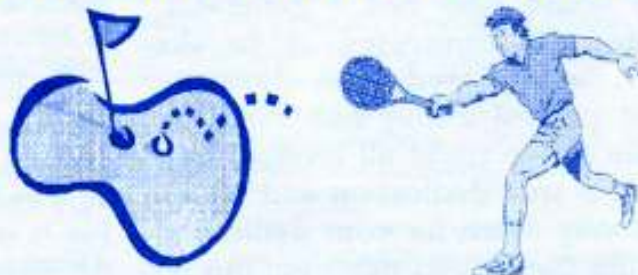
TIME TO START PLANNING.

LET YOUR CLUB MEMBERS KNOW THAT WE WANT THEM TO COME AND ENJOY THE CELEBRATION OF A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS. LEARN ABOUT THE WONDERFUL THINGS THAT HAPPENED THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT AND THE WORLD.




DOUBLE OCCUPANCY \$99 PER PERSON PER NIGHT
SINGLE OCCUPANCY \$145 PER PERSON PER NIGHT
RESERVATIONS INCLUDE ALL MEALS AND HOTEL AMENITIES

**BE SURE TO SIGN UP EARLY FOR THE
GOLF AND TENNIS TOURNAMENTS**



**REGISTRATION PACKAGES WILL BE SENT TO THE CLUB PRESIDENTS SOON.
IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL
THANE PEARSON DISTRICT CONFERENCE CHAIR 207-351-2711**



Show Rotary Cares
 Rotary International

FEBRUARY 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 31 December contributions of \$50,286.34 have been received from District 7780 Clubs. This represents 47.9% of Governor Marie's goal of \$105,000 for the 97-98 Rotary year. Many thanks to the 33 clubs that have contributed already this year!

All Contributions Count

Many Rotarians feel that contributions to The Rotary Foundation must be in increments of \$100 or more. Contributions of any size are welcomed and recorded, along with credit given to the Rotary Club and contributor as directed on the contribution form. An example is a memorial contribution of \$25.00 given in memory of a loved one or fellow Rotarian, or a contribution in recognition of having been a member for 10 years, or for 5 years perfect attendance, or simply a monthly or annual contribution similar to the one you send to The United Way, Church, Scouts, Library, and countless other charitable organizations. The reasons are many, but the point is that All Contributions Count, no matter what size, or what the occasion is, as we all pull together to help Governor Marie achieve her goal of \$105,000 in Annual Giving in 1997-98. Let's make sure that all 38 clubs in District 7780 make contributions to Our Rotary Foundation this year!

World Understanding & Peace Day Dinner

The District 7780 World Understanding and Peace Day Dinner will be held on Saturday, February 28, 1998 at the Keeley Banquet Center at 178 Warren Avenue Portland, ME. Plan now to attend and hear about the experiences that several of our District 7780 clubs have had by participating in World Community Service Projects, aided by the Programs of Our Rotary Foundation.

Foundation Facts

Paul Harris Fellows	616,270
Foundation Benefactors	34,637
Major Donors	1,726

Date as of 30 November, 1997

Opportunities to Provide Disaster Aide

Governor Marie has been notified of several disasters around the world as well as ways that District Governors from those areas are asking for aid and assistance. The disaster stricken areas are as follows:

Districts 7780, 7790, and 7040 all experienced disaster due to the Ice Storm in January. Many areas are still reeling from the effects of longlasting power outages.

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.

PolioPlus



PolioPlus is given boost

At the October 1997 meeting, the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation approved more than US\$8.2 million for PolioPlus grants to the World

Health Organization, earmarked for polio vaccine, surveillance, and operational costs.

The largest grant was US\$6 million for sub-Saharan Africa, where 40 nations have conducted or scheduled national immunization days as part of a concerted "Kick Polio out of Africa" campaign.

The latest Foundation grants bring the total Rotary commitment of polio eradication to date to US\$304 million.

In other action, the trustees allocated US\$500,000 from the 97-98 Annual Programs Fund budget to be used for Matching Grants for PolioPlus Partners projects.

As a further expression of their commitment to polio eradication, the trustees reallocated US\$24 million of Rotary Foundation operating reserves to the PolioPlus Fund and transferred US\$1.7 million from the 96-97 World Fund's US\$2.7 million surplus to the PolioPlus Fund.

Nominations Sought for District Officer

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.

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Welcome New Rotarians!

Brunswick - Constance H. Jones

Wallace W. Rich

Karl W. Schwick

Michael J. Sfirri

Martha Sterling-Golden

Dover - Walter J. Sloboda

Fryeburg Area - Peter Malla

Hampton - George Lagassa

Portsmouth - Lewis S. Knapp

Robert M. Kreft

Nancy E. Notis

Suzanne B. Schrader

Mark E. Simpson

Sanford-Springvale -

Garfield R. Boutilier

South Berwick - William E. Armstrong

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



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