



# THE DINGHY

DECEMBER 1998

WILLIAM SKINNER DISTRICT GOVERNOR DISTRICT 7780 - 1998-1999

## DISTRICT GOVERNOR BILL'S MESSAGE

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Since last month's newsletter we have had the opportunity and privilege of visiting five clubs in the District to celebrate the holidays, new Paul Harris awards, new members, or just to talk about what is going on in the District and the Rotary world. These visits are a treat for me, and I hope helpful and enjoyable to you. If you would like for me to revisit your club, please let me know. If it is possible I'll be there, to help in whatever way you wish. I look forward to hearing from you.

Throughout this newsletter you will read about things that have happened, or are planned for the future in our District. I urge you to read them and to plan to participate whenever possible. A late notice that did not get published is for the Club President. You have just received a request from Rev. Frank Mass to submit an idea from your club for the 1999 Care and Share book for next year's Club Presidents. I urge you to have a member of your club fill this out and return it to Frank by December 30, 1998.

I have now signed five Children Opportunity Grants for a total of \$98,000. Congratulations to the following clubs for submitting them: Exeter, South Berwick, Windham, Boothbay Harbor and Hampton.

The Kennebunk Portside Rotary Club has just received their Carl Miller Discovery Grant monies from Rotary International for their trip to Assis-Sao Paulo, Brazil January 14-22, 1999. Congratulations and good luck.

As we approach the holidays let us step back, and slow down, for just a little while each day and reflect and give thanks for all the things we take for granted. Our health, families, friends, homes, neighbors, jobs, house of worship and of course, ROTARY.

Rotary makes it possible for us to enjoy each other's fellowship.

(Continued on Page 2)





# THE DGN NEWS CORNER

## YOUR PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN FASCINATING

In the midst of this holiday season, I often reflect upon the many good things that have occurred since the holidays of a year ago. Much of this reflection has been as I have traveled to and from Rotary meetings this month and since July. Many of you are aware that I set a personal goal of making up at every Rotary club in the District during Bill's year as Governor. As you read this, I am over the halfway mark. Every club meeting I have attended has been unique and enjoyable.

Most impressive is the enthusiasm I see as Rotarians discuss projects they are doing in their communities and beyond. Equally interesting has been the variety of programs that I have heard at your meetings. In York, I heard of tax advantages of giving to non-profits and the Rotary Foundation. In Newburyport, the County Sheriff told of law

enforcement reforms in Essex County. Damariscotta-Newcastle had a panel on changes in the health care industry. Bath Sunrise's speaker told of his company in Maine that answers calls made to Prodigy Internet from 52 states. At Portsmouth Sunrise, I heard of the extent of New Hampshire's corrections system. Boothbay Harbor and Durham Great Bay used meeting time to break into groups to focus on membership issues. At Kennebunk Portside, I ran into a familiar speaker, Craig Wellman, who updated the club on Camp Sunshine. The mayor of Saco impressed Rotarians at Saco Bay with news of progress in his community.

Perhaps the strangest coincidence is that I went to two clubs in one week both of whom had funeral directors giving classification talks. Both funeral directors also happen to be good friends and handled their speeches with the dignity that one would expect.

All of these programs, the others I have heard, as well as the many announcements of club activities have made your meetings truly interesting for me. I look forward to making up at the remaining clubs over the next few months and visiting with all of you again in 1999-2000.

Best wishes to all of you for a joyous holiday season and a happy new year.

*Mike*

## REMINDERS TO CLUB SECRETARIES

**The Semi-Annual Report to Rotary International is due by December 31, 1998. Be sure to adjust for current membership, and send a check for the dues.**

You must also prepare the three-part form for listing the President-Elect and the Secretary for inclusion in the Official Directory for 1999-2000. This too is due by December 31, 1998. The White copy of the form goes to RI, the Pink to District Governor Bill, and the Yellow copy goes to District Governor Nominee Mike McGovern.

## DG MESSAGE CONTINUED

(Continued from Page One)

to do good in our communities, and throughout the world. I am so thankful each day that I was invited to be a member of Rotary, and I hope you feel the same.

*THANK YOU FOR THE WORK THAT YOU ARE DOING FOR ROTARY, WHEREVER IT IS.*

Lucy and I wish you and your family a happy and safe Holiday!!

*Your friend in Rotary,*

*Bill*



## DISTRICT OFFICERS CHOSEN FOR 1999-2000

District Governor Nominee Mike McGovern is organizing a leadership team to serve clubs for the year beginning July 1999. While some committee positions are still open, other leaders in addition to those below have volunteered to serve in District positions. Most of the announcements will be made in April at the time of the District Assembly.

Our District's first Assistant District Governor's are already beginning to plan for their work this coming year. In addition to the former responsibilities of Governor's Representatives, these individuals will be conducting most of the club assemblies that were traditionally done by the Governor prior to the official speech. Mike will be doing the traditional visits in the home clubs of the Assistant District Governors and also in any club that expresses a strong desire to follow the old system. Nonetheless, he hopes clubs will be willing to experiment with this new arrangement as it will give him and future Governors much more opportunity to

concentrate on issues of concerns to clubs and not on administrative responsibilities. The Assistant District Governors will also be able to visit clubs earlier in the year which will enable Mike and other District volunteers to understand the priorities of clubs while there is still time to work on them.

The individuals who have volunteered to serve are all past Club Presidents. Four are now serving as Bill Skinner's Governor Representatives. They are Linda Brown of Sanford-Springvale, Mary Larned of Newburyport, Gaylene McHale of Bath Sunrise and Jack Schraeter of Windham. The remaining two are Doug Hooper of Saco Bay and Peter Johnson of Yarmouth.

In addition, Jane Marmontello of the Durham Great Bay Club has agreed to serve a second year as District Treasurer. The District Secretary will be Bob Carson of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth who also served in this position when Sam Giftos and Dan Mooers served as Governors. There will be more information in future issues of "The Dinghy".

### DISTRICT 7780 INVOLVEMENT AROUND THE WORLD

For some time I have been thinking about how many countries in the world we are involved in.

In reviewing our World Community Service, and Inbound Youth Exchange, I have come up with the following list of twenty one countries. If you know of countries I have forgotten, please let me know.

**ARGENTINA, BARBADOS, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA, BRAZIL, COSTA RICA, CROATIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ECUADOR, GRENADA, HONDURAS, HUNGARY, INDIA, IRELAND, ISRAEL, KENYA, JAPAN, PALESTINE, PERU, ROMANIA, RUSSIA and TURKEY.**

Thank you for the part you are playing in our efforts to help others, and to promote world understanding and peace.

DG Bill

### **"RYLA 99"**

#### **CAMP HINDS**

#### **SET UP DAY**

**SATURDAY,**

**JUNE 19, 1999**

#### **RYLA**

#### **CONFERENCE**

**SUNDAY JUNE 20 -**

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 23**



# News And Notes

## Around District 7780

Throughout the district's November bulletins were reflections and celebrations of the Friends Forever project. "Emotionally intense", "inspiring" and "a tremendous success" were the repeated themes of the Friends Forever reports. Thanks to all the leadership provided by Bill Holt and each of the many clubs involved. It was wonderful to read not only about the visiting youngsters, but about all the shared meetings and teamwork between area clubs that made District #7780 stronger through helping others.

The **Saco Bay** club was again coordinating Career Day at Biddeford High, with over 800 students scheduled to take part on Nov. 18. Club members also continue with the literacy project by serving as Saturday morning story readers at the local library. And the club hat was passed for donations headed to the Salvation Army's Thanksgiving dinner. The club's Rotary calendars are on sale to benefit the scholarship fund.

The **Yarmouth** club awarded several of its members the "Head On A Platter" award for another successful Haunted House. It sure sounds like they have fun with this project, and get rave reviews for creativity from over 1600 visitors. Proceeds will help the scholarship fund and for construction of a performance area in a local park. Their exchange student Antonio was a star in the role of the victim in the stew pot...

The **Dover** club is having a canned food drive throughout the holidays to stock the city's food pantry. November 21st was the date for the club's pot luck supper. A club membership directory is now in the works,

and the entire club is looking forward to repeating their "Seniors Project", which takes pairs of club members out for holiday visits with local elderly and shut-in residents. Attendance contest coming up - free lunches for all of January will reward the winner!

The **Kennebunk Bunk** reported that over 750 visitors went through the club's Haunted House this year... Food was brought in by members to fill holiday gift baskets for local families in need, and a special collection was taken to help with the Honduras aid efforts. The club observes Christmas well, with three parties in a row - first a holiday luncheon party for local senior citizens, the next week, a party for local children, and finally one for club members.

The **Durham - Great Bay** club will hold its annual Charter Night celebration on Dec. 11th at the Flag Hill Winery in Lee, with a special dinner. The club is exploring a possible project to assist a nursing college in Russia, and has been active in helping the local relief efforts for the victims of Hurricane Mitch in Honduras.

The **Oxford Hills Rotary Reader** caught up with us this month, and the club's been busy. A local crafts fair was the setting for a club bake sale to benefit Rotoplast. Recent donations were made to the area Dollars For Scholars program and for aid to the hurricane victims in the Dominican Republic. Members brought in toys to be given away to area children, but first all the toy donations will be displayed on the club's Xmas parade float! A Spouses' Appreciation Breakfast was set for Dec. 9th. Thanks for sending all the news!

The **Damariscotta - Newcastle** club planned another Vocational field trip and tour on Nov. 24th to a local lumber mill. Hats off to their creative Voc. Chair! The holiday Fruit Sale is going strong (this year's slogan: "Fiber Is Your Friend") and members are supporting the Salvation Army by bell-ringing for the Christmas Fund. The Dec. 8th meeting will be an assembly to discuss community service projects.

The **So. Portland-Cape Elizabeth** club held an Italian Night to honor their Spouses on December 2nd, and were planning a Senior Citizens' Night for Dec. 16th. Christmas trees are probably being sold as you read this. We especially liked the club's adding in a little community service to the tree sale, just by handing each customer a smoke detector safety brochure and taking the time to remind everyone to be safe in handling the trees and decorations. A nice extra touch!

The **Bath** and **Brunswick** clubs are also lending hands to the Salvation Army bell-ringing, and we hear there's a little friendly competition between the two clubs to come home with the best collection. The **Brunswick** club is circulating an impressive list of possible community projects to its members, and asking them to indicate the projects of most interest. Not all the projects can be taken on, so this early polling of club members seems like a great way to get plenty of volunteers to show their priorities by volunteering!

The **Rochester** club has its Christmas party set for Dec. 7th, and will be ringing the bells for the Salvation Army kettles the following week. The meeting of Dec. 28th will be a special Family Day, with kids, grand kids, and

Thanks for continuing to send your club bulletins to Mary Jane Peabody, 6 Sherman Street, Dover, NH 03820



# DISASTER RELIEF FINAL REPORT

BY PDG MARIE WILLIAMS

The Disaster Relief Committee consisting of Marie Williams, Mike McGovern, Dan Mooers, and Dick Thompson would like to share with everyone in the District how the Disaster Relief donations were utilized. As you can see we were able to help a lot of individuals and organizations throughout the District from the funds we received from all over the world - the USA, Japan, Australia. We also were the recipients of two truckloads of nonperishable goods delivered by the Rotary Club of Stafford, CT. They delivered one load to Newfields and other one to Bridgton. The generosity of Rotarians and non Rotarians alike towards this District was truly overwhelming. I personally want to thank everyone in the District who helped out during the "Ice Storm of 98". You may have assisted by checking on an elderly neighbor, making a donation to a food pantry, a cash donation towards the District's disaster relief fund, cleaning up brush, working in food pantries, taking someone into your home who was without heat, etc. You should all be very proud to be Rotarians, you made me feel proud to be a Rotarians, Thank you for all your help during this trying time.

## Disaster Relief Donations made to the following:

Donation to:	Purpose:	Amount
American Red Cross	Specific Request to Red Cross for assistance throughout District	\$2,000.00
Salvation Army, Bath, ME	Meals and Fuel Assistance	\$300.00
Rotary Club of Bethel	Assist 5 Families in their area in dire need, to be utilized with other funds	\$500.00
Salvation Army, Bath, ME	Meals and Fuel Assistance	\$300.00
Fryeburg Food Pantry	Over 450 meals distributed	\$500.00
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church	Served as a shelter and provided heating and cooking fuel	\$500.00
Raymond Food Pantry	Replenish their food store that was depleted du	\$500.00
Raymond Village Church	Replenish their funds that was depleted during storm providing food and fuel	\$500.00
Eileen Stiles for Raymond, ME	Two families with food, fuel and light payments	\$500.00
Eileen Stiles for Raymond, ME	Five families with food, fuel, light payments and car repairs	\$1,250.00
Casco Alliance Church Food Pantry	Replenish depleted food supply	\$500.00
Bath Area Food Bank	Replenish depleted food supply	\$250.00
SchoolHouse Arts Center	Repairs to Building not covered by insurance. Not for profit after school arts educational programs	\$1,500.00
Kezar Falls Volunteer Fire Department	Assisted with the purchase of two generators	\$1,000.00



Riverside Methodist Food Pantry	Assisted 30 families in their area	\$150.00
Bath Area Food Bank	Replenish depleted food supply	\$250.00
Lovell Volunteer Fire Department	Assistance to purchase a gas hot water heater so they can provide hot water the next time they need to provide shelter to the local citizens	\$800.00
Stoneham Fire Department	Assistance to purchase a generator so they can be used as a shelter in the future.	\$1,000.00
CHANS Home Health Care	Provided free nursing services during this time	\$500.00
Maine Storm Relief Fund	Funneled money through to organizations that assisted so many during this hard time.	\$500.00
Tedford Shelter	Assisted at least four homeless families as well as many others. One family stayed 24 days!	\$500.00
Senior Spectrum	Calling to assure the safety of the elderly citizens receiving Meals on Wheels	\$500.00
Shoreline Comm Mental Health	Providing Mental Health Services during this stressful time	\$500.00
Kezar Falls Volunteer Fire Department	Assisted with the purchase of two generators	\$1,000.00
Freeport Community Services	Assisted 67 families with food for 2-3 days and meals at the local emergency shelter	\$1,000.00
SchoolHouse Arts Center	Repairs to Building not covered by insurance. Not for profit after school arts educational programs	\$900.00
Action Fire Department	Assisted with the purchase of a Multi Gas Detector to check for carbon monoxide or oxygen deficiency in homes. High levels were discovered in eight homes resulting in no loss of life.	\$500.00
Prue Family Expenses	Repairs to their mobile home to make it livable.	\$726.71
Disabled Veteran	Repair roof of home not covered by insurance	\$550.00
Salvation Army Balance of Funds	Provided meals for 5618 people in our District. Over 3700 in three communities!	\$15,780.85
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$35,257.56</b>



## More News And Notes Around District 7780

any great kids invited for special fun and entertainment.

The **Scarborough** club has both their fruit sale and their 36th annual Christmas tree sale in full swing this month. Holiday food baskets were planned for supplying local families in need at both Thanksgiving and Christmas by the club.

The **Portland** club kicked off its Winterfest month-long holiday celebration of lights on Nov. 20th, which has become a major fund-raiser for the club. Dec. 18th will be the date for the club's family holiday party.

The **Kennebunk Portside** club made a sizable donation to the district-wide Dominican Republic relief fund. And when a foundation offered a challenge grant to aid the local Food Pantry, the Portside club raised over \$8,000 to be matched. An impressive amount to alleviate hunger.

The **Exeter** club is preparing a brochure that describes the club's projects and activities to help in recruiting new members. A theater night was planned for Dec. 9th, and a holiday auction is planned for the meeting of Dec. 28th. Club members are working on Exeter's tradition of luminaries (sand-filled paper bags with lit candles) and Christmas Eve

afternoon will be spent in setting out the magical display all through the town.

The clubs of **Portsmouth** and **Portsmouth Sunrise** will hold a joint Senior Citizen's Christmas party on Dec. 17th, with music by local school choral groups. The Portsmouth club gave support to the city's Kids Voting USA program during the recent elections, with help from their Interact club members. A full Thanksgiving Day dinner was held for seniors and anyone else in the community needing a place to celebrate the holiday.

The **Fryeburg** club gave a hand with relief efforts for hurricane victims in the Dominican Republic. The club is going forward with the "Flagging Of Main Street" project - members will coordinate the purchase and installation of U.S. flags and poles with area businesses and the town. The target for completion is Memorial Day. For now, the club's Christmas Toy Shop will be held on December 12th.

The **Sanford-Springvale** club's vocational chair brought several outstanding students of the quarter to a November meeting, and included the teachers, as well. Calendar sales are going strong, and the annual turkey raffle was held on Nov. 17th. And the meeting on the Friday after

Thanksgiving is set aside for the club's Annual Sons, Daughters, Cousins, Kids and Friends Luncheon, with many special performances planned.

### Reminder-Of-The-Month:

If you're trying to do a make-up in December, remember (and remind club members) that December brings many special activities throughout the district's clubs. And each club's custom for holiday week meetings is different. It might be worth a call ahead to see if the meeting has been changed.

### Headline-Of-The-Month:

from the Saco Bay BayWatch: Rotarians absent from the last meeting are listed as "Missing Cogs"...

### HappyBucks Truth-In-Reporting Award:

from the Rochester Rotary Reporter:

"Some people were happy, others weren't. As to who owned up and paid for the privilege, I don't recall."

### Quote-Of-The-Month:

from the Kennebunk Bunk:

"There's no way to be a perfect mother (or father) and a million ways to be a good one." -Jill Churchill

Finally..happy holidays to you all!

## Charles Snow Rotary Scholarship

Many of you knew Charlie as the Past President of the Saco Bay Rotary Club, as the District Chairman of Membership Development, as a fellow Rotarian or a friend.

Charlie died from a heart attack while mowing his lawn last June. He was fifty-one years old. His club, Saco Bay has pledged approximately \$25,000 towards their goal of \$40,000 to fund a scholarship in his memory to Thornton Academy.

If you, or your Rotary club would like to join me in contributing to this fund, please contact Steve Kitchen at 207-284-4573 or FAX at 207-284-8271. Please make checks payable to the Charles Snow Rotary Scholarship, and send them to: Steve Kitchen, P.O. Box 1479, Scarborough, Maine 04070

Thank you very much for your consideration, District Governor Bill Skinner.



# DISTRICT 7780 CLUB ATTENDANCE FOR NOVEMBER

Attendance %	Club	Members 6/30/98	Current Members	+/-	
A	B	C	D	E	
1	100	Newburyport	72	72	
2	88	Kennebunk Portside	40	40	
3	86.46	Fryeburg Area	24	24	
4	86.4	Bethel	35	33	- 2
5	85.44	Saco Bay	67	69	2
6	84.34	Bath	63	58	- 5
7	83.87	Freeport	32	32	
8	83.55	South Berwick	42	45	3
9	83	Windham	35	35	
10	82	Damariscotta-Newcastle	41	42	1
11	81	Portsmouth Sunrise	25	30	5
12	79.9	Biddeford/Saco	83	74	- 9
13	79.63	Portsmouth	259	263	4
14	78.3	Kennebunk	92	94	2
15	78.2	Exeter	48	47	- 1
16	78	Oxford Hills	60	63	3
17	77.8	Somersworth	17	18	1
18	75	Wells	52	48	- 4
19	74.3	Brunswick	145	137	- 8
20	74 tie	Hampton	61	60	- 1
21	74 tie	Scarborough	25	23	- 2
22	73.84	Portland	211	205	- 6
23	73.61	Bath Sunrise	24	25	1
24	73	Kittery	23	23	
25	72.99	Durham - Great Bay	50	48	- 2
26	72.84	Casco Bay Sunrise	28	28	
27	71 tie	Sanford/Springvale	59	59	
28	71 tie	South Portland/Cape Elizabeth	53	53	
29	68.32	Dover	90	82	- 8
30	67.81	Rochester	79	75	- 4
31	67.3	Rumford	42	46	4
32	66	Brunswick Coastal	15	15	
33	63.4	Westbrook-Gorham	41	41	
34	63.3	Boothbay Harbor	47	49	2
35	62.5	Ogunquit	42	44	2
36	NR	Yarmouth	38	38	
37	NR	Seabrook-Hampton Falls	31	20	- 11
38	NR	Bridgton/Lake Region	25	21	- 4
39	NR	York	65	65	
40		TOTALS	2281	2244	- 37
41	Attendance figures are due in to the District Secretary by the 10th of each month.				



## **FEINSTEIN CHALLENGE RAISES \$1.9 MILLION**

Rotary clubs from all over the United States responded enthusiastically and generously to the anti-hunger challenge issued by the Rotary Club of Providence and philanthropist Alan Shawn Feinstein.

During the last two weeks in October, 1,775 clubs made donations totaling \$1,984,884.58 to food banks pantries, soup kitchens and other agencies providing food to hungry people. Mr Feinstein's contribution of \$1 million will be divided proportionately and sent to Rotary clubs for distribution to the same agencies. Each agency will receive approximately 50 cents in addition to each dollar donate by the local club. It is expected that the checks will reach destination before Christmas.

Participating clubs used various methods to raise funds for their donations to food agencies. These included direct solicitation at meetings, corporate sponsorships, a 5K walk, a

soup cook-off and other imaginative events.

A big THANK YOU to all the clubs in District 7780 who were a part of this fine community service project.

DG Bill

## **INTER DISTRICT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT**

Several weeks ago I received a phone call from my friend, John Sheridan, DG of District 7870 which is just West of us.

John wanted to tell me about Duy Bui who is 14 years old, legally blind, living in Portsmouth, N.H. and had been identified as a gifted piano player. A teacher's aid in Duy's school, working through the Keene, NH Rotary Club has made arrangements for Duy to study in Keene on the weekends, but the transportation to Keene on Friday afternoons, and to Portsmouth on Sunday afternoons was a big problem. John's question to me was, *can Rotary make this happen?*

I am pleased to report that our Portsmouth Sunrise, Portsmouth and Kittery Clubs working with the Keene, NH Club are transporting Duy back and forth starting Friday December 4th.

What a wonderful example of SERVICE ABOVE SELF, to help our Youth.

**THANK YOU ALL!!!**

DG Bill

## **FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTIONS AMOUNT TO \$67.8 MILLION**

Rotary Foundation contributions amounted to \$67.8 million in 1997-98, a 2.9 per cent decrease from 1996-97. Of that amount, \$57 million was contributed to the Annual Programs Fund, which supports ongoing educational and humanitarian Foundation programs, and nearly \$10 million to the Permanent Fund, the Foundation's endowment. PolioPlus contributions amounted to more than \$900,000. Total Foundation income reached \$155 million, of which 56 percent represents net investment income. A copy of the 1997-98 *Rotary Foundation Annual Report* will be sent to clubs in December.

*May All of You and  
Your Families Have a Very  
Merry Christmas and a  
Happy and Prosperous  
New Year*



## **NEW ROTARIANS**

Hampton - John Adams

Kittery - Claire Bloom

Ogunquit - John Bartok

Thomas Haight

Denis Latulippe

Phyllis Norton

Portsmouth

Karen Christensen

Kathryn Gill

Lori Hitchcock

John Melanson

Portsmouth Sunrise

Stenen Scott

John McCune Jr.

Alan Higginbotham

Lawrence Gormley

## **UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS**

Tuesday January 12, 1999

Joint meeting of Presidents,  
President-Elects, Governor's Reps  
and Assistant Governor's

Saturday, February 27, 1999

World Peace and Understanding Dinner

Saturday, March 6, 1999

CPR Outreach

Saturday, March 27, 1999

District Interact Seminar

Saturday, May 1, 1999

Salvation Army - Camp Sebago Clean Up

Saturday and Sunday May 22-23, 1999

Camp Sunshine District Comm. Service Project

June 3rd to the 5th, 1999

District Conference

June 21-23, 1999

R.Y.L.A.

**WILLIAM SKINNER,  
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