



THE DINGHY

JANUARY 1999

WILLIAM SKINNER DISTRICT GOVERNOR DISTRICT 7780 - 1998-1999

DISTRICT GOVERNOR BILL'S MESSAGE

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February in Rotary is World Understanding Month, and on the 23rd, we celebrate the ninety fourth birthday of Rotary. Only six more years until our 100th.

As we continue to do good work in our communities and abroad we see it happening more and more that it is necessary and helpful to work with, or partner with, other groups or organizations. Sometimes that group or organization is in our community or maybe miles away, but if they have the experience, size or expertise that makes the task more doable, it is in our best interest to work with them to get the job done for the people we are trying to help. Let me tell you about just such an organization that our World Community Service Committee has met with, and we are in the process of working out an agreement so that we can help each other and help others.

The INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT COLLABORATIVE was established in 1994. It is a non-profit 501(c) 3 corporation dedicated to providing new and reconditioned medical equipment, training and ongoing support to established clinics and hospitals overseas in order to raise the standard of health care in countries with the greatest need.

This is accomplished through a network of American hospital partners who regularly and generously provide surplus medical equipment to IMEC at its warehouse and distribution center in Seabrook, NH. Biomedical engineers refurbish the equipment and assure its proper working order. The equipment is then distributed and installed abroad.



(Continued on Page 2)

THE DGN NEWS CORNER BY MIKE MCGOVERN DGN

Imagine a group of 200 people in a meeting room. They have a breakfast speaker who is the President of the March of Dimes. This is immediately followed by a keynote address from the Head of UNICEF, the world's premier organization devoted to helping children. Next on tap is the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. After a brief coffee break, Jim Lacy, the President of Rotary International, addresses the relatively small group. Following Jim is a panel of inner city students, one of who tells of his brother getting shot and killed while next to him on his front porch. The group then moves from this story to lunch where the Chairman of the National Governors Association speaks of personal involvement in helping children.

This was just one morning of a two day Rotary Presidential Conference attended by Brunswick Rotary Club President Al Austin and myself in Washington, D.C. in early December. It was interesting to see that Rotary could assemble such a fascinating group of speakers. Many commented on how important Rotary is throughout the nation and the world in programs to help children. Jim Lacy also met with President Clinton for 45 minutes during the conference as the House Judiciary Committee was voting on articles of impeachment. Again, Mr. Clinton's willingness to spend so much time with the leader of Rotary speaks volumes on how we are looked at by national leaders.

Perhaps the Governor of Delaware gave the most interesting speech. He told us of his weekly two hour mentoring session with a

middle school student in Wilmington. To have someone as busy as a state's governor who concurrently heads the National Governor's Group spending two hours every week with a student is truly inspirational to everyone present. His example has led many businesses in Delaware to allow their employees time to mentor kids in need. His message was that we also need to find time to spend with kids so that they may contribute to their community and support their families in the future.

Rotary Presidents have one of these conferences in North America each year. If others have the quality this one enjoyed, there should be thousands in attendance.

DG MESSAGE CONTINUED

(from Page One)

IMEC works with religious and humanitarian organizations and government agencies to identify critical projects in medically under-served locations. They have projects underway in twenty different countries at this time.

It is our hope that District 7780 can lead the way for Rotary International to work with IMEC, both at their local facility, and in the many parts of the world that they serve. As our year continues you will hear about the many ways you might help.

The World Community Service Committee and I are truly excited about the opportunities that this partnership can provide us, to help them, and allow us to FOLLOW OUR ROTARY DREAM of helping others.

Your friend in Rotary,

Bill

1999 DISTRICT 7780 CONFERENCE

One of the wonderful little secrets held by the members of the Rotary International District 7780, the Northern New England Seacoast District, is the wonderful beauty of the Maine coast in June. It is with excited anticipation that we announce our plans for the 1999 District Conference to be held at The Colony Hotel, Kennebunkport, Maine on Thursday June 3, 1999 through June 6, 1999. Won't you plan on joining the Rotary community for an opportunity to celebrate our achievements. The conference will be a great opportunity to be inspired and motivated by our plans for the upcoming year.

This years theme for the Conference will be upon Rotary's commitment to the international promotion of peace through the Group Study Exchange (GSE) Program. The Inbound GSE Team from the Dominican Republic will join us at the Conference and

they will provide tremendous motivation to the District to continue to advance the important Rotary goal of the promotion of international understanding. In addition to the ability to be re-energized in the Rotary spirit, there will be many opportunities for socialization and relaxation at the beautiful Colony Hotel. Join us for this opportunity to relax at the majestic resort hotel beautifully situated along the spectacular Maine coast. Lobster, spring in Maine and the District Conference - how could life be better!

For more information about registration, please contact:

Linda Pandolfi
4 Evergreen Rd.
Hampton Falls, N.H.
Phone: 603-772-7474

CORRECTIONS TO THE DISTRICT DIRECTORY

Page 29

Casco Bay-Sunrise club's
new meeting place is the
Cumberland Club
116 High St. Portland, Maine.

Page 39

York Rotary Club
President David McElwain's
new office phone number is
207-363-3131 and his new
Fax # is 207 363-1079

Page 42

Daniel Mooer's
new address is
P.O. Box 2234
South Portland, Maine 04106

"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

While you may be reading this during a January freeze or thaw, this writer has been transported back to pre-holiday occasions. From new friendships made around Salvation Army kettles to shut-ins welcoming their Rotary visitors, December's club bulletins were full of reports of holiday projects, parties, good cheer, and much generosity. Take a few moments to look back with us at how Rotarians in District #7780 celebrated the 1998 holidays.

The **Yarmouth** club was busy making Christmas baskets for several area families, and baking *many* cookies for the town's holiday tree lighting, while their bulletin editor created a wonderful gift in verse (rhyme so sublime) commemorating all the happy bucks members of the club had offered throughout the year. And an anonymous friend has for the second time offered a \$2,000 matching grant to the club for monies raised for the Rotary Foundation.

The season of giving was marked in the **Saco Bay** club with a grant to the local Adopt-A-Grandparent program, Salvation Army bell-ringing, help for the Toys For Tots project, and a commitment to begin a project (both monetary and hands-on) to benefit the school library. The Literacy Committee's Saturday read-aloud program at the public library included a special holiday reading of Christmas stories and a concert for children.

Meanwhile, the **Dover** club sent teams throughout the city to have a holiday visit to the 298 "shut-in" seniors who had expressed a wish for company. Gift bags were given to each senior, but mostly it was the gift of time and caring that came through. Another contingent of

club members gathered to reach out to over 170 children for their annual "Santa Calling" project.

The clubs of **Portsmouth** and **Portsmouth Sunrise** joined together to welcome seniors to a holiday party, with special music by the middle school choruses. The Portsmouth club finished their sold-out Tree Sale early, and bell-ringers from the club raised funds for the Salvation Army.

The clubs of **Portsmouth** and **Kittery** are teaming up with those in **Concord** and **Keene** to help a blind middle school student from the seacoast who is an outstanding classical pianist. This young piano prodigy won a musical scholarship but was in need of transportation to Keene each weekend for advanced lessons. Kudos to all four clubs for coordinating volunteers to help out this blind but gifted boy they'd never met... until the student came to the Portsmouth Seniors party and put on an astounding display of his talent.

In the **Damariscotta-Newcastle** club, the holiday Fruit Sale continued, along with collections for the local "Coats For Kids" campaign. The club held a successful holiday dinner party, rang sidewalk bells for the Salvation Army kettle drive, and supplied gifts to the local Parents Resource Center as well.

In the **Rochester** club, the seasonal spirit was marked with generous donations to purchase toys and gifts for the kids at St. Charles Home, along with bell-ringing for the Salvation Army. And in their annual gift to the community, club members coordinated and hosted about a hundred elderly residents, who normally can't get out much, for a Christmas Lights Tour. The happy seniors got to see all the

holiday light displays around town, were treated to a half-time stop for a bite to eat, and sang some carols along the way.

Trees and wreaths were offered this year by the **Scarborough** club, and all but one tree sold. Of course, a plan was immediately put forward - order one less tree next year! Several local families were brought food baskets and children's toys by the club, and the Marine Lifeline had several major items on their "wish list" donated by club members. Here's a nice piece of holiday serendipity for you: the club received a request from the public library for help finding a needed wheelchair. One week later, a local woman contacted the club to see if they had any use for a wheelchair that was no longer needed by her family. She couldn't find anyone who wanted it. Enter one Rotarian who picked up the woman's chair and dropped it off at the library!

The **Bridgton-Lakes Region** club kicked off the holidays with an annual caroling event at a local healthcare center, followed by a social hour and dinner. A successful Christmas tree sale continued each weekend, and a new feature for club meetings, "Getting To Know You" talks about members' vocations, were begun. Finally, club members got together on the 24th for their annual club gift swap.

The **Sanford-Springvale** club raffled off turkeys to benefit the Meals On Wheels program, and also lent their hands to the Salvation Army's bell-ringing and Joy Of Sharing gift programs. The club's own "Christmas Angels" gift donation continued, as did their senior citizens' luncheon party. And the 1998 year was concluded with the club's special

More News And Notes Around District 7780

luncheon in honor of their scholarship recipients - over 30 students helped by the club over the last 5 years were invited, along with several recent R.I. Ambassadorial Scholars. What a great way to let students know of the club's continued support and interest!

The **Exeter** club continued its year-round food drives into the holiday season, while actively participating in the town's large luminary display preparations. A holiday celebration complete with a musical program by the high school choir continued as a club tradition. A Christmas auction was scheduled for the last meeting of the year.

In the **Hampton** club, members were busy with their poinsettia sale and their scholarship fundraising, but over 80 club members and guests took time out for good fellowship at their annual holiday luncheon. Hampton's high school choir provided special music, and made it clear that choir members looked forward to the concert as a highlight of their holiday experience, too.

The **So. Portland-Cape Elizabeth** club got into the holiday spirit with a crew of volunteers helping

out at the local Soup Kitchen, while other club members were busy with setting up, unloading and selling Christmas trees. And for the club's annual Senior Citizens' Night, members fanned out to pick up their senior guests from their homes and accompany them to a wonderful turkey dinner, with entertainment and gifts to take home.

The **Brunswick** club spent one December day ringing bells for the Salvation Army, and several weeks collecting children's books to complete the local Head Start's holiday Wish List - over 100 books were donated. A club Spouse's Day was held, highlighted by music of the middle school's Honor Choir, which brought the youngsters a standing ovation for their performance. Finally the club's annual "Yankee gift swap" brought laughs to all and was reported as a "smashing success". The **Kennebunk Portside** club held a holiday party for club members and guests, and a gift collection was organized for the Caring Unlimited shelter. The club could also take pride in raising over \$8,000 for the local food pantry.

The **Portland** club had another busy holiday season, with the

month-long Winterfest bringing thousands into the city for this fantasy narrow gauge train ride through a festival of light displays. Club members also hosted, prepared dinner and sang carols for guests at the Salvation Army seniors holiday party. Some members sat in on rehearsals of the Deering High School chorus to join the musical presentation for the club's own annual Family Holiday program.

Dear Reader,

Thanks for joining us for this all-too-brief tour of just a few of the clubs in District 7780 at holiday time. We wish you all the gift of being able to read between the lines - and to see the smiling faces of young people surprised and old people hugged, of schoolchildren singing their practiced best, of camaraderie shared during a tree sale on a cold night, at the private gratitude for a gift basket of food and toys. A warm New Year to you all!

Thought-Of-The-Year:

from the Exeter Powderhouse:

"Work like you don't need money,
Love like you've never been hurt,
And dance like no one's
watching."

BRIDGET BURNS APPOINTED DISTRICT CHAIR FOR ROTOPLAST

Effective January 1, 1999, Bridget Burns of the Rotary Club of Wells, Maine, will be the new District chair for Rotoplast International, Inc. She takes over from PDG Jim Labrie, who introduced Rotoplast to the District and to the Northeast through the recent Rotary Institute. As Labrie indicates, "Rotoplast is alive and well and needs someone who can follow up on the details. I know Bridget will do an outstanding job in her new capacity." The appointment was made after discussions with Governor Bill, DGE Mike McGovern and DGN Elias Thomas. Bridget is enthusiastic about the program and looks forward to working with everyone. She can be reached at: The Razor's Edge, Route 1, Kennebunk, ME. 04043, by calling 207-985-6501 or by fax at 207-985-6502.

DISTRICT 7780 CLUB ATTENDANCE FOR DECEMBER

Attendance %	Club	Members 6/30/98	Current Members	+/-	
A	B	C	D	E	
1	92.02	South Berwick	42	46	4
2	87	Boothbay Harbor	47	51	4
3	86	Casco Bay Sunrise	28	25	-3
4	84.7	Bath	63	58	-5
5	84	Bethel	35	33	-2
6	82	Damariscotta-Newcastle	41	42	1
7	82	Newburyport	72	72	
8	81.72	York	65	62	-3
9	80.9	Kennebunk	92	96	4
10	80	Bath Sunrise	24	25	1
11	77.71	Dover	90	82	-8
12	77.43	Portsmouth	259	260	1
13	77.27	Rumford	42	46	4
14	76.08	Sanford/Springvale	59	59	
15	75.97	Durham - Great Bay	50	49	-1
16	75	Bridgton/Lake Region	25	26	1
17	75	Yarmouth	38	40	2
18	74.73	Fryeburg Area	24	26	2
19	74	Oxford Hills	60	62	2
20	74	Wells	52	48	-4
21	73.5	Freeport	32	31	-1
22	72.8	South Portland/Cape Elizabeth	53	51	-2
23	72.49	Portland	211	206	-5
24	72	Kittery	23	24	1
25	71.9	Exeter	48	46	-2
26	70.82	Rochester	75	74	-1
27	68	Portsmouth Sunrise	25	30	5
28	67.7	Brunswick	145	133	-12
29	66	Hampton	61	58	-3
30	65.68	Ogunquit	42	45	3
31	64.5	Biddeford/Saco	83	73	-10
32	61.5	Westbrook-Gorham	41	39	-2
33	60	Seabrook-Hampton Falls	31	20	-11
34	NR	Brunswick Coastal	15	15	
35	NR	Kennebunk Portside	40	40	
36	NR	Saco Bay	67	69	2
37	NR	Scarborough	25	25	
38	NR	Somersworth	17	18	1
39	NR	Windham	35	35	
40		TOTALS	2277	2240	-37
41	Attendance figures are due in to the District Secretary by the 10th of each month.				

ROTARY YEAR IS AHEAD OF ANNUAL GIVING!!

The Rotary year is 50% complete and we have only 23% of our goal of \$118,000 contributed to the Rotary Foundation. District 7780 has 6 months to make up 77% of the goal. *Put off Procrastinating until Tomorrow!!* Take

Action!! A number of clubs are well on their way to reaching their goal. As of the November report from The Rotary Foundation, the following clubs have contributed over \$2000:

Brunswick.....	\$2583
Durham-Great Bay.....	\$2079
Portland.....	\$4375
Portsmouth.....	\$5350
Sanford-Springvale.....	\$2000
Wells.....	\$2000

SAVING LIVES IN CHARLIE SNOW'S MEMORY

Charlie Snow, Past President of the Saco Bay Rotary Club, died suddenly and unexpectedly of heart disease last year. Charlie was active in District 7780 as well as in his community. His death has been keenly felt by his family, his community and his Rotary Club.

Heart Disease is the biggest killer of men and women in the United States, causing 40% of deaths annually. Lack of information contributes to the high death rate.

District 7780 has an opportunity to help save lives in our communities. District Governor Bill Skinner has set aside Saturday, March 6, as a day for Rotary Clubs to offer a community education outreach in Charlie Snow's memory.

The education involves the following:

1. - Early Heart Attack Care
 - How to recognize early symptoms of heart attack.
 - How to help people in denial get early treatment.
2. CPR - Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation
 - Save lives of people who are in cardiac arrest

CPR Instructors and equipment will be centrally coordinated with the assistance of various health care organizations.

If your club is interested in participating, please contact:

Sue Czarnionka
Kittery Rotary Club
207-363-0831

I am confident that the December and January reports will show a significant increase in contributions. In November I forwarded a packet of information to the Club Presidents to assist in preparing a Program on the Foundation and even more information is available. Just Ask! This years plan is to A.S.K. (Acknowledge past contributions, Solicit new contributions, Know the Foundation!) ASK!

Thank You.....David N. Moravick
Annual Giving Chair

The Casco Bay Sunrise Club

is moving from the
Double Tree Hotel
to the

Cumberland Club

116 High St., Portland, Maine

Time: 7:15 AM,

Thursday Mornings

The club is located just before
WCSH-TV Channel 6 on High St.

NEW ROTARIANS

Bath - Jeffrey Guenther
Boothbay Harbor - Peter Gardner
 Alfred Harrington - Donelle Parent
 Jay Warren

Brunswick - John Brill

Brunswick-Coastal

Christopher Outwin

Hampton

Tracy Whitaken

Kennebunk Portside

Kristen Martin

Jonathan Shill - Jill Twombly

Portland

TaeChong

Rumford

Roy Bagley - Maurice Bernier

Nacne Duguay - Robert Ellis

Rebecca Welsh

Saco Bay

Ronald Morton - David Wilson

Yarmouth

Alex Caulfield

• UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS •

February 23rd

Observe the RI Anniversay

Saturday, February 27th

World Peace and Understanding Dinner

Saturday, March 6th

CPR Outreach

Saturday, March 27th

District Interact Seminar

Saturday April 24th

District Assembly

Saturday, May 1st

Salvation Army - Camp Sebago Clean Up

Saturday and Sunday May 22nd-23rd

Camp Sunshine District Comm. Service Project

June 3rd to the 5th

District Conference

The Colony Hotel, Kennebunkport, Maine

June 18th to the 28th

District hands on project in Romania

June

19th - RYLA Work Day

20th-23rd - R.Y.L.A.

**WILLIAM SKINNER,
 GOVERNOR DISTRICT 7780 ,
 28 GARDEN LANE,
 DURHAM, N.H. 03824**



Marie A. Williams, PDG
 District 7780 Rotary International
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