



THE DINGHY

MAY 1999

WILLIAM SKINNER DISTRICT GOVERNOR DISTRICT 7780 - 1998-1999

DISTRICT GOVERNOR BILL'S MESSAGE

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You don't need me to tell you what a busy time of the Rotary year we are in!

When I look at our schedules it is almost unbelievable. Camp Sunshine, I.M.E.C. International Medical Equipment Collaborative, the wonderful District Assembly, Salvation Army Camp Cleanup, and our GSE team return, and the arrival of the GSE team from the Dominican Republic, plus your club's local projects that you are so heavily involved in. I am amazed at what we can do, and do in providing SERVICE for others. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE, ARE DOING, AND WILL DO BEFORE JUNE 30, 1999.

I am very pleased to report that we have reached 60% of our goal of \$118,000.00 for the Annual Fund of the Rotary Foundation, as of March. Our Annual Giving Chairman David Moravick has kept us all well informed. Thanks Dave. I have talked to several Club Presidents and they have given me glowing reports of how they are going to far exceed our goal of \$52.00 per member.

As you may remember, our goal is 78 new benefactors this year, and we are well over half way. Thank you, and let's keep pushing so that we can really celebrate at District Conference.

Thank you to the 50 Rotarians who helped at the Salvation Army Camp clean up on Saturday, May 1, 1999. This was all arranged by our GSE District Chairman, Sarah Luck. Thank you very much Sarah. Our GSE team from the Dominican Republic will use the main lodge there for a forty eight hour rest period during their stay with us. It is a beautiful setting, and much enjoyed each year by our visiting teams.

Our Camp Sunshine planning committee is busy making plans for our two day District Community Service project on Saturday and
(Continued on Page Two)



THE DGN NEWS CORNER BY MIKE MCGOVERN DGN

Presidents List 99-00 Priorities

Incoming Club Presidents have begun to present their priorities for 1999-2000. At the District Assembly on April 24th, I was pleased to present the results of a survey of priorities that was taken at PETS in March.

More than two thirds of the clubs indicated that they need to focus on membership development and retention. Many clubs voiced concern that they are having trouble assimilating new members into Rotary. In order to assist clubs, the District will be providing area membership seminars in August and September. This will also be a focus as I meet with each club during my visits this summer.

Rotary awareness is a concern of more than half of the clubs as there is a sense that Rotary needs more prominence in our communities. I am pleased to announce that we will have a special Rotary workshop on January 29, 2000 that will give practical guidance on club public relations, new media and on handling sensitive issues.

Most clubs also plan a concentration on community projects. To assist with membership issues, Rotary awareness and community needs, we will have a District wide Community Service Day on October 23, 1999 when all clubs are being

encouraged to undertake a hands on project to benefit their towns. This effort will also help with another priority of clubs, which is to make Rotarians out of Rotary members.

According to the survey, also receiving much emphasis this coming year will be support for the Rotary Foundation, participation in Rotaplast efforts, the celebration of anniversaries, long term planning for clubs, World Community Service projects, Interact and more participation in District Activities.

Thank you to all who attended the District Assembly, to those who presented and especially to Jim Russell who chaired the event. A great job was done by all.

District Governor's Message Continued

(from Page One)

Sunday, May 22-23, 1999. Get your T-shirts designed, join MANY other Rotarians, and have fun while we help. PDG Craig Wellman is coordinating this effort.

Our District Conference is going to be here before you know it. We will welcome P.R.I.D. Jim and Jean Spear as President of Rotary International, Jim Lacy's, representatives to deliver his message to us. PDG Jim and Ellen Labrie will serve as their aides. If you have not registered, it is not too late. Our Conference committee has a wonderful program lined up for us. Please join us to learn more about Rotary, to hear about our accomplishments, and for fun and fellowship June 3-6, 1999. Questions? Please call, Conference Co-Chairs PP Linda Pandolfi at 603-772-7474 or PP Ric Erickson at 603-749-9011.

Let us continue to FOLLOW OUR ROTARY DREAMS!!

Your Friend in Rotary,

Bill

"RYLA 99"

CAMP HINDS

SET UP DAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 1999

**RYLA
CONFERENCE**

SUNDAY JUNE 20 -

WEDNESDAY JUNE 23

DISTRICT 7780 RYLA NEWS

By Shannon Aldrich, District Co-Chair

Greetings All!

RYLA is off and running. Today (4/20) is the deadline for applications. We currently have 58 students already enrolled with only 16 clubs reporting! This is an increase in student average per club. And I am headed to the post office to check for more.

If you have students who would like to attend please email me or call (603/431-5709) as soon as you can. I would like to get an estimate together before District Assembly.

We have plans to take 100 students to RYLA this year. Once we have reached this number we will have to start reevaluating our program. We will then need to take more staff with us to facilitate. I will be available at District

Assembly this Saturday for any questions and to pick up applications from the clubs. Thank you to Portsmouth, Windham, Yarmouth, Rumford, Dover and Kennebunk Portside for sponsoring Graduate and Rotarian Facilitators!

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Current List of Clubs heard from & number of students: Rotary Club of Bath - 2, Dover - 8, Durham-Great Bay - 8, Freeport - 3, Fryeburg Area - 2, Kennebunk - 2, Kennebunk Portside - 2, Ogunquit - 2, Oxford Hills - 3, Portsmouth - 5, Rumford - 1, Saco Bay - 5, Sanford-Springvale - 5, Westbrook-Gorham - 5, Windham - 2, Yarmouth - 3. (If you would like to not receive future emails about RYLA, please send me an email for that request.)

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR DISTRICT GOVERNOR

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

District Governor for 2001-2002

Finance Committee Member, Division A 2000-2003

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 seven 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 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 A (Clubs in Dover, Durham-Great Bay, Exeter, Hampton, Newburyport, Portsmouth, Portsmouth Sunrise, Rochester, Seabrook-Hampton Falls).
- * 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 Bill prior to June 30, 1999. Please call him with any questions.

News And Notes

Around District 7780

Throughout April, bulletins all over District #7780 reported on our many district-wide projects - the Camp Sebago and Camp Sunshine projects, the RYLA planning, the Interact Conference, the Group Study Exchange visits - that helped make every club expand the message to "Follow Your Rotary Dream". Here are just some of the other goings-on in #7780 clubs:

The **Portsmouth Sunrise** club has christened its weekly bulletin - welcome to The Morning Outlook! Here's a bulletin with a lot to report - March's successful "Four Way Test" speech contest results, work with the local Junior Achievement program, and plans for the 2nd annual "Greatest Pizza" contest fundraiser in June. And all District #7780 car lovers take note: the club's newest fundraiser is a "Cruise Night" (that's vintage car cruising, not yachts) that will be held from 6-9pm on the 3rd Sat. of every month 'til October. The kick-off event will be May 22, at NAPA on Rte. 1, with everything from antique cars to classic 50's cruisers show for a good cause.

The **Sanford-Springvale** club held their "All You Ever Wanted To Know About Rotary" meeting in early April, with topics from membership development to the club budget. Break-out sessions then focused on expectations and project goals, with reports from each group. A redecorating committee will refurbish the Town Club, and a \$5,000 challenge grant was made to get a thermal imaging system for the local fire department.

The **Durham-Great Bay** club, home of DG Bill, has been busy with preparations for the District Conference, from stuffing and addressing 2500 mailings to finalizing event details. But they still had time to help with the Durham Crop Walk For Hunger,

hold a club forum, and on May 8th, they'll be hitting the road - on spring highway trash pick-up duty.

The **Yarmouth** club is putting final plans in order for its May 22nd Barbershop Chorus benefit for the school music programs. Grants were recently made to both the Royal River Performance Center and for local kids' "Walking Map of Yarmouth".

A **Seabrook** club team joined volunteers from clubs in **Dover**, **Durham** and **Hampton** to help out for a day at the International Medical Equipment Collaborative in Seabrook, preparing medical supplies for shipment. There is interest in continued weekly sessions at IMEC on Monday mornings and Wed. afternoons. Would your club be interested in this ongoing service project? We know DG Bill would be happy to hear from you!

The **Kennebunk** club holds a special evening meeting each year for the finale of their Scholarship Certificate fundraiser, with raffles of cash prizes for some lucky participants. The goal for the event, set for May 6th, is \$35,000. Another fundraiser had members preparing and selling lasagna, meatballs and salad at a local Home Show. The club's also finalizing host families for an incoming exchange student for next year.

The **Dover** club ended April with a "Bring A Prospective Member To Lunch" meeting, and reported a big success with its recent blood drive. (These events did *not* happen on the same day, but the phrase "new blood" does seem to spring to mind...) Club members held their spring "Hands-On" work day on May 1st, organized the Rotary Achievers Road Race on May 2nd to benefit the high school track programs, and

planned a baseball outing for mid-June. But the Big Day is May 14th: Happy 75th Anniversary, Dover!

The **So. Portland-Cape Elizabeth** club had a large contingent helping out at the District Assembly, as their new Rotary year as the Host Club of our incoming DG Mike McGovern approaches. The Two Lights already lists the District Conference 2000 on its weekly club calendar! (Ok, for you other organized types, it's May 18-21, 2000.) And all members have been encouraged to attend this spring's conference to prepare for the big year ahead. A nice feature in the Two Lights is the column on Rotary history, ranging from profiles of the club's Charter Members to general Rotary information.

One of the spring projects of the **Kennebunk Portside** club is the installation of a flagpole for the local public library. In addition to the club's educational grants, scholarships for several students to attend a YMCA camp have been organized. A video made by the club's Brazil Discovery Grant team brought several possible projects alive for club members at a recent meeting.

The **Portland** club wrapped up its Social Auction with over \$25,000 raised, and, like many other clubs, is in the process of updating its roster. One member is taking charge of updating the songbook, too! The club recently presented its annual Youth Service Award, and continues its tradition of distributing extra tickets to events, from sports games to concerts, to area low-income families.

The **Damariscotta-Newcastle** club celebrates spring with their Vidalia Onion Sale, with delivery set for May 7th. The club's discussions on their mission, projects and resources with

More News And Notes Around District 7780

people from the community brought forth an impressive report on public impressions of the club. The most important need for the club (and likely for others as well) was found to be a major, visible community project - it would improve the community but also add to club spirit, make new member development easier, involve local youth and build community support, as well. A Damariscotta-to-Newcastle path system is one project under study.

We hear that a "Traveling Gavel" is moving through the district... according to tradition, the club in possession of it must have three or more of its members visit another club to present it within 30 days to the next club. Last we heard, it had traveled from **So. Portland-Cape Elizabeth** to **Durham-Great Bay**, and from there to the **Dover** club.

The **Boothbay Harbor Rotary Star** reports on their Vidalia Onion Sale, and on a club assembly to discuss their Scout building project. After a successful Awards Night celebration in late March, the club had scheduled one April meeting as "Clean up The Clubhouse" meeting, with a cookout after all the work was done.

The headline in a recent **Exeter Powderhouse** read: *Hurrah for Hampton!* Exeter Rotarians not only enjoyed being honored guests at the **Hampton** 30th Anniversary celebration, they were even presented with a new gavel... to replace theirs that'd gone missing. Meanwhile, the Exeter club learned that Hampton was using a gavel left behind by the Kiwanis club, and arranged to give Hampton a new one of its own! The special event included remarks from three of the Hampton club's Charter Members, and a history of the high points (and the funny, embarrassing ones) spanning thirty years.

The **Exeter** club had two well-attended rabies clinics in April, held at the fire station. We hear a few cats narrowly missed receiving dog licenses, one dog arrived on its own from his home several towns away (and was returned to its owner), and amid the two- and four-footed crowd, firemen were sliding down the pole in the background. Folks, it's just not that often that the words "*Kafkaesque scenario*" come up in Rotary bulletins! The club also started a public speaking award program for high school Juniors, with club members giving presentations about it to 320 students in 8 separate sessions. A great response from students followed, and judges reported remarkable and stimulating speeches from participants.

The **Westbrook-Gorham** club had a lot of members helping out with the Patriots Day Road Race in mid-April, and have given funds to help the town fire department with an innovative program - a child safety seat training program for firefighters to check for proper installation and usage, and to prevent all too frequent and needless child injuries. And a tip of the hat to Westbrook-Gorham for their unique Rotarian-Of-The-Month awards. With every month and season come projects that need special intensive effort. This just sounds like a great way to say thanks to those who serve well.

The **Rochester** club held a successful first annual club ski trip for some spring skiing, and in mid-April, had its 3rd annual Bowl-A-Thon. The club continues to work with the local Housing Authority to provide for special needs of residents, and its school Readers program.

The **South Berwick** club held a special award dinner to recognize a local couple for their years of community service, complete with

a "This Is Your Life" program. Judging from the nice press coverage, it was a well-organized and well-deserved award event.

The **Saco Bay** club held its Spring Fling dance in late April to benefit the Charlie Snow Scholarship Fund, and was set for the gavel to open the annual auction fundraiser on May 2nd. The club anticipates sending more than 25 volunteers to the Camp Sunshine work project later this month - a great effort! And grants went out recently to Little League, Girls Softball, and Senior Baseball. Ah, Spring!

The **Brunswick** club continues to use their new project action plans to good effect, with 18 committees working on different projects, and virtually all club members actively involved in at least two of the working groups. A major press release about the projects is being sent out to keep the community updated.

The next time you meet Rotarians from the **Portsmouth** club, ask them about their most, er,... unique...meeting on April Fool's Day!

Golf Tournaments Are Just A Hook Around The Corner:

Portland: May 24th

Portsmouth: June 4th

Sanford-Springvale: June 23

Any more out there? Let us know!

Fine-Of-The-Month:

from the Saco Bay BayWatch:

"John A. and Jim C. paid for reminiscing about hair - they remember when they used to have long hair, now they long for hair!"

Headline-Of-The-Month:

from the Damariscotta-Newcastle Twin Village Topics:

"Rotarians are as sweet as their Vidalia Onions!"

See you at the Conference in June!

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

DISTRICT 7780 CLUB ATTENDANCE FOR APRIL

Attendance %	Club	Members 6/30/98	Current Members	+/-	
A	B	C	D	E	
1	100	Newburyport	72	74	2
2	90	Windham	35	32	-3
3	88	Wells	52	46	-6
4	84.57	South Berwick	42	49	7
5	84.37	Saco Bay	67	69	2
6	84	Kittery	23	25	2
7	82.65	Durham - Great Bay	50	54	4
8	81.7	Exeter	48	47	-1
9	81.6	Biddeford/Saco	83	68	-15
10	79.2 TIE	Kennebunk	92	96	4
11	79.2 TIE	Sanford/Springvale	59	58	-1
12	78.4	Bethel	35	30	-5
13	78.2	Brunswick	145	127	-18
14	78 TIE	Damariscotta-Newcastle	41	42	1
15	78 TIE	Oxford Hills	60	61	1
16	77.76	Portland	211	208	-3
17	77.33	South Portland/Cape Elizabeth	53	48	-5
18	77 TIE	Dover	90	80	-10
19	77 TIE	Freeport	32	33	1
20	75.7	York	65	59	-6
21	75	Ogunquit	42	39	-3
22	74	Fryeburg Area	24	29	5
23	73	Yarmouth	38	41	3
24	72.46	Bath	63	59	-4
25	71.66	Rochester	75	79	4
26	71.23	Rumford	42	44	2
27	70	Brunswick Coastal	15	14	-1
28	69	Hampton	61	60	-1
29	67.6	Somersworth	17	17	
30	65.6	Casco Bay Sunrise	28	28	
31	NR	Scarborough	25	26	1
32	NR	Portsmouth Sunrise	25	29	4
33	NR	Portsmouth	259	262	3
34	NR	Kennebunk Portside	40	39	-1
35	NR	Bath Sunrise	24	21	-3
36	NR	Boothbay Harbor	47	51	4
37	NR	Seabrook-Hampton Falls	31	20	-11
38	NR	Westbrook-Gorham	41	42	1
39	NR	Bridgton/Lake Region	25	28	3
40		TOTALS	2277	2234	-43
41	Attendance figures are due in to the District Secretary by the 10th of each month.				

• DISTRICT CONFERENCE IS RIGHT AROUND

Have you sent in your reservation for the District Conference yet? Can't find your registration packet? Call Linda (603/772-7474) or Ric (603/749-9011) for a prompt replacement. Thinking about bringing the children? We have some fun things in store for them like a Scavenger Hunt and pizza party. Bringing your boat? You'll want to call Chris Audley, Harbormaster, at 207/967-2612 to make sure you have a place to put it, and let us know at Reception so we can bring you up to date on the

plans for a flotilla Saturday. Not sure you can make it? Try to work that out soon so we can include you in our meal count. Treat yourself to an unforgettable weekend with some of the nicest people you'd ever want to meet, and come join us the weekend of June 3-6 at the resort hotel, The Colony, in beautiful Kennebunkport.

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Damariscotta-Newcastle Club Meets with Community Focus Group

DG Bill asked me to tell a little about our Club's recent effort to communicate with our community by way of a focus group. With this being the year of our 75th anniversary we decided to gain a general understanding of our image, determine our strengths and weaknesses as perceived by the community and receive ideas and suggestions that would improve Club goals and activities. Wendy Pieh, state representative and organization development consultant served as facilitator for 20 community leaders on March 3, and did an outstanding job leading the discussion group.

The response was generally quite positive. Some of the favorable perceptions from the group were "they have a dedicated membership", "they are a highly visible group", "they give a lot of scholarships", and "they are supportive of one another in times of need". Some of the more negative perceptions were "their attendance requirements prevents community people from joining", "it's difficult to combine Rotary and do other things", "young people may find ritualistic activities outdated such as the Pledge of Allegiance, singing of America, and the blessing".

A few of the groups suggestions to us were - get more involved with local high school students and help them get involved in community projects. (An Interact Group is under consideration). - fill a need to build a baseball diamond. - seed projects, get them started and move on. - set up and meet periodically with a board of community advisors to get and give continuing input. - establish a list of community volunteers who want to help Rotary with projects on weekends.

Our Club is currently giving careful consideration to the ideas and suggestions of our community focus group.

Bob Laird, President-Elect
Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary Club

District Directory Correction

SEABROOK-HAMPTON FALLS

MEETING PLACE CHANGE

Effective June 2, 1999
Faro Garden Banquet Facility
12 Lafayette Rd. (Route One)
Hampton Falls, N.H.
603-926-2107

Ambassadorial Scholarship Applications Available

Applications for the 2000-2001 Study Year, brochures and other information will be available at the 1999 District Assembly on April 24th. Allocations of SHARE funds as selected by the District Foundation Committee provide for one Ambassadorial Scholarship to be awarded for the 2000-2001 study year. All Rotary Clubs should encourage qualified students to apply, conduct an interview process and select the best possible applicant by June 15, 1999. Completed applications are due to Scholarship Chair PDG George Rice by July 15, 1999. All applicants will be interviewed and the successful recipient and alternate will be selected on August 14, 1999. Completed applications must be received by mail by July 15, 1999. Please mail to PDG George Rice, P.O. Box 8, Norway, Maine 04268.

NEW ROTARIANS

Biddeford-Saco - Paul DeSchambault

Mary Keefe

Brunswick - Anthony Gatti, III

Bruce Stahl

Exeter - Robert A. Conner

Allison M Field

Fryeburg - Sandra Layne

Kennebunk - Arthur Cote

Jorge Garcia

Julia Villemaire

Kittery

Ellen McClure

Dorothy Mellett

Nicholas Zerbinopoulos

Portsmouth

Joseph S. Cicirelli

Anthony Delyani

Saco Bay - Patricia R. Gulliereault

Yarmouth - C. Gail McLean

Nathan W. Smith

• UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS •

Saturday and Sunday May 22nd-23rd

Camp Sunshine District Community
Service Project

June 3rd to the 6th

District Conference

The Colony Hotel, Kennebunkport, Maine

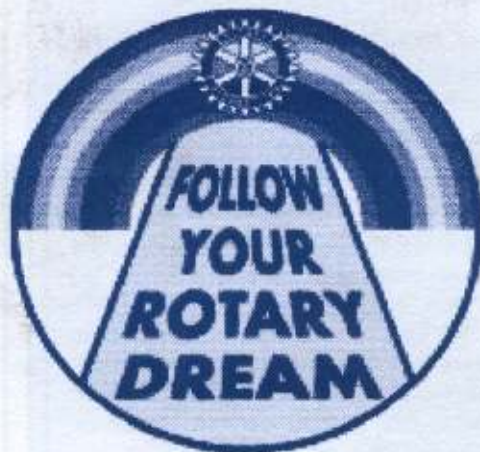
June 19th - RYLA Work Day

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

RYLA REUNION BBQ

Just a quick note from Shannon Aldrich to let everyone know to hold the afternoon of August 8th open for the annual RYLA Reunion BBQ. It will be held in Portsmouth. More details will follow in future newsletters and E-mails. Graduate Facilitators Sarah Foss and Carolyn Dube are heading up the BBQ Committee this year.

**WILLIAM SKINNER,
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