



# THE DINGHY

NOVEMBER 1998

WILLIAM SKINNER DISTRICT GOVERNOR DISTRICT 7780 - 1998-1999

## DISTRICT GOVERNOR BILL'S MESSAGE

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### **HELLO TO ALL!!**

As we start into the month of November, and realize that the Thanksgiving holiday will soon be upon us, we should - we must - take a minute to reflect about all the wonderful things that we have to be thankful for!! Our families, health, friends, jobs, places of worship and the wonderful organization treat we all are a part of, ROTARY.

The District Foundation Seminar has come and gone (more about this a little later), and our official club visits are complete, but there is so much going on in the District, it makes us feel so good to know that we are a part of it all.

The Russian fishermen have come and gone. Many thanks to PP Peter Johnson and all of you who helped. Our wonderful young friends from the Friends Forever program have come and gone, and thank you to all who helped make this another great experience for them, and for us.

I am happy to report that I have signed two Children's Opportunity Grant applications and we look forward to them being approved. Congratulations to the Exeter and South Berwick clubs for preparing these.

We wish our team well that is heading for Romania (10/20/98). They will be looking for ways that we can help through Matching Grants, or by giving us a chance to travel there in June of 1999 for a "hands on project".

I have used some of our District Designated Funds to support the Kennebunk-Portside Rotary Club's Carl Miller Discovery Grant request, and to support the Dominican Republic, District 4060's, request for Disaster Relief.

Our District Foundation Seminar was well attended again this year. Thirty one of our thirty nine clubs were represented by about one

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# THE DGN NEWS CORNER

## Exceeding Expectations

This past month I attended a professional conference of city, town and county managers in Orlando, Florida. Among the many breakout sessions was a seminar featuring a speaker from Walt Disney World. He spoke of the mission of the Disney Company and the expectations of its "guests" for the highest quality service. In fact, he indicated that their goal is to always exceed the expectation of the guest.

What does this have to do with Rotary? The

seminar got me thinking. What do we do to exceed expectations? Do we try to meaningfully increase the size of our clubs or do we just try to break even? Have we tried a new fund raiser in recent years? How do we make our guests and visiting Rotarians feel welcome? Even more important, do we try to figure out what are the expectations of our newest members and how do we work with them to see that these expectations are exceeded? If this approach of exceeding expectations is successful for Disney, why can it not be also successful for Rotary?

As we look towards 1999-2000, one of the first steps for Rotary Clubs is to elect your officers. Remember that these elections are to occur prior to the end of 1998. Fortunately, I already have a good list of Club Presidents for next year, but I should be receiving a copy of the election information form listing your secretary and president.

Good luck with all that you are doing this month.

*Mike*

## Dominican Republic GSE Team Announced

The GSE Committee for District 7780 is proud to announce the Group Study Exchange team which will travel to the Dominican Republic in April of 1999.

### Team Leader - Joan Nickell

Portsmouth Sunrise Club

Past President of the Portsmouth  
Visiting Nurses Assoc.

Deborah Cerullo, Independent Living Specialist

Sponsor-Portland Rotary

Denise Boynton, Computer Trainer

Sponsor-Bath Sunrise

Sherry Rowell, Events Coordinator

Sponsor-Portsmouth Rotary

John Boland, Biologist

Sponsor-Portland Rotary

### Alternates:

Team Leader - James Dodd,

Real Estate Management

Sponsor-Brunswick Coastal

Enes-Moran-Butts, MSW

Sponsor-Rotary Club of Bridgton-Lake Region

Sarah Thompson,

Translator for Portland Public Health

Sponsor-Windham Rotary

## DG MESSAGE CONTINUED

(Continued from Page One)

hundred Rotarians. Dan Moores was our keynote speaker and several of our District officers and committee chairmen conducted very interesting and informative sessions. Of course giving to the Annual Fund of the Foundation was one of the subjects. Thirty three Rotarians gave, or pledged \$9,465.00 to the Foundation.

As we enter the Thanksgiving season please consider sharing Rotary with others, by giving them a chance to ENJOY ROTARY, as we do.

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving!!

Your friend in Rotary,

*Bill*





## FRIENDS FOREVER THANKS GALORE!

On November 1st, 40 teens from Northern Ireland returned home "**Friends Forever**," following two weeks in our District in the all-important "**Life Raft**" retreat that begins **Friends Forever**. Almost all of the clubs in the District helped in some way this year, most as part of an overwhelming rescue effort that saved half of those kids from being unfunded. Count the Belfast and Jerusalem groups here in August, that's 6 groups of teens, from two of the most chronically and heart-wrenching troubled countries on the planet, who have found real hope, new courage, self-esteem, and great friendships in our District this year.

Though I've had a number of Rotarians new to **Friends Forever** this year, that they should be thanking me for involving them in this most rewarding work (called a "defining" experience by more than one), I have to express my heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this year's programs such outstanding successes. It took roughly \$130,000 in cash and other resources to bring all those kids here, and provide their carefully crafted but oh-so-powerful itineraries. That's an awful lot of Rotarian labor, goodwill,

persuasion, and generosity - including 100+/- Rotarians families who hosted kids in their homes on *Out with Families* nights. By all reports, it was a uniformly and phenomenally wonderful effort, as the buckets of tears at the airport verified unmistakably.

A special thanks to the two "savior" committees: **The Brunswick/Bath Area Group, and the Hampton/Area One Group**. Both of these groups were put together in mere months, experiences that should be a year in the making, speaking volumes about the extraordinary conscientiousness and number of committee hours that went into making it as perfect as possible for their kids.

And finally, my thanks to two wonderfully supportive District Governors: Bill Skinner and Marie Williams. Without their caring and enthusiastic help in getting the message and the appeal out within the District, none of it could have been brought together in time.

On behalf of the young people of both Northern Ireland and Israel, many thanks, I love true Rotarians.

*Bill Holt*

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## Following Your Rotary Dream

In response to the call for Rotarians to promote literacy, the Rochester Rotary Club started the Reading Rochester Rotarians Program. The object of the program is for our group of leading business and civic leaders in the Rochester area to emphasize the importance of reading by making themselves available to read to children at elementary schools, kindergartens, and daycares. By discussing the importance of reading in their daily lives, as well as reading to the group, the Rotarians will hopefully help to encourage the love of reading. This program is available free of charge to area schools, kindergartens and daycares or other children's groups.

We attempted to develop this at the end of

the last school year, but did not have time with the hectic end of the school year. Therefore the program has only been in effect for the last three weeks. We have already matched up 14 Rotarians with reading assignments (a total of 330 children), and have had recent requests for 9 more. Most of the first 14 are reading this week (10/26/98), but a few who have already read have reported a great experience. One said, "The person that got the most out of this is me!"

If you have any questions, please call Walter Hoerman at work 1-603-332-4522 or at home 1-603-332-1581.

*GREAT JOB WALTER, and keep up the good work!*

**DG Bill**



# News And Notes

## Around District 7780

We'd say autumn is a peak season for club projects in District 7780, but we seem to remember saying the same about winter, spring and summer, too. Reading a month's worth of club bulletins is truly impressive. Let's go for a ride around the district and look at just a bit of what's going on...

Hats off to the **South Berwick** club, who celebrated its 70th Anniversary in style. A special dinner brought the club and many visitors, including members of the **Sanford** club, (original sponsors of So. Berwick) together to recall the history of the club. The local school district sent a proclamation of appreciation for the club's long record of scholarship funding, and October was proclaimed So. Berwick Rotary Month by the town.

The **Kittery** club held an auction in October to benefit the children of Tacloban, Leyte, Philippines with food and school programs. Why aid for this particular town? One club member landed in Tacloban at the height of WW2, and never forgot the horror and destruction he saw. In 1997, he heard that the Tacloban Rotary Club had just celebrated their 50th anniversary, which meant the club was founded only two years after that terrible wartime destruction. Impressed by the city's effort at recovery, he began a correspondence with the Tacloban club and learned about the plight of street children there. That led to Kittery Rotary lending a helping hand. The happy result ends with Kittery's auction earning well over its goal.

The **Scarborough** club will kick off its annual fruit sale by taking orders at local polling places on Election Day (clever!) and will also kick off Christmas Tree sales after Thanksgiving. The club is

exploring the creation of a "Rotary Park" near new town playing fields.

The **Kennebunk Portside** club just received a district SHARE grant for an upcoming project in Brazil. The club set aside October for a fundraising drive (with matching funds) to benefit their local food pantry in preparation for the holidays. Family Day is set for Oct. 29th, and October 26 was the date for a Friends Forever group cluster meeting of Portside with **Kennebunk** and **Wells**.

Rotary Vocational Service Month brought a full page of vocation related cartoons to the **Saco Bay BayWatch**, along with its great monthly calendar full of club birthdays, anniversaries and Rotary events. A real keeper! Good results from the October yard sale were reported, and it sounds like every member pitched in with item pickup, sorting, set-up, and sale duty. A Halloween "Walk In The Dark" was held to benefit the Charlie Snow Scholarship Fund.

We heard that the **Biddeford Saco** club is holding their annual raffle - they sell only 250 tickets at \$100 each, with a grand prize of \$5,000! The club was set to share a special joint lunch meeting with the **Saco Bay** club on Oct. 22nd, for the Friends Forever program.

**Brunswick** Rotarians joined many others in District 7780 to welcome the delegation of Russian fishing businessmen. The club also celebrated the Oct. 17th dedication of the Bike Path, with a Brunswick Rotary monument marking the major role of the club in raising funds for the project. A contingent of club members participated with a celebratory ride across the bridge on bicycle. October 27th was set

for a joint club meeting with the **Bath** club.

The **Exeter** club planned an October 6th fall foliage cruise up the Piscataqua to Great Bay, with a fellowship dinner to follow. The trip went off just fine, but (these are, of course, Rotarians!) took a little detour when club members spotted a sailboat in distress. The captain of the cruise boat was notified, and assured that nobody on board would mind an interruption of the cruise. They stuck around till the Coast Guard arrived to help the stranded sailor. The club's annual Apple Sale was reported with good humor in The Powderhouse, with a lively account of pouring rain, sodden money and soaked bags giving way, cascading loose apples down the street. The "worthy cadre" was not deterred by cold or rain, and we hear that sympathy purchases for the sodden club members ran high.

The **Durham-Great Bay** club welcomed home DG Bill Skinner from his travels with their own club assembly and dinner, complete with entertainment by the Rota Rooters, who came up with special songs for the occasion. A high point of the evening was recognition of six club members who became R.I. benefactors. The club completed its Sept. annual auction with over 13,000 in funds raised. October also saw members out on highway cleanup duty, along their stretch of adopted highway.

The **Yarmouth** club once again had all ghouls on duty at their annual Haunted House, and worked on it with a group of high school volunteers who were noosed into the project. Several club members were scheduled to make presentations at the middle school's Career Day later this fall. And a joint meeting with the

Mark your calendars now for the District Conference on June 3rd - 5th at the Colony Hotel in Kennebunkport!



## More News And Notes Around District 7780

**Freeport** club was scheduled for Oct. 26 to hear the Friends Forever group's presentation.

The **South Portland - Cape Elizabeth** club continues their regular monthly Soup Kitchen hands-on duty, along with funding - in October, a call went out to the club for plenty of cupcakes - hold the nuts... the club also sent out a group of willing workers on Oct. 17th to build a new set of bleachers for a local playing field. The club fielded a strong softball team - or at least just a tad stronger than the **Portland** club, who went down to the SPACE team 24-23. Money raised was for the Pine Tree Society. Either of these clubs would probably whup the rest of us 7780-ers, since Portland has an ongoing club tennis league, and SP-CE has one for basketball. Any other clubs out there with club sports leagues?

The **Kennebunk** club makes sure its members stay in good shape - at two meetings last month, this season's flu shots were offered on the spot. The club recently auctioned off a first issue African stamp featuring a portrait of Paul Harris, with money to go to AIDS research in Africa. And a special call went out for Halloween candy for the club's Oct. 31st Haunted House project.

The **Damariscotta - Newcastle** club is working on their holiday fruit sale, and is also creating a member manual which will present key information for all members. The club has a weekly raffle with a grand prize to whomever pulls the Queen of Hearts. After 49 weeks of the Queen eluding the draw, club members couldn't stand the suspense any more, so broke with tradition and draw a second ticket. And another one, and, room silent, air electric, another one, till at last one card remained undrawn - the Queen of Hearts.

We asked our research dept. what the odds of that were, but they were still bent over their calculators working on the answer at press time.

The **Sanford-Springvale** club has had a busy October, with calendar sales, a Rotary booth at a recent business expo, and a club pot luck supper on the 23rd. Awards Night on the 14th honored both community members and Rotarians for outstanding service, with a great turnout. The club is sponsoring a soccer team this fall, and presented a check to the Acton Fire Dept. from R.I. from the Ice Storm relief fund.

The **Portland** club is gearing up for the holiday season, working on the Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen, and with full-ahead planning for their month-long Winterfest event. In the meantime, volunteers are signing up to help seniors with leaf raking.

The **Portsmouth** club members lined up to pick their Christmas Tree sales shifts, based on their always effective sign-up or be assigned strategy. The meeting at which our Russian fishing visitors were present featured a lively election debate between two candidates. The Russians couldn't follow all of it, but commented that this bit of the democratic process was one of their trip's highlights. The fall environmental project is to mark the city's storm drains with a stenciled symbol, and a related public awareness campaign on the effects of dumping oil and other chemicals.

The **Fryeburg** club finished another year's presence at the Fair, and got busy putting in a new playground at a local school. We didn't hear the results of the canoe race, but there sure were a lot of happy dollars from members who enjoyed their

work on it. Members are still working at the membership challenge.

The **Hampton** club had a club assembly to kick off the month, finished a successful Seafood Festival event, and were set to welcome the Friends Forever group on Oct. 20th.

The **Rochester** club has a project this year of club members going to local school classrooms to help with their reading programs - early reviews indicate it's a great experience for everyone. Club volunteers went out to the highway to refurbish the "Welcome to Rochester" signs earlier this month, and all are looking forward to a program by the club's RYLA participants on Nov. 9th.

The **Dover** club spent a work project weekend at the local shelter, My Friend's Place, installing new ceiling tiles, painting and carpentering. Major plans are being set for the club to build a band shell in the downtown area. Grants went out to DARE and the local kids' group home recently, and a committee is already looking forward to next year's 75th anniversary celebration.

### Fine-Of-The-Month:

from the Kennebunk Bunk:

"A fine was issued to Wayne B. for not taking in his rubbish barrels promptly. A \$2 gripe... came from Wayne B. regarding those people who drive over other people's trash barrels when they sit outside for a while."

### Quote-Of-The-Month:

from **Yarmouth's Royal River Rotarian**: "If a man does not make new acquaintances as he advances through life, he will soon find himself left alone. A man, sir, should keep his friendships in a constant repair." -Samuel Johnson

Thanks for continuing to send your club bulletin to Mary Jane Peabody, 6 Sherman St., Dover, NH 03820.



# DISTRICT 7780 CLUB ATTENDANCE FOR OCTOBER

Attendance %	Club	Members 6/30/98	Current Members	+/-	
A	B	C	D	E	
1	91.67	Fryeburg Area	24	24	
2	88.2	Bethel	35	33	-2
3	88.1	Biddeford/Saco	83	74	-9
4	86	Windham	35	35	
5	83	Wells	52	49	-3
6	82.4	Rumford	42	44	2
7	81.77	Bath	63	58	-5
8	81.14	Saco Bay	67	71	4
9	81	Newburyport	72	72	
10	80.91	Bath Sunrise	24	21	-3
11	80	Yarmouth	38	38	
12	79.44	Portland	211	205	-6
13	79	Portsmouth Sunrise	25	29	4
14	78.54	South Berwick	42	44	2
15	77.5	Kennebunk	92	97	5
16	77	Oxford Hills	60	63	3
17	76.6	Freeport	32	32	
18	76.47	Sanford/Springvale	59	59	
19	76.3	Casco Bay Sunrise	28	27	-1
20	75 tie	Damariscotta-Newcastle	41	43	2
21	75 tie	Seabrook-Hampton Falls	31	20	-11
22	74.67	Portsmouth	259	258	-1
23	74.6	South Portland/Cape Elizabeth	53	53	
24	72.47	Durham - Great Bay	50	49	-1
25	71.67	Rochester	79	75	-4
26	71.01	Dover	90	86	-4
27	70.5	Somersworth	17	17	
28	68	Scarborough	25	23	-2
29	67.75	Ogunquit	42	42	
30	66	Brunswick Coastal	15	15	
31	65.2 tie	Brunswick	145	137	-8
32	65.2 tie	Westbrook-Gorham	41	41	
33	64	Bridgton/Lake Region	25	21	-4
34	61	Kennebunk Portside	40	39	-1
35	NR	Boothbay Harbor	47	46	-1
36	NR	Hampton	61	59	-2
37	NR	Kittery	23	23	
38	NR	Exeter	48	48	
39	NR	York	65	65	
40		TOTALS	2281	2235	-46
41					



# ***The Russians Are Gone! The Russians Are Gone!***

Peter Johnson, Project Coordinator Yarmouth R.C.

**What did the District do?** Successfully hosted a visiting delegation of 12 Russian leaders from their commercial fish and fish processing industries for a three week visit. If you can think of it, this group probably saw it. They saw fish and crustaceans canned, cleaned, frozen, processed, shipped, caught, studied and protected. They discussed maritime safety, local environmental issues, marketing, merchandising, academics, international trade, private/public partnerships, and ocean breeding programs. They traveled from Machias to Boston and most harbors in between. (They even learned the secret of mikro-brewns.)

**What did the District learn?** Several eye-opening observations. The special openmindedness of local family and business

hosts to throw open their doors and minds to a very inquisitive group was nothing short of an inspiration. Put yourself in the traveler's place. Each a successful business leader in a country with limited phone service, virtually no mail service, no effective government, and rapidly changing rules, and yet these people somehow marveled at what WE have accomplished. Go Figure.

**What did the individual Rotarian who participated learn?** When a chance comes along to expand your knowledge and vision of the world, TAKE IT. One cannot help but be a better person for the experience, in some small way knowing that we helped contribute to making the world just a little smaller and a little safer. To all who helped, **MANY MANY THANKS from Our Russian Friends.**

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## **GOOSE SENSE**

In the fall when you see geese heading South for the winter flying along in the "V" formation, you might be interested in knowing what science has discovered about why they fly that way. It has been learned that as each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own. PEOPLE WHO ARE PART OF A TEAM AND SHARE A COMMON DIRECTION GET WHERE THEY ARE GOING QUICKER AND EASIER, BECAUSE THEY ARE TRAVELING ON THE TRUST OF ONE ANOTHER.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go through it alone and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the power of the flock. IF WE HAVE AS MUCH SENSE AS A GOOSE, WE WILL SHARE INFORMATION WITH THOSE WHO ARE HEADED THE SAME WAY WE ARE GOING.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wind and another goose takes over. IT

PAYS TO SHARE LEADERSHIP AND TAKE TURNS DOING HARD JOBS.

The geese honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep their speed. WORDS OF SUPPORT AND INSPIRATION HELP ENERGIZE THOSE ON THE FRONT LINES, HELPING THEM TO KEEP PACE IN SPITE OF THE DAY-TO-DAY PRESSURES AND FATIGUE.

Finally, when a goose gets sick or is wounded by a gunshot and falls out, two geese fall out of the formation and follow the injured one down to help and protect it. They stay with the wounded goose until it is either able to fly or until it is dead, and then they launch out with another formation to catch up with their group. IF WE HAVE THE SENSE OF A GOOSE, WE WILL STAND BY EACH OTHER WHEN THINGS GET ROUGH.

The next time you see a formation of geese, remember . . . IT IS A REWARD, A CHALLENGE AND A PRIVILEGE TO BE A CONTRIBUTING MEMBER OF A TEAM.



## **NEW ROTARIANS**

Bath - Jamie Akins  
Kennebunk - Bruce McNaimee

Ronald Quake  
Robert Fortier  
Leonard Guerra  
Peter Hanson

Kennebunk Portside - Jay Chapin

Portland - David Baer  
Tracey Gieary

Portsmouth - Douglas Ross

Carolyn Thompson  
Margaret Ann Millar

Rumford - Diane Perry

Saco Bay - Paul Burnell  
Debra Lombard

Theresa Brown-Kinney

Sanford-Springvale - Janet Steffens

Ealine Camuti  
Luke Seward

South Portland-Cape Elizabeth -

Anton Wagner

Yarmouth - James McAllister

## **UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS**

Tuesday January 12, 1999

Joint meeting of Presidents and  
Presidents-Elect

Saturday, February 27, 1999

World Peace and Understanding Dinner

Saturday, March 6, 1999

CPR Outreach

Saturday, March 27, 1999

District Interact Seminar

April, 1999

Camp Sunshine Project

Saturday, May 15, 1999

Salvation Army - Camp Sebago Clean Up

June 3rd to the 5th, 1999

District Conference

Third Week of June 1999

R.Y.L.A.

**WILLIAM SKINNER,  
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