

District Beacon



Michael K. McGovern, District Governor, 1999-2000

MARCH 2000



Mark Your Calendars!

Mar. 18	Rumford 75th Anniversary
Mar. 24	Kennebunk 75th Anniversary
Mar. 25	Interact Seminar Oxford Hills Comp. H.S.
Mar. 30- Apr. 1	PETS Nashua, NH
Apr. 12	District Assembly Yoken's, Portsmouth, NH
Apr. 15	Presidential Citation Forms Due
Apr. 19	World Community Service Committee Meeting, 6 p.m. Panda Garden, Portland
Apr. 30	Deadline for Council on Legislation Nominations
May 18-21	District Conference 2000
June 4-7	Rotary International Convention, Buenos Aires
June 23-27	RYLA Camp Hinds

Interact 2000!

by ADG Mary Larnard

Are you interested in: working with youth? Expanding your Rotary Club's depth? Creating diverse and exciting projects? Supporting an Interact Club in your area? Then save Saturday, March 25, 2000, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the second annual Rotary International District 7780 Interact District Conference. Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School, South Paris, Maine will host this exciting event under the direction of OHCHS Faculty Advisor Jeanie Stone and Interact President Kathy Smith.

The conference is designed to celebrate the accomplishments of the present Interact Clubs in our District and to raise the level of awareness of the potential of Interact for those Rotary Clubs who are not currently involved.

Interact provides each Rotary Club with a unique opportunity to work with a tremendous resource for implementing our belief in Service Above Self; teenagers are passionate about getting involved and helping humanity in our communities and in the world. They are also the Rotarians of tomorrow. Interact is part of the future of Rotary; it can revitalize and enhance your Club's activities and it can provide a dimension of service involvement for schools that is simply profound.

Through this Conference, you will be able to talk with members of active Interact Clubs, gather information about starting an Interact Club in your area, and learn about the expectations for the future from young men and women who are leaders of tomorrow.

During the conference, breakout sessions will focus upon community service, International Service, the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, team building and leadership training.

At the present time, RI charters the following Interact Clubs in District 7780: Biddeford High School, Kennebunk High School, Fryeburg Academy, Newburyport High School, Oxford Hills High School and Junior High School, Portsmouth High School, Somersworth High School, Windham High School, Oyster River High School (Durham) and Winnacunnet High School (Hampton). Join us and our growing number of Interactors throughout the District at this very special event! It will be worth your while...

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Message from Mike:

"Somewhere Out There" is Here



While preparing for the recent World Understanding and Peace Dinner, I was struck with how far reaching our international projects are this year. Yet, as far reaching as our efforts are, they remain very much connected to our clubs. Between January 1, 2000 and June 30th, Rotarians from our 39 clubs will have assisted on site with projects in Brazil, Romania, the Dominican Republic, Argentina, Spain, South Africa, Peru and Bolivia.

The outbound Group Study Exchange team is connected to clubs as individual clubs sponsor local non-Rotarians to attend. When the inbound team arrives from Brazil, the hosting will all be done locally. Our inbound Youth Exchange students are from Argentina, Brazil, Germany, Japan, Ecuador, Romania, Bolivia, Indonesia, Turkey, Paraguay and Belgium, all of whom are hosted by Maine or New Hampshire clubs. The outbound students, again sponsored by you, are in most of these countries and in India.

Rotarians are processing medical equipment at IMEC, assisting with surgeries through Rotaplast, delivering ambulances to Honduras and assisting with water, nursing and fire safety needs in the Dominican Republic. An orphanage in South Africa will see improvements unimagined because a Rotary club here had a vision. And of course, we continue an amazing relationship with the young people of Northern Ireland.

February was Rotary International's World Understanding Month. We celebrated our achievements at the World Understanding and Peace Dinner on February 19th with RI Director Mario Grassi of Switzerland who further inspired us with the Swiss example of promoting peaceful coexistence throughout the world. Our celebration and inspiration will continue as we see the actions of local Rotarians in building community in our towns and in the world around us. The song "Somewhere Out There" conjures a message of places far away. There is no place far away anymore as we are constantly reminded by the international projects among us.

District Governor Nominations

Clubs are encouraged to submit nominations for District Governor 2002-2003 and a member of the Budget Committee for 2001-2004.

Qualifications for District Governor can be found in the Manual of Procedure and include membership in a Rotary club for at least seven years prior to taking office, serving a full term as Club president, and being willing and physically able to carry out the duties of District Governor.

The Budget Committee member must be a Past President of a club in Oxford or York county.

Nominations must be forwarded to DG Mike prior to June 30, 1999. Interested Rotarians are encouraged to call Mike for more details.

Focus on our Foundation

Who Gives to the Rotary Foundation?

The programs of Our Rotary Foundation which we celebrated at the World Peace & Understanding Dinner recently would not be possible without the numerous contributions of Rotarians and Rotary clubs. Who are these donors and why do they choose to give their money to our Foundation? We highlight three of them; chances are you know one or more of them but their names have been changed. (They are proud to be Foundation donors but our purpose is to point out the reasons they give rather than to honor these particular donors.)

Doris inherited money from her parents and wanted to use the money in a way that would honor them. They had always taught her to give to others so she thought that giving their money to Our Foundation would be a fitting tribute to them. Doris points out that our Foundation helps the children of the world and they are our future. She chose the Foundation to receive her gift because she knows the Foundation better than any other charity and she's certain that every dollar she gives will be put to use in a beneficial way.

Jack's donation also was the result of a "windfall." He sold some property he had purchased many years ago and found himself with a large capital gain. He and his wife hate to pay taxes and after discussing it they decided they would rather give their money to our Foundation than to the IRS. They chose the Foundation to give their money to because they feel close to the Foundation – in fact closer than to any particular church – and they believe it's a good investment since part of the money comes back to our own District.

Maureen is probably a more typical donor. She has given steadily after being "hooked" by the polio effort many years ago. She started small with a \$100 contribution, which was matched by her club. She eventually became a Paul Harris Fellow and has continued to give ever since, working on PHF's for family members. If she could donate to only one charity, it would be the Rotary Foundation because she believes you get more for your money with gifts to the Foundation.

Doris summed up what giving to the Foundation is all about: "I can't make a difference in the world by myself but as part of the Foundation I can help change the world. Look at PolioPlus – with our donations we've helped to change the world."



Rotaplast Brief: Heidi Desveaux of Wells recently returned from a Rotaplast mission as a medical volunteer. As we go to press four Rotarians from our District are on a Rotaplast mission in Bolivia. Look for reports from the team of Bridget Burns, Brenda Thibodeau, Mike Liberti and Berri Krammer in future Beacons.

GSE Schedule Set

by Janet McLaughlin, GSE Committee

Intrigued by the idea of having a Rotary-sponsored visitor from Brazil join your family's life for a few days? Ready to practice your Portuguese or to learn a few basic words? Thinking about how much your children would benefit from having an international friend from South America? If you can find a way to say "yes" to any of these, the Group Study Exchange Committee has a deal for you!

Our five visitors from Brazil will be in the District from May 7 to June 4. Your GSE Committee, under the chairmanship of Craig Kelleher, has set the schedule for these visitors and hopes you'll be able either to open your home to a member of the incoming team or to participate in your club's activities with the team. The schedule is:

May 7 to May 11: Biddeford/Saco, Kennebunk, Kennebunk Portside, Ogunquit, Saco Bay, & Wells;

May 11 to May 15: Hampton, Kittery, Newburyport, Portsmouth, Portsmouth Sunrise, Seabrook/Hampton Falls, & York;

May 15 to May 19: Dover, Durham/Great Bay, Exeter, Rochester, Sanford/Springvale, Somersworth, & South Berwick;

May 22 to May 26: Bethel, Bridgton/Lakes Region, Fryeburg, Oxford Hills, Rumford, & Windham;

May 26 to May 30: Casco Bay Sunrise, Freeport, Portland, Scarborough, South Portland/Cape Elizabeth, Westbrook/Gorham, & Yarmouth;

May 30 to June 4: Bath, Bath Sunrise, Brunswick, Brunswick Coastal, Boothbay Harbor, & Damariscotta/Newcastle.

It's easy to get involved. Just give Craig Kelleher or a GSE Committee member a call. And get ready for a genuine treat as you participate in this unique Rotary program.



Spotlight on . . . The Newest Clubs

This month we visit the newest clubs in the district: Fryeburg Area (chartered by Bridgton-Lake Region in 1994), Yarmouth (sponsored by Casco Bay Sunrise in 1996) and the baby, Portsmouth Sunrise (chartered by Portsmouth in 1998).

The worst thing about being a brand new club is that you have to start from scratch. The best thing about being a new club is that you get to start from scratch. How shall we raise money? What causes should we support? What should we give our speaker as a gift? What design should we have on our banner?

Since its inception **Fryeburg** has thought of many ways to make a difference in their community. They have planted elm trees and shrubs in several locations around town. Last year the club initiated an American flag project. They solicited donations from businesses and organizations to buy flags to be displayed around town on holidays. The club coordinates having various organizations take turns with the responsibility of putting the flags up and taking them down. In addition to contributing to civic pride, the project also generated a lot of favorable publicity for the club – a bonus for a new club.

Continuing their patriotic theme, the club organized a 4th of July

parade this past summer. They received enthusiastic response from the community and President Jayne Britton and President-Elect Shannon Harriman plan to expand their efforts next year, perhaps adding a cookout as well.

The club is active in district activities and attempts to be well rounded. In October we reported on the club's extensive vocational involvement with Junior Achievement. The club awards a Paul Harris Fellowship to a member each year and is committed to meeting DG Mike's goal of \$67.50 per member contribution to our Foundation.

Yarmouth's President Jay Tobias had members fill out a questionnaire to help determine the direction of the club. Activities that the club indicated they want to support were scholarships, a local park, Friends Forever, our Foundation and RYLA. He also asked the club's opinions regarding existing fundraisers. The club favorite was the Haunted House. This is not the biggest moneymaker but provides wonderful fellowship for the club and their families. The Royal River Bluefish & Striper Tournament is currently their largest fundraiser and has huge potential. Other fundraisers include the Close-to-the-Coast Run and a Bowlathon. Interestingly, comments regarding the club's participation in the Yarmouth Clam Festival ("Get rid of it!") are an indicator that they may abandon this activity in the future.

Yarmouth joined with three other Yarmouth clubs (Massachusetts, Nova Scotia and England) in the Nova Scotia club's project to send two ambulances to a hospital in China.

For the past two years an anonymous benefactor has provided a challenge grant for club contributions to the Foundation. This year the club has

been challenged to come as close as possible to being the most generous club per capita in the district, and for as many members as possible to become Paul Harris Fellows.

Portsmouth Sunrise is still in the process of making some of the decisions referred to earlier. They have recently added a greeter, and they hope to have a club banner by the time you read this. They are wrestling with a policy for granting fund requests to local non-profits. They have decided on a major fundraiser though and have started planning for the Hole-in-One golf tournament they will inaugurate in late spring.

The club has come up with a logo, which features a ship sailing before a rising sun. In keeping with this motif, the club is contemplating a very unusual international service project: to "Adopt-a-Ship" through the Seafarer's Friend Society. The men who sail the ships we see coming and going every day are away from home for months at a time. They come into ports where they don't speak the language with inadequate clothing and they have no way of getting around. The club is looking into ways of befriending seamen and helping them to meet their needs while they are in port.



For its Community Service Day project, 26 Rotarians and spouses spent two Saturdays building an Adirondack camping shelter at a Girl Scout camp. President John Ricci whose daughter Lexi has attended the camp says, "It's an old-fashioned way to raise kids with good, wholesome values. It's awesome; my daughter has a great time."

DISTRICT ASSEMBLY PROMISES VARIETY

by DGE Elias Thomas

The District Assembly - Rotary University 2000, will be held on Wednesday, April 12th, at Yoken's Restaurant and Conference Center in Portsmouth. Registration will run from 7:00 'til 8:00 a.m., with the first plenary session to begin promptly at 8:00. The Assembly will end at 1:30 p.m.

This year, we are pleased to welcome five District Governors-elect from the northeast who, with several Past District Governors and the new team of Assistant District Governors, will join with several members of Interact Clubs to share their knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm.

The list of District Governors-elect who will be joining us includes the following:

Jean-Louis Nicknair (Dist. 7870) former professor & department chair of New England College, from Henniker, NH.

Paul Leavy (Dist. 7930) general manager of a hardware store from Saugus, MA.

Winston Allen (Dist. 7980) former professor and inventor and CEO of an investment firm, from Westport, CT.

Frank Wargo (Dist. 7890) former owner of a fire safety equipment business, from New Milford, CT.

Karl Drzymala (Dist. 7500) owner-operator of automotive repair shops, from Point Pleasant, NJ.

To round out the day, we welcome to our District Past District Governor Richard Drukker III, a former newspaper publisher, from Flanders, NJ. Dick is a major donor to The Rotary Foundation and will not only provide us with his vast knowledge of the Rotary Foundation, but also share with us what has led him to his strong support of the Rotary Foundation.

We hope to see 100% Club participation at the District Assembly and urge you to encourage members with less than one year in Rotary to join you at this most informative day. There will be a menu of "break-out" sessions from which to choose to further your knowledge of Rotary.

Join Rotarians from throughout the District and share your experiences, as we look to the coming year, where we will

CREATE AWARENESS & TAKE ACTION!

ANSWERS: 1. b 2. c 3. a 4. b 5. b 6. b

Diamond Trivia



Three clubs in District 7780 will commemorate their 75th anniversary in 2000: Rumford, Kennebunk and Brunswick (to be celebrated in May). Rumford is celebrating the event on Saturday, March 18 with a dinner at The Madison in East Rumford, followed by a Portland Symphony Orchestra concert at Muskie Auditorium, Mountain Valley HS. Kennebunk's festivities will be on Friday, March 24 at St. Martha's Church on Rte 1 in Kennebunk, with entertainment by the Windham Chamber Singers. Can you imagine (or remember) what the world was like when these clubs were founded in 1925? Let's test your knowledge!

1. Who took office as president of the U.S. in March, 1925?
 - a. Woodrow Wilson
 - b. Calvin Coolidge
 - c. Warren G. Harding
2. The president of Rotary International for 1924-25, Everett W. Hill of Oklahoma City, lived until:
 - a. 1958
 - b. 1968
 - c. 1978
3. A famous court case that took place in 1925 was:
 - a. The Scopes "monkey" trial
 - b. Roe vs. Wade
 - c. Brown vs. Board of Education
4. The 1925 Rotary Convention was held in:
 - a. Philadelphia
 - b. Cleveland
 - c. Paris
5. In 1925 men's suits were on sale at Filene's basement for:
 - a. 5.90
 - b. 13.90
 - c. 25.90
6. Which Rotary club was NOT also founded in 1925?
 - a. Camden
 - b. Chicago
 - c. Gardiner
 - d. Amesbury

Observations and News around 7780

The results are in for the first six months of annual giving to our Rotary Foundation. We have given \$61,512 or \$28.50 per capita which is the leading amount of any of the eight districts within New England! This is 41% of our goal so we still have a long way to go. Thank you to all who have remembered to send their donation and who are helping the many causes of our Rotary Foundation.

Local Brownie and Cub Scout leaders spoke recently to the Bethel club. They asked how many present had been involved at some point in Scouting. It appeared that every one of the thirty persons present raised their hands. There must be some aspect of Scouting that leads to future community service. As we look at Rotary's future, we might consider continuing to sponsor scout groups in our cities and towns.

The candidates for president solicited votes among the members of nine Rotary clubs in New Hampshire prior to the recent primary. Rochester President Bob Cook, vacationing in California, missed Senator John McCain, but was proud as can be to see his club on national television. Time Magazine reported that Portsmouth Rotary served baked scrod when Governor George W. Bush visited. It is definite that Portsmouth is hosting a future president this year. RI President-elect Frank Devlyn will be at our largest club at noon on March 30th.

Sanford-Springvale had an unprecedented event several weeks ago. It was a dinner dance jointly hosted by the Rotary, Kiwanis and Lions Clubs. The three women presidents decided to host what was a wonderful night of fellowship.

DGE Elias will be busy in March as the facilities chair for the seven-district PETS scheduled for Nashua at the end of the month. Elias is responsible for coordinating all room setups and arranging for over 2000 meals to be served. This is in addition to hosting our District's incoming club presidents and assistant governors. Also assisting at PETS will be facilitators DGN Peter Johnson, PDG Jim and Ellen Labrie and ADG Mary Larnard. The head Sergeant-at-Arms will be PDG Craig Wellman who will be joined by PDGs Marie Williams and Bill Skinner. PRID Dan and Shirley Mooers will serve as aides to President-elect Frank Devlyn. Governor Mike chairs the PETS Committee.

And finally, what distinguishes the President of Rotary International from his District Governors? During those long sleepy after-dinner presentations, RI President Carlo Ravizza has the sagacity to pinch himself to stay awake while DG Mike succumbs!



Hello!



Well, India is great!!!!!!
I just got back from

the tour of north India and trust me it is something that you have to see. The forts we saw are most definitely the greatest thing I have ever seen. They were built hundreds of years ago and still they are standing strong, and one is still being used as a town. Then there was the Taj Mahal of course - it was amazing. I mean it is a Wonder of the World. We went on a camel ride into the Thor desert and were less than 35 miles from the Pakistan border. We went white water rafting down the holy Ganges River and skiing in the Himalayas. I saw snow!! Yeah, it was cold - it was so cold. The Hotel we stayed in had these little heaters and the power went out every night at 12:00, so the heater died too.

That was the tour. Nashik is great. Winter has ended as soon as it started.

The temperature today was 85 and it is getting hotter every day. My plans for the last two and a half months are: I am going on a ten-day meditation where I will be completely cut off from the world - that will be very interesting - and doing some more touring with my host. Do you know where the exchange students next year are going? Well that is about all.

Phillip Kilbride

(Phillip was sponsored by Ogunquit. The Youth Exchange committee also received a long letter recently from Wesley Marsteller, sponsored by Freeport, who told of his fascinating adventures in Romania.)

DG-Elect Elias

OPERATING OUTSIDE THE BOX

This past Saturday, shortly after midnight, Jane and I returned from Anaheim, CA., where we had participated in the International Assembly of Rotary International. This is the "school" where all incoming District Governors and their spouses are trained regarding so many of the facets of Rotary. Some 1,500 people attended, including trainers, RI Directors, Foundation Trustees and staff from RI. What a phenomenal gathering it was.



With every meal in Anaheim, Jane and I sat among Rotarians from every corner of the world, learning of their cultures, as well as their accomplishments and their needs. We have 39 Clubs within our District. One governor had five countries and another had eleven time zones!

The common theme that ran through the Assembly was a twist of two threads, one of giving and the other of need. One amazing aspect for me was the fact that a District known as a "receiving" District, was also one of the "giving" Districts. Although that District had received millions of dollars of assistance from RI and individual Districts and Clubs, the incoming Governor was actively seeking to pair with other Districts from throughout the world, which were in need of their help.

Oftentimes, we are involved at the Club level with various "community" projects, where we give back to our local communities a small portion of what we have gained. Naturally, we are proud of these projects and the gratification we see on the faces of those we have helped in some way. For us, the message was clear – although your Clubs provide aid and relief within your communities, look beyond your borders, operate outside the box, and seek to spread the good word of Rotary to others in need, whose faces you may never see.

Elias



"I see the Light!"

And you will too!

at



Conference 2000

CELEBRATING THE LAST DECADE OF ONE MILLENNIUM AND THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT

The 10th Anniversary Conference of District 7780

May 18 - 21, 2000

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JANUARY ATTENDANCE

	ATTENDANCE	CURRENT MEMBERS	YTD CHANGE	FOUNDATION GIVING*		ATTENDANCE	CURRENT MEMBERS	YTD CHANGE	FOUNDATION GIVING*
BATH	72.0	61	+7	37.04	OGUNQUIT	81.8	36	-6	11.90
BATH SUNRISE	84.4	18	-2	5.00	OXFORD HILLS	85.0	60	0	0.00
BETHEL	78.9	35	+5	33.33	PORTLAND	76.7	197	+1	44.39
BIDDEFORD-SACO	82.6	63	-1	31.25	PORTSMOUTH	76.6	250	-2	8.73
BOOTHBAY HARBOR	70.0	51	0	0.00	PORTSMOUTH SUNRISE	N/R	31	+3	33.33
BRIDGTON-LAKE REGION	58.0	19	-7	0.00	ROCHESTER	72.7	77	+4	37.67
BRUNSWICK	75.0	122	-2	45.61	RUMFORD	77.8	38	-1	15.38
BRUNSWICK COASTAL	67.1	16	+1	117.86	SACO BAY	80.5	69	0	0.00
CASCO BAY SUNRISE	N/R	30	+2	38.57	SANFORD-SPRINGVALE	83.8	60	+2	0.43
DAMARISCOTTA-NEWCASTLE	N/R	42	-2	18.89	SCARBOROUGH	81.0	27	+2	8.24
DOVER	72.4	80	+2	0.00	SEABROOK-H. FALLS	60.0	20	+2	55.56
DURHAM-GREAT BAY	71.3	54	+1	3.77	SOMERSWORTH	68.0	24	+6	0.00
EXETER	84.0	44	-3	21.28	SOUTH BERWICK	84.7	43	+2	53.05
FREEPORT	72.0	33	+5	3.04	SO. PTLD-CAPE ELIZ.	83.0	46	+4	284.04
FRYEBURG AREA	82.8	29	+1	8.04	WELLS	78.0	49	-2	19.61
HAMPTON	76.2	63	+6	18.42	WESTBROOK-GORHAM	61.8	38	-4	13.69
KENNEBUNK	73.3	88	-5	25.00	WINDHAM	N/R	35	+6	0.00
KENNEBUNK PORTSIDE	84.0	38	-3	2.44	YARMOUTH	75.0	37	-3	0.00
KITTERY	N/R	28	+4	382.57	YORK	77.3	64	+6	0.00
NEWBURYPORT	N/R	74	+3	0.95					

*PER CAPITA AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1999

N/R= NO REPORT

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