



Rotary International District 7780

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Membership

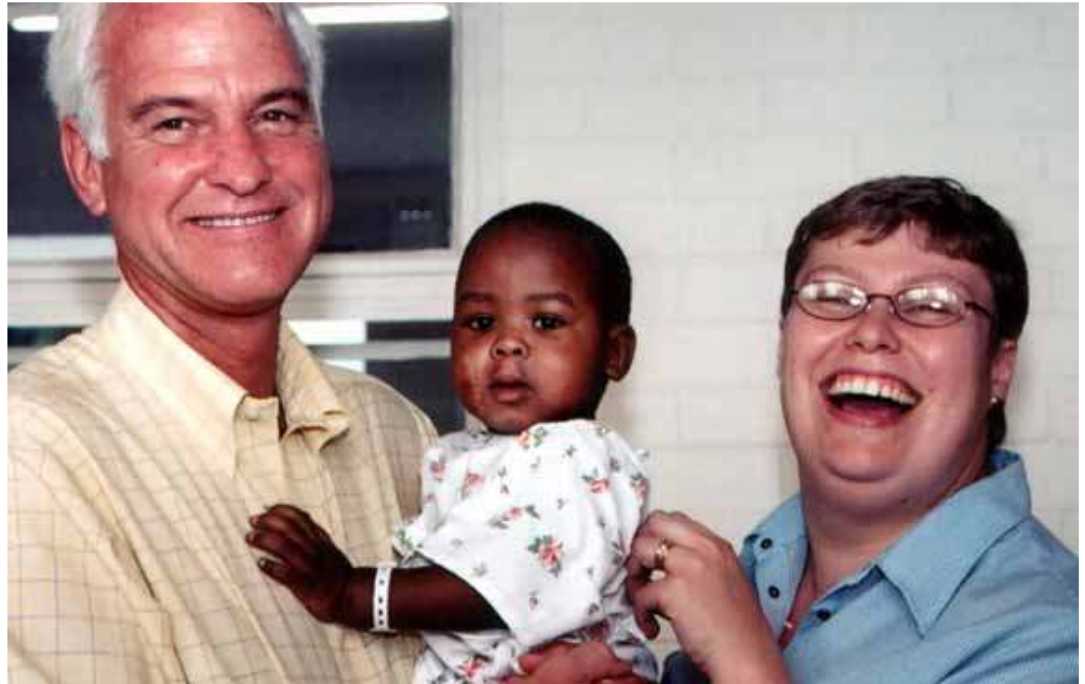


photo by Berri Kramer

District Governor Nominee Designate (Governor 2006-2007) Billy Hobbs visits with Mzwandile, a patient in the children's ward of St. Mary's Hospital in Pinetown, South Africa. To their right is Melanie Jackson, the hospital Development and Marketing Manager. St. Mary's is the site of several grants awarded by the Foundation to the Brunswick Coastal Club; the most recent, for a portable X-Ray machine, was also sponsored by the Kittery, York, Oquonquit, Wells, Kennebunk and Kennebunk Portside Rotary Clubs.

A Word from Governor Trish

Spring has finally arrived, and with it, (hopefully) we've seen the last of the cold and snow. It's a perfect time to start those community service projects we've been thinking about during the winter, or begin forming ties with an overseas Rotary club for international service during the Centennial.

We've got some great projects percolating all around the District. Construction on the Hiram Shorey Family History Center is underway in Litchfield, supervised by PDG George Rice, and we can be proud that we are honoring Rotary and one of its founders in perpetuity.

The Interact clubs of District 7780 had their District Conference on April 3, and they had great participation! Out of 40 clubs in 7780, we have 26 Interact Clubs, with 4 added this year. Interact is a great way for young people to begin the tradition of "Service Above Self". These "Junior Rotarians" are part of the Family of Rotary, and we encourage all Rotary clubs to foster an Interact Club at their local high schools.

We received six new applications for Matching Grants, bringing the total number to nine for the District for this year. Coupled with seven community service project awards for the District Simplified Grants, I'd say we've had a great year for Rotary service!

Keep up the good work!

Chair Message
Committee
Membership Tools

Trish

PS. Don't forget to send me your Presidential Citation forms by April 15th.

Resources

Health & Hunger
Public Relations
Water

Youth Programs

Interact
RYLA
Youth Exchange

Service Above Self
Forms & Documents
RI Links/Contacts

Contact Us



District 7780 Wins "Giving Maine Promise" Award

On March 31, at the American Red Cross "Real Heroes Award" breakfast, nine individuals, organizations, and companies were recognized for their contributions to community service in Maine during the past year. The only organization recognized was "Rotary District 7780" for work on behalf of the Maine Mentoring Partnership. For that work, District Governor 2003-04 Trish Hunter and Past District Governor Tim Placey were presented with the "Giving Maine Promise Real Heroes Award."

Like last year, District 7780 joined with Shaw's Supermarkets for a bottle and can redemption day. The proceeds went to Maine Mentoring Partnership. Despite being held on the very, very cold second Saturday of January (with temperatures dipping far below zero), Rotarians around the District turned out and raised over \$7,400.00!

Rotary District 7780 Assembly 2004 Preparing Our Clubs for the Centennial Year of Rotary Wednesday - April 21, 2004

York County Community College

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 8:00 a.m. | Registration Begins - Coffee and Juices |
| 9:00 a.m. | Opening Plenary Session (50 minutes)
Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and Song
Greetings from District Governor Trisha Hunter and DGE Bob Jacobson
District Conference 2004 Preview
Group Study Exchange Approval
Approval of Annual Budget for District 7780 by Presidents-elect
Keynote Address: Celebrating Rotary One Drop at a Time
Past District Governor Elias Thomas III |
| 10:00 a.m. | Discussion Sessions I (50 minutes)
Club and Community Celebrations for the Centennial
Club and Community Projects for the Centennial
Club Use of the Web and Technology
Cablecasting your Meetings Made Easy
Club Finances: The Budget and Good Practices
Interact: Successes throughout the District |
| 11:00 a.m. | Discussion Sessions II (50 minutes)
RYLA: Celebrating Youth Leadership
Youth Exchange: Opportunities for Participation
Matching Grants from the Rotary Foundation
Simplified Grants and Individual Grants from the Rotary Foundation
Community Service Project Idea Exchange
Club Fund Raising Idea Exchange |
| 12 Noon | Discussion III (50 minutes)
International Service Idea Exchange
Vocational Service Idea Exchange
Membership Development Idea Exchange |

Membership Retention Idea Exchange
 Every Rotarian, Every Year for the Rotary Foundation
 Club Strategic Planning- Thoughts from DGE Bob Jacobson

12:50 p.m. Buffet Lunch

Rotary International Wants YOU!

The Membership Development and Retention Award is given for:

- The club in the district with the highest growth rate (percentage)
- The club in the district that inducted the most new members
- The club in the district with the highest retention rate (percentage)
- Clubs that sponsored a new club

If that sounds like YOUR club, report your stats ASAP to the District Secretary, Liz Valliere. Her email is: evallier@maine.rr.com



Congratulations Westbrook-Gorham Rotary Club!

**Sponsor of the new
Interact Club of Westbrook High School!**



2004 PETS

Karen Black and RI President-Elect Glenn Estess; DGN Bob Laux selling raffle tickets



Celebrate Rotary's Founder's Days

with RI President Glenn E. Estess

on

Friday, July 23 and Saturday, July 24, 2004

Friday, July 23, 2004, at Noon

Intercity Meeting
with RI President Glenn E. Estess
hosted by the Rotary Club of
Portland, ME
Portland, Maine
Keeley the Katerer
178 Warren Avenue, Portland
Seats are Limited, Reserve Early
Confirm Attendance with Susan Brown
(207)775-1180 or susanwbrown@gwi.net
Join President Glenn
and members of the Portland Club
following the meeting for the planting
of a Centennial Tree at the Rotary Grove,
Eastern Prom, Portland, Maine

**COME ONE
COME ALL**

Fellowship, games, music, rides
and fun for children of all ages

Saturday, July 24, 2004

FOUNDER'S DAY
with RI President Glenn E. Estess
honoring Hiram Elmer Shorey
Maine native and one of the first four
Rotarians
Litchfield, Maine
10:30 A.M. Memorial Service, Plains
Cemetery
Grave Site of Hiram E. Shorey
11:00 A.M. Dedication of Historical Marker
Shorey's Birthplace
11:45 A.M. Dedication of the Hiram E.
Shorey
Family History Center & Library
Litchfield Town Hall
(A Centennial Project of the
Rotary Clubs of Maine)
12:30 P.M. Celebration of Rotary and the
Rotary Centennial
Litchfield Fair Grounds, Plains Rd.
"A Family Cookout," featuring
Bean Hole Baked Beans and food
from around Maine

Deadlines for This and That

1 April: For clubs to submit entries to governors for RI Membership Development Initiatives Award

15 April: For submission of certification forms for Presidential Citation...

7 May: For clubs to submit Annual Programs Fund goals to governors-elect

10 May: For governors-elect to submit Annual Programs Fund goals to RI Secretariat

31 May: For clubs and districts to submit membership information for the RI Membership Development and Extension Award

30 June: For receipt of 2003-04 Rotary Foundation contributions at RI World Headquarters

1 July: For Matching Grants, the business cycle begins 1 July and extends through 31 March 2005

April 24, 2004: GSE Team Away!!

Our intrepid GSE team is leaving for Australia on Saturday April 24 at 1:06 pm, Portland Jetport American Airlines flight # 4274. I'm planning to be there to send them off. It would be great to have a crowd there. Anyone who wants to join me let me know. I would guess we should show up about noon. I'll provide details closer to the date to those that reply.

Scott Simmonds
phone: 207.284.0085
District 7780 Chair GSE
District 7780 Chair Youth Exchange

Women in Rotary - Coming Next Month!

Our anniversary celebration of women in Rotary is just over a month away. Here is a preview of anecdotal stories to appear in future issues of *Call of the Loon*:

“Revitalization of club that is a bit too conservative, staid, complacent; immediate and visible change of long term sexist stigma...”

Which club(s) had the first woman member and...who was its first woman president?

“Today I'm very proud to say that I was one of the five women to start a new club...in 1994 where I was the first President for both the provisional club and the chartered club.”

DGE Bob Jacobson tells us why Muriel wanted to join...

Who said “It will be to our collective and individual credit if we do so with grace.”?

The *Newsweek* issue of May 18, 1987, quoted several all-female groups about the decision.

Read on in the next several issues of *Call of the Loon*.

**Bob Patten, PDG
District Historian**

National Security Advisor Condoleeza Rice on peace and understanding

"But it's not going to be done by the United States government alone. Some of the most popular and important connections between people in the former Soviet Union, then the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe were private connections, where universities and civic societies and the [Rotary Clubs](#) and Lions Clubs established relations with people -- people to people. We need to do the same thing in places like the Middle East because I think there's a hunger for that contact, and it shouldn't all come through the United States government. [So I hope that as we talk about the importance of the spread of these values, the importance of supporting those people in the Middle East who want a different kind of Middle East that will not think of it as just something that the United States government should do.](#)"

The McConnell Center for Political Leadership, Louisville, Kentucky, March 8, 2004

With those words in mind...



Anne Payson, of Advocates for Afghanistan, presents the flag of the Falmouth Rotary Club to the Rotary Club of Kabul, Afghanistan, which has re-formed after being outlawed under the Taliban. Note the female members of the Club--something that many European clubs still don't have.

Helping Children at Risk in Your Community

From the RI Website

Demonstrate your commitment to children at risk by developing a project in your community. Below you'll find several ideas for community and international projects your club may want to consider.

- Host an immunization clinic or distribute immunization history cards to new mothers in order to prevent childhood diseases.
 - Support a school-based meal program to improve students' nutrition.
 - Conduct a literacy program focusing on girls.
 - Establish an awareness campaign about child labor issues or provide alternatives for child workers and their families, such as scholarships for school.
 - Volunteer at a home for former street children or support programs to feed, educate, and provide health services and mentoring to street children.
 - Offer vocational guidance and training to increase a young person's opportunities for employment and break the cycle of poverty.
 - Host a community-based workshop focused on raising awareness of children's issues.
 - Promote a local program that assists victims of child abuse.
-

Improving Primary Education

The need for good primary education is universal but for whatever the reasons this is not happening in many parts of the world. Children are not receiving the quality of instruction required to realize their potential whether it is for economic or social reasons.

These children are our future! We need to see to it that they get the education they need and deserve. In developing countries, an insufficient number of schools, a shortage of qualified teachers, a lack of textbooks and teaching aids contributes to the problem. These things all contribute to the variation in educational achievements among the children. In the industrialized nations, overcrowded classrooms and outdated facilities frequently prevent students from getting the personalized instruction they need to succeed.

Learning disabilities often go unrecognized because of overcrowded classrooms or not enough qualified teachers. As a result, students with correctable problems are often not helped but are labeled as a problem child. Students that often "act up" in class are having a hard time reading or are bored – they need more of a challenge. One teacher for 25 – 30 students can not give the individual attention that a student needs. As a result a lot of "problem" students drop out of school. We need to stop this from happening!

How can we as Rotarians help?

- Provide books to students and classroom libraries
- Volunteer to do repairs/improvements at a community school
- Support additional training for local teachers and school administrators
- Help pay for tutoring of special-needs students after school
- Sponsor a reading competition or spelling bee. Give prizes to those students who read the most books
- Start a mentoring program for students in the lower portions of their classes. Or volunteer to spend time with students to help build their self-esteem.
- Adopt a school. This might entail a variety of activities from contributing instructional materials to assisting with school functions or landscaping projects.

Let me know what your club is doing to Lend a Hand to literacy in your community or another country. I would like to be able to list in our final newsletter for this Rotary year all the things that District 7780 Rotary Clubs and Rotarians are doing to assist literacy. Please email your projects to me at mawilliamspdg@comcast.net or via "snail" mail at PO Box 142, Kittery Point, ME 03905 by May 15th.

Marie A. Williams

District 7780 Literacy Promotions



Get Ready for.....RYLA!

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) conference is an intensive 4-day program for community youth leaders from across the Rotary district. It is a program for high school sophomores who have exhibited leadership in the home, school, and community.

Its objective is to help develop the leadership skills of promising young people for the long-term betterment of their home communities.

Its method is to introduce the students to leadership ideas and concepts in the context of a rigorous outdoor living and leadership experience. Although this experience is within a group, which we call a LEG -- a Leadership Experience Group -- the focus is on the individual. Learning is through activities introduced by staff and facilitators, run by the students, and reflected upon with the guidance of the facilitators.

The program includes a high ropes course, a situational compass course, a canoe challenge, intergroup leadership and team-building activities, and a variety of physical and mental initiatives. Wrapped around the activities is living in the outdoors where the responsibility is mostly placed on the individuals, under the supervision of the facilitators.

Each facilitator team is made up of a Rotarian and a former RYLA student. Although chosen for their leadership skills and capabilities, these people, too, benefit from RYLA as a leadership learning experience. This is also true for the staff, which is made up of Rotarians and former RYLA students. This means that the objective of RYLA is met not only by returning to our communities better leaders for the rising junior class. RYLA returns to the community better leaders for the senior class, for the Rotary clubs, and for some universities and colleges.



Jean Thomson Harris 1881-1963

A not-to-be-missed story about a woman of Rotary

Jean Thomson Harris (Mrs. Paul Harris) was awarded her first Paul Harris Fellowship long after she died. The person who remembered her and honored her contributions to Rotary was Past District Governor Bob Patten. He remembered Mrs. Harris in the "Year of the Woman" and in honor of the 50th anniversary observance of Paul Harris's death.

His contribution went relatively unnoticed until Past President Luis Giay recognized Mrs. Harris with a Paul Harris Fellowship at her gravesite in Scotland. This honor was originally thought to be the first given her, but the confusion was quickly sorted out by then Rotary Foundation Chairman Cliff Dochterman, who wrote a lovely letter to Bob Patten congratulating him on his thoughtfulness and initiative.

District 7780 DDF Watch!

Governor Trish started the year with \$93,544.95 in DDF funds for grants. This is how that money was spent:

District Simplified Grants (Local Community Service Projects) DDF: \$22,822.00

Matching Grant 50836, A grant to help establish a revolving loan fund for organizations and groups of people caring for AIDS orphans in Kisumu, Kenya, DDF: \$10,000.00

Matching Grant 51389, A grant to provide a mobile x-ray machine to St. Mary's Hospital in South Africa, DDF: \$4,318.00

Matching Grant 22838, a grant to provide clean water to an orphanage in Romania, DDF: \$7,000.00

The following have been submitted to the Rotary Foundation, but have not yet been approved:

A grant to provide recycling services on the island of Cozumel, Mexico, DDF: \$25,000.00

A grant to provide 50 latrines in India, DDF: \$2,663.00

A grant to provide hearing aids in the Dominican Republic, DDF: \$4,745.00

A grant to provide solar powered batteries for hearing aids in the Dominican Republic, DDF: \$6,250.00

A grant to provide a dental clinic in Uruguay, DDF: \$1,214.00

A grant to provide 10 beds and 3 computers to an orphanage in South Africa, DDF: \$2,350.00

That leaves **\$17,182.95** remaining in DDF funds.

Please submit your Matching Grant applications to the Grants Coordinator, Tom Stypinski. email: jtstypinski@gibbscox.com

Foundation Giving Watch

On the other side of the coin is Foundation Giving.

Half of what we give to Annual Giving today will come back to us in three years as DDF Funds.

So far:

Annual Giving Received by the Foundation as of March 13, 2004 : \$79,723.18

DDF Funds Available for 2006-2007 as of March 13, 2004: \$39,861.59



Congratulations Bridgton-Lakes Region Rotary Club!

**Sponsor of the new
Interact Club of Lake Region High School!**

Excerpt from letter to Outbound Youth Exchange Chair Tom Wilbur:

Subject: home sweet home

Hi Everyone!!! How are you all! It feels like ages since I've last written, it probably has been. But I have a great excuse for you all, I'm living it up in Ecuador!!!!

Hahaha! Things here are great as I finish up my last few months of living the latin life. I just got back from the Galapagos Islands which was an amazing trip. The

weather was amazing, the sun nice and strong against our fragile white skin...it burned all of us to a crisp despite the numerous layers of SPF 45...It was all worth it though. We were a happy group of about 51 exchanges and we had a blast together. Each trip we go on I can't help but notice how much harder it get to think about going our seprate ways. I love my Ecuadorian friends to pieces, but they're just not the same as my group of exchangers. We've bonded beyond what I expected....I'm not sure if I wrote you all about how my parents came.... We went all over the place, if you haven't heard already. We went to the Amazon, Ibarra, Otavalo, and Quito ... I think they really liked all of the traveling we did, but even more, getting to know the people that are now so close to me. Dad made really great friends with my first host grandfather and despite their very different political views, enjoyed each others company a lot. Mom and Mimi really hit it off, and they already feel like old friends. So the world has once again shrunk a bit and is even smaller.....I've been talking with Pablito, Mimi and Pablo's (my first host parents) son, and he's living in Cape Cod. He's still going to be there when I get home, so we're planning a trip with him to Maine to get to know what a real great state is made of hahahaha ;) So once again, the world will do a bit of shrinking....Not too much longer now!

take care!

love always,
Angela

Rotary Androscoggin Days ~2004~ Bobbing Boxes Regatta
Sunday, August 15th, 11:45 am
Androscoggin RiverBike Path, Brunswick

**Come join the fun, as the First Cardboard Boat Race
takes place on the Androscoggin River!!**

Looking for a sport that suits your fancy? Whether a family, group of friends, non-profit group, corporation or a Neighboring Rotary Club - have we got an event for YOU!

The Bobbing Boxes Regatta ~ come travel the river in your own technically sound, nautical creation! Better yet, get your company involved and help to restore the Historic Androscoggin Waterfront!

Family/Friend \$15 Captain, \$10 per Adult,\$6 per Child
Area Non-Profit Groups \$45
Corporate \$125 first boat, \$45 each additional
Rotary Club Foundation Challenge \$150, \$45 for each additional boat.

(All proceeds of this division go to the Rotary Foundation).

For more information on this event visit:

www.brunswickrotary.org
www.topshammaine.com



PDG Tim Placey and Governor Trish work on the Hiram Shorey Family History Center in Litchfield, Maine



Help Us Get a Rotary Stamp for the Centennial!

We need YOU to write your Congressmen!

SAMPLE LETTER FROM ROTARIANS
TO THEIR LOCAL CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
On your letterhead

Dear Representative _____:

I am writing to ask you to co-sponsor **House Concurrent Resolution 375**, offered by Congressman Brad Sherman of California. This resolution expresses support for a Rotary International Commemorative Stamp to be issued in honor of Rotary's 100th anniversary on February 23rd, 2005. Along with – and on behalf of – many other Rotarians in your district, I urge you to co-sponsor this resolution and encourage the recognition of Rotary's exemplary global record of humanitarian service during our centennial year with a commemorative stamp that will be sent around the world.

There are more than 7,500 Rotary clubs in the United States alone, with 400,000 members who voluntarily support tens of thousands of humanitarian and educational projects that benefit our communities. Forty of those Rotary clubs are in our local Rotary District 7780, comprising nearly 2300 members.

Over the past twenty years, Rotary International has spearheaded a tireless campaign to eradicate polio in the world. Rotarians alone have contributed more than a half **billion** dollars to this effort, which has been aided in recent years by additional funding authorized by Congress. In partnership with WHO, CDC and UNICEF, this eradication campaign has reduced the annual incidence of polio from over 300,000 cases in 1985 to less than 1,000 worldwide in 2003. Global and national health agencies and Rotarian volunteers are working towards eradication the last few pockets of wild polio virus by 2005.

Rotary's efforts in global polio eradication alone would seem a strong justification for Rotary's centennial recognition. Moreover, Rotary's founding in 1905 initiated the organized civic service movement in the twentieth century, which since has generated many other worthy groups including Kiwanis, Lions, Optimists, Exchange, Civitan, Ruritan and 20-20. Literally millions of charitable projects and acts of selfless service to the needy of this country and abroad have resulted from Paul Harris' founding of the first Rotary club in Chicago on February 23, 1905. Rotary has created only friends as we

have expanded to over 1.2 million members around the globe, building good will, friendship and understanding wherever we serve.

We would be most grateful if you would join in supporting and co-sponsoring House Concurrent Resolution 375 by contacting Congressman Sherman's office at 202.225.5911.

Thank you for your consideration,
Yours in Rotary service,
XXXXXX
(Address, phone, email)

Fryeburg Rotary Club

Is celebrating it's 10th anniversary on May 1st at the Pleasant Point Inn in Lovell, ME. All are invited to help them commemorate this occasion.

For further information on the event e-mail crowandheron@pivot.net.

So you finally made it to the end...

and what do you see? Another request! Got any great pictures? Memories that would make a terrific Rotary story? Letters to the editor? Was one of your club's speakers especially good? Did you top all records in your latest project? Let us know! We'll put it all in the newsletter and make sure everyone knows about it. Call, write, or email Trish, Carolyn Johnson, or Liz Valliere. Each edition goes out during the first week of the month. So it's not too early to start thinking about the May issue!

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