



Rotary International District 7780

Archive

Aug 2, 2003

[Home](#)

[print this page](#)

District Information

[District Governor](#)
[District Calendar](#)
[DG Official Visits](#)
[Officers & Chairs](#)
[District Secretary](#)
[District Treasurer](#)
[Photo Gallery](#)
[Photo Album \(2007\)](#)
[District Bylaws](#)

Governors Newsletter

[Current](#)
[Archive](#)

District Club Info

[Links to Clubs](#)
[Make Up Opportunities](#)
[Club Fundraisers/Events](#)
[Speakers Bureau](#)
[World Community](#)

District Events/Forums

[District Assembly](#)
[District Changeover](#)
[District Conference](#)
[Foundation Seminar](#)
[Interact Conference](#)
[Intl Convention](#)
[Membership Seminar](#)
[Mid-Term Assembly](#)
[NE Multi-District PETS](#)
[RLI Course Dates](#)
[United Nations Day](#)
[W.U.P.D.](#)

District History

[Historian](#)
[Past Governors](#)

Foundation

[The Chair](#)
[Alumni Directory](#)
[Annual Giving](#)
[Foundation Grants](#)
[Group Study Exchange](#)
[Polio Plus](#)
[Foundation Scholarships](#)

Literacy

[Literacy Chair Message](#)
[Literacy Awards 2009-10](#)
[Literacy PR Release](#)
[4 Way Test Contest](#)
[Read Across America](#)
[Literacy Resources](#)

Membership

[Chair Message](#)
[Committee](#)
[Membership Tools](#)

Governor Trish's Column, August 2003

Hello everyone!

August is Rotary Membership and Retention Month.

In keeping with President Jonathan's emphasis on the Family of Rotary, let's remember to look beyond the traditional candidates and let our gaze fall upon others who have been on the fringes of Rotary and right under our noses. I'm talking about past Rotary Ambassadorial Scholars, past RYLA students, past Interact or Rotaract members. How about Rotary spouses? How many of your wives or husbands are really Rotarians in everything but name? Your grown children? Your in-laws or friends?

Rotary is the best, most important non-governmental organization in the world today, and it should be open to all citizens who wish to personify the ideal of "Service Above Self."

And let's not forget our existing members. How many clubs suffer slow, silent attrition because they don't have the faintest idea what their members want? It's a fact that every Rotary club is not a match for every Rotarian – so when we have a member leave, how about contacting other area clubs and suggesting that person for recruitment in their club? How many clubs conduct exit interviews, for those members who leave "just because?"

We have a lot of work to do in our communities and in the world. In this month of Membership and Retention, let's not forget that the most important thing we can do for a prospective candidate – and maybe a current, unhappy member – is ASK.

Community Service Grant Applications Due

Do you have an idea for a Community Service Project for your Club? Looking for funds to get it going? Remember: \$22,000 is available for community service projects —details on the Website. Don't miss this opportunity – deadline for applications is right around the corner.

Traction

No, not the kind of traction found in a 1950's medical movie. Traction is what is needed to keep up with Governor Trish. Instead of spinning my wheels, I keep finding ways to walk more efficiently, speak more efficiently, organize more efficiently, but to no avail. The energy and enthusiasm bubbles from her brain and there is no end in sight. I may need a nitro powered Geritol formula to keep up before her year is over.

Public relations is the term Governor Trish uses as a catch-all expression for marketing, advertising, internal relations, media relations, promotion, events, and public relations. Her goal of educating every person in the district is extremely lofty, but with the directive to appoint a three year PR committee, her goal may be achieved.

I am privileged to have been selected to quarterback this process. As such, the following objectives will allow us to achieve our goals:

1. Assist each club with their promotional activities.
2. Encourage each mini-district to create their own area event.
3. Encourage promotion of the District as an entity with the focus being club support and communication to RI.

Resources

Health & Hunger
Public Relations
Water

Youth Programs

Interact
RYLA
Youth Exchange

Service Above Self
Forms & Documents
RI Links/Contacts

Contact Us

Those three general items serve as the overall process points for the PR effort. There are many sub headings and details to be filled in to create, implement, and maintain a living strategic plan for Rotary awareness within our district. Of course, my other job goal is to work myself out of a job by helping provide Rotary a streamlined process that is dependant on people, not skill sets, in order to foster success.

I am looking for Rotary volunteers to assist with this branding and recognition campaign. Please email me at ehunter@championnetworks.com or call me at 207-725-8903 x517 if you wish to help.

Did I mention that as a District Governor spouse, Assistant Governor, PR Chairperson I could use some help?

- - Ted Hunter

Administration Login

Literacy and Numeracy

"For Many years, Rotarians have been active in efforts to reduce illiteracy, from building schools and paying salaries for teacher to serving as tutors to collecting and distributing books and audiovisual materials to libraries. Rotarians are working with governments to create large –scale replicable literacy projects in the developing world. In 1997, the RI Board of Directors designated July as Literacy Month, a perfect time for Rotary clubs to develop their own literacy projects as well as raise awareness of Rotarian efforts worldwide to eradicate illiteracy. Considerable progress has been made in recent decades in reducing illiteracy; yet close to a billion people lack the most basic literacy and numeracy skills. Millions more are functionally illiterate, lacking the skills necessary to meet the demands of everyday life. UNESCO illuminates some of the greatest challenges for those tackling illiteracy:

- Ninety-eight percent of the world's illiterate population is in developing countries.
- Fifty percent of the world's illiterate people live in India and China.
- More than 50 percent of the population of Africa is illiterate.
- Two-thirds of all those who lack literacy and numeracy skills are women.
- More than 130 million school-age children are not attending classes."

The above is a direct quote from the Rotary International website on Literacy and Numeracy. It really makes you stop and think! District Governor Trish has asked me to promote Literacy during this Rotary year so you will be hearing from me each month through the District Newsletter. If you have Literacy and Numeracy projects or ideas you would like to share, please contact me at mawilliamspdg@comcast.net. This is a problem throughout the world and in our own families. Think how fortunate you are to have been able to read this! Please help District Governor Trish and me give someone the thrill of being able to read and write his or her own name as you *Lend a Hand*.

Marie A Williams
District 7780 Literacy Promotion

District Sponsors 2003-04 Youth Exchange Program

Seven clubs in District 7780 are sponsoring High School students who will participate in the Youth Exchange Program. This opportunity for young people to live and travel abroad for a year is supported through local clubs, the District, and the Rotary Foundation. It is an outstanding educational experience enables young men and women to live with host families for a year, attend local schools, learn the culture of another people, while learning the similarities among peoples of the world. Tom Wilbur of the Rotary Club of Freeport leads our District Committee for outbound students. We join forces with ESSEX, a regional organization who helps with arrangements for student travel. In addition to coordinating the program for youth exchange students from our district, 7780's youth exchange committee works with students from the mid-coast area. Students traveling abroad this year include:

1. Jake Derector, sponsored by Bath Sunrise, traveling to Japan
2. Casey Dunfey, sponsored by Portland, traveling to Bolivia
3. Tristan Houtz, sponsored by Kennebunk Portside traveling to Turkey
4. Angela Labonte, sponsored by Saco Bay, traveling to Ecuador
5. Dan Sargent, sponsored by Bath, traveling to Japan
6. Hannah Schraeter, sponsored by Windham, traveling to Bolivia

7. Whitney Sullivan, sponsored by York, traveling to Austria
8. Caitlin Coyle, sponsored by Camden, traveling to Argentina
9. Katherine Dickey, sponsored by Belfast, traveling to, Romania
10. Alexis Schelble, sponsored by Camden West Bay, traveling to India

If you are interested in a great program for your club, contact the Youth Exchange Committee to get in touch with one of our returning students who would be happy to speak about their experiences as they lived and learned in another country last year.

Rotary Ramble Canoe and Kayak Race, July 19, 2003



Well over 100 Rotarians, Spectators and Racers were assembled at the Pemaquid Lake boat launch area on Saturday morning as Paul McCool, Chair of the Damariscotta – Newcastle Rotary Club's Third Annual Rotary Ramble Canoe and Kayak Race, gave the word to "GO!" Paddles churning the otherwise calm water, 50 racers in 36 canoes and kayaks began their five or ten mile quests for gold medals on the otherwise peaceful lake. Sanctioned by the Maine Canoe and Kayak Racing Organization (MaCKRO) the ten-mile course counts toward the standing of enthusiastic canoe and kayak racers in their sleek, fast boats. Their race times would often beat the times of the less experienced, more casual five-milers in their broad-beamed recreational canoes and more stable kayaks, but at the finish line racers from both groups wore indistinguishable smiles of accomplishment.

Race Chairmen McCool enthusiastically praised the competitors, members of the Rotary Club and spectators for their good spirit, camaraderie and sportsmanship. The race committee is already planning next year's event as evidenced by the notes on McCool's clipboard. Spectators were treated to try-out voyages in kayaks provided by the Wiscasset Trading Post, lazed in the spectacular July sunshine, or often – and not only in the case of youngsters - somehow managed to tip over the most stable watercraft just to get in a cooling swim.

The event was initiated by the Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary Club three years ago to provide an event that had not been held in the area since the days of the Rotary Club's Oyster Festivals of yesteryear. The Ramble's success is evidenced by its growth and by the enthusiasm shown by both new racers and members of MaCKRO whose racers competitors praise the event's organization, course layout and challenge.

Group Study Exchange 2004 looks to Queensland, Australia

The 2004 Group Study Exchange with District 9550, Queensland Australia, is coming together! Our district will send five people to Australia from April 26, 2004 to June 5, 2004. District 9950's GSE representatives will be with us from May 8, 2004 through June 13.

Group Study Exchange is a program of the Rotary Foundation. Teams of four or five non-Rotarians and one Rotarian Team Leader travel, share and learn in another district. The Group Study Exchange program strives to improve international understanding through such country exchange teams. While abroad, team members meet their professional counterparts, and study the country's economic, social and cultural characteristics while observing the home life of their Rotarian hosts. The 2003 exchange was with New Deli India. Past exchanges have been with Brazil, Poland and Sweden, the Dominican Republic, and countries in Africa.

Our District Chair, Scott Simmonds of Biddeford Saco Rotary, is looking for Rotarians to serve on the committee. Duties include recruiting team members, organizing the inbound visit and

promoting the GSE program around the District. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Scott at 207.284.0085 or Scott@icofmaine.com. Scott is also ready to talk with your club about Behind The Scenes In Group Study Exchange. He has prepared a fast paced 15-minute program giving an overview of outbound, inbound and ever other part of the GSE program. Book him as a speaker for an upcoming meeting!

Looking for Some Interesting Make-Up Meetings? Portsmouth Rotary: A Place to Learn About the Seacoast and its Richness

The Rotary Club of Portsmouth, which meets each Thursday from 12:15 to 1:15 at Yoken's Restaurant, Route 1, is offering programs through the month of August which offer varied topics that reflect the culture, richness and economic climate of the seacoast. Speakers for the month of August include:

Gene Ritzo, speaking on "Korea, a Forgotten War Remembered (Aug. 14)
Segway Transporter Demonstration and Speaker from the Company (August 21)
Howard Dean, Presidential Candidate (still awaiting confirmation) (August 28)

Join the Portsmouth Rotarians at one of their meetings if you are in the area!

A Different Way to Make Up

Another interesting way to make up can be found at: <http://www.rotaryclubone.org/>
It's a makeup opportunity for traveling Rotarians who are unable to find or attend a meeting. You need to subscribe, but it doesn't look too complicated, and should be fun just to explore.

Portland Rotary Seeks Homebuyer to Continue Service Project

Portland Rotary has sponsored the Portland Arts and Technology High School (PATHS) in building a house as part of their Senior project. Our club supplied the funds for material, and the school supplied the design, supervision, and student labor to build it. Now the Portland Club owns the house and needs to sell it in order to recover the seed money to sponsor a new project for another year. The house is located at the school on Allen Avenue in Portland. It is on pilings, ready for immediate moving. Our problem is finding land for prospective buyers.

The house would be great for a new home buyer or someone who wants to downsize. This house may be of interest to someone looking to put a home on a subdivided lot or family property for extended family or looking to provide a home for elderly parents who wish to live independently though near their children. If you or someone you know would like information about the house, check our website at <http://www.portlandrotary.com/> and choose the PATHS House menu button.

REFLECTIONS ON ROTARY'S ROOTS - IN MAINE

by Dan Mooers, Past Rotary International Director

Nearly 100 years ago, on a cold February evening, four young Chicago business men met in Room 711 of the Unity Building on Dearborn Street to explore an idea.

Paul P. Harris, a young attorney, met his friend and client, coal dealer Silvester Schiele, for dinner at Madame Galli's restaurant in Chicago's North End. After dinner, they walked over to Gus Loehr's office, where Gus, a mining engineer, was waiting for them with another acquaintance, Hiram Elmer Shorey, a Chicago merchant tailor.

The idea they came together to discuss that February evening was not a new subject for any of the four. Paul had initiated the idea in conversations with Silvester at least five years earlier and, on a previous occasion, both Gus and Hiram had been told about the purpose for the gathering. On this February evening, as they came in from the cold, these four men were happy to be with friends.

The conversation that evening, so it is recorded, first turned to the personal experiences of the four men gathered there. Undoubtedly Silvester Schiele shared his interesting stories of his boyhood home on an Indiana farm, revealing the picture of a log cabin and family group around the fireplace. Probably he told of the hardships of early life: how the snow used to pelt through the chinks in the roof of the attic in which he slept, forming miniature drifts upon the floor. Silvester treasured the memory of early days as he struggled with life in Chicago.

Like Silvester, Gus Loehr was from a German background and a first generation American, born in 1864 in Carlinville, Illinois, not too far from Chicago, son of a dry goods merchant. When they moved to Carlinville from New Orleans, the Loehrs set up a general store, while the children went to local schools. Apparently Gus learned to be a jeweler because that was the business he listed when he joined the Lakeside Lodge of the Free Masons in 1886. In 1905 the plate of the door of Room 711 where the four met read "Gustavus Loehr, Engineer."

At that first Rotary meeting, one can only imagine that Paul Harris talked even then about his blissful youth in the mountains and valleys of Vermont. Although born in Wisconsin, Paul was sent to live with his grandparents in Wallingford, Vermont at the age of three. Throughout his life, he regaled audiences with stories of his boyhood in Vermont.

And finally, Hiram Elmer Shorey, the oldest of the group at age 42, undoubtedly told the other three men that evening of his deep abiding love for his native State of Maine. Hiram, who had been born, brought up and educated in Litchfield, Maine, found life in Chicago difficult to accept. Paul Harris, when addressing that first meeting in one of his later books, described it this way:

Hiram, a merchant tailor who hailed from the state of Maine, was of the number. He was an agreeable fellow. He had never quite reconciled himself to life in a large city; in fact, through all the years his thoughts have constantly reverted to the state of his nativity. There he spends his summer vacations, and to the rock-ribbed state of Maine he will eventually return to spend his remaining days.

With such common boyhood upbringing in small towns of New England and the Midwest, and with the common desire to resurrect the friendship of those small towns in the hustle and bustle of turn-of-the-century Chicago, the talk at that meeting turned from personal reflections to the idea of a "club" based on acquaintance, friendship and the strength of personal business contact. Paul laid out his thoughts. A club made up of like-minded men, bonded by personal acquaintance and friendship, assisting each other in their businesses just as small town families and merchants help each other, had a strong appeal to each of the four. It made them think of "home." These thoughts struck a particularly strong chord with Hiram Shorey. To him, Litchfield, Maine represented an idyllic spot where people always extend their hands in friendship and neighbors never fail to show a comforting smile. Ten years before that February 1905 meeting, Hiram had eloquently expressed his perception of the meaning of "hometown." Writing a letter in 1895 from Chicago to the Centennial Committee of Litchfield, Maine, Hiram reflected:

The woods and hills extend their old-time invitation to us all, for every leaf is a beckoning hand that waves a salutation and from each familiar spot there comes forth to meet us some long forgotten smile, some memory dear that softly gently says: "Welcome! you are home again!"

Hiram's love for his hometown, and the basic values instilled in him by his education in Litchfield, conjoined with the vision of Paul Harris. The four men agreed to pursue the idea and to meet again to discuss the matter further. Paul described how the idea moved forward:

Young businessmen, mostly from the country, came in response to my call. Unacquainted with city life, we gathered together to help and befriend each other. We had been lonesome and we had found a cure for lonesomeness. We looked forward to meetings as a traveler in a desert looks forward to oases.

Two weeks later the same four men added one more to their number and met at Hiram Shorey's office March 9th. Harry Ruggles shared the same basic values and desires as the four men with him at the second meeting and he elevated the demeanor at meetings. He was a very moral man. He detested off-color language, malicious innuendo and classless humor. Harry argued from the beginning that clean language must be used and appropriate behavior followed at club meetings.

These friendship meetings continued, rotating among the places of businesses of the growing

membership, until, of course, the quickly increasing numbers forced them to more suitable venues. The idea spread rapidly. But even today, the friendship of small town America prevails in the more than 31,000 Rotary clubs around the globe, the friendship and ideals of Harrison Township, Indiana, of Carlinville, Illinois, of Wallingford, Vermont and of Litchfield, Maine.

Thank you, Hiram Elmer Shorey, for planting your Maine roots so firmly into the "idea" you helped to germinate.



The Shorey Homestead, Litchfield, ME

District Conference - Join Us in Montreal!!!

Join us - AND District 7930 (greater Boston area) for our combined District Conference in Montreal. This year's conference will be held October 31 - November 2. We have a super weekend planned. We will have great fellowship with our counterparts from Boston as well as the Montreal area. Friday night's formal ball (it's Halloween, so just about anything can happen!) will be held in the elegant ballroom at the Hotel Chateau Champlain. Saturday evening will be a unique event, held in a turn of the century theater recalling the grandeur and fun of the Moulin Rouge burlesque. The Chateau Champlain, our conference headquarters is a grand hotel, right in the center of the city, attached to the shopping underground malls. What a great time to get going on your holiday shopping, using the advantages of the Canadian dollar! Mark your calendars for the last weekend in October. More information and registration packages will be in your hands in September.

Bienvenu a Montreal!

Governor's Visits: August

Kennebunk Portside	Tuesday, August 5	(7:15)
Saco Bay	Thursday, August 7	(7:30)
Hampton	Tuesday, August 12	(7:30)
Portsmouth Sunrise	Thursday, August 14	(7:30)
Scarborough	Tuesday, August 19	(7:00)
Durham-Great Bay	Wednesday, August 20	(7:30)
York	Friday, August 22	(7:15)

Club News?? Fundraisers?? Celebrations?? Let Us Know!

This year, Carolyn Johnson is our Newsletter editor. Send her any photos and information about your club at: pnciohns@maine.rr.com

Also, a reminder that we have a new web page (www.Rotary7780.org - which is probably where you are now reading this newsletter!) and are trying to make it pertinent and a means to keep you up to date with everything that's going on in the District. Please e-mail Liz Valliere to have your Club's events added to the District Calendar.

[Additional Copyright, Trademark and Website Information](#)

*Powered by [ClubWizard™](#) Service Club Website and Management Software.
[Click here](#) to find out more about this web site and how it works.*