



Rotary International District 7780

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A Word from Governor Trish

Hello Everyone!

As fall approaches, we begin to spend money on holidays, back-to-school, and end of year purchases. Let's not forget the easy way to raise money for our Foundation.

It's a website called iGive.com, and yesterday, I got an email reminder that I raised \$6.97 for the Foundation, at no inconvenience or expense to me—all I did was buy office supplies!

With hundreds of stores like LL Bean, Land's End, the Disney Store, Staples, Barnes & Noble, just to name a few, every on-line purchase you make sends a percentage to our Annual Giving Fund. I even bought a \$10.00 item from Ebay and was delighted to see my purchase garnered a few pennies for the Foundation. Remember, it's our Annual Giving that pays for the Rotary programs we all love: Group Study Exchange, Matching Grants, Ambassadorial Scholars, and our new, local District Simplified Grants, awarded just two weeks ago to seven worthy projects right here in this District.

With Christmas just around the corner, give it a try—you'll be helping our Annual Giving and accumulating Paul Harris credits for yourself or to bestow on someone you love.

Let's get down to the business of giving. It's easy and it's the right thing to do.



Kids waiting for the four-legged race at the Fourth of July celebration. (Brunswick club)

Rotary District 7780
Membership Seminar
 Friday, September 26, 2003
 1:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

York County Community College
 112 College Drive
 Wells, ME

Resources

Health & Hunger
Public Relations
Water

Youth Programs

Interact
RYLA
Youth Exchange

Service Above Self
Forms & Documents
RI Links/Contacts

Contact Us

Administration Login

What will make your club special? Building clubs one member at a time.

FMI: Contact John Rainone,
District Membership Chair
207-646-9282 x502 or jrainone@maine.rr.com

Recipients of District Simplified Grants Announced

District Governor Trish Hunter announced the recipients of the District Simplified Grants. These grants were awarded through a competitive application process to provide funds to clubs in our district to initiate new service projects. Seven projects were selected from the fifteen submitted. Selection was based on a host of variables. Total funding allocation was \$22,000. Successful projects included a joint project of the Kennebunk and Kennebunk Portside clubs to begin a mentoring program for victims of domestic abuse within York County. Portland Rotarians will use their funds to provide mentors to children at the Longcreek Youth Development Center. Another joint project of the Kennebunk and Kennebunk Portside clubs will begin an interaction group between Middle school students and senior citizens in the area. South Berwick Rotarians will initiate two projects in their area. One will create and outfit a community food pantry and a second will provide free transportation to medical appointments for people in South Berwick. The Rotarians from the Bethel, Oxford Hills, and Rumford Clubs combined efforts to secure funding for two projects. They will provide transportation to medical appointments to families in their area and they will work with Community Concepts Family Support Services to provide financial support and assistance to needy families in their communities.

Funds for the District Simplified Grants are made available through the Rotary Foundation. These projects would not become reality were it not for the financial support of Annual Giving by individual Rotarians.

WHO IS THIS MAN?



The Mystery of Rotary's Beginnings
By PRID Dan Mooers

Raising Public Awareness about Literacy

Most illiterate people, especially adults, go to great lengths to hide the fact that they can't read and write from their friends and families because they are too embarrassed for people to know. Because they are embarrassed they do not always seek help on their own. Publicity serves several purposes in the fight against illiteracy. It makes people aware of the problem, lets them know that there is help available and where it is. Because the target audience can't read the ads or announcements in the newspaper, other means must be used to reach them. Rotary clubs can help promote local literacy programs by using television ads and radio spots, placing signs in supermarkets, schools and recreation centers, on telephone poles and even the sides of milk cartons. Rotary clubs have to seek the most effective ways to reach their target audience.

Public awareness plays an equally important role in fighting illiteracy at its roots. Rotary should be promoting campaigns to read as well as ones to encourage students to stay in school and to help educators recognize the presence of learning disabilities.

Many clubs present awards to literacy advocates as a means of generating publicity for the cause. Other ideas are as follows:

- Help local literacy centers to publicize their classes
- Provide local radio stations and newspapers with public service announcements discussing the importance of literacy
- Reward students who read the most books, win a spelling bee or a book-report contest or that tutor others
- Honor outstanding teachers
- Give special recognition to local literacy programs or to businesses that support literacy efforts
- Give a picnic or luncheon for literacy learners and their tutors

We need to promote literacy in our own communities as well as in other countries. You can do the same things listed above in another country by teaming up with a local Rotary club in another country and providing funding, posters, books to help them in their literacy efforts. Just remember peoples lives improve greatly when they can read and write so don't be afraid to "Lend a Hand" to promote literacy and make the public aware that this problem exists in our own communities and families.

*Marie A. Williams
District 7780 Literacy Promotion*

Group Study Exchange 2004 In Full Swing - Queensland, Australia!!!

Things are happening in preparation for the 2004 Group Study Exchange with District 9550, Queensland Australia.

Our district will send five people to Australia from April 26, 2004 to June 5, 2004. The 9950 District Representatives will be with us from May 8, 2004 through June 13. This is a slight change in dates from what was previously announced.

We are now taking applications for both team members and team leader. Applications are due October 1, 2003 to District Chair, Scott Simmonds (Fax 801.991.4027 or email Scott@icofmaine.com). The District Committee will meet October 11 at Key Bank in Saco to select the Team Leader and October 18 to select the team members.

Group Study Exchange is a program of the Rotary Foundation. Teams of four or five non-Rotarians and a 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, several countries comprising a single district in Africa, the combined district of Poland and southern Sweden, and Dominican Republic.

RECRUIT RECRUIT RECRUIT!!!! Think about the opportunity we offer potential team members. Mention the GSE opportunity to young people in your travels - remember, 25 to 40 years old and not a Rotarian or related to a Rotarian. Applications are on the district website - www.rotary7780.org. Follow the link for "GSE." Also, consider applying for Team Leader!

*****We Need Clubs To Volunteer For Hosting*****

The Australian team will be with us from May 8 to June 13. We need five or six clubs around the district to host. Hosting involves finding host families and providing transportation. Host clubs will also coordinate the visits with other clubs in the area and the program for the time the team is with you. Spending a few hours with the team is nothing like spending a few days! Some of the best times with GSE teams is the informal times in the evenings. If you are interested in engaging your club fully in the GSE program call me to talk about hosting!

Questions? Call or email Scott Simmonds -- phone: 207.284.0085 or email: Scott@icofmaine.com

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
HEALTH AND OUTREACH PROGRAM**
by Jeff Martin, Windham Rotary Club



HISTORY- The DR Health and Outreach Program was established in 1995 by the University of Southern Maine College of Nursing. Twice per year a group of nursing students, faculty, physicians, dentists and volunteers spend two weeks in the mountains of the Dominican Republic providing nursing, medical and community health services in rural villages about an hour drive outside of the resort area of Puerto Plata. The mission groups stay at the Centro Fusimana, a Catholic retreat center in the town of Yaroa as their guests and the guests of Caritas, the Catholic charity in the DR. Medical supplies, medications and personal care items are solicited from the greater Portland and Boston communities from area physicians, hospitals, churches, pharmacies, and other local businesses. Each trip also needs to raise \$7,000-10,000 to purchase those items we are unable to obtain by donation. Each individual on the mission is also responsible for funding his/her own fare for the two week mission (for this last trip the cost was \$1250 per person).

Each tour provides care to 14 villages in the area around Fusimana and serves about 2,000 people with medical care as well as personal care items and, most importantly, education... both for the people who live there as well as for all of those who participate. Intake is done by two registration people who obtain basic demographic information and patients are allowed to participate on a first come, first served basis by purchasing a ticket for 10 pesos (about .33 USD) from the local village leaders. If someone is unable to pay, then they are not charged. Each individual is seen by one of the health care providers, either a nursing student, nurse practitioner student, nurse, nurse practitioner or physician. Each case is reviewed by a practicing, licensed nurse/physician prior to treatment being implemented. All medications are brought in with us and a "pharmacy" is set up in the back of the building being used (usually a church or school). Unfortunately, medications are limited by what we can carry with us from the US or purchase locally and sometimes folks are sent home with a prescription to obtain their medication locally. Each individual is provided with a bag of personal supplies (as long as they last), including soap, shampoo, vitamins, over-the-counter pain medication (Tylenol or ibuprofen), tooth paste and a tooth brush. Needless to say the people are very grateful for all of these items and for the care they receive

The organized way each clinic is set up and run is incredible and the efficient way care is provided is also very impressive. Each clinic sees over 100 people with a variety of problems and is able to provide care to the majority of people wishing services. From personal experience the majority of people coming in for care are suffering from orthopaedic problems (muscle strain, arthritis), hypertension, diabetes, dehydration, malnutrition, parasitic infections, fungal infections and impetigo. We are all dealing with the language and cultural barriers in this sort of practice and doing a complete assessment is very difficult for those of us with extensive clinical experience and is even more so given the lower level of experience.



When thinking about further expansion of the this program several issues come to mind:
Additional trips - To provide better continuity of care more frequent mission trips would be very desirable, if this is not possible we need to develop increased contact with the local medical establishment to fill this gap.

Interface with local medical personnel - Increased contact with local medical professionals needs to be a priority to provide improved continuity of care. .

Health promoters - One way to provide additional medical care for area residents is through developing a system of health promoters who would provide basic health advice as well as help facilitate referrals to local medical facilities.

Additional medical speciality involvement - Physical therapists, message therapists, chiropractors, osteopaths, and dieticians/nutritionists would all be valuable in providing educational clinics to groups of people as well as individual evaluation of patients.

Transportation - One major problem is the inability for people to obtain free transportation to local medical facilities. At this point in time no emergency transportation is available except in the form of a local physician's private vehicle. Perhaps another project for the future would be the purchase and maintenance of an appropriate vehicle to transport people for medical evaluation at the hospital in Santiago which could be equipped with minimal emergency equipment.

Non-medical issues - Non-clinical projects abound in this area and would provide an opportunity for non-medical volunteers. This could be in the areas of housing, education, transportation, sanitation/public health, or vocational. Currently Rotary is looking at working on obtaining a computer and photovoltaics for a school in La China, and becoming involved in the wood stove project in the same town. Another worthwhile endeavor would be to start a veterinary clinic to assist the local farmers. This would promote healthier livestock and thus increase their income, but it would help decrease the incidence of human illnesses (ie. worms). Vocational projects are also needed given the high unemployment rate in the entire area.



The incredible growth of this program over the past eight years attests to its considerable value to both the people of the Dominican Republic as well as to those of us who have participated on different levels... from students to practitioners to non-medical volunteers. The vision of the group is to move the program from the College of Nursing to a separate non-profit, charitable organization and to have increased community involvement from various organizations here in the US. By doing this more services can be provided and the program of service to the people of the Dominican Republic can be expanded. By fostering a team approach I am convinced that more will be accomplished in this area in regards to medical services as well as other projects.

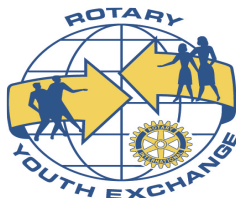
If anyone is interested in becoming involved with this project feel free to call me at (207) 892-7055 or E-mail me at jemartinmd@pol.net.

Outbound Students on Youth Exchange Share Experiences

The following experience was shared by Angela Labonte, one of our area Youth Exchange students who is spending this year living and studying in Ecuador. Angela is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Saco Bay.

Last week the Maderas and I spent the week at their avocado farm. We didn't have electricity or fresh running water, so we had to eat dinner by candle light and wash dishes and clothes in the river at the base of the mountain. I must say though, I absolutely loved it. We had a camp fire every night and I rode horses with my little host brother Miguel. We had a blast. He taught me how to gallop and trot! It was great! The views from here in Quito are absolutely amazing from pretty much everywhere you are, and the farm in Guranga (sp?) which is where their farm is, was no exception. It's far from any of the cities and is unbelievably peaceful. I've met most of the entire family, they're all (all 8 million of them) EXCELLENT! Everyone is so nice and welcoming, it's making it a bit easier to be far from home, I do however miss everyone!

Applicants Sought for 2004-05 Youth Exchange



This is the time for you to be looking for an exchange student for school year 2004-2005. Exchange students study in a foreign high school, learn a foreign culture, live with one or more host families, learn a new language and have the opportunity to travel. Some refer to this as the "opportunity of a lifetime."

Rotary's student exchange programs, which are staffed by committed

volunteers, provide the opportunity for almost 10,000 young people each year to spend an academic year abroad for little more than the cost of airfare. The information in this page provides a starting point for exploring the benefits of Rotary's high quality, low cost student exchange. Rotary clubs in Maine & New Hampshire are seeking candidates for the 2004-2005 school year who wish to participate in the program.

Participants must be well rounded, mature young adults. They should demonstrate maturity, poise and an interest in a variety of areas. Academic performance should be above average, but is not be the sole determinant of candidate's eligibility. Participants must be between 15.5 and 18.5 years of age on July 1, 2004.

Clubs interview individuals who have applied for the program to determine candidate's eligibility. These interview should be held in the fall of the year before the student wishes to participate in this exchange. The student should complete pages one and two of the application prior to the interview. Page two should include the principal's signature. The student is required to complete a three hundred word essay: "Why I want to go, what I hope to gain/learn, what I have to give." This interview must include the student and both parents. Guidelines with sample questions are <http://www.exchangestudent.org/>. Students should be advised of their success and instructed to call Tom Wilbur (tom@wilburs.com) before attempting the application. The student should be interviewed by at least two Rotary members. By November 15, the student must send 4 copies of the completed application to Tom Wilbur, Chairman of our district's Outbound Youth Exchange Committee.

Interviews will be conducted for students recommended for the program by thier local Rotary club will be held on Sunday, December 14. By January, 2004, the students will be notified of the country where they will be living during their exchange.

Clubs sponsoring students must commit to hosting an inbound student during the year of the exchange. This commitment involves securing housing during the year, either with Rotarian families or other interested families within your community. Students typically live with two or three families during the year of their stay in your community. Your inbound student will attend your Rotary club, as much as possible, and participate in club events.

If you know of a student who might be interested in the Youth Exchange program, or if your club is considering sponsoring a student for this outstanding opportunity, contact Tom Wilbur at tom@wilburs.com for more information.



Getting ready for the TV Auction. (Saco Bay)

News from Kennebunk Portside

Kennebunk Portside's annual Riverfest was very successful, this year raising \$7,123, a slight increase over last year's event. Many thanks to all who sold ducks and helped out. Race winners were: Tom Riley of Kennebunk, Marilyn Spang of Kennebunk, and Rafi and Tomas Fernandez of Ellicot City, Maryland. The Grand Prize was won by Mary Cranston of Andover, MA. Congratulations also to Ed Stone, whose decorated duck was voted BEST IN SHOW! Mark your calendars for next year's event. Come join the fun on August 16, 2004!

Rand Guessing announced that the Community Connections mentoring program, sponsored by

the Portside Rotarians, is entering its 7th year. This has been a very successful program that matches mentors from the membership of the club with middle school students.



DGE Bob Jacobson and his Rotarian bride Muriel, Zone Institute, August 30, 2003

Oxford Hills

Be sure to join the Rotarians from Oxford Hills at their food wagon at the Oxford County Fair, Sept. 10 through 13. They will be selling pies, a new fund raiser, as well as their traditional fare. Stop and say hello to the Rotarians who also help by staffing the entrance gates to the fair.

The Family of Rotary by Ted Hunter

As first spouse, (not to mention PR guy and AG) keeping pace with the Gov is a challenge. With her feet in motion and the wind blowing through her hair at 90mph, Trisha is racing around 7780 at blinding speed. Her aggressive schedule is indicative of her dedication and respect for Rotary and what it stands for. I for one am learning more each day about Trisha's work ethic, perseverance, and dedication to the principles of Rotary. Even on days when we have two, or even three Rotary functions to attend, she manages to perceive each club as a new opportunity for service. She is demonstrating to me each day the true meaning of service above self and I am very proud to be included in her mission. She truly loves Rotary.

Part of Trisha's message is to expand the "Family of Rotary" to family members. I can now speak from experience that having a spouse in Rotary is very exiting and energizing. The process of being involved behind the scenes is extremely gratifying and each club visit revitalizes the message of Rotary by putting new faces and new projects in the limelight. I urge each Rotarian to invite a family member to a meeting this month. There is no time like the present extend a hand to a family member or friend, and invite them to share the experience that is Rotary, and please feel free to use Governor Trish as a role model for the Family of Rotary.

September is "New Generations" Month

The Falmouth Rotary Club cordially invites Rotarians from around the District to visit or do a make-up during the month of September at the District's only "New Traditions" club, as we like to call ourselves. We meet at 4:15-5:15 pm every Monday (except holidays) at the Portland Country Club on Route 88 in Falmouth. Come and enjoy the fellowship at our "beverage only" meeting. For more information, call Clare Moss, Club President, at 781-3686.

Boothbay Harbor Rotary Has Another Successful Auction

By KEVIN BURNHAM

Despite the gloomy weather and fears of tough economic times, the Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club raised approximately \$25,000 at its annual auction Saturday, August 2 at the Boothbay Common.

Auction chairman Cy Seifert set the well-run fund-raiser in motion. The flea market, organized by Sue Kreaehling, opened at 8:30 a.m. and shoppers swarmed around the tables and shelves heaped with books, kitchen items, tools and more. One of the more popular items were the dried flowers, said Kreaehling, who received several items for the sale from "Big Al" Cohen.



Auctioneer Robert "Bob" Foster of Newcastle got the bidding started shortly after club president Craig Tukey welcomed the crowd of over 200 people who picked up bidding cards and at least 200 more who gathered under the tent to watch the proceedings. An antique dresser, an antique ship's wheel, an 80-year-old fire hydrant and an early 20th century wheelchair were some of the notable smaller items auctioned. The five donated boats helped the club achieve its benchmark goal of \$25,000, as each was sold for a respectable price.

At about 11:20, Foster drew the raffle ticket to see who would have the pleasure of putting a pie in president Tukey's face -- an annual auction tradition. Ann Reed held the winning ticket and dutifully handed the opportunity to Debbie Tukey, who did a fine job at smearing her husband's face with the pie.

The rain held off for most of the event -- as Seifert predicted -- and the Rotary Club once again reaped the generosity of the community so it can now return the money to the community in the form of grants for projects during the coming year.

District Conference - Meet Me 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. 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 enjoy Rotary fellowship, a romantic getaway with your spouse, and get going on your holiday shopping with the Canadian dollar! Sign up on line at our [District Conference](#) page.

Governor's Visits: September

Freeport	Wednesday, September 3	(7:00AM)
So. Portland-Cape Eliz	Wednesday, September 3	(6:00PM)
Saco Bay	Thursday, September 4	(7:30AM)
Brunswick	Monday, September 8	(12:00PM)
Damarascotta-Newcastle	Tuesday, September 9	(7:15AM)
Portsmouth	Thursday, September 11	(12:15PM)
Yarmouth	Monday, September 15	(7:00AM)
Falmouth	Monday, September 15	(4:15PM)
Bath	Tuesday, September 16	(12:00PM)
Brunswick Coastal	Wednesday, September 17	(6:00PM)
Bath Sunrise	Friday, September 19	(7:00 AM)
Rumford	Monday, September 22	(12:00PM)
Bethel	Tuesday, September 23	(7:30AM)
Boothbay Harbor	Thursday, September 25	(6:30PM)
Somersworth	Tuesday, September 30	(7:30AM)
Westbrook-Gorham	Tuesday, September 30	(11:30AM)

Rotary UN Day Sat. Oct 4, 2003

Visit the UN and participate in discussions featuring leaders and officials from the UN & Rotary. Registration is \$25 adult, \$7.50 for Youth includes a brown bag lunch; UN Tours available for an additional fee. This is a great trip for Rotarians, spouses and Interact clubs!

Sign up by 9/20/03. email: bradjenkins@att.net

Please note: because of post 9/11 security concerns, no one will be admitted past the 9/20/03 deadline, and no ticket substitutions will be allowed.

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: pncjohns@maine.rr.com

Also, we are trying to keep this website pertinent and 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.

PDG Tim Placey at Zone Institute, 8/30/03



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