



# Rotary International District 7780

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## A Word from Governor Bob-

**Christmas in February.** Had I written an end of the year Governor's letter, this is what I would have written. The news is so good, it's worth telling in February.

No matter how many stories I hear, read about, or are told to me, I never get used to the generosity of Rotarians. In the last 5 months of 2004, we had three significant opportunities to give of ourselves to alleviate the suffering of others – the hurricane damage in the Caribbean last August and September, and almost at the same time, Christmas and the Tsunami relief effort.

Neither Haiti Relief (donations to Pure Water for the World) or the Tsunami Relief was or is an official District fund raising project, because it didn't need to be. On their own, 23 clubs raised \$5003 for the Pure Water Project, and 21 clubs so far have raised \$40,979 for Tsunami Relief, with additional money collected but not yet sent.

[Here is a note I received from Sandi Robbins, President of the Falmouth Rotary Club:](#)

First of all may the holiday season be an extra special one for you and Muriel and the coming year your best ever.

It has been a wonderful Christmas for me personally and for our Rotary Club. We decided to adopt a needy family and were given a Mother, Father and 4 children. We were given their Christmas wish lists and purchased at least 2 items on everyone's list. We also gave them a \$400 gift certificate to Wal-Mart and a \$100 gift certificate to Shaw's. One of the children has learning disabilities and needs Horse Therapy twice a month at \$30 a lesson and we agreed to pay for them for 6 months. What a marvelous feeling it was to help them, better then getting gifts yourself.

In addition we voted to give: \$500 to Woodfords Family Services, \$500 to Preble Street Shelter, \$200 to Salvation Army, \$400 to Family Crisis Center, \$200 to Long Creek Youth Facility, \$200 to Maine Children's Cancer, and \$1000 to Serenity House.

We were all really on top of the world after voting for all of this, what a wonderful opportunity to help. Now we need to go do some fund raising so we can do it again.

Cheers, Sandi

[Here's another from Janet Black, President of the Bethel Club.](#)

We are doing our Christmas for Children. We get donations and buy gifts for those who would not have anything. Also we put on a luncheon Dec. 14th from 9 am- approx. 3pm and serve over 100 senior citizens at the Legion Hall in Bryant Pond. We are making up 20 baskets of food for families on 12/20 that the bus drivers deliver so those families will have a nice holiday meal. We maintain a 50' blue spruce tree with lights and Santa ( a Rotarian, shhhh, don't tell the kids) arrives by fire engine and lights the tree and gives out candy canes to all the children, also coordinated with the local Chamber of Commerce.

[Julie L'Heureux, President of the Brunswick Rotary Club](#) reported that her club collected \$3264 from their five stands for the Salvation Army kettle drive on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, while Bath's four stands netted \$3136.

Of course, these three clubs are not the only ones that do special things for the neediest in their communities but I thought they were three nice stories that ought to be heard.

**By the way** – If you really want to find out what is happening around the District, read this month's column by First Lady Muriel....

### **THIS MONTH'S EXAMPLE OF A ROTARIAN**

Bob Chagrasulis is a doctor, and a member in the Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club, who makes trips to the Dominican Republic every year to do humanitarian work for the poor in that country. Here is a report from his recent trip.

**Resources**

Health & Hunger  
Public Relations  
Water

**Youth Programs**

Interact  
RYLA  
Youth Exchange

Service Above Self  
Forms & Documents  
RI Links/Contacts

Contact Us

Administration Login

Dear DG Bob,

los saludos de Bridgton-Lake Region, and La Romana, Dominican Republic. Greetings, and Merry Christmas.

The Matching Grant for the water purification system in La Romana will soon be paid out to the Club in the Dominican Republic. I was in La Romana last week and they are all excited about this, as is the recipient, the Hemodialysis Unit of the Good Samaritan Hospital in La Romana. That is the hospital where Dr. Roger Fagan (*of the Portland Rotary Club*) is holding his hearing aid clinic in February, and they are very excited about this, the hospital administration and the Rotary Clubs are working together with Roger on this.

Next, part of my trip this time was to continue to work on our elderly housing project proposal for La Romana. I needed to visit this time of year specifically as it is Dominican baseball season (their season begins after our World Series as many of the North American players play the second Dominican season as well). Some of my baseball player friends have signed on to help me with this elderly housing project, as they understand the great need in the Dominican Republic for this service which barely exists in their society. We have been given land by the Central Romana Corporation, the sugar company that owns most of the eastern Dominican Republic. We have engineers in both of the Rotary clubs in La Romana who have prepared plans, cost estimates, etc for the proposal. We have the support and assurances from the mayor's office, that there are no local impediments to such a project and that they will help us to make it happen. My task is in getting it built in the first place, putting administration in place, and making the project sustainable for the future. My first thought that it might be built under the Rotary Low Cost Shelter Program, but in discussions with RI, it does not qualify. Thus the baseball players enter the picture, as they might be able to help financially with some of the initial construction. In fact I asked Amaury Pelemaco, relief pitcher for the Philadelphia Phillies, for some financial support, and he asked how much I would need, and when I answered about \$50,000, he said "oh, that's nothing"!

Every time I go to La Romana I see the need. On this trip I was the only doctor (there were eight of us on the team, construction mostly on other projects) so I did not do any formal clinics. Instead, I made house calls in some of the poorest sugar plantations to where I knew the older people were in most need; I see it every time.

Thanks, in Rotary friendship, en amistad Rotario,  
Bob Chagrasulis, M.D.

**While we have concentrated** on the world's disaster relief efforts, it is not too soon to remember that **OUR** charity is the Rotary Foundation. The Foundation gets its contributions from our voluntary contributions – period. Our dues do not contribute to it, nor do outside contributions. There is no finer charity in the world, period. Think about Group Studies, Ambassadorial Scholarships, World Peace Scholars, and matching grants that every club do are all funded by contributions to the Foundation. For every dollar we give to the Foundation, 50 cents comes back three years later to us in the District for our own projects. If we don't give, we don't get. It's as simple as that. The Rotary Foundation is asking every Rotarian to contribute \$100 every year to the Foundation. If you cannot give \$100, or \$10 a month, then please give something to the Foundation. It needs your help and people in terrible need all over the world will be so grateful for your help.

If you are wondering about the efficiency of the Foundation, consider this:

Charity Navigator is a non-profit organization that evaluates and provides information regarding the financial health of charitable organizations.

2 Charity Navigator gave The Rotary Foundation a three-star rating based on information contained in the Foundation's 2002-03 Form 990\*. A three-star rating indicates that the Foundation exceeds or meets industry standards and performs as well as or better than most charities in its cause.

3 TRF compared favorably to both Lions Clubs International (two-star rating) and Kiwanis International (one-star rating) in fiscal 2002-03.

4 The Foundation's organization efficiency as measured by the funds spent on fundraising, programs and administration earned a three-star rating.

5 The Foundation's organizational capacity, as evaluated by its primary revenue growth, program expenses growth and working capital ratio earned a three-star rating.

\* One of the major differences between the information reported in Form 990 and the Foundation's audited financials is the classification of investment fees. In Form 990, investment fees are included in administrative expenses, whereas in the audited financials, these expenses are netted from investment earnings. Therefore, Form 990 will report higher administrative expenses than reported in the audited financials statements or the annual report.

The TRF spent \$0.09 to raise US\$1.00 in contributions, resulting in a four-star rating. A four star rating is considered exceptional and means that it exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its cause.

7 TRF spent 10.4% of its total expenses on fundraising, resulting in a three-star rating.

8 The amount of total expenses spent on programs was 82.7%, earning a four-star rating.

9 The amount of total expenses spent on administration was 6.9%, earning a four-star rating.

**Here's more -**

From: Richard Kean [KeanR@rotaryintl.org]  
Sent: Monday, December 06, 2004 11:46 AM  
Subject: The Rotary Foundation Enters Top 100 Charities

Dear Zone 31 & 32 Leaders,

I am pleased to inform you that The Rotary Foundation ranked 96 out of 400 of the most successful U.S. charities for the fiscal year ending 2003 by The Chronicle of Philanthropy (October 28, 2004). In just one year, The Rotary Foundation jumped in ranking from 172 in 2002 into the top 100 for the first time.

The Chronicle of Philanthropy is a widely respected publication that covers the non-profit industry, and its annual listing of "The Philanthropy 400" is an eagerly anticipated industry comparison. The Rotary Foundation's ranking is based on combined total contributions of \$133.0 million to the Annual Programs Fund, the Permanent Fund and PolioPlus in the Rotary fiscal year ending June 2003. I congratulate all of you for this tremendous success, and I thank you for your commitments of time and financial resources that help further distinguish your Rotary Foundation as a leading charitable organization. This year's \$100 million Annual Programs Fund worldwide goal is well within our reach, given the overwhelming financial support that Rotarians have already demonstrated. Here are just a few ways that we will accomplish our goal:

- \* Club Goal Forms. Signed by the club president and submitted to The Rotary Foundation, a club goal form encourages each member of the club to take ownership of the \$100 per capita Annual Programs Fund goal or an enhanced goal exceeding \$100 per capita.
- \* 100% Rotary Foundation Sustaining Member Clubs. If each member of the club has contributed \$100 or more to the Annual Programs Fund, the club is eligible for banner recognition to be sent automatically in the second quarter of the following Rotary year.
- \* Centennial Paul Harris Fellows. Each new Paul Harris Fellow in 2004-2005 will be recognized with a special centennial Paul Harris Fellow certificate.
- \* Paul Harris Fellow Societies. Individuals with the capacity to make an annual gift of \$1,000 or more are invited to join or establish a Paul Harris Society in their district.
- \* Major Gifts and Challenge Gifts to the Annual Programs Fund. Major gifts to the Annual Programs Fund are a special form of commitment. These major donors are aware that the Annual Programs Fund is spent to zero each year and must be replenished in order to provide funds for Matching Grants, Ambassadorial Scholars, and Group Study Exchange. Major gifts also increase the amount of District Designated Funds to the district, and influence how much is available for District Simplified Grants in the local community. Annual Programs Fund Challenge gifts leverage a major gift and can spur giving in non-contributing or low per capita clubs.

By reaching and maintaining \$100 per capita, Rotary can begin its second century of service with the means to realize its visions of reaching out to those in need, resolving conflict, providing hope, and creating a better world for future generations. The Rotary Foundation is on the rise in many respects, and our ascension produces a ripple effect: the increase in per capita giving leads to lifting the moratorium on Health, Hunger, and Humanity Grants and the availability of World Fund money for Group Study Exchanges each year and culminates in our emergence as one of the top 100 charities. As we forge ahead with achieving our goals, there is no limit to where we can go from here. Thanks for all your continued hard work in supporting The Rotary Foundation.

Rick Kean  
Annual Giving Officer  
The Rotary Foundation  
Phone: (847) 424-5251  
Fax: (847) 328-5260  
[keanr@rotaryintl.org](mailto:keanr@rotaryintl.org)

**And finally -**

Several months ago, Muriel and I went to the Kittery Club for an Official Visit, and the night before we were the guests of PDG Marie Williams. The club members surprised me with a "kitty litter box", and invited me to dig in and eat. Courage and steely-eyed determination got me to where I am in life, and no Rotary Club kitty litter box was going to get in my way now. So I gritted my teeth, grabbed a "turd" and chomped away, gambling that it actually might be a tootsie roll. Indeed it was. Jeff Pelkey, President of the Kittery Club is shown in the photo. Here's how you can create your own kitty litter box for fun and profit.

**CAKE INGREDIENTS**

1 box spice or German chocolate cake mix  
 1 box of white cake mix  
 1 package white sandwich cookies  
 1 large package vanilla instant pudding mix  
 A few drops green food coloring  
 12 small Tootsie Rolls or equivalent

**SERVING "DISHES AND UTENSILS"**

1 NEW cat-litter box  
 1 NEW cat-litter box liner  
 1 NEW pooper scooper

Prepare and bake cake mixes, according to directions, in any size pan. Prepare pudding and chill. Crumble cookies in small batches in blender or food processor. Add a few drops of green food coloring to 1 cup of cookie crumbs. Mix with a fork or shake in a jar. Set aside.

When cakes are at room temperature, crumble them into a large bowl. Toss with half of the remaining cookie crumbs and enough pudding to make the mixture moist but not soggy. Place liner in litter box and pour in mixture.

Unwrap 3 Tootsie Rolls and heat in a microwave until soft and pliable. Shape the blunt ends into slightly curved points. Repeat with three more rolls. Bury the rolls decoratively in the cake mixture. Sprinkle remaining white cookie crumbs over the mixture, then scatter green crumbs lightly over top.

Heat 5 more Tootsie Rolls until almost melted. Scrape them on top of the cake and sprinkle with crumbs from the litter box. Heat the remaining Tootsie Roll until pliable and hang it over the edge of the box. Place box on a sheet of newspaper and serve with scooper.

Tha – tha- tha- That's all for this month folks!!

**THE FOUNDATION: NEWSLETTER No. 3**

If you read through 12 issues of The Rotarian for 2004, in one sitting, you cannot help but be amazed by the breadth and depth of the activities of the thousands of Rotary clubs worldwide who are involved in international projects with clubs in other countries. In this newsletter, I have provided a sampling of these activities, pulled from the pages of the last 12 issues.

1. The January 2005 issue focuses on the worldwide water problem, primarily the lack of potable water for drinking and cooking. One solution is biosand filters, a very cheap way of making contaminated water drinkable again. Rotarians from Calgary, Alberta, Canada, have set up a factory in Haiti to manufacture the filters and implement them in that country. Another cheap

method involves the use of plastic soda bottles. Bottles made from polyethylene terephthalate (PET) can be filled with dirty water and placed in sunlight. The sun's rays do all the work. Many projects involve the drilling of wells and providing the hardware to make them work for a long time. Many Rotarians work with an organization called "Water for People", the charity of choice for the North American Water Industry.

The "Clean Water Initiative Project" (CWIP) was set up by Zones 23 and 24 in the Western U.S. The current director is John Nelson, a member of the Rotary club of Mercer Island, Washington. He maintains a worldwide log of water projects that need funding on the CWIP website, [www.rotarycleanwater.org](http://www.rotarycleanwater.org). Project costs range between \$500 and \$5,000. To date, 100 projects have been funded by 63 Rotary clubs. The main thrust is to serve developing countries. Here are two examples:

- i) two Seattle clubs sponsored a \$10,000 project to dig for bore wells and install pumps in Zimbabwe. They worked with a Rotary club in Harare and they now serve hundreds of villagers with fresh water.
- ii) In a small village in India, A California club built a deep tube well and hand pump for only \$749. The result was clean water that serves over 1,000 people.
- iii) The Bangkok South Rotary Club has installed clean drinking water systems in over 100 schools in rural Thailand. They have had over 30 matching grants from Rotary International. Total cost has been 2.5 million Baht (\$62,000).

2. The Rotary Club of Barbados raised more than Bd\$300,000 to aid the hurricane victims in Grenada which was one of the hardest hit islands from Hurricane Ivan this past fall.
3. In Florida, District 6960 donated more than \$72,000 to provide 150 shelter boxes for victims in the Dominican Republic and Haiti, from several hurricanes. (more on shelter boxes later)
4. The Rotary Club of Bangkok, Suriwong (Thailand's first Japanese speaking club) re-cycles used bicycles from Japan to rural areas of Thailand for school children to ride to school, up to 10 km each way. Formerly, these children had to walk. The Suriwong club maintains a factory and warehouse north of Bangkok. To date, over 9,000 bicycles have been repaired and recycled in Thailand, from Japan.
5. Twenty-four Rotarians from the Netherlands and 13 non-Rotarians cycled thousands of miles through Russia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany and the Netherlands as part of Polioride, to raise money for Polio eradication. Each rider had a set of sponsors and the total funds raised exceeded \$400,000. The trip took two years to plan and lasted for three months.
6. The Rotary clubs of Highlands, Zimbabwe; Nagold-Herrenberg, Germany; and Zurich-Flughafen, Switzerland built a small clinic and 9 homes (in Zimbabwe) for children who have been orphaned by AIDS. They also built a small dam to provide field irrigation so that the orphanage can grow its own crops.
7. With help from a matching grant from RI, the Rotary clubs of Quito, Ecuador and Wheeling, Illinois, have raised \$29,000 for a corrective heart surgery program benefiting 1,500-2,000 children in Ecuador.
8. Rotarians contributed \$U.S. 1.9 million for assistance to 300,000 Afghan refugees who had fled to Pakistan after the 2001 war. Rotary's contribution was the largest ever made by any private organization and included 84,000 pairs of shoes, 52,000 jackets, 17,000 cooking utensils and 16,000 kerosene lamps. The committee also arranged for 1180 cataract surgeries and vocational training for 1850 refugees.
9. About a year ago, on December 26, 2003, an earthquake centered at Bam, Iran killed 41,000 people (how quickly we forget) and left another 80,000 homeless. The response world wide was amazing, not unlike what is happening to-day in Southeast Asia as a result of the Tsunami tidal waves. Within days of the disaster, Rotarians from Canada, England and the U.S. dispatched aid in the form of "shelter boxes." A shelter box is a survival kit, containing a tent, sleeping bags, cooking pans and other essential tools and equipment. Each shelter box costs about \$700. The shelter box project is operated by the Rotary club of Helston-Lizard, England, with help from Rotary clubs in Australia, Canada and the USA (Lakewood Ranch, Florida).
10. Several clubs in North Carolina, working with the Rotary club in Livingston, Zambia, have formed an organization called RAH (Rotarians Against Hunger). They are providing food (in lieu of money) to construction workers who are building a school in Chabalandra, near Livingston. They now have many of the clubs in District 7710 in North Carolina contributing to this project.

11. The Rotary Club of Preston, Australia, started a Bone Marrow Donor Registry to help leukemia patients. To date, 1019 leukemia sufferers have been given a second chance at life.

12. The Rotary clubs of Lake Ozark, Missouri and Vellore, India, with the help of a \$40,000 matching grant from RI, set up a special pediatric burn unit at a hospital in Vellore to treat badly burned children. Since 2000, over 200 children have undergone plastic surgery at the facility.

13. The Rotary Club of Churchland-Portsmouth VA, through the efforts of Julia Knight, who died of cancer herself in 2003, set up "Med-Link", an organization that sends surplus medical supplies from the United States to impoverished areas of central and South America. Since 2000, Med-Link has shipped more than \$15 million in medical supplies. District 7600 (Virginia) has now teamed up with the Lions Clubs to establish a permanent clinic in Toyos, Honduras. They are now working to establish sustainable clinics in other countries.

Well, that's about enough for this newsletter. Rotary International is truly an incredible organization. Without the support of the thousands of clubs worldwide, nothing would happen. These stories should probably raise at least two issues for our club. First, do we (our club) do enough on the International front? Answer...we're doing more. The next newsletter will focus on our new exciting project in Agra North, India and the power of leveraging our own club's money through matching grants.

EVERY ROTARIAN, EVERY YEAR, \$100.  
from Doug Tigert, Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary



The Rotary Club of Dover New Hampshire will be changing meeting locations effective 1/5/05.

New meeting location is the Chop Shop, 1 Orchard Street, Dover, NH. Meeting time is 12:00 Noon.



## CALLING ALL ROTARIANS!

Every Rotarian in District 7780 is invited to participate in the 2005 Rotary International Centennial Convention celebrating 100 years of Rotary.

This is your chance CHICAGO CONVENTION, last call for all Rotarians who are thinking about attending the convention but haven't made any reservations for the various events which will take place at the convention from June 18, 2005 thru June 22, 2005. As our President Glenn Estess stated, "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to gather with fellow Rotarians from all over the world and reflect on a century of service. Join the Rotary Centennial parade through the streets of Chicago, hear renowned speakers such as CNN founder Ted Turner (son of a Rotarian), and cheer Rotary's remarkable progress in fighting polio."

All the information necessary to sign up for this historical convention is in the ROTARIAN magazine.

Our committee wants to thank Governor Bob Jacobson for giving us the opportunity to participate in this glorious event.

Yours in Rotary,

George W. Cashman, Past District Governor  
Rotary Club of Newburyport

Jane Britton Past President, Rotary Club of Fryeburg

*EVERY CLUB MEMBER SHOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THIS ONCE IN 100 YEAR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION!*

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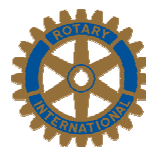


Scarborough has some exciting news to report! Effective February 1, 2005, the Scarborough Rotary Club's meeting location will change from the Governor's restaurant in South Portland to:

Scarborough Downs  
"The Winner's Circle"  
U.S. Route 1  
Scarborough, ME 04070-0468

Meeting time and day will remain the same at 6:50 am on Tuesdays. We at the Club are delighted to have relocated back to a Scarborough meeting place.

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### **Notes from the South Berwick Rotary Club**

Our club is always doing something interesting!! We continue to send baked goods to a troop in Iraq in which one of our members is serving. Our centennial project is the construction of a concession stand (20 x 35) for our town's recreation fields (which has slowed down due to the weather). We are planning a dance with two headline bands in early March (should know the date by about Tuesday) with a microbrewery present and will kick off my final fundraiser--the raffle of a 15 foot Boston Whaler complete with motor and trailer at the dance.

On the charitable side we have partnered with a club in India to aid in tsunami relief. So far we have raised over \$7500.00 and the club will contribute the additional \$2500 to make an even \$10,000. We are applying for a matching grant, the India club will also contribute, and they have a major contributor who will match the total amount. Our goal is to have a final number of \$60,000. The club in India will be establishing early warning public address systems, as well as purchasing boats and nets for the villages. We are hosting an exchange student from India who has helped with the partnering. We've been busy!

We have selected our Citizen of the Year for our Citizens Appreciation Dinner which will take place April 9th at the Spring Hill Lodge in South Berwick.

We have selected our club's Centennial Project. The Liberty Street Dock and Park in South Berwick will create a new waterfront park and dock for non-motorized watercraft near the historic Counting House in South Berwick. Our contribution allows the historical commission to obtain matching funds to fully fund the project. We expect a ceremony this spring, and there will be signage at the park and dock recognizing the major contribution to the project in honor of Rotary's centennial. Who knows? Maybe we can convince them to name the spot "Rotary Centennial Waterfront Park"?

Rumor has it that our own Ann Lee Hussey has been invited by representatives of the Oprah Winfrey Show to attend one of their broadcasts during the Rotary Convention in Chicago. It seems that they were so impressed with the group of U.S. Rotarians who remained for the NID "Mop-Up" while she was in Egypt recently, and they invited them to the show in June. We'll keep you posted.

Our twin club, Delhi West, has received the funding for our joint RI grant for avoidable blindness, and we have heard that our second proposal to help them build a new vocational training center for the disadvantaged in Delhi is going forward.

Our own Elias Thomas, as everyone has likely already heard, has reconfigured his trip to India to provide Rotarians the opportunity to be involved in a hands-on project with our fellow Rotarians in tsunami-ravaged southern India, to rebuild school facilities or some other worthwhile project. The out-pouring of support from fellow clubs has been gratifying.

Helen Goransson  
South Berwick Rotary Club



It is Saturday, February 12, and the Governor is on a school bus trip; all the pets are sleeping – first dog next to me on the divan, Miss Mugsy on top of the antique Cadillac in the newly heated garage, and Leona Helmsley in the guest room. Perhaps if it stays quiet, this First Lady's comments for the February Lobster Trap District Newsletter will be finished by the time the substitute school bus driver gets home. We'll be leaving soon after for an Oxford Hills Rotary Club 21st Anniversary dinner.

The Sanford Springvale Club, one of many that raised money for Pure Water for the World Haiti Hurricane Relief, presented Governor Bob with a huge cardboard check representing \$1200, and took his picture accepting it. It was a special luncheon meeting on December 23 with 15 homeless residents of a local shelter and 30 Rotarians attending. After lunch, which the guests really appreciated, we all sang Christmas carols.

"New Year's Resolutions for Avoiding Misery"

I didn't come across these Resolutions until after the December 2004 District Newsletter had been published, thus the reason for their lateness.

"Choose to love – rather than hate"

"Choose to smile – rather than frown"

"Choose to build – rather than destroy"

"Choose to persevere – rather than quit"

"Choose to praise – rather than gossip"

"Choose to heal – rather than wound"



“Choose to give – rather than take”  
 “Choose to act – rather than delay”  
 “Choose to forgive – rather than curse”  
 “Choose to pray rather than despair”

Since I like these resolutions perhaps you can guess this English lady is a LIBRA.

New Year's Day found us standing at the hospital bedside of our best friend, Col. James “Duke” Terry (Ret), as he reached out and touched the hand of God. Duke and Governor Bob were both Air Force flying veterans from the Vietnam War era, so they had much in common. With all his fine accomplishments, Duke wanted most of all to be remembered as a fighter pilot. At his Memorial Service on January 11th. Governor Bob read the very beautiful poem “High Flight” by John G. Magee, Jr. We left the Memorial Reception early to attend the Presidents and the Presidents-Elect meeting that evening at DiMillo's Restaurant in Portland – Attendance was high and we enjoyed chatting with most during the social hour. Although it was a difficult meeting for Governor Bob to conduct, right after Duke's memorial, he did well. Of course, I'm prejudiced. That night he put me in charge of a button he found and no one claimed!

On January 28th we attended the Eighteenth Charter Night Celebration of the Durham-Great Bay Rotary Club. Several there thought the Governor looked like Bob Ryan, sportswriter of the Boston Globe. (He shyly demurred)

We had an interesting conversation with Bob O'Connell, President of the Dover Club. He's a Ski Patroller every weekend, at Gunstock I believe. These events are fulfilling because you learn so much about each others' families, friends and life styles. This is something that isn't included in District or Club Newsletters. I am always meeting someone who has a friend or relative living in the Harbor and wants to be remembered to them.

Before we left for this celebration, the Governor was able to get his lobster boat, the “Christina J”, (named after one of his Granddaughters) hauled out and transported to winter storage. It had been iced in at its mooring for several days with frozen bilge pumps during that three week cold siege we had, and he had to constantly battle the cold and ice to keep it afloat. What a relief!

Ann Burke, Chairman of the Exeter High School Interact Club and an Exeter Rotary Club member, asked the Governor to talk to this young group on January 30 and tell them how Rotary has made a difference locally and internationally. Joe Pace, PP of the Durham-Great Bay Club and District Chairman of RYLA, and Carroll Winch, President of the Exeter Club, also spoke. Their talks were very well received. It was at this afternoon's meeting that I looked down and saw the button missing from the Governor's 2004-05 Centennial Jacket!!! Lo and behold the button he had found at DiMillo's and put me in charge of was his own. Luckily, I had held onto it and his jacket is no longer missing a button.

The Casco Bay Sunrise Rotary Club's 7th Annual Beer and Wine Tasting and Silent Auction Fundraiser to benefit the Maine Children's Cancer Program was on February 2nd. It was a first for us and a huge success, netting about \$24,000, all of which goes to the Cancer Program.

On a personal note – my 19 year old niece by marriage is marrying her Marine sweetheart in Ohio this month. He has just returned from Iraq and her sister, an Army Captain, will be home in 49 days after a tour of 24 months in Afghanistan.

In a couple of days it will be Valentine's Day and the Governor has mailed Valentine gifts to his grandchildren, Christina and Phoebe. Our Club, Boothbay Harbor, is having a Valentine's Day party on February 17th. Hope you all found the perfect Valentine for your sweetheart!

ALERT: The Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club and the Watershed Center for Ceramic Arts is holding its annual “Bowl Night” on Thursday, March 31, 2005 at the American Legion Hall, in the Boothbay Industrial Park, right off Route 27, after the Railway Museum on the left side. 6:00 PM, \$12 per person, there are tables loaded with soups, salads and hot food donated by local restaurants. You get to keep your bowl and can buy additional ones for a very nominal fee. COME ONE COME ALL

The Governor tells me that we have traveled over 11,000 miles since starting this tour of Duty on July 1, 2004. Well, it has certainly been worthwhile. I hope to see many of you on Saturday, February 26, at the World Peace and Understanding Dinner at Verillo's in Portland. Until then,

Yours in Rotary,  
 First Lady Muriel

Special thought

For last year's words belong in last year's language. And next year's words await another voice.  
And to make an end is to make a beginning.

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## District Governor Nominee for 2007-2008 Named

Liz Cullen of the Rotary Club of Newburyport, Massachusetts has been chosen by the District 7780 Nominating Committee as the designate for District Governor for 2007-2008. Unless a club who nominated another candidate objects within 30 days, she will be the official nominee of the district.

Joining the Newburyport Rotary Club in August 1997, she quickly became active in her club. Liz served as President the club in 2001-2002. She has served as an Interact Advisor, as District Vocational Service Chair, on the District Polio Eradication Campaign Committee, as a member of the District Conference Committee, as an assistant governor and as District Membership Chairman. Last year she visited India as part of a Polio National Immunization Day group. She is the owner of the Pumpkin Patch children's clothing store in Newburyport. Liz formerly taught German, French and English in schools in New Hampshire and in England.

Liz has been active in her community serving as chair of the Salvation Army Advisory Board and as the Vice President of the Newburyport Nurses Association. She received a BA from Wheaton College and a Masters from Boston University. She lives in Rowley, Massachusetts with her husband Bernie.

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*Youth Exchange Outbound Chair Tom Wilbur forwards this letter :*

Subject: Greetings from Ecuador

Hi, very sorry I haven't written anything in so long. Things have been crazy since I changed cities- I've started helping to teach English in school, been on a Rotary trip to the capital, and my mom and sister came to visit for a week. Everything is going so well- I love my new family and city. I feel much more at home here in Loja...I still haven't met my Rotary club here...but last week was one of the 5 trips rotary provides for the exchange students in the country. There are about 90 of us in all, and it was so much fun being with all of them in Quito. The next trip is in 3 weeks to the Amazon. I can't wait!

September was a difficult month for me...Thanks to all the support I received on your end ....I was finally given the opportunity to change cities in October. It was very hard at first, having to completely start over again after 6 months of getting used to one new city, but it has been so worth it. I'm actually really lucky, because I have gotten to experience life on the Coast of Ecuador as well as in the mountains- 2 completely different experiences. The one thing that has made the transition much easier is that I didn't have to learn a new language. I feel very good about my Spanish now, and can finally speak and read with little difficulty. I finally understand how to use all the grammar, although I continue to increase my vocabulary daily. Since I started a new school with only a few months left in my exchange, I decided to take the chance and see if instead of classes I could help out in an English class. My idea was received with much enthusiasm, and so now I'm helping with 2 classes of fifth graders every day. I'm having the time of my life! The kids are so great and I'm learning so much from them....

It's so weird to think that my exchange year is finally winding down! I have about a month left to go. I can hardly believe it- the time has passed so fast. Hope everything is going well back at home.

See you all soon!  
Jessi

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