



Rotary International District 7780

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Membership

A Word From Governor Bob-

Well, the first two months of the Rotary year are over, and with them the summer vacations.

Muriel and I have been wending our way around the District this past month of August. So far we have visited Falmouth, Rumford, Rochester, Dover, Durham-Great Bay, Bath Sunrise, Fryeburg, Bethel, Rumford, Westbrook, Bath, Windham, Kennebunk, and South Berwick. What has impressed us is how each club has its own personality. Each club has a distinct persona in regards to its fundraising and support of projects. We've had the pleasure of giving District Certificates of Appreciation to several Rotarians throughout the District.

We gave a Certificate to Dave Gardner of Sanford-Springdale for 20 years of dedicated service in running the chicken liver/meal function fund raiser at the Acton Fair. David Leeman, Falmouth, was honored for his continuous support of the Club's Four Avenues of Service. At Windham, we gave a certificate to Jeff Martin who has dedicated his life for humanitarian projects. His projects in the Caribbean are an inspiration to all of us. He is my definition of a Rotarian. Most of the rest of us are just Rotary Club members. At Rochester, we honored the Club Secretary, Claire Bisailon, for her many years of dedicated service to the Rochester Club.

Some of the methods of fund raising and project support, are to say the least, stunning. For example, in the city of Dover, NH, there is apparently a great interest in playing Bingo. It is played most every night, and Rotary's night to host Bingo is Thursday. Every Thursday night, all year long, Rotarians of the Dover Rotary Club man the Bingo hall, and net about \$5000 every month! With \$50,000 to \$60,000 coming in from just Bingo every year, the club can think big. In 2003 and 2004, they donated funds to build the Rotary Arts Pavilion and Rotary Gardens in downtown Dover. The best way to describe this is to think of Tanglewood in the Berkshires or the Shell and the Boston Pops. It is a half round theater with concrete seats much like a Roman amphitheater, with surrounding manicured grounds complimented by beautiful, well cared for shrubs and flower beds.

In Rumford, the River Valley Interact Club honored me with a Donation of \$50 to the Foundation. I was very impressed when I think how hard these kids work to raise funds

The hospitality shown to us by the clubs has been wonderful. It is so nice to be able to go to a club and made to feel so welcome.

CLUB OF THE MONTH

Occasionally, the Governor's column will feature a particularly interesting Club in the District. This month's featured club is **Westbrook-Gorham**.

Here are just some of their activities, fundraisers and organizations they support.

- For fellowship, they hold a lobster bake in the summer, a Christmas party during the Holiday season, and a Valentine's Day social, complete with piano and songs at the Westbrook Regional Vocational Center, where the club meets.
- During the Holiday season, they sell Maine grown Christmas trees, raising several thousand dollars.
- Each year, they collect shoes for Latvian orphans. In the last four years, over 1000 pairs of shoes have been collected and shipped to Latvia.
- They have for 55 years held a road race on Patriots Day for High School runners. It's just a fun event for the kids before the Spring track season begins.
- In the last couple of years the club has supported the Polio campaign, Books for Romania, the local library renovation and expansion, Interact, Scholarships, Mission Possible, Friends Forever, Handicapped Skiers, Westbrook Little League, Group Study Exchange, a local family fire loss, and Shoes for Latvian orphans, quite an impressive list indeed for a club with about 40 members.

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- They sponsor a very active Interact Program, with more than 30 members.
- The club has 41 Paul Harris Fellows, four Benefactors, and their all time giving to the Foundation is more than \$67,000. They gave \$11,000 to the recent Polio Eradication campaign.
- In honor of Rotary's Literacy Awareness Month, they are in the middle of a four year project to buy one book per month for the local library in honor of Westbrook's past Presidents. When possible, the book will be in the particular field of interest of that President.
- For the past few years, this club has sponsored up to six students from the local high schools to the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program.
- However, the most impressive project this club does is the Westbrook Regional Vocational Center (WRVC) house building project. Starting in 1963, each year, the Westbrook-Gorham Club has financed the building of a complete home by the students of the WRVC Building Trades Program. The house is built on-site, as opposed to a modular home. The WRVC Electrical students wire the house, the Drafting students design the house, and students from the Portland Arts and Technology High School plumb the house, thus making the Rotary House a multi-school and community project. Additionally, the club provides \$7000 for WRVC student scholarships or toolships at the end of the year, and contributes to students who qualify for national competitions. I have personally seen some of these house and they are beautiful. A recently built one sold for \$210,000! The club shares in the profit of the sales in order to help finance the next one.

Congratulations Westbrook-Gorham for having a very fine club!



Governor Bob and Westbrook-Gorham President Irene Fitzgerald

District 7780 Centennial Conference Camden, Maine MBNA Conference Facilities October 14-17, 2004

NEW REGISTRATION FORM!!

"IF YOU HAVE PRE-REGISTERED, YOU STILL WILL NEED TO COMPLETE YOUR NAME INFORMATION AND MAKE YOUR MEAL SELECTIONS ON THE FULL REGISTRATION FORM NOW AVAILABLE. PLEASE RETURN THE FORM WITH YOUR CHECK OR CALL YOUR CREDIT CARD INFORMATION TO: RHONDA EMERSON AT 207-353-8999"

Cabin Prices

A 1 bedroom cabin rents for \$100 per night,
a 2 bedroom cabin rents for \$150 per night,

3 bedroom cabins SOLD OUT

The 2 bedroom cabins have 2 bathrooms; some of the 3 bedroom cabins have 3 bathrooms, and some have 2.

[Click HERE to sign up!](#)

Polio immunization resumes in Kano, Nigeria

By Vukoni Lupa-Lasaga

Rotary International

Nigeria's Kano State ended an 11-month boycott of polio eradication activities with the start of Subnational Immunization Days on 31 July. Governor Mallam Ibrahim Shekarau signaled the state government's change of heart by administering the oral polio vaccine to his own children at the official launch of the five-day event in Takai, 100 kilometers (62 miles) from Kano City, the state capital.

Traditional rulers, state government officials, Rotarians, and representatives of the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) partners were among the throngs of people who attended the launch.

"On Sunday, 1 August, immediate Past RI President (Jonathan) Majiyagbe joined a good number of Rotarians to immunize children and monitor the exercise in four different local government areas in Kano," said National [PolioPlus](#) Committee Chair Ade Adefeso, who spent three days in the region. "Seventeen Rotarians have been deployed into the high-risk areas of Kano State to serve as independent monitors for the ongoing exercise. After many months of nonactivities, it is comforting to observe that many people are readily accepting the oral polio vaccine for the children."

Nearly a year ago, the state suspended immunization activities in the wake of fears fueled by rumors that the oral polio vaccine was contaminated with harmful substances that could cause HIV/AIDS and sterility. Soon after, Kano, located in the northern part of the country, became the epicenter of a polio outbreak that swept across Nigeria and spilled into 10 formerly polio-free countries in West and Central Africa and the rest of the continent. After a series of laboratory tests, the state eventually declared the vaccine safe to administer to children but insisted on procuring supplies from Indonesia.

The global initiative partners welcomed the resumption of immunization in Kano in an official statement on 3 August.

"The Initiative reaffirms its commitment to support Kano's state, traditional, and religious leaders, as well as Nigeria's federal ministry of health to ensure the country reaches its goal of stopping poliovirus transmission by the end of 2004," the statement said. "Kano's decision to vaccinate children against polio comes at a critical time in the polio eradication program. Sub-Saharan Africa is on the verge of the largest polio epidemic in recent history. Cases recorded in the region are five times that for the same period in 2003 (483 compared to 95), due to the outbreak originating from Kano and surrounding states."

According to the statement, more aggressive immunization activities are needed to roll back the epidemic. Synchronized National Immunization Days are planned across 22 African countries in October and November, aimed at reaching 74 million children.

Despite the outbreak, polio remains endemic in only six countries: Afghanistan, Egypt, India, Niger, Nigeria, and Pakistan.

Reserve Your Seat for ROTARY UN DAY!

Registration is now open for the 2004 Rotary Day at the United Nations on 6 November. This annual event offers Rotarians a chance to visit the United Nations Headquarters in New York City and participate in panel discussions featuring leaders and officials from the UN, UN-affiliated nongovernmental organizations, and Rotary International.

Because seating for Rotary-UN Day is limited, Rotarians are encouraged to submit their completed registration forms ahead of the 23 October deadline. The day's program also includes a tour of the UN (advance ticket purchase required).

Registration fees and UN tour tickets for adults are US\$30 and \$10.50, respectively. Organizers are developing a separate program for younger attendees, ages 8-18. For these school-age participants, registration fees and UN tour tickets are \$10 and \$7 per person.

A brown-bag lunch of a sandwich, beverage, fruit, and dessert is included in the registration fee and will be served in the main UN cafeteria overlooking the East River.

[Download registration forms and get more information.](#) You can submit completed forms to [H. Bradley Jenkins](#), alternate RI representative to the UN, 908-766-4790.



DISTRICT 7780 MASCOT: "Little Jake"

Visiting the various Rotary clubs in District 7780 with Governor Bob I am inevitably asked how I like doing this. I reply that it is an enjoyable experience meeting so many interesting people, all of whom have a story to tell. Doesn't everyone? However, it gives me a tinge of pain having to put our dog in the "doggie motel" so often. In my mind's eye "Little Jake" is this District's mascot for Governor Bob's year and I hope he'll bring luck to 7780.

Let me tell you a little about him: He was born in South Windham, which makes him a "Mainer", the only one in our household. This mascot likes both red and white wine and Martinis; a good game of "fleecie", (he has several toy crab dolls called Fleecies; the idea of the game is that he comes up to you with one in his mouth and you are supposed to grab it from him and throw it, whereupon he retrieves it and dares you to try to grab it from him again. Gets a little boring, but he loves it). He also loves riding in our truck, particularly if there is a cookie stop, like at a bank, where the teller sends down a dog biscuit with the money through he pneumatic tube. Mischievous- yes. Stealing dollar bills out of ladies' handbags has made it necessary for him to be taken to the bank, hang his head in shame and request a withdrawal of a new bill to replace the one he has torn in half. Of course this has its positive side as well, it's one more opportunity for another cookie. Other than chasing our cats, he is quite normal and is delighted to be your mascot.

It is August 30 and we are headed for Rumford, Fryeburg and Westbrook in our Corvette, "8ty Lady". Sometimes we travel in style like today or in my red Mustang convertible. Why earlier this month we went to the District Conference meeting at "The Woodlands" Country Club in Falmouth in Bob's 1963 Cadillac convertible, top down, no seat belts. Our friend from Stonington, CT was with us and the three of us were in front. I don't think he'll ever drive it down here again and I'll tell you why. In Bath, just before all that construction, a Vermont car almost drove him off the road and "Her Nibs" could have been totaled. Governor Bob didn't look too happy and had a few choice words for the driver. Other times we go in the "Clunker", our "Rotary put on the miles" car, a 1993 Saturn stick shift which has 130,000 miles- with great air conditioning when the windows are rolled down – a little too often I might add – but the Governor tells me it is good on gas.

Today we are in the "8ty Lady" and I am writing this Newsletter while riding in comfort. Rumford makes the 11th club we will have visited so far in Maine and New Hampshire and I thought you'd like to know some of the things that brought me joy during these visits.

Talking to Claire Bisailon, Secretary of the Rochester Rotary Club, about the Cocker Spaniel Rescue of New England. She has English cocker spaniels and had some stunning snapshots of them.

Staying at the New England Center, University of New Hampshire, in Durham.

Visiting the Rotary Arts Pavilion and Gardens in Dover, a project of the Dover Rotary Club.

Meeting several Past District Governors, especially one who had a famous name, Dick Clark.

Chatting with South Berwick Rotary Club members and spouses at the Spring Hill Lodge in South Berwick. Suzy's Hint: Freeze grapes (green or red) – put two frozen grapes in a glass of white wine. This will have same health value as a glass of red wine.

Staying overnight at home of Janet Black, President of Bethel Rotary Club and husband Jette and admiring all their antiques, china, crystal, silver, pewter, paintings, plants, etc. And what a cook Jette is.

Talking with Barbara Sharood, wife of Kennebunk Rotary Club President. We are both garden Club members. Also, at that club I met a Rotarian from Litchfield, Connecticut, where my grandparents lived, to those many years ago. He lived on the same street where they lived during my childhood.

Attending Falmouth's 4:30 pm Rotary meeting. "Little Jake" would give his okay to their meeting – he could have a glass of wine.

I think I'm a gambler at heart because I never pass a chance to buy a raffle ticket at the clubs. Sometimes they give me one. So far I haven't won, but there's a lot of clubs to visit yet. Now that we have a mascot I might even get lucky.

It was a happy buck for the Windham Rotary Club this month, our first return to that area since we brought "Little Jake" home to Boothbay Harbor some five years ago. After the Windham Rotarians heard his background, there was a hilarious moment, and all agreed that he was their kind of dog and would make a good Windham Rotarian.

I was very impressed with the guest speaker at my club this month, Rachel Meyn of Safe Passage, an organization devoted to providing a future for children living on the Guatemala City dump. (Contact Chip Griffin of the Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club if you want more information on Safe Passage.) Perhaps my interest in Safe Passage was intensified because my niece, an Army Captain, is stationed in Afghanistan and her unit is helping the poor Afghan children.

Well, we've arrived in Rumford, so until next month, I'll sign off with a big THANKS for your great hospitality when we visited your clubs.

Yours in Rotary,

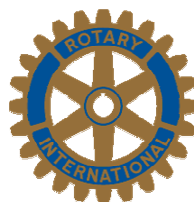
Muriel Jacobson

Prayer – Rochester Rotary Club

Forgive us, Lord, for judging others wrongly.
 Help us choose our friends with care.
 Thank you for offering strength to rise
 from disappointments and for granting renewed joy from healed hurts. Amen



First Dog "Little Jake"



**Brunswick Rotary now meets at The Atrium Restaurant
 Cook's Corner, Brunswick**



Rotary Answers Food SOS

Zimbabwe Standard (Harare)
August 22, 2004
Posted to the web August 23, 2004

Savious Kwinika
Bulawayo

International charity organisation, Rotary International, has responded to reports about deaths arising from acute food shortages in Bulawayo by donating 100 tonnes of maize-meal to over 20 families in the city, The Standard can reveal.

The organisation was moved by a report of at least 62 more people who died in Bulawayo because of hunger and decided to assist the less privileged people who were facing difficult times. The Standard carried the report of the deaths two weeks ago.

Speaking to The Standard shortly after receiving her 20 kg bag of maize-meal, Pretty Ndimande, a mother of four, said her family survived by scavenging for food from the Bulawayo city dumpsites.

"On numerous occasions we have been appealing to the government for food aid but to no avail. The government says that we are not properly settled in the area.

"Had it not been for the Rotary International, who came with this maize meal all of our children, whom you found asleep as a result of hunger would have gone the next few days without proper food," Ndimande said.

She said two of her children were not going to school while the other two attend Umguza Primary School.

Several other villagers, who have resorted to gold panning in order to survive, accused the government of turning a blind eye to their plight, while channelling a lot of government resources towards political campaigns.

"I am very thankful about the donation we received today and I hope other international food donor agencies will follow suit," Ndimande said.

Some elderly men, who asked to remain anonymous for fear of being victimised by the government said the donation came at a time when almost all of their children in the village had pulled out of school due to a combination of poverty and hunger.

Speaking at the same function, Rotary International Public Relations Officer, Charles Chiponda, said his organisation would continue assisting the people with food.
is page with your content...

**Come to the
District World Community Service & Membership Seminar
September 25th at York Community College**

TIME	MEMBERSHIP	WCS
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8:00-8:45	Registration	
8:45-9:00	Greetings from Governor Bob	
9:00-9:15	Ann Williams Zone Membership Coordinator	Our Foundation's Impact On District 7780
9:15-9:45	Bob Laux, DGE Recruitment and Retention	WCS Projects Exchange Donations in Kind Network Disaster Relief
9:45-10:00	Break	
10:00-10:30		Grant Options available to clubs For International Projects
10:30-10:45	Fireside Chats	Rotary Volunteer Program
10:45-11:30	Panel-Forming New Clubs	Navigating the Grant Writing Process
11:30	Closing Remarks-Mike McGovern	

Speakers for the World Community Service Presentations include:

PDG and District Foundation Chair, Tim Placey

PDG Michael McGovern

District Simplified Grant Subcommittee member, Tom Stypinski

District World Community Service and Rotary Volunteer Chair, Roland Gagne

Come on down!



Breakwater Daybreak Rotary Club Charter Night a Great Success!

by Chip Griffin, AG-

Tonight's charter night, for the new Breakwater Daybreak Club, was awesome. First, it was packed and extremely well attended, and the cocktail hour was fun. Second, a Rotarian from the Unity, ME club (just out of our district) attended and sang two songs: (1) Why celebrate Rotary? We do what can't be done! We're Rotary, one century young. And (2) a song to the tune of Danny Boy with last year's theme of lend a hand. (I asked him to send me his lyrics) Third, PDG Trish Hunter proudly announced that this new club was conceived during her year as DG, told DG Bob Jacobson to take care of her baby, and welcomed our district's 40th club. Fourth and most of all, Past Rotary International President Rick King gave one of the best, if not the best, Rotary speech I have heard. He was President during 2001-2002, was in Brazil during September 11, and came back to Evanston to answer the most common question from heads of state and others: What is Rotary's role in fighting terrorism?

He stated that Rotary is destined to be the most important and prominent non-governmental and non-religious organization in the world. And Rotary is the largest literacy organization and the world's largest youth exchange program. He told many moving stories, such as how he, on behalf of Rotary, gave a mother and her family living in the dump a \$800 concrete home to replace their cardboard home; he admitted that he has always lived in a large home and could never understand the significance of the gift to her, but he does understand the gift she gave to him. He described three things we can do as Rotarians: (1) sponsor a new member; (2) make contributions to the Rotary Foundation (\$1,000 saves four lives); (3) have Rotary in you, not just you in Rotary (get involved in Rotary and its projects and be a real Rotarian).

He then described a real Rotarian from Prague, whom he met in Evanston, a very elderly man who had wanted to visit America since 1925 but was unsure if he was a real Rotarian. This man chartered his Prague club in 1925 and was a Rotarian until 1939 when the Nazis outlawed

Rotary, and they met secretly for a few months; then in 1945 they re-chartered the club, until the Communists banned it in 1948, but this time he and many Rotarians continued to meet weekly and clandestinely for 42 years; finally, he saved enough to come to America, but his wife was too sick to visit, and he vowed he would re-charter his club the following spring. Rick King informed him that he already was a real Rotarian. He quoted his Rotary mentor, Richard Evans of Salt Lake City, who spoke in Nice, France some time ago: ***This is it. This is our time, our generation, and our chance to do something for somebody else. This is life, and it is passing. What in the world are we waiting for?***

-Chip Griffin, AG



District 7780's 40th Club, Charter Night, September 11, 2004

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