



# The New Centurian

## Special Interest Articles:

- Strategic Planning Process Begins!
- District Governor Trophy Challenge!
- Women in Rotary!
- District 7780 Places Second in Rotary Foundation Giving!



*Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar,  
President  
Rotary International*

### AG Club Highlights:

- Brad Jett - Area 1
- Liz Cullen – Area 2
- John Rainone - Area 3
- Keith Gosselin – Area 4
- Rich Emerson – Area 5
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**Note:** Clubs, please submit information to your AG by the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month.

## The Newsletter of Rotary International District 7780

# District Begins Strategic Planning Process - Bob Laux, Billy Hobbs, Liz Cullen

In May, key Committee Chairs, Assistant Governors and other District Leaders began a process of “Strategic Planning” with an anticipated outcome of creating “continuity” in leadership development, as encouraged by President Elect Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar. On two separate mornings approximately 25 dedicated Rotarians engaged in active discussion about planning the next three years of District-wide efforts.

One of the first outcomes was the development of a “Mission Statement” for the District, which reads:

“Rotary International District 7780 exists to help Rotary Clubs fulfill the “Objects of Rotary”. We pledge our commitment to:

- Provide a vehicle for open and timely

communication

- Uphold the principles and values of Rotary
- Advance the “Four Avenues of Service”
- Encourage support of The Rotary Foundation
- Promote continuity in leadership development
- Create educational opportunities that increase skills and knowledge of Rotary
- Promote the public image of Rotary in our communities
- Foster local and world community service
- Furnish guidance in the adopted policies of Rotary International”

Future efforts will identify key priority areas and the development of specific goals and objectives for each. Many participants felt the process was quite positive and could have significant implications for the District’s future.

# Governor’s Trophy Challenge a “Bit Different” This Year! - Bob Laux, District Governor

“Be Proud To Be A Rotarian!” is a simple message you will hear over and over this year! What better way to celebrate our first 100 years of service than to look at all that has been achieved in the past! But the message is clear, if you are proud of what you have done, why not invite others to celebrate the wonderful life of Rotary! Don’t be selfish, why not invite family and friends, people in your church or other community organization, who share the same values you do, into our Rotary world! Strong values, incredible dedication to service and a world of opportunity – that’s Rotary!

Last year Governor Bob Jacobson started the Governor’s Trophy Challenge with an anticipated outcome of finding the one

outstanding club with the greatest number of achievements. Well this year, I’m making it more fun! I ask clubs to keep a simple log of “random acts of kindness” done in your community by club members. Little things like helping a neighbor, supporting a friend or helping another citizen with a disability. Secondly, I’m asking clubs to partner or “cooperate” with other community organizations on a service project. And lastly, I’m asking clubs to provide some type of Rotary education to another community organization so they can learn about the good work we do. Keep a log and if they ask you why you do what you do, just simply tell then you are “Proud to be a Rotarian”. See our District Directory for more information.



**Brenda M. Cressey**, will serve as our Rotary International President's Representative at our District Conference at the Balsams in September! Brenda is the Past District Governor of District 5240 and currently serves as Regional Membership Chair for Zone 24. She and her husband Dick will be "coming home" to Maine, having grown up in Rumford, Maine!



**Jayne Britton and Pat White** from the Rotary Club of Fryeburg and **George Crockett** of the Rotary Club of Portland along with **Versonia Choques**, a patient, on the recent Rotaplast mission to Sucre, Boliva.

## Women in Rotary – Cynthia Moran-Laux

August is membership and retention month. In thinking about membership I began reflecting on why I became a Rotarian, what's kept me in Rotary and why I might want to invite someone to join.

I became a member of the Rotary Club of Portsmouth, NH, one of first women admitted back in the late 1980s. I joined for two reasons: first I was asked and secondly I saw an opportunity to quickly learn about my new community. The weekly programs gave me insight, the connections led to other community activities and the Rotary fundraisers added great fellowship.

Although Bob was my spouse and also a member, he was not my sponsor. My sponsor was, Gene Bailey, a wonderful man, Rotarian and a great support during my first years. With Gene's mentoring and assistance from others I quickly discovered that Rotary was the organization for me. My sponsor kept tabs on me, calling if I missed a meeting and encouraging me to participate in club activities. It became clear to me that even in a club of this size, I had made friends and my efforts were appreciated. The club indeed recognized the value of my membership, as a woman and a Rotarian.

In a small community like Bethel, everyone needs to "lend a hand" to make a club work. I didn't join this club to learn about the community, I joined because I had learned the true value of Rotary and the

work Rotarians provide. Addressing the needs of the world, both locally and internationally as well as the fellowship, is why I am proud to be a Rotarian today. I am extremely proud of being affiliated with organizations such as the UN, WHO and UNICEF, just to name a few.

I was thrilled to hear President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammer unveil his goals and theme in Anaheim, CA. He stated "it was time to expand the role of women in Rotary". "I am sending a message to the women in Rotary as well as those who are not yet Rotarians: There is a leading role for you in our organization". He has already announced the appointment of three woman past district governors to positions of importance - Carolyn E. Jones, the first woman ever appointed as a Trustee of the Rotary Foundation; Mary Margaret Fleming, as Chair of the new Public Image Resource Group, and Eileen M. Gentilcore, as Chair of the Literacy Resource Group.

In thinking about membership I encourage all clubs to use the same standard President Carl-Wilhelm has set in identifying new members. Go out and invite someone to a meeting today. Identify a qualified member of your community, invite them to a meeting and ask them to join the greatest service organization in the world. Welcome people of diversity and let them know you are "Proud to be a Rotarian". I am.

## District 7780 Second in Zone 31 Giving To The Rotary Foundation – Tim Placey, Foundation Chair

Reports are in – our District did an outstanding job in annual giving to the Rotary Foundation last year! Hats off to all Club Foundation Chairs, District Committee members and Rotarians who have contributed to our extremely valued organization!

Our District goal of \$208,950 was surpassed with an achievement of \$208,980! The three top Clubs in annual giving were Portsmouth with \$32,810, South Portland/Cape-Elizabeth

with \$15,105 and Boothbay Harbor with \$10,030! Simply outstanding! The three Clubs with the highest per capita giving were: South Portland/Cape Elizabeth at \$274.64, Yarmouth at \$248.48 and Boothbay Harbor at \$204.69! There were 19 Clubs who surpassed their goals! WOW! Simply fantastic effort!

Stay tuned for upcoming training events for Committee members, Foundation Chairs and anyone interested in the Rotary Foundation. Be Proud! Its working

## AG Club Highlights – Area 1 – Brad Jett

The Rotary Club of **Portsmouth** held its Annual Endowment Golf Tournament on June 20<sup>th</sup> at the Ledges in York. Rotarians Dave Hodgdon and Bob Loch organized the event while President Neal Ouellett provided refreshments for the tournament players. By all accounts, the event was an outstanding success – sponsorships were at the highest levels ever and all funds raised were designated to benefit the Friends Forever Program.

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, the Rotary Club of **Hampton** gave its 2005 "Citizen of the Year Award" to Mr. John M. Holman of Hampton, NH. Mr. Holman was recognized for "his many years of service serving the community and in particular, his efforts in preserving and celebrating

Hampton's past." He is known for his many volunteer efforts around Hampton, including 30 hours a week at the Lane Memorial Library, making sure American flags fly over Veterans' graves in Hampton and the installation of a children's park in memory of servicemen. The Club noted that Mr. Holman "exemplifies Rotary's motto of Service above Self." A \$1,000.00 check from the Hampton Rotary Club was donated in his name to a charity of his choice which was the Seacoast Hospice. For additional information contact Club President David Longo

On July 18<sup>th</sup> the Rotary Club of **Exeter** held its regular luncheon meeting at YMCA Camp Lincoln in Kingston, where it presented a check in the amount of

\$5,100 to the Camp Director to cover the cost of two-week scholarships for fifteen campers. The funds were raised by the Club in May during a Mother's Day geranium sale.

The Rotary Club of **Newburyport** held its 26<sup>th</sup> annual Chicken Barbeque on Sunday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, at the Mall Promenade in Newburyport. The event is part of the opening day festivities of Newburyport's annual week-long summer celebration, "Yankee Homecoming". Each year, the responsibilities for planning this Rotary event, including preparation of the Club's special "secret" barbeque sauce, falls to the Club's President -Elect, who this year is Kate Kelly.

## AG Club Highlights – Area 2 – Liz Cullen

After yet another successful but money losing July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks Celebration in 2003, the Durham Town Council voted to permanently remove funding for future events effective in 2004. Undeterred by the difficult task head, 11 year old Bridget Regan of Durham initiated a petition to garner enough voters to place the patriotic event back into the town budget. These events caught the attention of the Rotary Club of **Durham-Great Bay** who were looking for an annual keynote fundraising event to raise money to fund the clubs annual commitment of four local college

scholarships and to expand the scholarships to cover each year the recipient attended school.

Seeing a great opportunity to fund the scholarships while maintaining a fun-filled community event, the club sprang into action realizing that time was short. Being the community oriented club they are, members were anxious to get involved. With the help of the four communities the club serves (Durham, Lee, Madbury & Newmarket) along with great support from the University of New Hampshire and corporate sponsorships,

the celebration and fireworks were a resounding success. 2005's July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration included live entertainment from a local band, free games and prizes for children including an old fashioned sawdust pile filled with coins and plenty of good food, fun and of course the most spectacular fireworks display ever.

The club raised enough funds to cover all scholarship costs and is already planning the 2006 event with more children's games and a larger display of fireworks.

## AG Club Highlights – Area 3 – John Rainone

The Rotary Club of **Ogunquit** had a very successful 2 cent sale on July 24<sup>th</sup>. DG Bob and First Lady Cynthia participated in the event. DG Bob was sold for only one-cent, Cynthia for a nickel!



The Rotary Club of **Kennebunk-Portside** had their very successful 13<sup>th</sup> annual "Duck" race. This confirms President Don did not win the race. He finished third.

The Rotary Club of **York** is beginning their "next big adventure" by raffling off a 2005 Ford Mustang Convertible. This is their largest fundraiser of the year. The Club only had to mortgage half of the membership to pay for the car.

The Rotary Club of **Wells** will hold the Chris Wuerthner Memorial Golf Tournament on August 13<sup>th</sup>. President Bill was recognized for 36 years of perfect attendance! Way to go Bill! It helps that his wife is the Club Secretary!

The Rotary Club of **Kennebunk** held their annual Chicken BBQ. A great success!. The Club got their chance to "grill" President Chuck early in the year!

## Rotary International District 7780

WebMaster  
David Longo

E-MAIL:  
District7780webmaster  
@hamptonrotary.org

More on the District  
Website!

See us at:

**www.Rotary7780.  
org**

The Rotary Club of **Falmouth** is organizing a car show featuring European cars. This event is co-sponsored by the Baxter School for the Deaf. For additional information contact Club President Sean Joyce.

## AG Club Highlights – Area 4 – Keith Gosselin

In keeping with Rotary's theme of targeting literacy issues, the Rotary Club of **Sanford-Springvale** hosted a benefit breakfast for the Springvale Public Library on July 8. Nearly half of the club's membership assisted with the event, and while poor weather conditions and two other benefits that morning may have dampened the results, the Club was able to present a check for \$500 to the library. The event was chaired by long time Rotarian Fred Boyle, who has participated in literacy projects for many years in our local schools.

Roger Durant, also of the Rotary Club of **Sanford-Springvale**, recently celebrated 25 years of service as Club Treasurer. Roger won't be far from the board, however, using

his institutional knowledge in the role of Assistant Treasurer. Congratulations, Roger, on many years of "Service above Self".

The Rotary Club of **Saco Bay** is holding their annual Lobster Bake on August 27th. Contact Club President Brenda at [sacoiris@maine.rr.com](mailto:sacoiris@maine.rr.com) for additional information.

Scott Simmonds, for his work with the Youth Exchange and Roland Gagne, for all his work on International projects, both of the Rotary Club of **Biddeford-Saco** received awards at the recent Changeover Dinner. Congratulations and keep up the great work!

## AG Club Highlights – Area 5 – Rich Emerson

The Rotary Club of **Windham** just held a very successful "Boat Poker Run" on Sebago Lake. They are also gearing up for their famous fishing derby.

The Rotary Club of **Westbrook-Gorham** is holding their annual golf tournament in September. Contact Club President Michael Kane for additional information. Anyone interested in a nice home in Westbrook? The Club will soon offer for sale a home built along with the local vocational students.

The Rotary Club of **Breakwater Daybreak** will be barbequing at the annual "Art in the Park Show" in South Portland on August 13th. Their "International Food Festival" was such

a huge success, they are planning another - stay tuned!

Rhonda Emerson and Mary Jo Cross from the Rotary Club of **Casco Bay Sunrise** just returned from Guatemala as part of "Safe Passage" and have a presentation for any clubs interested in learning more. President Dave Caron was just named Maine Commercial Realtor of the Year!

The Rotary Club of **Portland** will be celebrating its 90th anniversary on September 16th at Keeley's Banquet Center. Comedian Bob Marley will entertain! Contact President Paul Gore for additional information.

## AG Club Highlights – Area 6 – Todd Doolan

The Rotary Club of **Brunswick**, in concert with the provisional Rotary Club of **Topsham Espresso**, are gearing up for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Tour de Merrymeeting Bay" 50 mile bike ride on Saturday, August 13th. This ride provides great scenery and good pavement as it circles Merrymeeting Bay, crossing all five rivers that feed the Bay. It is one of the truly great rides in mid-coast Maine. A shorter family ride called "Bowdoinham and Back" is also offered. Information and applications can be found at [www.brunswickrotary.org](http://www.brunswickrotary.org).

The Rotary Club of **Yarmouth** will be hosting its Annual Fishing Tournament August 6-7. The top prize of \$2,000 is offered for the largest striped bass or bluefish! Proceeds from the Tournament benefit Maine Alzheimer's Association, the Coastal Conservation Association as well as High School Scholarships and Local and International service projects of the Rotary Club of **Yarmouth**. More information is available at [www.yarmouth.me.us](http://www.yarmouth.me.us) or by calling Deb Nelson @ (207) 846-0955

Under President Bob Hanson the Rotary Club of **Freeport** is furiously working on fund-raising events to provide pure water for every family in Santa Barbara, Honduras. So far they have sponsored the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, providing a "Pure Water" float and plan a gala banquet buffet on September 30<sup>th</sup> at the Harrasekett Inn in Freeport. The cost is \$35.00 per person. Please RSVP at 207 688 2265.

## AG Club Highlights – Area 7 – Chip Griffin

The Rotary Club of **Damariscotta-Newcastle** is at it again! They are in the thick of Summer on the shores of the Damariscotta River with two special events: “The Mid-Summer Festival” from Friday, August 5<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, August 7<sup>th</sup> features Down East Barber Shop Singers, jazz groups, classic cars, an art show and auction, dog show, decadent desserts and lots of food! What a great opportunity for Rotary fellowship! Why not join in the fun?

On September 10<sup>th</sup> the Rotary Club of **Damariscotta-Newcastle** will also co-host the annual Rotary-Lions Golf Tournament and Auction at the Wawnecock Country Club. Please come join us for this fun event, or drop in Tuesday morning at 7:00 AM for a gourmet breakfast at the Second Congregational Church in Newcastle. We'll be happy to sign your “make-up” card! You're guaranteed to meet

Rotarians from all over the country!

The Rotary Club of **Boothbay Harbor** is preparing for their biggest fundraiser of the year, their annual auction! For over 40 years this event has produced great results. This year's event is planned for Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>. They have a professional auctioneer, Robert Foster, along with a huge flea market, pie sales, raffles and a pie in the face of the Club President, Bill Bailey! For additional information, you might want to try someone other than Bill!

The Rotary Club of **Bath Noontime** is very much looking forward to their Rotary Youth Exchange Student from France this year. Their outbound Student will be going to India. At the same time, their annual Golf Tournament, held recently had a preliminary profit of \$11,000. Way to Go! You folks are awesome!

## AG Club Highlights – Area 8 – Bobbi Steele

The outbound Youth Exchange student for the Rotary Club of **Oxford Hills** is Elliott Munn of Norway. Elliott left for Kenya, Africa the end of July. Inbound student, Rie Nishida from Osaka, Japan is expected to arrive August 15. Rie will be staying half the year with Elliott's family and the other half with PP Curtis Cole and his wife Terry. Elliott's brother, Eric, was a Youth Exchange student to India and is now a student at West Point.



President Steve Wight, DG Bob Laux and Mike Steven, Program Chair, welcome Ann Lee Hussey to Bethel!

The Rotary Club of **Oxford Hills** is once again hosting its annual Lobster Feed August 20 from 3:00 to 7:00 at the Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School on Rt. 26. located on the Norway/Paris line. One lobster, steamers, fries, corn, soda and watermelon can all be yours for the advance sale price of \$18. (\$20 after the 17<sup>th</sup>) This is one of the Club's major money making efforts and we welcome your support. Please spread the word to your club. Please contact PP Patty Rice (743-2285 (home) 743-7777 (work) or [pmrice@austinpa.com](mailto:pmrice@austinpa.com) for individual or block tickets.

The Rotary Club of **Bethel** hosted Rotary International “Service Above Self” award recipient Ann Lee Hussey at a Club social the evening before her Club presentation. Ann gave a rather stirring update on the Rotary Foundation's Polio Eradication efforts. Clubs are encouraged to invite Ann to speak about efforts to remove this deadly disease from the face of the world!

### “On To Chicago Final Committee Report

*“In our letter of March 23, 2005 we said the goal of Rotary International was 2% attendance from every district in the world. District 7780 would need 44 members to attend in order to reach that total.*

*We are pleased to report Rotary International's final figures on June 28<sup>th</sup> to be 63 people from District 7780 in attendance. So we would like to thank everyone for helping District 7780 to far exceed Rotary International's request.*

*It has been a pleasure for Jane and myself to serve District 7780 at the request of DG Bob Jacobson.”*

*George Cashman, PDG  
Newburyport, MA  
Jane Britton, PP,  
Fryeburg, ME*



*The Rotary Club of Boothbay Harbor is purchasing a van that will be sent to the Safe Passage project in Guatemala thanks to the club's fundraising initiatives.*