



The New Centurian

Special Interest Articles:

- Strategic Planning - The Next Level!
- District Conference - This Month!
- Random Acts Of Kindness!
- Great Things Comes From Our Rotary Foundation!



Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar,
President
Rotary International

AG Club Highlights:

- Brad Jett - Area 1
- John Rainone - Area 3
- Keith Gosselin – Area 4
- Rich Emerson – Area 5
- Todd Doolan – Area 6
- Chip Griffin – Area 7

Note: Clubs, please submit information to your AG by the 18th of the month.

The Newsletter of Rotary International District 7780

Strategic Planning Efforts Move To The Next Level! -

Last month in this column we provided a draft “Mission Statement” developed by the District Leadership Team (DLT) as the first step in our Strategic Planning Process. This month we’ll review the anticipated goals and objectives associated with that effort.

In keeping with evolving efforts by Rotary International to assist Clubs with the development of a “Club Leadership Plan”, the DLT is concentrating its efforts in similar areas, which include:

- Membership Development and Retention
 - The Importance of Rotary Ethics/Values
 - Leadership Development At The Club and District Level
 - Support For The Rotary Foundation
 - World and Community Service
 - Enhancing The Public Image Of Rotary
- In each area a multitude of desired

Bob Laux, Billy Hobbs, Liz Cullen outcomes were identified and are being prioritized for accomplishment over the next three years. Having the current, incoming and nominated Governor involved should insure a level of “continuity” for the coming years.

The DLT includes all Assistant Governors, District Committee Chairs, many Past District Governors who also happen to be serving on District Committees, District Resource Chairs and of course other pertinent District Officers.

A special breakout session will be held during the upcoming **District Conference** on these efforts. Anyone interested in commenting, adding items for consideration by the DLT or in finding out how your Club might benefit from such efforts, is encouraged to attend!

The District Conference is Coming! Why not join us at the Balsams? -

“On To A New Century of Service!” is the theme for this year’s exciting District 7780 Conference at the spectacular Grand Balsam’s Resort in Dixville Notch, New Hampshire! What a great opportunity to mix Rotary education, fellowship opportunities and a family vacation at one of New England’s premier resorts?

Last year this weekend was the peak of fall foliage in the mountains. Join your fellow Rotarians along with 30 registered Club Presidents, Assistant Governors, Past District Governors, family and guests for a truly memorable event. Past District Governor from District 5240 in California **Brenda Cressey** will serve as Rotary International President’s Representative. Brenda will attend the conference with her

Bob Laux, District Governor husband Dick. Both are replaced Mainers from Rumford and she is a past member of the Saco Bay Club. Additionally, **Dave Groner**, PDG from District 6360 in Michigan will be a featured speaker on the Rotary Foundation.

This event is all about education and sharing information about the successes of Club events and activities. Thursday is truly an educational opportunity day, Friday features efforts in the “Four Avenues of Service” and Saturday is all about the “Rotary Foundation”. Rooms are still available, but now open to the public and sure to sell out soon. Visit the District web site at www.rotary7780.org for more information and registration downloads! See you there!



Random Acts of Kindness – Cynthia Moran-Laux

One of DG Bob's activities in the *Governor's Trophy Challenge* this year is asking clubs to simply recognize the many "random acts of kindness" we as Rotarians do, just because we are Rotarians. Jot it down in a journal, you will simply be amazed. This initiative could not come at a more appropriate time in light of the devastation in the Gulf Coast. (More on that coming soon from Bob.)

I'd like to share with you random acts of kindness I've been hearing about throughout our District. Members of the **South Berwick Club** have dog sat for a week so someone could visit their family abroad, went grocery shopping for a senior, worked in a garden for someone in need, took a six year old to a play whose mother had passed away, took lunch to a friend having a bad day, just to name a few.

A member of the **Hampton** club had a death in the family. The day before the service several of his club members arrived at his home and mowed the lawn. A member of the **Bethel** club plows several driveways for his elderly neighbors all winter and another member donates blood as often as allowed.

The **Casco Bay Sunrise** club established a Benevolent Fund. Members who know of someone in need submit requests to the

committee. In addition to requests, members have permission to write a personal check up to \$100 when they see a need and get reimbursed from the club later. Funds have been spent on a car repair for a cancer patient in order to get to appointments (funds were donated back to the club the next year), fuel for a senior and temporary housing for a family after their house burned down.

Although it is important for all of us to assist in whatever way we can in the Gulf Coast relief effort, we must not forget those in need in our own communities. With fuel prices skyrocketing, be aware of those who will need fuel assistance, seniors and people with disabilities who will not be able to pay for snow removal or put gas in their cars.

Please look around your community, collaborate with other organizations, churches and groups to meet some of the needs. After all, "cooperation" goes a long way.

We remain in awe of all the amazing things clubs and individual members for their communities and the world. We are more than **"Proud To Be Rotarians!"**

Brenda M. Cressey, will serve as our Rotary International President's Representative at our District Conference at the Balsams September 22-25! Brenda is the Past District Governor of District 5240. She and her husband Dick will be "coming home" to Maine, having grown up in Rumford! Why not bring your family and friends in Rotary, for a simply terrific fellowship opportunity! Come join us at the Balsams!

Great Things Come From Your Support Of Our Rotary Foundation – Tim Placey, Foundation Chair

Rotarians seldom brag about their efforts, we "just do it!" But it is extremely important for us to spread the word about the many great things that have come about by supporting our **Rotary Foundation**. Governor Bob is highlighting many of these accomplishments during his Club visits but they are certainly worthy of print to share with your community and the world! Just some of the accomplishments of "Our Rotary Foundation" include:

- 37,000 Ambassadorial Scholars have gone abroad to study and act as goodwill ambassadors to 110 countries!
- The 7 Centers for International Studies in peace and conflict resolution are

educating scores of students to bring peace to our troubled world!

- Provided nearly 20,000 Matching Grants totaling almost \$200 million in humanitarian efforts where they are needed most!
- Sent more than 11,000 Group Study Exchange Teams comprised some 48,000 young professionals abroad to learn about cultural and professional life in another country!
- Provided 276 Health, Hunger and Humanity Grants totaling more than \$71 million in large scale humanitarian projects in 74 countries!
- Committed almost \$600 million through the PolioPlus program to ensure that

more than two billion of the world's children have been immunized against this devastating disease.

Our **Rotary Foundation** works because of dedicated Rotarians like you. Many of you have witnessed the power of our **Rotary Foundation** first hand through Individual or Matching Grants, met wonderful friends through GSE Teams and participated in NID trips. Through your involvement in the "Every Rotarian Every Year" the world will be a better place. Let others know about Rotary's best kept secret, **Our Rotary Foundation!**

AG Club Highlights – Area 1 – Brad Jett

On August 4th the Rotary Club of **Portsmouth** held it's Annual "Thunderchicken Road Race and Barbeque" at Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth. Over 300 runners competed in the 5K race through scenic and historic neighborhoods, while over 1,000 BBQ chicken dinners were served to an appreciative and hungry public. While final figures are not in at press time, the Club hoped to raise between \$10,000 and \$12,000 from the combined events.

In July, the Rotary Club of **Hampton** enjoyed their Annual Pool Party at the home (and pool) of Past President James Barrington. With their usual luck, the weather was picture perfect. The Club is now gearing up for its 14th Annual 5K Road Race held in conjunction with the Hampton area

Chamber's Annual Three Day Seafood Festival. The road race is scheduled for Saturday, September 10th at Hampton Beach, NH. It will be "all hands on deck" for this event, as all members, their families and friends take shifts in collecting admissions for this popular 3-day event. The Festival is one of Hampton's major fund-raisers for their charitable account.

The Rotary Club of **Newburyport** will launch its "First Annual Rotary Golf Event" on Friday, September 16th at the Rowley Golf Club in Rowley, MA. Rotarians Jay Howlett and Dean McLellan are co-chairing the event, which is billed as a combination social and modest fundraiser. Each foresome is being encouraged to sign-up a fifth, non-golfing person to handle the putting chores!



*Rotarian **Neil Fitch** is honored with his Paul Harris Fellowship for his contributions to our Rotary Foundation. Governor Bob is pleased to present this distinction during his "official" visit to the Rotary Club of **Exeter**. "Thank you Neil" for making the world a better place!*

AG Club Highlights – Area 3 – John Rainone

The Rotary Club of **Wells** is hard at work on its "project presentation" at the District Conference. Rosemary Guptil the "Chief Engineer" of the presentation says it will be ready on time! Also the Community Service Committee spearheaded by co-chairs Rick Goodrich and Jim Spiller is coordinating with the Wells Recreation Department in organizing work groups for the huge fundraising requirements for this Community Service Project.

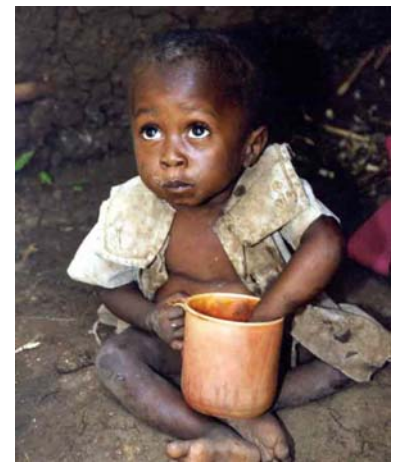
Also in the "oven" for the **Wells** Club is the "Fifth Annual Chuck Cumming Memorial Golf Tournament" to be held at the Sanford C.C. , Thursday October 6. All clubs in the District are encouraged to send a team of golfers and participate in the challenge round by emailing President Bill for all the details. Contact President Bill at wchigas@maine.rr.com Only 30 teams will play.

The Rotary Club of **Kennebunk** held their annual auction and raised over \$6,600. The Club will be hosting their annual Freshman Breakfast for incoming Kennebunk High School

students later this month.

The Rotary Club of **York** is having a raffle for a 2005 Mustang Convertable. This is their largest fundraiser of the year. The Club only had to mortgage half of the membership to pay for the car. The **York** Club has also completed their portion of the Concession Stand at the town's ball fields and they will be presenting a check to the **Saco Bay Club** for \$3,000 to complete their Kenya building project.

Congratulations to President Don Curry and Kennebunk Past President Bob Card of the Rotary Club of **Kennebunk-Portside** who have produced a digital slide show of the Chicago Convention. They took a large number of very good photos of the Parade, the Race for Polio, R. I. Headquarters, Chicago itself, Rotary Night at the Field Museum, and miscellaneous shots around the Convention. For the right price, they maybe available to share it with you Club. Contact Don Curry (aka "TBM") at dgcurry@ghi.net



Whether in Africa, India, the Gulf Coast area or in your own community, because of you as Rotarians, the world is better!



Be Proud To Be A Rotarian!

Rotary
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District 7780

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More on the District
Website!

See us at:

**www.Rotary7780.
org**

AG Club Highlights – Area 4 – Keith Gosselin

The Rotary Club of **Sanford/Spring-vale** recently honored retiring Club Treasurer **Roger Durant** for 25 years of outstanding service! Thank you Roger for your "Service Above Self!"



The Rotary Club of **Saco Bay** held their annual Lobster Bake on August 27th. President Brenda and her loyal troops did an outstanding job with this "community event!" The picture perfect day brought large crowds and a great time for all. Governor Bob and First Lady Cynthia enjoyed "lending a hand" as always, for Rotary!



AG Club Highlights – Area 5 – Rich Emerson

The Rotary Club of **Breakwater Daybreak** worked feverishly at barbequing during 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. Picture on the left are Club President **Susan Mooney**, joined with Past President **Shirley Mooers**. On the right are "the guys" taking care of the shade! Looks like a good thing we've got women in Rotary! Just kidding of course!



AG Club Highlights – Area 6 – Todd Doolan



More than 200 participants competed in the **Rotary Club of Yarmouth's** 14th Annual **Royal River Striper Tournament** held on August 6th & 7th at the Royal River Boatyard in Yarmouth. Proceeds of more than \$8,000 will go to the Maine Alzheimer's Association, Coastal Conservation Association and in support of local scholarships and other service projects of the Yarmouth Rotary Club. More information is available at www.yarmouth.me.us or by calling Deb Nelson @ (207) 846-0955

On September 20th, the Rotary Club of **Freeport**, under the very able direction of Club President Bob Hanson will host a "gala banquet buffet" at the lovely Harrasekett Inn in Freeport. This is one of many events hosted by the Freeport Club in an effort to provide pure water for every family in Santa Barbara, Honduras. Great way to spend time with fellow Rotarians, get a great meal and serve a wonderful cause. The cost is \$35.00 per person. Please RSVP to 207-688-2265.

AG Club Highlights – Area 7 – Chip Griffin

The Rotary Club of **Bath Sunrise** will host its annual Latin-American Fiesta Dinner and Silent Auction on Friday October 7th, from 5:00-7:30 PM at the Bath Senior Center, Floral Avenue (behind Shaw's Plaza). A silent auction of over 30 great items including Mexican art and craft items, local gift certificates and prizes will start at 5:00. A fabulous home-cooked Latin dinner will start at 5:30. Tickets are just \$10.00 in advance, \$12.00 at the door, \$8.00 for seniors and \$5.00 for kids. Festive dress optional. Tickets are available through Rotarians and many local merchants. To donate items or sponsor a table contact Betty or Lisa Martin at 207-389-2124 or email at lisa@lisabmartin.com. The Netza School Project for over 400 indigenous children in Zihuatanejo, Mexico will be one of several Latin-American projects that the **Bath Sunrise** Club's Latin-American dinner will help support!

The Rotary Club of **Boothbay Harbor** just finished its largest fundraiser of the year, garnering approximately \$22,000 at its annual auction on August 6th and, just as importantly, involving 100% of

the club members. A great opportunity for fellowship was achieved not only from the event but they had lots of fun contributing to the preparation and the auction itself. On August 25th, the **Boothbay Harbor** Club also honored the widows of past Rotarians, another annual event and fund for all involved.

The Rotary Club of **Damariscotta-Newcastle**, known as the "Twin-Village" Club had a successful "Mid-Summer Festival" in August, teaming up with the Lincoln Home in support of the Miles Hospital League. September kicks off with their Annual Lions/Rotary Golf Tournament on September 10th. Plans call for awarding "Volunteer of the Year" during the event in memory of an Olympian Volunteer, Past Rotary Club President and Paul Harris Fellow Neil Sprague, who exemplified "Service Above Self" to our community in many avenues of service.

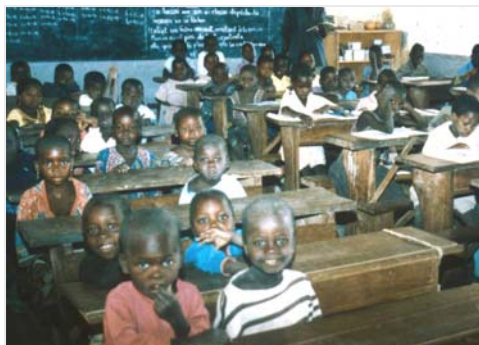
The "Twin-Village" Club looks forward to welcoming Governor Bob and Cynthia on September 13th. See you at the District Conference!

Did you know that by giving to Our Rotary Foundation

For as little as \$100, your contribution helps provide



Polio vaccine for 200 children!



Text books for an elementary school in Zambia!



De-worming tablets for 112 children in the Phillipines!



Be Proud To Be A Rotarian!

Quotes from Rotary

"Like many others, I have a dream. My dream is that every 17-year-old could become an exchange student. If the world could achieve this, there would be no more wars!"

President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar, 2/05

"Rotary is a miracle because it offers glimpses of a better world. Rotary works toward that possible and achievable society that will one day conquer the absence of peace, a society that will provide opportunities and equality for all."

Past RI President Glen W. Kinross, 2/05

"Rotary's timeless principles promote ethical practices, and the business community needs Rotarians – not just as positive role models but as tireless advocates for what is the truth and what is fair to all concerned. To me, this Rotary pin is an emblem of integrity. It could be more. It could become a symbol of leadership, a symbol of trustworthiness and dignity."

Past RI President Bhichai Rattakul, 2/05

Why not ask a friend to join Rotary? Why are you keeping this organization the best kept secret in the world? Why are you so selfish about sharing this great organization we call Rotary with others?