



Rotary International District 7780

Archive

Dec 1, 2006

[print this page](#)

[Home](#)

District Information

[District Governor](#)
[District Calendar](#)
[DG Official Visits](#)
[Officers & Chairs](#)
[District Secretary](#)
[District Treasurer](#)
[Photo Gallery](#)
[Photo Album \(2007\)](#)
[District Bylaws](#)

Governors Newsletter

[Current](#)
[Archive](#)

District Club Info

[Links to Clubs](#)
[Make Up Opportunities](#)
[Club Fundraisers/Events](#)
[Speakers Bureau](#)
[World Community](#)

District Events/Forums

[District Assembly](#)
[District Changeover](#)
[District Conference](#)
[Foundation Seminar](#)
[Interact Conference](#)
[Intl Convention](#)
[Membership Seminar](#)
[Mid-Term Assembly](#)
[NE Multi-District PETS](#)
[RLI Course Dates](#)
[United Nations Day](#)
[W.U.P.D.](#)

District History

[Historian](#)
[Past Governors](#)

Foundation

[The Chair](#)
[Alumni Directory](#)
[Annual Giving](#)
[Foundation Grants](#)
[Group Study Exchange](#)
[Polio Plus](#)
[Foundation Scholarships](#)

Literacy

[Literacy Chair Message](#)
[Literacy Awards 2009-10](#)
[Literacy PR Release](#)
[4 Way Test Contest](#)
[Read Across America](#)
[Literacy Resources](#)

Membership



Paul Harris Induction, South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club

A Word From Governor Marie-

My Family of Rotary,

Well the "official" club visits are done! I helped induct several more members last month – two in my own club! We took part in several Paul Harris Fellow special events, one in South Portland-Cape Elizabeth, one in Ogunquit and Kennebunk – 14 new Paul Harris Fellows in one week! I am back to attending my own club meetings on a fairly regular basis and they are keeping me busy.

I can't believe it is December already. How the time has flown by! December is the Family of Rotary month and our Rotary Family is keeping busy! I am so pleased to see that so many clubs are remembering the seniors in our communities by having holiday dinners for them, singing to them in nursing homes, giving them small gifts. The holiday season is especially hard for the seniors that are alone or away from families. Maybe you could invite a neighbor that is alone in for a holiday meal with your family. Most clubs are collecting food to be distributed to those that are having a hard time making ends meet, collecting toys, clothes, etc. for needy children. The Durham-Great Bay Club is sending a care package to a 160-member unit in Baghdad, Iraq. One of their members has a son in this unit so the club decided instead of doing just a care package for him why not the whole unit! Bridgton has helped keep a family from becoming homeless and possibly being separated. More and more clubs are talking about inviting spouses of deceased members to meetings. I was at one club recently where this happened and the woman told me she was so grateful that they invited her as it gave her a chance to see her old friends. She missed being a part of Rotary!

My heart has been touched so many times in the last few weeks by the wonderful things going on in our District and around the world as a result of our District Rotarians. Just stop and think for a minute how big your "Family" has gotten since you joined Rotary and how many lives you have impacted as the result of the things you do in Rotary's name. Instead of your "family" being in one neighborhood or across the state or possibly in the next state, it is around the world!

Chair Message
Committee
Membership Tools

Resources

Health & Hunger
Public Relations
Water

Youth Programs

Interact
RYLA
Youth Exchange

Service Above Self
Forms & Documents
RI Links/Contacts

Contact Us

District 7780 Rotarians are truly Leading the Way and as a result there will be many smiling faces this holiday season that might not have smiled without you.

THANK YOU FOR REMEMBERING THEM.

Bruce and I are so grateful for all the blessings we have had bestowed upon us –wonderful healthy children and grandchildren, good friends and our Rotary Family. What more could anyone ask for! Bruce and I want to take this time to wish you all the Happiest of Holiday Seasons and a wonderful healthy and prosperous New Year.

Marie and Bruce



Rotary Club President Gary Speers Kicks off 2006 Campaign

Rotary Cub of Damariscotta – Newcastle "Ding-A-Lings for Charity"

The Rotary Club of Damariscotta – Newcastle partners with the Lions Club of Damariscotta and Newcastle each holiday season to help with the Salvation Army Bell Ringing Campaign. Two sites are staffed by the enthusiastic volunteers from these clubs along with other community helpers who fill in the remaining time slots. Rotarian Larry Townley coordinates the effort annually and strongly encourages each Bell-Ringer to bring their favorite canine to assist at either the Damariscotta Post Office or the Yellowfront Grocery locations.



Brunswick Rotary is Hands On!

Members of the Brunswick Rotary Club helped repair the fencing at the Brunswick Town Commons on Route 123 on Saturday, November 11. With hammers, nails, shovels, post hole diggers (aka PHD's) and plenty of goodwill, they replaced many of the broken rails and rotted

posts on the split rail fence that borders the stretch of the commons south of Bowdoin College. The Veterans Day weather was warm and sunny, great for outdoor work. So great, in fact, that all materials were used up before the energy of the team, so they focused on cleaning up trash, leaving a tidier appearance along this entire stretch of the commons. For additional information on how Rotary is pitching in to be an integral part of the Mid Coast contact President Cathy Lamb at 729-1863.



**Katharine and David Longo, with their new adopted daughter from China
Amada Yidan Josephine Longo . . . Yidan is her Chinese first name. Congratulations Longo Family!**

Future Rotarian arrives from China!



Exeter Rotary Club Holiday Auction



Bethel Rotary Hosts CPR Training

Last week Rotarians from the Rotary Club of Bethel hosted a community CPR training event. Small in numbers but a very worthwhile event. Here's a photo of Past President Steve Wight practicing on a "child" with Rotarian Kathy Kunkle watching on.

Friends Forever: Altering Lives for 20 Years!

It is hard for the average American to imagine that a modern Western culture can produce poems of childhood such as this. No Hope for Tomorrow was written in 1988 by then 14-yr-old Karyn Woods, and though some things are far better in Northern Ireland today, most children there still live in predominantly Protestant or Catholic communities, with many of the same fears. However, the Friends Forever program that was started in Portsmouth Rotary and that brought Karyn to the US is continuing to operate throughout District 7780 and others, and has now provided life-altering experiences for just under a thousand teens from Belfast, Ballymena, and other troubled towns in Northern Ireland (as well as Israel).

No Hope for Tomorrow

Karyn Woods (age14)
Carrickfergus, Northern Ireland
Friends Forever 1988

I am afraid.

Afraid of the land that I live in,
That I was born in.
The ground I tread each day
Resounds with shots,
With screams;
It is saturated with tears,
Tears that have never ceased flowing.

I have never known peace.
Life has been full of murders;
Then those condemnations.
The people with power who condemn
Don't do anything –
Just condemn.
And us with no power,
Who want to fix it, cannot.

What good is condemnation?
Tell me, what will it do?
How many innocent lives will it save?
How many terrorists will it catch?
Is there any hope?
Prejudice is ruling here.
Can we not all be one,
Protestant and Catholic alike,

All human?
To solve it, we will have talks,
About talks, about talks.

I need a future

Now a 32-yr-old partner in a law firm and married with a child of her own, Karyn attended the 20th anniversary reunion for Friends Forever in Northern Ireland, where she spoke glowingly of the long-term impact of Friends Forever on not only her life, but also the many other alumni she knew then and has met in the years since. For more info on Friends Forever, call Bill Holt at 603-772-8165 or visit www.friendsforeverusa.org.

PORTSMOUTH ROTARY THANKSGIVING DINNER



Members of the community gathered Thursday at the Portsmouth Unitarian Universalist (South) Church to enjoy the Portsmouth Rotary Club's 35th annual Thanksgiving Dinner. It was a feast complete with all the Thanksgiving staples: turkey, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, and homemade pie -- to name a few.

More than 100 Rotary members and community volunteers worked to prepare the meal and create a cozy, welcoming environment to help their guests feel at home for the holiday.

Rotarian Betsy Scott said she enjoys helping the familiar faces she sees around town. "This is for the people and to show them support," she said.

The guests were waited on hand and foot by the volunteers, who served whatever the guests desired.

Scott said the smile on her face can't get any bigger than when a guest asks for anything, even just a full cup of coffee. "It gives me such a thrill to make these people feel like there is an overabundance of food just for them, which there is," she said.

To make sure everyone got a chance at Thanksgiving dinner, the Rotary Club also delivered the meal home to some.

For 10 years, Rotarian Jay Levy has organized and dropped off the home deliveries. Lately he has recruited his children for help and uses the day to not only get closer to them, but also to the community. "You make great relationships," he said. "Year after year, this is one of those things people anticipate and look forward to. It's a great thing for everybody."

The event chairman, Donald Coker, said volunteers began preparing the meal Wednesday. Portsmouth Regional Hospital donated the food and the space to cook it. They cooked about 10 turkeys and baked 25 pies to satisfy an expected 125 guests for the sit-down meal and all the home deliveries.



Nominations Sought for District Officers

Clubs are asked to submit nominations for the following District 7780 Officers:

District Governor for 2009-2010

Budget & Finance Committee Member - Division A for 2007-2010

Qualifications for the duties of District Governor can be found in the Manual of Procedure and include:

- Having been a member of a Rotary Club for at least 7 years prior to taking office.
- Having served a full term as Club President
- Being a member in good standing of a club in the district
- Being a member in a functioning club in good standing which has no outstanding indebtedness to RI or to the District
- Demonstrating the willingness, commitment, and ability, physically and otherwise, to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the office of governor

Budget & Finance Committee Member from Division A comprising of Massachusetts and New Hampshire clubs.

- The candidate must be willing and able to serve as a member of the committee for the three year tem.

Nominations in the form of a resolution of the club, adopted at a regular club meeting, as described in the Manual of Procedure must be forwarded to DG Marie prior to January 15, 2007. Please feel free to contact her with any questions relative to the process.



Rochester Rotary Club Teams with IMEC

Cider Berry of Eastern Propane and Oil presents Rochester Rotary Treasurer, Dave Keefe, with a check for \$1,000, which will cover a portion of the cost to ship over \$200,000 worth of medical equipment to Rivas Hospital in Rivas, Nicaragua. The equipment, donated by Frisbie Memorial Hospital and the Rochester District VNA, will furnish 20 rooms in the Rivas hospital making

hospital stays and treatment available to many impoverished citizens who would otherwise be turned away. Rochester Rotary has teamed up with IMEC, International Medical Equipment Collaborative, to streamline the transportation of this sensitive equipment from the U.S. through customs and into Nicaragua and other needy third world countries. IMEC is providing the pod that will transport the entire shipment.



Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club Hosts Visitors in a Unique Setting

The Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club is the only Rotary Club in the United States to own its own clubhouse! Back in the late '40s, few restaurants in our fishing community were open year-round, and options such as church fellowship halls just weren't available. Club members had been meeting in a series of places including the local plumbing shop, but none were considered satisfactory, so in 1948 Club members finally decided to build their own space. We've been proudly meeting in our clubhouse ever since, and our collection of banners and Rotary memorabilia has made us a destination for makeups and "summer complaints" throughout all these years!

Our clubhouse gives us a unique venue to host special guests. For example, we invite the entire high school senior class to dinner each year just before graduation, and we also annually honor a community Lifetime Achiever. And this month, we invited the American Legion to join us for a special Veterans Day program.

Spc. Derek Anderson, a reservist with the 182nd Armored Division just returned from Iraq, held the rapt attention of an audience of Rotarians and veterans when he spoke of his experiences at the clubhouse in early November. But the real stars of the evening were the veterans -- Rotarians and American Legionnaires alike -- whose service dates back to World War II, Korea and Vietnam, and who all stood and quietly shared their service affiliation and their duty stations. The veterans thanked us for inviting them to dinner -- but mostly they thanked us just for remembering the service they have rendered and the time and sacrifice they have given our nation.



Senior's Holiday Dinner, Kittery Rotary Club

The Rotary Club of Kittery held their 5th annual Senior's Holiday Dinner at The Kittery Youth Connection on Sunday, December 3 with 80% of the club members in attendance. The Rotarians, spouses, children and grandchildren of the Rotarians all took part in setting up, serving and cleaning up afterwards. One former Rotarian even delivered 5 homemade pies for dessert! The seniors ranged in age from their late 60's to our most senior attendee of 93 years young. They shared fellowship with one another and with the Rotarians and future Rotarians. As you can see we had some very young servers. It is always a fun time and everyone enjoys themselves except maybe the first man who was doing dishes



Grandpa is giving lessons in Service



Rotarians and Future Rotarians at Work!



Photo: left to right; Margaret Lonsdale, Bruce Goodman, Meilin Brodeur and Sally Leblanc

Brunswick Coastal Rotary helps our Midcoast Hunger Prevention

The month started off with a visit from District Governor Marie on November 1st. In keeping with Governor Marie's request that clubs do hands-on service rather than giving her a gift, club members brought bags of groceries to the meeting, which were later donated to the Food Pantry at the Midcoast Hunger Prevention Agency. Following up on this theme, club members gathered at the Food Pantry on November 18, to assemble Thanksgiving Day food boxes, that they then distributed to recipients who came to the Agency. At the November 29th meeting the speaker was Terry Howell, director of Midcoast Hunger Prevention, who informed the club about her agency and the rising prevalence of hunger in the Midcoast area.



The Bethel Rotary Club's Country Breakfast, held Nov. 26 at Gould Academy, was attended by nearly 300 people. Here, Caroline Finley places her order as her Rotarian dad, Kevin (right) looks on.

News from AG Patty Rice—Area 8

The **Oxford Hills** club is very proud of their High School and Middle School Interact clubs, as they recently won 1st place with their float in the Christmas parade for the non-profit organization category. The members are also gearing up to support their annual Toys for Kids program for 60 area children in need. The Club has recently inducted 3 new members with another in the works.

The **Fryeburg Area** club recently held a successful annual fundraiser, Bountiful Harvest, which is a silent/live auction, dinner and jazz music. The money raised provides scholarships for students

going on to higher education. A fun time was had by all in attendance.

Bridgton-Lake Region club has been very successful with their hands-on homeless project helping to find and furnish a home for a single mom and her 2 kids. It seems to be a very rewarding project that the entire club can participate in. A special thanks goes to Governor Marie from the Bridgton-Lake Region club for suggesting this cause for a project this year. They will also be "delivering" Christmas carol "cards" to the elderly at the Bridgton Health Care Center on 12/15.

The **Bethel** club had a successful annual fundraiser, A Country Breakfast, held at Gould Academy with nearly 300 people attending. The money raised will help support their club projects. President Cynthia Moran-Laux and PDG Bob Laux are traveling to Vietnam to dedicate the library project and visit some orphanages. You can follow their travels at <https://rotaryvietnamlibrary.wordpress.com/>. The members recently hosted a community CPR training event, certainly a very worthwhile project.

The Rotary Club of **Rumford** will be inducting 3 new members soon. For the month of December, members will be bringing in items for the homeless including gift certificates for Hannaford, Wal-mart, Exxon and others. The club will be participating in the Christmas in the Valley Parade with a float to help provide publicity for the club.

May you all have a healthy, happy Holiday Season!

District Attendance Report, October 2006

Name	6/30 Size	10/31 Size	Attend. for Month	Yr to Date Change
Bath	46	48	72%	2
Bath Sunrise	21	19	84%	-2
Bethel	36	35	82%	-1
Biddeford-Saco	57	60	58%	3
Boothbay Harbor	38			0
Breakwater Daybreak				-1
Bridgton-Lake Region	23	26	82%	1
Brunswick	80	81	67%	1
Brunswick Coastal	21	19	51%	-2
Casco Bay Sunrise	27	24	79%	-3
Damariscotta-Newcastle	61			-1
Dover	90	86	54%	-4
Durham-Great Bay	53	53	72%	0
Exeter	38	40	89%	2
Falmouth	24	24	82%	0
Freeport	26	22	68%	-4
Fryeburg Area	39	40	79%	1
Hampton	69	64	82%	-5
Kennebunk	71	71	64%	0
Kennebunk Portside	37			2
Kittery	23	23	65%	0
Newburyport				
Ogunquit				
Oxford Hills	42	42	83%	0
Portland	163			0
Portsmouth	239	231	61%	-8
Portsmouth Sunrise	36	33	66%	-3
Rochester	83	87	73%	4
Rumford		25	65%	0
Saco Bay	69	72	63%	3

Sanford-Springvale	44			7
Scarborough	34	32	68%	-2
Sebago Lake	34	37	65%	3
Somersworth				
South Berwick	32	32	76%	0
So. Portland-Cape Elizabeth	52			-1
Topsham Expresso		16	95%	-1
Wells	38	38	80%	0
Westbrook-Gorham	42	40	74%	-2
Yarmouth	33	29	60%	-4
York	59	56	86%	-3
TOTALS	1847	1505	72%	-18

DGE's Corner-

Update on the Family of Rotary

In our Rotary world, December has traditionally been Family Month. Rotary's commitment to family, however, extends throughout the year and throughout the world. RI President Bill Boyd believes so strongly in the Family of Rotary, that he has established a resource group to, "encourage clubs to care for Rotarians, their families, and members of the larger Rotary family." Not only does the Family of Rotary include members of each Rotarian's family, but it also includes: our neighbors in clubs around the world, Foundation alumni, GSE and Youth Exchange members, Rotaractors, Interactors RYLA participants, spouse groups and other Rotary global networking groups. The concept of this personal, local and international family is of critical importance because, in the words of President Bill, it:

- Builds lifelong friendships
- Enhances our personal families' relationships
- Improves international solidarity and tolerance
- Builds world understanding and peace
- Contributes to membership growth
- Contributes to diversity of age, gender, race, culture, religion and profession
- Improves Rotary's public image
- Strengthens clubs and the commitment to service

Nowhere is the importance of international solidarity more evident than in the outpouring of physical and financial aid from Rotarians all over the world in recent disasters such as tsunamis, hurricanes and earthquakes.

On a local and less dramatic level, we can all promote projects that include our immediate families and our Rotary family. For that reason, the resource group is charged with providing sample project ideas and they can be found on the Rotary website. These projects range from establishing a sister club relationship in a foreign country to simply bringing spouses and children to club meetings or club events.

In all probability, most clubs are already involved in Family of Rotary activities. In Newburyport, for example, the Rotary club presents the annual Santa Claus parade. The Coast Guard brings club president Santa and Mrs. Claus by boat. The Rotarian Sleigh Team pulls the carriages of Santa and Mrs. Claus through the streets of downtown and Interact students dressed as cartoon characters such as Elmo, Shreck and Dora the Explorer help entertain the thousands of children, parents and grandparents who come to take part in this heartwarming event.

What does your club do in the spirit of the Family of Rotary? Please share your stories and ideas with the district! Simply send your story and PICTURES to your assistant governor and they will be included in the district newsletter.

Happy Chanukah, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Liz Cullen, DGE



Saco Bay Rotary Prison Library Project

The prison library project is a project that involves cooperation on the part of the York County Sheriff's Dept., Sister Theresa and The Saco Bay Rotary. Sister Theresa is an amazing person who works tirelessly on a number of projects within the prison. These projects focus not only on the prisoners but also their families, especially the children. The prison library is just one project she oversees. She greatly appreciates the support, both financially and in the volunteerism she receives from Saco Bay Rotary. We have donated money for specific needs she has, such as, toys for the kids at Christmas or furnishing a quiet space for the children to spend time while the adults meet in the visitation rooms nearby.

As important, if not more so, is the volunteerism we have provided to organize and maintain the prison library. All the books are donated. Usually, Sister Theresa is the one beating the bushes for donations of books although we have supported her in that way as well. The actual work centers around unpacking the donated books and getting them on the shelves in some kind of order so that when a special request is made, the sheriff's deputies who are handing out the books will know where to look. We also put returned books back on the shelves. The prison staff truly appreciates the work we do.



Sister Theresa is the one beating the bushes for donations of books and we have supported her in this way.



The actual work centers around unpacking the donated books and getting them on the shelves in some kind of order so that when a special request is made, the sheriff's deputies who are handing out the books will know where to look.

The challenge is keeping the books organized. We don't use the Dewey Decimal System. It's more a matter of putting like kind books together. We have quite a collection, which includes self-help, poetry, romance, classic fiction, mysteries, non-fiction, biographies, sports and more

Why do we do it? I can't speak for Pat Lilly or Kitty Chadbourne (without whom this project doesn't exist), but for myself I'd say that in books there's hope and, dare I say, the chance of escape, if only for a short time. At the very least, no matter what your station in life, you can always find a character in literature that is worse off than you are.



Sister Theresa and Kitty Chadbourne

REMINDER

Be sure to check the District Website periodically for updates to the following web pages:

NEW PAGE - Local Community Service Projects

World Community Service - variety of new projects being added all the time

Club Fundraisers - see what other clubs are doing

Speaker's Bureau - send us your info on good speakers and see who other clubs have had

Polio Plus - current information updated monthly

District Interact - Information about District Interact Conference

District Conference - Updated information and more coming all the time

And finally....



**Santa and Mrs Claus visit Newburyport, and are treated to a sleigh ride with Rotary Reindeer!
HO HO HO!!!**

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