



Rotary International District 7780

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Membership



The Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth kicks off the year by donating \$4050.00 to The Rotary Foundation!

A Word From Governor Liz-

PRESIDENT OF ROTARY INTERNATIONAL TO VISIT DISTRICT 7780

It's true! Wilf Wilkinson, President of Rotary International will be our guest speaker at our annual World Peace and Understanding Dinner on Saturday, February 23, 2008. PDG George Rice and AG Patty Rice are the co-chairmen of the event. They are presently investigating the site for the dinner, but it will definitely be in the Portland area. Please stay tuned for further announcements.

ROTARY SHARES AND SHARING ROTARY

On Saturday morning, September 15 we will hold our annual District Membership Seminar at York County Community College in Wells. Discussion groups will include:

- Retention: the perennial challenge led by Jay Spenciner, PP
Rotary Club of Bridgton- Lake Region
- R.O.A.R. with Wilt Jones AG, Rotary Club of Damariscotta-Newcastle
- Public Relations: getting the word out. Marty Peak-Helman, PP
Rotary Club of Boothbay Harbor,
District 7780 Public Relations Resource Coordinator
- The Family of Rotary: Sharing Rotary with Judy and Gary Speers, PP
Rotary Club of Damariscotta-Newcastle
District 7780 Family of Rotary Resource Coordinator

Presidents, Presidents-elect, Club Membership Chairs, Board Members, New Members, Experienced Members, please plan to come and to share your ideas with all of the clubs in our district. If you have any suggestions for other membership-related topics or any questions, please let me know. Registrations forms will be mailed out with the next few days.

YOU ARE THE STARS

It's all about you—the clubs--and it is my job and the job of every district committee to serve you.

Chair Message
Committee
Membership Tools

Resources

Health & Hunger
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Water

Youth Programs

Interact
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Service Above Self
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Contact Us

If you are looking for a speaker or looking for information, simply click on the District Committee page on our website. The committee chairs are great sources of information and they are eager to share it all with you. They will bring presentations about The Rotary Foundation, Annual Giving, PolioPlus, GSE, Grants, Water, Literacy, Health and Hunger, Public Relations, The Family of Rotary, Youth Service including Youth Exchange, RYLA, Interact, Rotaract and much, much more.

Speaking of sharing—all of the clubs in our district are busy with parties, fundraisers and local service projects. As you can see in this newsletter, many of them have sent in photos and summaries of their activities. Please send me as many photographs and articles as you can to be included in the September Newsletter and please remember both to send us notices of your upcoming fundraisers and events and to check the website for news from other clubs in your area.

OUR DISTRICT CONFERENCE: CELEBRATE WITH THE 7780 STARS

Our District Conference will be held on Friday, May 2 to Sunday, May 4, 2008 in North Conway at The Grand Hotel and the conference committee is busy making plans for a two day celebration of the forty-one clubs in District 7780. Registration forms for the conference and for the hotel are now posted on the district website. It is not too early to register. In fact, the names of the first fifty people who register will be entered into a drawing. The prize is a free room for the two nights of the conference!

AROUND DISTRICT 7780

The 2007-2008 is off to a flying start. In July I visited the clubs of Kittery, Portsmouth Sunrise, Wells, Somersworth, South Berwick and Exeter on official business and Sanford-Springvale, Westbrook-Gorham and South Portland-Cape Elizabeth just for fun. It has been wonderful to hear about the number of projects that you do and the work that you do to help others. I would also like to thank you for the fellowship and warm welcome that you have extended to me and for letting me get to know each of you a little better.

All the best!

Liz DG



Sanford Rotarians working a concession stand at the Sanford Mainers game to raise funds for community and world projects.



So the District Governor is Coming to Visit!

So the District Governor is coming for her official visit! You've filled out the Club Questionnaire,

arranged for a special reception following the meeting, and asked club members to dress “spiffy.” Have you also thought about the “free” publicity you can also garner from her visit?

With all due respect to Governor Liz (and all past District Governors), an official visit, in and of itself, is hardly a headline-maker in your local newspaper, radio or TV cable station. After all, local news editors are interested in local personalities, and a visiting VIP (especially -- to those of us in Maine -- a visiting VIP from Massachusetts!!) is hardly worth getting excited about!

But you can arrange for it to be otherwise.

Many clubs take advantage of the District Governor’s visit to induct a new member, award a Paul Harris Fellow, or honor a club Rotarian of the Year. Voila! Make sure to bring your digital camera and snap a photo of the DG and the honoree, under your Club banner, of course. Send the photo to your local editor and make sure that in addition to stating the reason the local Rotarian is being honored by a dignitary from away, the caption includes the date/time of your club meetings and the fact that Rotary is always welcoming to visitors.

You can do even more: Consider the message you want your community to know about your club, and use the DG’s visit to help get the word out! Last year, Bath Sunrise moved to a new venue, Mae’s Café. Later, when then-Governor Marie came for her official visit, she “attached” the Rotary decal to the restaurant door, and that’s the photo that ran in the Times-Record! Now, it’s in the local “newspaper of record” that Bath Sunrise meets at Mae’s Café – and the restaurant didn’t object to the free publicity either! So think about “your” message – and make sure to put it on Governor Liz’s agenda.

Do you have a fabulous project – or an insurmountable problem – related to Club public relations? Let me know: mpeak@polaris.net and I’ll share your wins and seek ideas to help cure your woes. Together, we’ll spread the word on all the great stuff our clubs do!
--Marty Peak Helman, District PR Coordinator



Coastal Rotary Presents Paul Harris, Raises Funds

Club President Tom Stypinski presents a Paul Harris Fellow to Bill Paschke, at his home, with several members of Brunswick Coastal Rotary and Bill’s family in attendance. Bill has traveled to El Salvador several times to work on projects at a health clinic. After being diagnosed with cancer, he did what anyone who knows Bill would have expected: he organized a group and returned to El Salvador to build a roof on the health clinic! Bill is an active member of Brunswick Coastal Rotary, always cheerfully volunteering on projects and fundraisers. Bill’s continued interest in helping others and his courage in facing his terminal illness has been a touching and inspiring example for all who know him.

With the help of over 50 local area businesses who donated desserts and items for the Silent Auction, Brunswick Coastal Rotary had another successful "Desserts from Around the World" fundraiser. Our guests were treated to music on the deck by Kat Logan, Jim Loney, and John Dennen. The proceeds from this event, held on June 16th at the Bowdoin College Cram Alumni House, will be used to support our club's local and international humanitarian projects. Within the past two years Brunswick Coastal Rotary has provided the Oasis Free Clinic with a patient information computer facility; meals for Tedford Shelter residents; new school and sports clothing, and school supplies to homeless teens through the Merrymeeting Project; drilled five water wells in a refugee camp and at an orphans' elementary school in Uganda, and outfitted 250 Community Outreach workers with medical kits to care for AIDS patients in South Africa.



Desserts Chair Sally LeBlanc

**2008 District 7780
District Conference Registration Forms Have Arrived!
Make Your Reservations Now!**



**Falmouth Rotary food booth at the annual Show and Shine sponsored by the
Downeast Region Porsche Club of America (DER PCA).
All proceeds go to fund programs at the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf**



Here, Seth checks out the bikes prior to distribution

Boothbay Harbor Fills Transport Needs of Summer Workers

The Boothbay Region's seasonal economy relies heavily on international workers who come here each summer to work in our restaurants and resorts. Few of these workers have transportation to get to the grocery store or to do their errands, a problem compounded by the fact that the resorts where they live and work tend to be "off the beaten track" at the far reaches of our peninsula.

Boothbay Harbor Rotarian Seth Hedgcock, who frequently gives these young workers a "lift" when he passed them in his truck, realized that our Rotary Club could do something more. The club agreed! We advertised for used bikes, which Seth renovated and lent to these workers for them to use during their stay. Last year we got the initiative started; this summer we collected, refurbished, and distributed a total of 36 bikes and helmets! When you assume that each bike will be used by several workers, that's a lot of wheels. Seth also gave each of the recipients his phone number and asked them to call if they experienced a flat or other misadventure, and he has arranged to pick up the bikes at summer's end so that he can put new air in the tires and make them available to be borrowed again next year.

Way to go, Seth! That's the Rotary way: See a need, find a solution.



"Rotary Anns Share History" Rotary Host Ann Angell with our nine special guests.

Rotary Cub of Damariscotta – Newcastle Honors Family of Rotary Guests from our Past

Rotarian Ann Angell led the Rotary Club of Damariscotta-Newcastle in inviting a group of very special members of our extended Family of Rotary, the "Rotary Anns" to a "Rotary Shares" breakfast meeting. This group of nine wonderful spouses of several long term members, as well as several dearly departed Rotarians, served as the backbone of the well known Damariscotta-Newcastle Rotary Oyster Festival and supported all of our club activities for so many years. Honoring us with their attendance were former Rotary Anns Nancy Burton, Carmen DiGrigorio, Paula Foster, Shirley Hurdle, Noreen McLeod, Jane Murdock, Carolyn Smith, Louise Spate and Janice Sprague. Each guest shared memories of activities and special projects that they recalled being involved with in the era before women officially joined Rotary. Many of them shared over forty years of community service with their partners and consider Rotary to be their family for life.

Carol Ransom
President, The Rotary Club of Damariscotta-Newcastle



Students who will receive scholarships from Sanford Rotary Club for the upcoming school year. Scholarships ranged from \$1250.00 to \$2500.00 totaling \$15,000.00

“What’s Happening in the Hills” by AG Patty Rice

The **Bethel** Club recently inducted a new member, Kamil Sahin, a native of Turkey. He and his wife had lived in Ohio for many years before moving to Bethel. I’m sure Kamil will add an international flavor to their club. The Club is also preparing for their official visit from Governor Liz and will be touring her around member’s businesses to help provide her a “flavor” of their community.

The **Oxford Hills** Club is also gearing up for their official club visit from Governor Liz, and are planning a joint social with the **Bethel** Club. Governor Liz will be in for a treat with joint fellowship at it’s best! The Club is also pleased to continue to support the Haiti water project with several other clubs in the District. They are preparing to send a student outbound to Turkey and will be receiving one inbound from the Dominican Republic, and are pleased to be participating in the Youth Exchange program again this year.

The **Bridgton-Lake Region** Club had their annual Duck Race fundraiser, which was another exciting event that their local residents and visitors look forward to. As the club gets started this Rotary year, plans are underway for the local and global projects they’ll be working on, so stay tuned!

The **Fryeburg Area** Club is pleased to have inducted a new member in July. They also participated in the local “Arts in the Park” and served coffee and donuts in the morning and then blueberry shortcake with ice cream and whip cream (Yum!) in the afternoon. It was a success as they doubled both their member participation and profits from last year. They also had an interesting guest Rotarian speaker from Bermuda talk about a project he sponsors and shares, regarding a competition between high schools on a game event about computers. He will do a follow-up presentation this fall, with hopes for an event in the Fryeburg Area. Rotary Shares!

The **Rumford** Club had a very successful golf tourney on July 10th. They are pleased to be able to honor Dot Sanches, a Rotarian since 1993 and currently an honorary member with a Paul Harris Fellow. The Club members are looking forward to hosting Governor Liz for her official visit and are planning an evening of fellowship at the Placey’s camp on Worthley Pond.



Bridgton-Lake Region Club's annual duck race.
Lorraine Spenciner, her grandson, and member, Cathy
Fitzgerald working the event.



DGE's Corner

I recently had the chance to spend some time with the Rotary Youth Exchange outbound students and committee members at the Reid State Park in Bath, Me. as they gathered for their reunion from returning abroad this past year. It was interesting to listen to these young adults share their stories with us, to see their excitement – their eyes so wide and smiles so big. They had all returned from different countries, learning new cultures and languages, persevering through day to day challenges and forging lifetime friendships. They all spoke about how blessed they were and how this opportunity that Rotary has given them has forever changed their lives.

If you personally have never had the opportunity to see the Rotary Youth Exchange program up close and personal, I strongly recommend the next time the chance arises to grab it! The leaders and the committee members in District 7780 should be applauded for their efforts, their dedication to these families and their extraordinary commitment of time they give year after year to this program. I wish to personally thank Richard Derector and David Wilson for hosting this event – for allowing Dan Dolan and myself to share in it – it was a pleasure to meet the exchange students and their families, the venue was beautiful, and the experience rewarding and memorable.

-Brad Jett



Hampton Rotary WINS

– 1st Win of the Season – July 26th, 2007 Score 9 – 8

After several months of hands on service projects, assisting families young & old in need, the Hampton Rotary Club wasted little time in getting back to work in the new Rotary year. Members participated in a blood drive on July 5, 2007 of which Chair Judy Haskell was happy to report that we procured over 70 pints of blood for the American Red Cross. While the new board convened under the leadership of President Dan Dolan and new committees were formed this month, the "Rotary Wheels" softball team, made up of Rotarians, with family members and friends have been visible out in the local community enjoying much laughter, sweat and fellowship. The Club is very proud to announce that on July 26th, after two seasons of multiple injuries, aching muscles & joints & non-stop competition, we have officially won our first game!



August 5 Yankee Homecoming Parade Saluted George Cashman!

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