



# Rotary International District 7780

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**Past, Present and Future Governors of District 7780 at the Changeover Dinner.** Jeff Pelkey, District Governor Nominee, Brad Jett, District Governor Elect, Liz Cullen, District Governor and Marie Williams, Immediate Past District Governor.

## A Word From Governor Liz-

Welcome to the new Rotary year, a year that got off to a flying start. On Tuesday, June 26, over 200 guests attended the annual Changeover Dinner in Portland. At the dinner or perhaps we should say, "party" DG Marie recognized and thanked all of the presidents, AGs and committee members who worked so hard to make the 2006-2007 year a success for the clubs and for District 7780.

It was then my honor to introduce the AGs and committee members who will serve the clubs this year. Finally the moment came when Vice President Mike McGovern, in his inimitable style, swore the 2007-2008 presidents into office. They are the stars!

Thank you, Mike, Marie, PDGs, Presidents, AGs, PPs, PEs, committees and spouses for helping to celebrate the past and future years and for giving our district a great evening.

Between midnight of June 30 and 12:01am of July 1, we embarked on the new Rotary year. Titles changed, websites changed, accesses changed and the Rotary theme changed from, "Lead the Way" to "Rotary Shares". Not only do we share our time, expertise and, yes, our money, but we also share our energy, compassion and desire to put service above self to make our community and indeed, the world a better place. Above all, however, Rotarians share a true generosity of spirit. President Wilf Wilkinson writes, "Hopefully, this will be the year that you'll apply for a Matching Grant, start a new cooperative project with another service organization, or sponsor a new Rotaract or Interact club. Perhaps this will be the year to address a need you've noticed in your community or to join together with another club to meet a need in theirs...In Rotary, sharing doesn't mean giving away what you have to spare...sharing means giving of yourself, selflessly, for the good of others."

Rotary's emphases this year focus on Water, Literacy, Health and Hunger, Public Relations, The Family of Rotary, and Youth Service. The Presidential Citation is based on completing activities along the lines of these six emphases. As District Governor, I have a single goal: I would like every

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club in District 7780 to be eligible for the Presidential Citation. If we all share our ideas and enthusiasm each club can not only receive this award, but also reach a new level of service through our projects at home and all over the world.

Here's to a great year!

Liz Cullen, DG



**A GREAT DAY FOR A ROTARY GOLF TOURNAMENT**—The annual Bethel Rotary Club Golf Challenge took place June 19 at the Bethel Inn & Country Club under sunny skies. Fifteen teams and about 60 golfers participated in the event, which raises funds for programs such as a scholarship fund at Telstar High School. Golfers shown here (from left) include Larry Risko, Bethel Rotarian Dave Nivus, Mick Forbes and Andy Wheeler.



## Breakwater Daybreak Club Announces New Location

The Rotary Club of Breakwater Daybreak has some exciting news. We have a new venue. As of July 11th, we will be at the McKernan Center at SMCC for our breakfast meeting. You can expect a buffet for the cost of \$8.00. Please join us. Our new President Gary Berenson is looking forward to welcoming you. There is a magnificent view of Casco Bay.

In August, we will have a booth at the Art in the Park at Mill Creek Park in South Portland. We will be offering hamburgers, hot dogs, sausage with onions and peppers. Come and help us support our communities.

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## DGE's Corner

I have had a few weeks to sit back and reflect on my trip to the international convention in Salt Lake City and wanted to share with you some of my impressions and experiences. First of all, it was only

my second convention that I have ever attended, and for those of you who know me, realize that it's next to impossible for me not to get excited over anything to do with Rotary, so after what seemed like weeks of endless pacing and waiting, six members of the Hampton club, including myself and my wife jumped on planes and traveled across the country to join over 17 thousand Rotarians from all over the world.

After registering at the enormous convention center in downtown SLC, we proceeded down the hallway walking through crowds of Rotarians in international dress and speaking in several different languages, scanning the crowds hoping to spot some familiar smile from District 7780, only to walk into the "House of Friendship" and see our very own Mike McGovern walking towards us. It was this room that gave me the most pause – yes there were aisles and aisles of vendors selling their goods, but it was the Rotarians, just like you and me showcasing their service projects with such passion and commitment that truly can only make us all proud to be Rotarians. You could literally spend days in the "House of Friendship" and still not have the time to glean even half of the information being presented to you as an attendee.

Finally, I can't forget the fellowship – the cocktail parties, dinners and drinks, the laughs, and good conversation that we all shared - we use the word fellowship over and over to describe the fun we have together as Rotarians, but it's more than just fellowship, it's about the lasting friendships that we have made and will continue to make that truly makes us family.

Yours in Rotary service,

*Brad Jett*



### Area 8 Happenings from AG Patty Rice

The **Fryeburg Area** Club held an evening Changeover Dinner where President Pat White passed the gavel on to incoming President Dave Sorensen. They played the DVD from the World Peace Dinner and many guests were so moved by all that Rotary does, there's a good chance they'll get some new members from it. Pat thanked the club and her Board for their efforts and support, and Dave introduced his Board and told them along with the rest of the club he's expecting 100% from them this year, 99 ½ won't do! And the evening ended with a special Paul Harris Presentation to member, Diane Reo for all she does for the Fryeburg Area Rotary Club.

President Jay Spenciner from the **Bridgton-Lake Region** Club has had a very successful year, and their club received the highest membership growth of 21% in the District this year. Congratulations! Jay has passed the gavel onto incoming President Mike Daley and they're looking forward to another successful year.

The **Oxford Hills** Club roasted outgoing President Steve Galvin and had some fun with him at their changeover meeting. Incoming President Donna Martin is looking forward to doing some new things this year with the club. They also have just had a very successful auction and flea market weekend held jointly with the Norway-Paris Kiwanis Club and are busy with plans for their annual Lobster and Clambake Dinner scheduled for August 18th.

The **Bethel** Club had a casual changeover dinner for outgoing President Cynthia Moran-Laux at the Funky Red Barn in Bethel. The more formal passing of the gavel to incoming President Pat Roma happened at their regular Tuesday morning meeting. The Club has been busy with their annual golf tourney and auction and flea market, which were very successful.

The **Rumford** and **Bethel** Clubs enjoyed a joint fellowship night held at the Boiler Room in Rumford, and a fun time was had by all just enjoying fellowship among the clubs. Outgoing President of the Rumford Club, Angella Roberts has passed the gavel onto incoming President Charley Leduc and they're trying out the new venue at the Boiler Room for their weekly meetings until the end of August before making a final decision on their meeting place. They are busy planning their fundraiser golf tourney to be held on July 10th.

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## Report on the Council on Legislation

To all Rotarians in District 7780:

It was my honor and privilege to serve as your delegate to the 2007 Council on Legislation of Rotary International, which met April 22 through April 28, 2007 in Chicago. At this Council, we considered 337 pieces of proposed legislation – comprised of 167 enactments, which are proposals to amend the constitutional documents of Rotary International and 170 resolutions, which do NOT seek to amend the constitutional documents.

Of the items listed above, the members of the Council adopted 59 enactments and 38 resolutions. We referred 14 pieces of proposed legislation to the Board of Directors of Rotary International for further study. We rejected 152 proposals, and 74 proposals were withdrawn or considered withdrawn. Of the total number of proposals which were adopted, we adopted 84 exactly as they had been written, while we amended and then adopted the remaining 13 proposals.

One of the proposals which effects each of us, is Enactment 07-14:

It is enacted by Rotary International that the STANDARD ROTARY CLUB CONSTITUTION be and hereby is amended as follows (page 243 MOP)  
Article 11 Duration of Membership  
Section 4 Termination – Non-Attendance.

- Attendance Percentages . A member must

(1) attend or make up at least 50% of club regular meetings in each half of the year;

Another proposal we amended and then enacted, deals with the termination of clubs which fail to investigate an allegation that a member violated youth protection laws. The amended and approved portion reads as follows:

3.030.3 Suspension or Termination for Failure to Comply with Youth Protection Laws.

The board may suspend or terminate the membership of a club that fails to appropriately address any allegations made against one of its members in connection with Rotary-related youth programs for violation of applicable law regarding the protection of youth.

We voted to encourage clubs to welcome Rotary Foundation alumni as guests at club meetings. We adopted a resolution which reduces Matching Grant minimums from \$5,000 to \$2,500. We voted to adopt Hindi as an officially recognized language of Rotary International and to include Russian as an officially supported language of Rotary International.

Anyone wishing to obtain additional information concerning the actions of the Council on Legislation is encouraged to contact his or her club secretary, who has received the REPORT OF ACTION from the General Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

*Elias*

Elias Thomas III





## Midcoast Clubs Share Changeover at Botanical Gardens

The just-opened Maine Coastal Botanical Gardens was the setting for a club changeover ceremony and family outing late last month held jointly by the **Damariscotta-Newcastle** and **Boothbay Harbor** clubs.

Over 100 Rotarians and family members, including special guests District Governor Marie and Bruce Williams and incoming District Governor Liz Cullen, were on hand to celebrate the occasion and the gardens and enjoy a picnic supper plus Rotarian Judy Speers' signature (and delicious!) cake.

Presidents Marty Peak Helman of Boothbay Harbor and Gary Speers of Damariscotta-Newcastle concluded the formal portion of the agenda – and their years' activities -- by formally turning over their gavels to the respective new presidents, Skip Krehling and Carol Ransom.

District Governor Marie, in the last official act of her term, inducted John Platt as a new member of the Boothbay Harbor club.

Both clubs have just completed stellar years in terms of raising money and donating it back to their communities and to international projects, and partly as a result, both have seen an overall increase in their membership. The good feelings and sense of a "job well done" was evident on the faces of all Rotarians and guests at the Gardens.

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## Bits and Pieces, AKA District Memoranda

Please Save the Date:

### **District Membership Seminar**

Saturday Morning, September 15, 2007  
York County Community College, Wells, Maine

- Please use our District Website! Webmaster Trisha Hunter PDG is constantly updating our site. For example, there is a

- § Calendar Page for posting and finding out about club and district events
- § Club Fundraisers Page for advertising your upcoming events
- § World Community Service Page for showcasing and finding partners for projects
- § Speakers' Bureau Page for new and interesting programs
- § Officers and Chairs Page where you find out whom to contact for information on Water, Health & Hunger, Literacy, Public Relations, The Family of Rotary, Youth Services, Polio Plus, The Foundation, grants of all kinds, contributions of all sizes, etc.
- § Page for all you want to know about the district and much, much more. Please take advantage of our website at:

**[www.rotary7780.org](http://www.rotary7780.org)**

Please watch the website for registration forms for our **District Conference**. It will be at The Grand Hotel in North Conway on May 2-4, 2008.

The names of the first fifty people to register will be entered into a drawing to win a free room for the two nights of the conference. The information will be up soon!

Liz DG

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Thanks, Marie & Bruce

At the District Changeover Dinner, on behalf of the 41 Clubs and 8 AG's, AG Patty Rice read the following poem she wrote to honor Bruce and Marie Williams for their leadership this past year. Marie was presented with her own personalized W.A. Mitchell Rotary Chair and Bruce was presented his own gift card to Kittery Trading Post.

Bruce and Marie, just how do we say,  
Thank you so much, for Leading the Way.  
When President Bill Boyd made his choice,  
He knew he'd be proud with you as his voice.

Forty One Clubs to visit, So much to do,  
Packup the suitcases, We've got traveling to do.

Many fundraisers and socials, the events never ended,  
Governor Marie's daily schedule, kept her busy as intended.  
Presentations galore, speeches made were from the heart,  
Literacy, hunger and clean water found their part.

Emails would circulate, or so it would seem,  
From Presidents to AG's, Marie made us a team.  
Including Liz, Brad & Jeff, to keep them in the loop,  
As our Governor she did well, by sharing all the scoop.

The website and newsletter have come a long way,  
Club projects, community service, it's easy to say,  
Just send it on in, and don't be afraid,  
The Editor and Webmaster will come to your aid.

Marie on her computer, from dawn until dark,  
Encouraging Clubs to find a new spark,  
So many new projects, to fund and to grow,  
Awards and recognition our clubs have to show.

Lots of meetings to attend, theme outfits to wear,  
All the laughter, the fellowship, what fun we did share.  
We've made memories and friendships that have created a bond,  
Now our Rotary Family extends throughout the District and beyond.

What a great Rotary year it certainly has been,  
You've both made us proud, as it comes to an end.  
Bruce and Marie, we'd all like to say,  
Thank you so much, for Leading the Way!

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It's been a long ride,  
You've done it with pride,  
Have a seat, take a rest,  
Marie you're the Best!

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#### **To the Rotarians of District 7780:**

You are all wonderful people and do so much to make the world a better place in which to live. You give unselfishly of your time, energy and money. I truly believe we have the best district in the world! Thank you for all you did during the 2006-2007 Rotary Year.

I want to thank you all for the wonderful tribute you paid to Bruce and I at the District Changeover Dinner on June 26th. I love my Mitchell Rocking Chair and Bruce is appreciative of his Kittery Trading Post gift certificate. AG Patty Rice missed her calling; she should have been a poet! You did all the work; we just cheered you on and had a lot of FUN doing it!

Thanks to the 2006-07 Team for "Leading the Way" now it is time to show the world that "Rotary Shares"! Congratulations DG Liz and the 2007-2008 TEAM! Here is to another GREAT year in District 7780!

Happy to be a PDG - Marie



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