



# ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2008

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## GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

Dear 7780 Rotarians,

Thank you for an exciting, informative, fun and event-filled month of July. As of the end of the month, Penny & I have completed ten of our official visits, including the clubs of Newburyport, Sebago Lake, Wells, Kittery, Brunswick, York, Brunswick Coastal, Topsham Expresso, Ogunquit and Kennebunk. We have met so many energetic, friendly, passionate and focused Rotarians. Aside from the official visits, we have enjoyed great fellowship with the South Berwick-Eliot Club, had a wonderful lobster feast with members of the Westbrook-Gorham club, enjoyed dinner with the Rochester club at their annual golf tournament and the Durham-Great Bay club even had Penny and PDG Liz working the children's booths (and loving it) at their 4<sup>th</sup> of July fundraiser. We have attended board meetings, dinners, socials, a boat ride and a tour of Sebago Lake and another through Casco Bay. We have enjoyed all of your club meetings, seeing your club style and sharing in your traditions, seeing your enthusiasm, learning about your fundraisers and club projects here and abroad. You have been warm and welcoming to us and at the end of the day, you have all given us a very precious gift – an opportunity to see up close how wonderful and needed each and every one of our clubs are in this district. We look forward to the month ahead as we visit another seventeen clubs over the next four weeks.

Yours in Rotary service,

**DG Brad**

## BRIDGTON - LAKE REGION



**Past President Mike Daley and President Sheila Rollins congratulate the 1st place winner, Andrew Shiman, who won \$500!**



**Rotary members sell "duck" paraphernalia; always popular the day of the race.**

Our next fundraiser will be a Wine Tasting/Sunset Cruise on The Songo Queen in Naples on August 23rd. The cruise begins at 7 p.m. followed by a wine tasting at 8 p.m. \$30 includes the cruise, six tastings, plenty of hors d'oeuvres, live music by The Blue Willow Band and the opportunity to purchase cases of your favorite wine. This is sure to be an annual favorite.

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## BETH'EL



**THE ACCOUNTANTS**—Bethel Rotarians Ellie Andrews (left) and Rene McGrew count some of the yard sale earnings from the June 28 Bethel Rotary Club Yard Sale and Auction, held at Telstar High School. The event is one of the club's largest fundraisers of the year.



**Several members of the Bethel Rotary Club were among the volunteers helping to spruce up the building and grounds at Telstar Regional High School recently in preparation for the new school year. Here, Rotarian Joe Arizzi does some repair work on benches.**

## KITTERY

On July 13<sup>th</sup> the Kittery Rotary Club joined with many other civic, town, and business organizations to host a joint Town Of Kittery/USS Greenville Picnic at Fort Foster Park. The Town of Kittery is the Host Community for the Hawaii based submarine's crew and their families during the ongoing overhaul at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. The crew and their families have been volunteering in the community during their stay. Tammy Dorrbecker, wife of Commanding Officer Alan Dorrbecker, was made an honorary member of the Rotary Club of Kittery for 2007-2009 in recognition of the spirit of volunteerism she and her family have demonstrated in the community during their stay.

**Kittery Rotarians Dave Gooch, Lezlye Shea, Bill Cutts, and Dave Avery along with member Greg Rydza (not shown) set up, served and cleaned up during a beautiful community day at the town's Fort Foster Park.**



**Club Member Bill Cutts and his wife Myra enjoy a break with Kittery Honorary Rotarian Tammy Dorrbecker, wife of the commanding Officer of the USS Greenville. Robert's Maine Grill, meeting location of the Rotary Club of Kittery, donated the delicious chowder Bill & Myra are enjoying.**

# Travels With the Governor

**District Governor Brad Jett and First Lady Penny are in the process of making their official visits to all of the clubs in District 7780. Here are pictures of the variety of experiences that have greeted them at some of the clubs they've visited so far.**



**President Deb McPhail provides the Governor & First Lady with a tour of Sebago Lake. Shown are First Lady Penny Jett, President Deb, Past President & Skipper Nicole Lajoie and Rotarian and First Mate Don Drew. Obviously the Governor was taking the picture.**



**The Singing Choir of the Wells Club honors the Governor on his official visit with a beautiful rendition of a patriotic song.**

**President Mark Costa of the Brunswick Coastal Club, DG Brad Jett and AG Sean Joyce take a minute to pose for a shot after the Governor's Official Visit.**



## *HAMPTON*



The **Hampton Rotary Club** is an extremely active group! In the last month, we have been involved in staffing a very successful Red Cross Blood Drive, donating to a group of local volunteers who are keeping a seaside park beautifully landscaped for our residents and our summer visitors, and finishing our softball year with a record of 1 win, 6 losses, and a whole lot of fun memories! We are looking forward to a very busy month of September, when we will hold three major fundraisers.



## Durham-Great Bay Celebrates July 4th

The Rotary Club of Durham-Great Bay produced the annual July 4th fireworks celebration at Cowell Stadium at the University of New Hampshire in Durham.



The Club has sponsored this event for a number of years, each year growing in scope. For many families, this event not only is a celebration of our country's founding and a way to honor those who have served and are serving in our Armed Services, but it also marks the beginning of summer. Many thanks to the University of New Hampshire and the Town of Durham, for their generosity in providing facilities and services.



*Past District Governor Liz Cullen and Penny Jett, wife of District Governor Brad Jett, working the tattoos at the children's events.*



This year's celebration included carnival-type food vendors, music and raffles, and a children's tent featuring paint-on tattoos and watercolor projects. The Newmarket Militia provided an honor guard and cannon salute to kick off the fireworks display. Over 8,000 attended a beautiful evening. Thanks to the generous donations of numerous corporate and private sponsors, gate donations, vendor contributions and the sale of glo-sticks, this Durham-Great Bay signature event raised over \$25,000 for scholarships and other local and international projects.

Many thanks also to District Governor Brad Jett and wife Penny, as well as PDG Liz Cullen, for manning the children's tent and selling raffle tickets.

A special story unfolded from the sale of a raffle ticket. A soldier returning from Iraq who had wanted to buy a kayak, instead, spent his money replacing his broken computer. He bought a raffle ticket and won the kayak.

What a great way to kick off a new Rotary year!



*The Newmarket Militia Honor Guard*

## DOVER

The **Rotary Club of Dover** recently completed a tyke track at a day care facility located in the renovated McConnell Center in downtown Dover. Some of the funding for this project was a result of the club receiving a District Simplified Grant. This photo is looking down on the track from the McConnell Center.



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## OGUNQUIT

**Ogunquit** Rotarian Dr. Lawrence 'Joe' Boyle, a resident of Biddeford who practices dentistry in Wells, was the recipient of the Sentiment Award, which was presented by local state legislators.

The document recognizes Joe's continuing work on the La Romana Clean Water Project in the Dominican Republic and on the International Student Exchange, for initiating a local hearing aid project, and for adopting members of a growing family from Scandinavia.



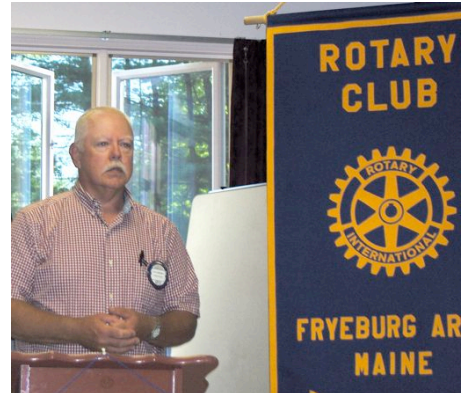
Following the presentation ceremonies Joe Boyle poses with presenters (left to right): State Representative Kathy Chase of Wells, Joe Boyle, State Representative Dawn Hill of Ogunquit and State Senator Richard Nass of Acton.

## *Oxford Hills*

The **Oxford Hills Rotary Club** worked together with the **Norway-Paris Kiwanis Club** to hold their annual auction and flea market on the weekend of July 11th and 12th. This is the largest fundraiser of the year for both clubs. It takes a lot of planning and a lot of work, but is well worth it.



## *FRYEBURG*



**Fryeburg Rotary Club** member Stan Gemborys is instrumental in procuring the dictionaries the club gives to 6th graders every fall. Recently, he gave a classification talk which gave members a chance to learn about his life as an international ecologist, and his travels around the globe, teaching students in such areas as Turkey, Bermuda, Mexico, the Bahamas, and many others.

## *PORTSMOUTH*

The Portsmouth Rotary Club was recently commended for its response to a community in need and its great organization of the tremendously successful Food For Hunger Drive held in partnership with Portsmouth Regional Hospital. The collection netted over 1.5 tons of food and \$500 in cash.



## KENNEBUNK PORTSIDE

**Kennebunk Portside Rotary** held their President's Dinner on Monday, June 23 at the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust headquarters in Kennebunkport. President Sandy Bisson recognized members for their contribution and support to the numerous activities and events sponsored by Rotary.

Charter members Wayne Manchester and Don Curry received pins for recognition of their 17 years of perfect attendance in Rotary.



Incoming President, Peggy Belanger with her new gavel ready to lead Kennebunk Portside Rotary into another successful year of fellowship, commitment, purpose and fun.



Each year, the outgoing club President selects a club member who represents the ideals of service above self, one of the most important examples of a Rotarian, to receive a Paul Harris Fellowship Award. Karen Schlegel was selected by President Sandy Bisson to be this year's recipient of the club award.



## RUMFORD

The **Rumford Rotary Club** Supports Two Interact Clubs! One is at Mountain Valley High School in Rumford, and one is at Dirigo High School in nearby Dixfield. Each year, the club hosts the Top Ten students from each school. The picture below shows some of this year's honorees (not all were able to attend).



## DAMARISCOTTA - NEWCASTLE

Rotary Service is all about the membership! The **Rotary Club of Damariscotta-Newcastle** recently held a Fireside Chat with three prospective members who bring strong business, coalition building and leadership skills to the table. Marianne Pinkham is Director of the Senior Spectrum coalition on aging, John Heller is an agent for Farm Family Insurance and a Damariscotta Selectman, and Ed Stelzer is recently retired from The U.S. Navy as Chief Engineer and Head of Engineering of the Navy contingent at Bath Iron Works. Each has an amazing background of talent and experience and is ready to jump right into our "Making Dreams Real" year! Club Membership committee member and Vice-President Judy Speers, Past President Gary Speers and Assistant District Governor Wilt Jones brought them up to speed on Rotary expectations and opportunities.

John Heller, Ed Stelzer, Wilt Jones (background), Judy Speers and Marianne Pinkham (foreground) participate in a lively Damariscotta- Newcastle Fireside Chat.



## Travels With the Governor (cont.)

More pictures from DG Brad's visits to clubs in District 7780.



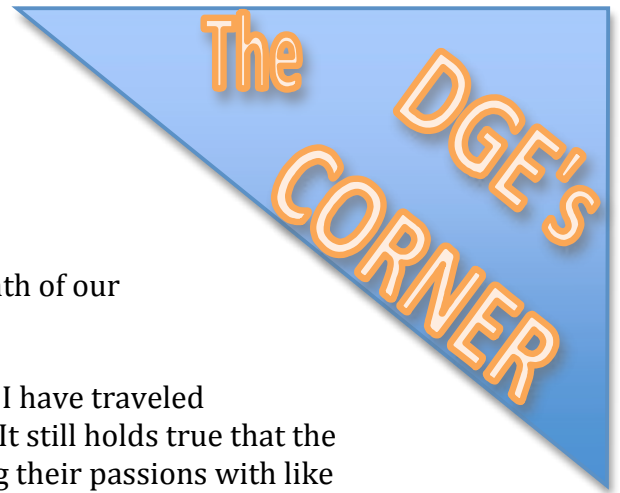
**What a wonderful gift President Dave Millar gave to DG Brad – he piloted his boat to one of his favorite spots and showed off a pair of Bald Eagles that weren't far from their nest.**



**Skipper and President Dave Millar of the Brunswick Club, AG Sean Joyce and First Lady Penny enjoying a cruise through Casco Bay minutes before a torrential rainstorm.**



**Members of the Rumford Club gather at the lakeside home of PDG Tim and Gladys to share great fellowship and food the evening prior to the Governor's official visit. PDG George Rice and AG Patty were also in attendance.**



Greetings fellow District 7780 Rotarians and friends.

It's hard to believe that we are already entering the second month of our new Rotary year together.

I have been blessed to share club meetings with many of you as I have traveled throughout our wonderful district in preparation for next year. It still holds true that the best speakers I have heard as I visit are fellow Rotarians sharing their passions with like minded folks who share the same vision. We often share our meeting time with other wonderful organizations, community programs and local business folks, helping to further the mission of their organization, or offering them funds in support of their programs.

As you consider programming this year, I challenge you to ask yourselves if you are giving Rotary education the time it deserves at the table, or are we stretching club and member resources in support of other, albeit worthwhile, organizations.

District Governor Brad has added some wonderful areas to our District web site, including adding some knowledgeable and willing speakers to the speaker's bureau. Are there some speakers on the list who may offer your club some added Rotary education or programming ideas for your club meetings or do you have someone you may add to the list in support of other clubs?

As many of you know, a focus of mine is family involvement in our club and district activities. As I have shared time with many of you, you have given me some great ideas for future involvement of our families in Rotary activities. Please continue to share these ideas as we spend time together, or always feel free to drop me an email <pelkeyfuneral@aol.com> with any suggestions on how we can continue to make our organization welcoming and friendly to members and their families. The future success of Rotary depends on members and the support their families bring with them.

Rotary International president DK Lee has challenged us through District Governor Brad to meet the Gates Foundation Challenge to eradicate Polio and to Make Dreams Real. Let us, through our support, show Governor Brad we are up to the challenge and will continue to be a world leader for positive change!

Yours Truly in Rotary Service and Peace

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeff".

Jeffrey S. Pelkey DGE

# Still more Travels With the Governor



**AG Sean Joyce, First Lady Penny, Governor Brad and President Joel Merry of the Topsham Expresso Club take a few minutes to pose for the camera after the Governor's official visit.**

**DG Brad, Former First Lady Gladys and PDG Tim take a minute to pose for a camera shot, minutes after the official visit to Rumford.**



**DG Brad and President Sarah MacGillivray from the Fryeburg Area Rotary Club present Rotarian Bob Mallon with a Paul Harris Fellow – very much deserved – his list of accomplishments and service to his club was almost as long as Governor Brad's speech.**



## *BREAKWATER DAYBREAK and SOUTH PORTLAND - CAPE ELIZABETH*

The **Breakwater Daybreak** and **South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary Clubs** presented a check for \$15,000 to Southern Maine Community College (SMCC) for scholarships to be awarded to international and multi-cultural students attending their second year at SMCC.

The 1<sup>st</sup> International Food Festival in 2005 had raised \$6,700. Community recognition, the international theme, a silent auction, and ad and ticket sales contributed greatly to the increase in funds to \$15,000 at this year's 4<sup>th</sup> IFF, which was held this past April.

Both students and adults prepared dishes representing various ethnic regions for a recipe contest held during the festival to highlight diverse cultural flavors.



Photo (clockwise, from lower right): Jim Price, Pres. BD Rotary, Dr. James Ortiz, President, SMCC, Kathy Cotter, Chair, SP-CE Rotary, Dr. Janet Sorter, VP, SMCC, Gary Berenson, Debra Andrews, Mary Friesel, Jack Roberts, Alan Mills, Bartley Cardon, Will Beriau, Katie Clark, Ilse Yanis, Wayne Goodrich, Diane Vickory, Ted Richards, Tony Wagner.



Photo (l to r): Dr. James Ortiz, President, Southern Maine Community College; Tony Wagner, Past President, Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth; Chef Wil Beriau, Culinary Dept., Southern Maine Community College; Gary Berenson, Past President, Rotary Club of Breakwater Daybreak.

**The Rotary Clubs of Breakwater Daybreak and South Portland - Cape Elizabeth** presented the Paul Harris Foundation award to Chef Wil Beriau. Chef Beriau and culinary and international students were instrumental in the success of the 4<sup>th</sup> International Food Festival which was held at Southern Maine Community College in April.

Chef Beriau was recently named National Chef Educator of the Year by the American Culinary Federation. We congratulate Chef Beriau on both awards.

## KENNEBUNK



Kennebunk Rotary Club held their 59th Annual Chicken BBQ at Kennebunk High School on July 24th. As you can see, the tornado-type weather did not deter our infamous "Chicken Man" who hauled cars into the Kennebunk "Happening" throughout the event. A great time and good fellowship was had by all!

## ROCHESTER



Eastern Propane was the winning team in the Rochester Rotary's 18th annual Pro-Am Golf Tournament held on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Members are Pro Brad Sweet, Cider Berry, Steve Bisaillon, Meghan Clement, and Chuck Clement. A great time was had by all. Net profit exceeded \$15,000. The winners were honored to have DG Brad and Penny join them for dinner after the event.

## Keeping It In the (Rotary) Family



District Governor Brad assists President Sue Czarnionka in the re-induction of his sister-in-law Joyce Verville into the Rotary Club of Kittery on July 15. Joyce had been a past member of the club, but her schedule required her to step down several years ago. Throughout her absence, Joyce continued to be a strong supporter of the Kittery Club through advertising, donations, and fundraising sales at her business. The Club was honored to be able to re-induct Joyce with her sister Penny Jett and District Governor Brad present. Club President Sue presents Joyce with her original Rotary Name Badge, which the club had saved for just this occasion.

# Some Final Thoughts on Membership

## **RETAINING NEW MEMBERS**

This is Membership Month! What is your club doing to broaden your membership? While membership acquisition and retention should be a year-long effort, August is a great time to up the energy. Club picnics, golf challenges, and fishing derbies are all great opportunities to invite non-Rotarians and get them to know more about Rotary.

Younger members. You say you want them, but are you thinking about what they want? Do you have activities in which they can feel comfortable involving small children? Do you make the family members comfortable and welcome whether there are 2 or 20? Does your meeting feel like the Rotary of the 1940's, or does it reflect the pace and times of the current generation? If you get a younger member in do you make them feel like the token "kid" or do they see you actively recruiting and involving their peers? Younger people are less likely to accept a slow pace. They are looking to get involved quickly and see that they are making an impact quickly. Is your club ready for new projects and challenges?

Okay, let's say you have a new member. You have clearly explained to her or him ahead of time what Rotary is about, you got them excited to be a part of Rotary, and you have inducted them formally so they do know that membership has meaning. Now you must find something they can do in an area they are interested in and ask them specifically to do it. With involvement comes ownership. That is when you change "you" to "us" in their outlook. Taking the new member from being just a spectator to being a real team member as quickly as possible is a key to retention. Don't dump on them, but do involve them.

Another key to retention is to know your members. If their work life undergoes a significant change, if a family member suddenly requires extra attention, be ready to lift some of the load and gently cut them some slack. Do not force them to get the extra time they need by leaving Rotary. Show them that their fellow Rotarians are there, perhaps carrying on a project they care about but can not give the same time to until their world gets readjusted. If they suddenly stop coming do not send "show up or leave" notes. Call them to express concern. Let them know that if they really cannot attend for a while the club will be looking for them when they can come back and then check in from time to time.

Yours in Rotary,

*Dave*

Dave Gooch  
District Membership Chair