



Rotary International District 7780

[Archive](#)

Dec 6, 2009

[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

[Chair Message](#)
[Committee](#)
[Membership Tools](#)



District Governor's Newsletter December 2009



Whether we are perusing the Sunday paper, and trying to find the news in amongst the four pounds of print ads, flipping thru the seven hundred channels on our cable TV, and watching all the infomercials, we are reassured by the likes of the late Billy Mayes and his fast talking quick sell cohorts, that everything in our lives has become easier, no more buying paper towels! Just purchase the new shamwatsamadingit, it picks up gallons of liquid, of course they don't explain what you do with it when it gets dirty? Do you have to wash your paper towels when they get dirty? Easier, hmm I don't know.

My many tech savvy friends assure me that email is far easier than that old hand written note clogging the mailbox. I'm not sure about that either, a slice of paper, ink pen and stamp, seems easy to me, email faster yes, easier I'm not sure yet.

I really miss full service gasoline. Nothing better than turning the key off and enjoying a few quite minutes of in car music and heat and leaving reassured your gas tank was topped off, tires appropriately inflated, windshield squeaky clean and oil topped off if you need it, all while warm and dry. Are things easier now at the gas pumps, not for me.

How has Rotary made it easier to be a Rotarian, well for sure many ways. Can we always make our weekly meetings? Not for me, well fortunately attending one of the many club activities, a board meeting, club social, club community service project or just sitting back in my recliner with my fuzzy slippers and warm jammies, lap top and time to take in an online meeting make up on the web does the trick, 100% attendance easy to do. My favorite meeting is still being with my club or visiting a nearby club, but it's nice to have made attendance easier- truly.

My Rotary giving is easier- no more writing checks, filling out credit card forms, taking cash to the bank to deposit and write a club check, now I can go online and make an easy

Resources

Health & Hunger
Public Relations
Water

Youth Programs

Interact
RYLA
Youth Exchange

Service Above Self
Forms & Documents
RI Links/Contacts

Contact Us

donation, my EREY (Every Rotarian Every Year) donation can be automatically deducted from my card or account, wow all the ways to make giving easier. Oh we can still write a check or accept cash, but easier for those who choose.

Polio giving has never been easier, sure all the ways above can get us there but now we can even just text a message to make a \$5.00 US donation, just text POLIO to 90999, easy as that!

As easy as it has become to do the job we do all over the world as Rotarians, there is still so much work for us to do with boots on the ground and hands in the muck. Our being a Rotarian can be made easier in some ways, but the work we are doing has never been more important or more needed that it is today. So lets celebrate the ease of membership and rededicate ourselves to the hard work we do around the world to make life better for us all.

Peace- Gov. Jeffrey

Follow this link to a great article from Elias on Rotary and the Polio Campaign

<http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20091224/GJCOMMUNITY03/712239710/-1/SANNEWS>

Administration Login

Elias Thomas III
Rotary International ~ District 7780
District Governor 2000-2001
Zone 32 Coordinator ~ \$200 Million Challenge

Ledgewold
Acton, Maine 04001-0007 U.S.A.

Home: 207-636-1246
Office: 207-636-2222 (ext. 102)
FAX: 207-636-2223
Mobile: 207-432-2222

Email: ethomas@metrocast.net
Email: eliasthomasiii@hotmail.com
WEBSITE: www.eliasthomas.com

There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer... that is why I belong to Rotary.

Governance

Dear District 7780 Rotarians;

As District Governor one of my most important duties is to help ensure that our District is well cared for in future years.

Please help by seeking those Rotarians in your club that would be willing and otherwise meet the qualifications of District Governor for the Rotary year 2012-2013 and for District Budget and Finance Committee serving Rotary years 2010-2013, from Area A, which includes the clubs listed below.

See below part 303.3 relating to nomination of District Governor taken from our District bylaws, the complete section may be viewed by visiting our district website @ www.rotary7780.org/Bylaws.cfm.

303.3 Duties.

On or before January 15th, the president of any district club wishing to place the name of one of its members in nomination for District Governor or other district office requiring presentation to the Nominating Committee (or propose a member of another district club with the latter club's concurrence) shall file with the District Governor a resolution of the club, adopted at a regular club meeting. In the case of nominees for District Governor, the resolution shall certify that the candidate meets the qualifications for District Governor as provided in the current Rotary International Manual of Procedure, and include a picture of the candidate together with a biographical sketch of the candidate's personal and Rotary background. All district clubs should refer to the current Rotary International Manual of Procedure

regarding the promotion of a candidate and should nominate the best-qualified candidate.

Budget and Finance Committee- 2 new members are needed-

From Clubs in Area "A" 1 member for three years- (Dover, Durham Great Bay, Exeter, Hampton, Newburyport, Portsmouth, Seacoast, Rochester, Somersworth-Berwick)

NEW OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE

From Clubs in Area "C" 1 member for two years beginning 1 July 2010-(Bath, Bath Sunrise, Boothbay Harbor, Breakwater Daybreak, Bridgton-Lake Region, Brunswick, Brunswick Coastal, Casco Bay Sunrise, Damariscotta- Newcastle, Falmouth, Freeport, Portland, Scarborough, Sebago Lake, South Portland-Cape Elizabeth, Topsham Espresso, Westbrook- Gorham, Yarmouth.)

The process for nomination of a member to the District Budget and Finance Committee mirrors that of the nomination process for District Governor (I.E .Club Resolution) and will follow the same time schedule for submission.

The above nomination must be received by me either in hand or by mail on or before Friday January 8, 2010 at the close of business 5 pm EST. Please mail or deliver the packet to me at the below address.

Governor Jeffrey S. Pelkey
125 Old Post Road.
Kittery, Maine 03904.

The Rotary manual of procedure (MOP), referred to in the above bylaw section may be found by visiting the Rotary website at www.Rotary.org.

District leadership is all of our responsibility. We have a cadre of outstanding current and past leaders in this District that are always willing and available to help. Please do your part to help this continue.

Yours Truly in Rotary Service and Peace;
DG. Jeff

President Howard N. Seckendorf



**The Rotary Club of Rochester is mourning the loss of its President and a man who epitomized Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self."
Rest in Peace, Howard N. Seckendorf
March 25, 1958 - November 28, 2009**

**At the request of the family:
Memorial Contributions may be made to Rochester Rotary Charities,
P.O. Box 779, Rochester, NH 03866-0779**



At s very somber meeting on December 7th, IPP Gerry Bisallon gets sworn in by AG Dave Dubois as the Club President for the remaonder of the year to replace President Howard. He vowed to continue with Howard's goals.

District Rotary Foundation Seminars

Two Foundation Seminars were held during November, Rotary Foundation Month. Your editor was lucky enough to travel to the Seminar in Bath on November 19 with DG Jeff who has some special equipment that made the trip a breeze.



Traveling with us were District Foundation Chair PDG Liz Cullen, District GSE Chair Grace Connolly, and District Polio Chair, PDG Elias Thomas. We all enjoyed the ride up and back chauffeured in Jeff's stretch limousine, this was a break for the intrepid Elias who had to get up at 3 AM the next morning so he could be a speaker again in Philadelphia that day.



The Bath Club turned out a great crowd
The editor thanks Guy Saucier of the Bath Rotary Club for the use of his pictures



RI President John Kenny says "Come to Montreal"

The event was hosted at the meeting place of the Rotary Club of Bath in the Holiday Inn. The Bath Club had a wonderful turnout and we noted that most of the attendees came almost an hour early to socialize. A delicious buffet was provided, followed by very information packed hour and a half. DG Jeff kicked the event off with some video thoughts from Rotoracts, and an invitation to the Montreal byRI Conference by RI President John Kenny.



PDG Liz led the Seminar



PDGx2 Marie encouraged support of the Annual Fund

Foundation Chair PDG Liz facilitated the gathering as PP Grace Connolly told us about the planned GSE trips, District Annual Fund Chair PDGx2 Marie provided a great picture of what our contributions have done and can do.



PP Marty "Call Me!" She can help clubs through the application process



PDG Elias had clubs discuss innovative ways to raise Polio Eradication funds

PP Marty Peak Helman encouraged everyone to get their grant applications in early. PDG Elias got Clubs to talk about the unique ways they are finding to raise funds to match the Gates Foundation grant to eradicate polio, and Liz gave a thumbnail breakdown on how the RI Foundation works and the importance of the annual fund drive.



PDG Elias was full of energy as usual ~ and in a few hours he would be off to speak in Philadelphia



DG Jeff encouraging Clubs to utilize District resources

There's Still Time To Apply for a Rotary Foundation Matching Grant

A total of 12 District 7780 clubs are involved in five Rotary Foundation Matching Grants newly approved this year, and the total value of these

grants is almost \$175,000. Good for us!

The bad news: The funds for Matching Grants have run out at the Rotary Foundation for this fiscal year.

The good news: It IS still possible to apply for a Matching Grant this fiscal year, even without Foundation funds. Gov. Jeff has pledged that the District will continue to match District 7780 club contributions for Matching Grants dollar-for-dollar up to \$5000. (Meaning: If your club and other D-7780 clubs pledge up to \$5000 toward a grant, the District will match that pledge.)

To learn more about the options or how to apply, email Marty Helman, grants coordinator: MartyRotary@gmail.com or grants@WalterFoundation.org.

Annual Giving Program Update

The Foundation Road show was a huge success! We had great numbers in Bath and Oxford Hills! Thank you all for attending – it was good to see familiar faces and a lot of new ones as well! A lot of good information was passed on from many of the District Foundation Committee Members to the attendees. I am available to speak to your club about annual giving and the Rotary Foundation just like any of the other members of the District Foundation Committee, just give us a call.

There are some changes to the Annual Giving Program that I would like to bring to everyone's attention. Club Foundation Chairs – your Club President or Club Secretary can set you up to access reports on the RI Website. If they can't figure out how to do it, let me know and I will assist them. You can now access the Club Recognition Report on your own – HOORAY!!

As of July 1, 2009, you can transfer extra recognition points you may have and are not using to another Rotarian or non-Rotarian but they have to be at least 100 points, nothing smaller. Also as of July 1, 2009, deceased members excess recognition points can no longer be accessed by the club president. Once a Rotarian dies their recognition points disappear and they can no longer be used to make someone in your club a Paul Harris Fellow.

You still have time to make a donation to Our Rotary Foundation to get the tax benefit on your taxes. Make sure your donation is postmarked before December 31, 2009. All donations are welcome – no donation is too small!! Every dollar you donate is spent in its entirety to help someone have a better life somewhere in the world. What better way to celebrate this wonderful holiday season than to make someone's life just a little better.

Remember *"The Future of Rotary (and the world) is in Your Hands"*!

Happy Holidays to all of you and your families.

Marie Williams
Annual Giving Chair 2009-10



Share Rotary! Invite a Friend!

Concert to End Polio



My decision to attend the Concert to End Polio featuring Itzhak Perlman was an easy decision to make. Here was a famous person willing to share his passion, his talent and his courage with the world in an attempt to raise funds to support Rotary International's Polio Plus program. More importantly for me, was the connection that he was a fellow polio survivor who has not allowed his disability to interfere with following his passion. And for all of you music lovers, that does not mean I do not appreciate the talent and skill this man has with a violin because I most certainly do.

And so began my planning and preparation for my journey to New York City. I have to admit that the one main concern on my mind was my shoes. Guess that is part of being a woman. Having recently had major reconstructive surgery on my left polio foot, the only pair of shoes I owned that now fit my "new foot" was a pair of black and gray sneakers. I was still in the process of adjusting to orthotics and back to a lift/no lift on my right shoe and had not been able to purchase shoes suitable for dressing up. Who attends Lincoln Center and the Philharmonic Symphony in sneakers? Who? I do. Was I going to miss the opportunity of a lifetime to meet Itzhak Perlman just because I was in sneakers? No, I was not. So off I went.

Center section, seven rows back and anticipation growing. Suddenly movement to the left of the stage, 1st violinist carrying Mr. Perlman's violin and bow. Behind her, crutches and swinging braces bearing determined legs moved forward. And there he was, bigger than life, beaming smile, standing proud right in front of me. The audience immediately embraced him, on their feet with roars of applause. Only a few of us there could truly appreciate the effort it had taken for him to walk on that stage and step up on the platform to his seat. Courage. Tears in my eyes, I knew this was where I should be.

With the first note, Perlman soon had all entranced. The music moving each of us to a secret place within our own world.

And with the final notes floating softly to the sky, the audience graciously thanking Mr. Perlman, it was over. I was one of the privileged few able to meet this great man at the reception following. As I walked up and shook his hand I thanked him for his efforts. And stepping aside to let others through, I looked down on my sneakers and thought how beautiful. They had delivered me to a

magical evening I will not soon forget. Thank you and God bless, Mr. Perlman. Together we will End Polio Now!

Ann Lee Hussey

Chair, Polio Survivors and Associates Rotary Action Group

Reach Out to Africa, Functional Coordinator for Health Initiatives

Zone 32 Coordinator Health and Hunger 2009-2010

District 7780 Governor, 2010-2011

Rotary Club of Casco Bay Sunrise

"Hope lies in dreams, in imagination and in the courage of those who dare to make dreams into reality." Jonas Salk

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Participate

Expand your Horizons.....

This is a call to Service and a call to Action. Please consider involving yourself with volunteer work for the District for Rotary year 2010-2011.

a

Here is your opportunity to take part in District initiatives, harness your skills and leverage your passion. Help us build leadership capacity. Share your skills and talents. Get involved in a way that is both meaningful and practical. Discover the personal benefits of service supporting our organization as we build on yesterday to make a stronger tomorrow.



We are looking for committed individuals willing to follow through on their volunteer commitment. If you have an interest in being part of any of the following District activities and programs, please contact District Governor Elect Ann Lee Hussey at: annlee001@yahoo.com.

- Public Relations
- Polio Plus Subcommittee
- TRF Annual Giving Subcommittee
- Vocational Service
- 2011 District Conference
- Youth Services
- Health and Hunger Resources
- Membership and Extension
- World Community Service
- Water Resources
- Community Service
- Rotary Friendship Exchange
- Rotarian Action Groups and Fellowships

- RI Convention Promotion for New Orleans

Please realize we cannot accommodate all requests but we will certainly try our best to keep you involved.

Please send your name and contact information, your area of interest and any professional involvement to support your interest.

Many thanks,
DGE Ann Lee Hussey
annlee001@yahoo.com

Club News



The **Bethel Rotary Club** celebrated its 35th anniversary at a dinner held Oct. 30 at the Bethel Inn. Rotarians from several other district clubs joined Bethel in observing the event. The Bethel club was chartered June 24, 1974.



Rotarians (from left): Rick Whitney, Rene McGrew and Bruce Powell serve up breakfast at the **Bethel Rotary Club's** Fall Country Breakfast fundraiser Nov. 29. The event, held at Gould Academy, raises money for the club's community projects.

A week before Black Friday and several families are finding extra money in their pockets to shop. On Friday, November 20th, the **Biddeford-Saco Rotary Club** held its annual "\$100 Raffle" drawing live during a festive event at the new Saco Transportation Center and awarded \$11,000 in cash prizes from the proceeds collected.

The \$500 winners included: Bill Nason; Tina and Keith Gosselin; Thomas Katon, Deb Nedeau, Justin Lord and Ron Bergeron; Frank DeFrancesco; Deb and Kim Girard; and Denis Elie. The \$1,000 winners included: Michael Dion, Don Mondor, Roger LaBranche and Roger Dion; Kevin Savage; and Richard Flurant, Linda Guay, Jordin Lakin and Chuck Boisvert. The grand prize winner of \$5,000 was Bob and Michelle Bouthot.



Earl and Carl Goodwin at work

“Once again, this popular fundraiser of thirty-two years was a real success netting \$14,000 for our ongoing charitable giving program,” stated President Steve Morin. “The drawing celebration yielded a great turnout with community members enjoying the refreshments, location and music which led up to the announcement of winners. It was truly a fun evening and we appreciate the support of everyone who purchased tickets.”

The proceeds will benefit the many community projects supported by the Biddeford-Saco Rotary Club, including: Dictionaries for local 3rd Graders; Essay Contest for local Middle School students; Christmas gifts and food for families; and countless charitable contributions to those in need.

Rotary Club of Boothbay Harbor Honors Local Veterans



It was only four years ago that we first started our now-annual Veterans' Recognition Dinner, which has already grown too large to fit into the Clubhouse. This Veterans Day, almost 100 local veterans, active duty personnel, Gold Star honorees and wives came out for this event. We thanked them for their service. They, in turn, thanked us for remembering their sacrifice.

 The **Rotary Club of Dover** participated in the Apple Harvest Day Celebration. We sold apple crisp and apple cider...all the proceeds went towards Polio Plus and the Club matched the earnings.



Karen Gray & Phil Rinaldi ... a real pair of apples being chaperoned by Jerry Daley & Noreen Beil



Group shot of Rotarians doing Fall Clean-up at the Rotary Gardens

Children's Christmas by the **Kennebunk Rotary Club**

The venue for the party this year was St. Martha's Meeting Hall, which was very appropriate for this activity. There was plenty of room for overactive and happy youngsters and the setting itself contributed to a rousing start of spreading the Christmas Spirit. The adults had happy smiles on their faces, enjoyed very much talking with and helping the children and the children were so excited that some ran all the way to Santa's chair when their name was called off to receive their gifts. Some, tiny as they were, still looked like great football material as they ran through a broken field of chairs, tables, and humans to receive their gifts. Many of the children were heard to say, "Excuse me," as they sailed through the crowd.



Santa was his usual affable self and did his usual great job. Paul Wolf and Pam Boyle started the festivities by bravely leading the audience in Christmas carols. They finished with "Here Comes Santa Claus" and in he came with a hearty "Ho Ho Ho." Sergeant John had his usual role of calling up the children, one by one, to Santa. As usual, John kept everything moving well and under control. Santa's elves were Tim Bruhl, Chris Audley, and Diana Santos, our exchange student. Each child was called up twice; once for a present of a quality piece of clothing or boots; the second time for a great Christmas toy.

A set-up committee, aided by the Executive Committee, under Patty's direction, had everything set up within a half an hour. The Rotarians joined in the clean up activities, again under Patty's direction, and everything was cleaned up in record time. Another great activity by the Kennebunk Rotary Club, and a good use of all those fines. Thanks to Doug Rogers, Tim Bruhl and all the shoppers that did such a great job!

November News from the **Rotary Club of Kittery**;

On November 5th we held our Second Annual Celebrity Waiter Fund Raiser Dinner. This year we held the event at the Masonic Lodge Hall in Portsmouth and we thank the Mason's for the use of their great facility.



PDG Elias aka "the big teddy bear" and MC Jeff Furbish



"Hillbilly "Ma" PDGx2 Marie (Hippy?) DG Jeff

We had Hippies from the 60's, a Greek Island Celebration, a Fiesta, Hillbillies, beach parties, the great northern hunter camp, and the Teddy Bear's Picnic (located on the opposite end of the hall from the hunters).



Dan Hale took his table to his hunting camp



Sue C went hippy



One Table celebrated Greece - here they cheer their hostess's dance routine



MC Jeff checks out the "Fiesta!"

We want to thank PDG Elias Thomas (the Great Bear,) PDG Liz Cullen (Goldilocks) and PDG Brad Jett for their support. And of course PDGx2 Marie Williams (Maw!) and DG Jeff Pelkey (the Big

Hippie) for all their hard work, as we raised the hilarity level while raising service funds.



Yard sale for Polio, you had to buy your seat and utensils The camp centerpiece had a glazed and stuffed look

The two Yard Sale tables had their guests buy all their chairs and tableware at the "Yard Sale for Polio", other tables collected 'Waiter Tips for Polio'.



PDG Elias and PDG "Goldilocks" Liz lead "The Teddy Bears Picnic"



The "Greek" hostesses had song and dance prepared

The Teddy Bear table may have started it as Liz and Elias broke out in their theme tune while the other guests donned their teddy bear masks and sang as they marched around the table but, the Greeks were also prepared with a whole song and dance routine that will be hard to match next year!

We netted over \$3200 for Service projects and over \$650 for the Polio Eradication campaign.



On November 24th we hosted three Students of the Month, for the first time including a student from the Fourth and Fifth Grades. Always a fun meeting as we celebrate the students, their parents and teachers ~ we congratulate Max Perreault, Cora Hickoff, and Alex Pinkham.

Content Copyright © 2003-2010 Rotary International District 7780 USA.
[Additional Copyright, Trademark and Website Information](#)

Powered by [ClubWizard™](#) Service Club Website and Management Software.
[Click here](#) to find out more about this web site and how it works.