



Rotary International District 7780

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District Governor's Message

Our son Justin came home from school the other day and proclaimed in a loud voice, "We talked about Thanksgiving and all the things we are thankful for". I asked him to share some of those "things" with me. It was truly amazing all the blessings this world has to offer at the tender age of ten.

When your mind is not clouded with mortgages, car payments, water bills, tuition, heat for the winter, health care costs, and world wide conflict, it is easy to just focus on the "things" we are thankful for.

Or is it? You as Rotarians, through your support of the Rotary Foundation, offer blessings each and every day to our brothers and sisters in need throughout the world and in our local communities, many do not have a mortgage, because they are homeless, many have never had a ride in an automobile, most will never worry about college tuition because they do not even have basic education. But through the generosity of Rotary, they are receiving clean water, sanitation blocks, schools, and most of all HOPE! So as I make my list of those "Things" I am thankful for, I place YOU at the top.

About twelve weeks ago my family and I began a Rotary tour through out this wonderful District we all share, learning about all the good works our fellow Rotarians are doing, watching the magic of Rotary first hand and getting to know so many of you on a personal level. Among just a few of the wonderful experiences we had, were many wonderful fellowship gatherings; I was enticed into the bouncy house that Oxford Hills erected for Justin, although dad had an awful lot of fun in it. AG Jay Spenciner took me for a ride in the new Bridgton Fire truck complete with a one hundred foot view of Bridgton from the top of the Fire Truck Tower, Rumford greeted us with a Police escort and trip around town, so many of you opened up your homes and clubs to us, I was so honored to induct many new members into the organization, and present Paul Harris honors to deserving community members and Rotarians, truly we experienced the magic of Rotary our thanks to each and every one of you!

With all the wonderful work being done around the District and our World, I know after meeting with many of your club boards of directors, that each of our clubs face challenges each and every day.

We heard of many of these challenges a couple of weeks ago in Portland at the District Membership Seminar. The program was so well presented by PDG Brad Jett and his dedicated Membership team, each participant walked away with tools to bring back to their clubs and put into action, seek these folks out and ask what you can do to help.

Many clubs are struggling with seeking future leaders; step up, offer, take the challenge, and lead your club! Our District is seeking leaders to carry on the good work we have been doing for years, help us find candidates for District Governor and Finance Committee, answer District Governor Elect, Ann Lee's call for volunteers for next year, step up, there is room for everyone.



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President John Kenny reminds all of us that "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands". I remind you that the future and all the good "things" we are thankful for are in your hands as well.

Jeffrey S. Pelkey
District Governor 2009-2010
Rotary International
District 7780

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- 1 new member is needed-

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

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

November is Foundation Month

November is Rotary Foundation Month. Please become a sustaining member this month by contributing \$100 to OUR Rotary Foundation.

These are hard financial times around the world but we are still so very rich here in the USA. Our children have food in their bellies, fresh water to drink, a roof over their heads, are going to school and receive dental and medical care. There are many places in our world where that

is not so. YOU can make it happen by your contribution of just \$100.

How much money do you spend each week for a cup of coffee at Starbucks or Dunkin Donuts? If you bought one cup less of coffee each week for 50 weeks, you would have a \$100 to send to OUR Rotary Foundation and to help make a difference somewhere in the world.

A \$100 Contribution helps provide:

- One full year of education expenses for an underprivileged child in Thailand
- Dental and medical services to approximately 25 low-income individuals living in communities near Mexico City, Mexico
- Textbooks for a school in Villanueva, Colombia
- An osteoporosis education program and bone density screenings for six senior citizens in Iowa, USA
- A 10,000 kilowatt electric transformer that powers an agricultural/educational farm operated by a children's orphanage in Mongolia
- Text books for one elementary school in Zambia
- Cataract operations for three blind individuals in India
- Mosquito netting for 35 homes to help prevent the spread of malaria in Bangladesh

Please attend one of the three District 7780 Foundation Seminars around our District this month to learn more about OUR Foundation - Portsmouth on November 12, Bath on November 19th or Oxford Hills on November 30th.

Please feel free to contact me to come speak at your club on OUR Rotary Foundation's Annual Giving Program. Remember "The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands" and we can make a difference in OUR world.

Marie Williams
mawilliamspdg@comcast.com
 207-439-3761

Foundation Seminars

Bath

November 19, 6-8 PM

Bath Holiday Inn

139 Richardson Street

Bath, Maine 04530

or

Oxford Hills

November 30, 6-8 pm

First Congregational Church

17 East Main Street

South Paris Maine 04281

Check our Foundation Seminar page: <http://www.rotary7780.org/Foundation.cfm>

Sign up prior to the seminars with PDG Liz Cullen lizgcullen@yahoo.com



JOIN THE ROTARY DISTRICT 7780 CHALLENGE

READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY - MARCH 2, 2010

In celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday, District 7780 Rotarians are challenged to participate in 'Read Across America' Day on **March 2, 2010**. Think of the impact if **every** Rotarian read a story (Dr. Seuss or not) to a classroom in their local school, pre-school, Head Start, or day care! Many schools already

celebrate this day in some way, so an offer from your local Rotary Club to read to students would be enthusiastically welcomed.

Just confirm your club's interest, have a club representative contact your local schools and make the proposal, set up times to visit the classrooms and you have a great local project to reinforce the fun and importance of reading. That's it! If your club decides to participate, contact Penny Jett, District Literacy Chair, pennyjett@comcast.net to get your club involved in the count – and the fun!

For more information, click on <http://www.rotary7780.org/ReadAcrossAmerica.cfm>

“Our Most Interactive Membership & Retention Seminar Ever”



October 28 was a really effective gathering of our District as we combined our collective knowledge to discuss how to improve our membership and retention practices. About 120 District Rotarians filled the meeting rooms at the Holiday Inn West in Portland. Rotary International Awards were presented by PDG Brad Jett and Past District Membership Chair Dave Gooch to eleven clubs that met RI President D.K.Lee's goal of at least a 10% increase in Membership in 2008-2009.

2008-2009 MEMBERSHIP GOALS AND RECOGNITION AWARD

Presented on behalf of ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

The following clubs are recipients of the above award and their respective 2008-09 club president as listed

- Ogunquit - President Tracy Smith
- Sebago Lake - President Deb McPhail
- Bridgton-Lake Region - President Sheila Rollins
- Fryeburg Area - President Sarah MacGillivray
- Freeport - President Jimmy Hendricks
- Rochester - President Gerry Bisailon
- Exeter - President Mae Bradshaw
- Boothbay Harbor - President Andy Hamblett
- Topsham Espresso - President Joel Merry
- Wells - President Jim Spiller
- Westbrook-Gorham - President Judith Reidman



District Public Relations Chair PDG Tim Placey addressed the critical role of good public relations in the membership process.



PDG Jon Bursaw provided information on the process of identifying opportunities for forming new Rotary Clubs and how forming new Rotary clubs is done.



Sarah MacGillivray PP of the Rotary Club of Fryburg Area and Gerry Bisallon, PP of the Rotary club of Rochester shared the secrets of their club's successes in expanding their membership.



Wilt Jones, PAG and PP of Damariscotta-Newcastle, then briefed the attendees on the group discussion process.



We then split into seven groups to explore a total of 24 questions on membership and retention. The combined insights were then shared by the group. The process was made very effective through the support of the assigned table captains who facilitated the groups of approximately 14 at each table to bring out the best ideas and

thoughts of all present.



These questions and combined thoughts will be posted on the District Website for reference and use by all our clubs and will hopefully be the starting point for discussions and changes for each club.



As noted in the 'charge' by PDG Peter Johnson, the challenge now is for the clubs to "Go Forth and Take Action!"



PDG and 2009-2010 District Membership Chair Brad Jett shared the results of a Rotary International survey of non-Rotarians which showed that Rotary clubs have to really take on the challenge of making who we are, and what we do, visible in our communities.



PRIVP Mike McGovern, who is the Rotary International Membership Development & Retention Chair, provided the broad perspective for our clubs and the opportunities and challenges for us all in keeping Rotary an effective force for service in the world.



District Governor Jeff Pelkey closed with emphasis on the challenge and opportunities available to the clubs, more of DG Jeff's comments are included in his message for the month at the beginning of this newsletter



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.

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

Rotary and the United Nations

Before attending Rotary International's United Nations Day, I didn't realize that the relationship between these two organizations began even as the U.N. charter was being drafted—that Rotary International was there from the beginning.

Saturday, November 7, was designated as a day to celebrate the long and valued relationship and to showcase the most recent successes from that partnering.

Presented in the General Assembly Room at the U.N., it was both heartening and fascinating to listen to the many collaborative accomplishments—from clean water now being piped into Honduran housing for the first time to the great success in the fight against diseases—not only polio, but also tetanus, HIV/Aids, as well as any myriad of diseases resulting from contaminated water.

Speakers addressed literacy programs in developing countries and spoke of the many consequences an illiterate population suffers. There is currently a special emphasis placed on the literacy of women and girls given that their challenges are becoming more and more dramatic as they face disease and disease prevention.

Of course, the environment/global warming issue is another topic of great concern. One which challenges both developed and developing countries in significant ways. It struck me, as I listened to the many types of pollution, that this was something we could address on a local level.

Beyond recycling, it would be valuable to learn the environmental consequences of our food choices (perhaps we could have a vegan alternative at lunch given the problems created by cattle production) as well as ways to use less—waste less. We have any number of experts in the club itself and in the district as well.

It is indeed impressive to know all that Rotary International is contributing so much to the world community.

However, there is much to do.
 Vicki Hendrickson
 November, 2009

Club News

Boothbay Harbor Honors Its "Bike Man"

Boothbay Harbor Rotarian Seth Hedgcock created the club's "Bikes for Workers" program four years ago, a program that has grown in popularity each summer since. Under Seth's leadership, the club collects used bicycles from our neighbors, fixes them up, and distributes them to the many seasonal workers who come to our Region each summer, none of whom have any other form of transportation and most of whom have only limited English. This past summer, we distributed 85 bikes, all of which Seth re-collected at the end of the summer for refurbishment and distribution again next year!



Seth engraves his home phone number on each bike, so that if they encounter any difficulties or mechanical problems, the international workers will be able to get in touch with him. To them, he is the "Bike Man." To the community, he's the reason that we have so many bikes on our streets each summer. And to the Rotary Club, he is an exceptional guy who saw a community need and figured out a way to fill it.



At a meeting recently, the Club honored Seth Hedgcock with a Paul Harris Fellow for his extraordinary community service. Here, Seth savors the moment with his wife Anne, who the Club previously honored with a Paul Harris Fellow for her work each year on our annual Auction and Flea Market, our largest fundraiser. Together, Seth and Ann Hedgcock truly encompass "Service Above Self."



Exeter Rotary celebrates their 50th Anniversary



Governor Jeff presenting a certificate to Club President Jim McAllister on the achievement of Exeter Rotary reaching it's 50th Anniversary of Service. We had 3 charter members present at the event and many past Rotarians.



Marilyn Kellogg receiving a Paul Harris Fellow. The award was presented by our first female member in 1987, and first female President in 1990, Dottie Milbury. As you are aware, it was a terrific celebration.



Exeter Club's Annual Apple Sale. Each year, we sell local apples, cider, apple pies and apple crisps in the heart

of downtown Exeter. This year, we were surprised by unusually cold weather as snow flakes danced around part of the day. The money we raise goes to support scholarships to Exeter Adult Education. These monies go a long way to helping a number of adults achieve the life changing event of receiving a high school diploma.



On Halloween morning, 14 **Hampton Rotarians** helped out with their bi-annual commitment to clean the trash from Route 111(Atlantic Avenue) in North Hampton, NH. The club has been cleaning this 5 mile section of Route 111 from Route 1 to the Atlantic Ocean twice a year for going on 5 years. On this particular morning, along with great fellowship and great exercise the clean-up crew picked up enough trash to fill 22 large plastic trash bags.

Other News:



On Saturday, October 24th a number Hampton Rotarians (Craig Kelleher, Rick & Amy Neville) were set to go hiking with the Friends Forever kids from Ireland and Israel but the weather didn't cooperate so they met at another Rotarian's for some fellowship and cooking.

Our last meeting in October was a full house at the **Rotary Club of Kittery**.



The Club invited Betty Fernald, Director of the Foot prints Food Pantry as our guest and in addition to thanking her for her great service to the community, she was presented with a \$1000 check for the Food Pantry. Betty acknowledged that with the current economy the needs for Food Pantry clients have increased significantly and donations are needed to insure a full supply of essential items.



P-E, Russ congratulates students Kattie Cuttle, Madison White, Jeff Molina, and Darilynn Birse

At the same meeting we celebrated our R. W. Traip Academy and Shapleigh School **Students of the Month** for both September and October. Teachers from the involved school departments explained why each student was selected by the department's teaching staff to a room full of Rotarians, family, and friends. Students are selected for their attitude, effort, talent, leadership and responsibility. Each one is developing into fine future community leaders.

The month finished off with lots of smiles as over 350 attended the Kittery Recreation Department October 31st Halloween party and Kittery Rotary was there.



Service Projects Chair Ellen McClure applauds a "spirit" as her granddaughter Hayley stands by to help. Hayley is a routine supporter of Kittery Rotary Service projects

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