



Rotary International District 7780

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District Governor's Message



The **Falmouth Rotary Club** has a wonderful opportunity for our clubs to join a unique, exciting and entertaining fundraiser they are hosting in October.

Please see the attached flier under **Club News**, sign up, and enjoy the day. There is no cost for table space for Rotary clubs at the event!

This opportunity promises not only to be a something different, but a great fellowship experience as well. I know that our club will enjoy it as a fellowship activity as much as a fundraiser, after all are we not all tired of hitting up the same people for the same fundraisers time after time ?

This should provide a new audience, a great chance to highlight Rotary's efforts to eradicate Polio from the world and recruit new folks to Rotary.

This effort is being sent out by me as it is an opportunity for all clubs in the District to benefit equally and because of it's unique nature. Please share it with you clubs, friends and family.

I am in the last round of visitations to the District Clubs and will have more to share with you in October's newsletter. We attended a great RI Regional Conference in Niagra falls NY and have been busy with the final selection of our GSE team to India
<http://www.princetonim.com/District7780/GSE.cfm>.

I urge all the Clubs to carefully consider PRIVP Mike McGovern's advice on membership which follows, and I urge you to get as many club members as possible to our District Membership Seminar on October 28th.

Peace;

Jeffrey

Resources

Health & Hunger
Public Relations
Water

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Interact
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RI Links/Contacts

Contact Us

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



Engage your members, and they will stay

Rotary International News -- 25 August 2009

Administration Login

Mike McGovern, 2009-10 chair of the RI Membership Development and Retention Committee and past RI vice president. *Rotary Images*
Rotarians, like most people, need to feel like they belong.

That is the No. 1 tip from Mike McGovern, 2009-10 chair of the RI Membership Development and Retention Committee and past RI vice president, on how to expand membership. McGovern says many members leave their Rotary clubs because they don't see how they are contributing, or they feel disconnected from other members.

"We need to connect with members of our club within our meetings and at our projects, but also outside of Rotary," he says. "This involves having other members and their families over for dinner or going together to be a spectator at an event."

McGovern postulates that if more clubs used the [assessment tools](#) available on RI's Web site, they could prevent more than half the resignations that occur with the first five years of membership, effectively doubling their size and ability to serve over time.

McGovern and other members of the committee also offered these ideas on promoting membership for Membership and Extension Month:

- McGovern suggests deemphasizing attendance. "Constantly emphasizing attendance is a turnoff to many younger members and to those with family and business obligations. Rotarians should attend meetings because they are a good use of time, not because they would feel guilty not attending."
- Rotary clubs should list their accomplishments on their Web site, McGovern says. "A Rotarian recently told me that her favorite meeting was the year-end meeting at which the club president reviewed all the club had accomplished during the prior year. She felt good about being a Rotarian."
- McGovern believes that most communities need to have more than one Rotary club and that larger communities need many clubs. "We need to be in neighborhoods, and our members need to be from those neighborhoods."
- Committee member Rupak Jain suggests clubs place a placard at the head table announcing the classification the club wishes to fill. The emphasis for the next week or two would be to look for a suitable member from that classification. He also feels it is imperative for new members to be linked up with a mentor.
- Past RI Director Ken Collins, vice chair of the committee, suggests that clubs focus on finding worthwhile, hands-on projects that benefit individuals in their community, which will help produce a pool of "satisfied customers" who will publicize Rotary to friends, neighbors, and relatives. "In Rotary, we underestimate the value and power of word-of-mouth advertising. It costs nothing and is repeated over and over again, over a wide area."
- This is the fourth in a series of articles on membership tips from experts.
 - Read [Urban, rural areas require different membership strategies](#)
 - Read [New approach vital to membership growth](#)
 - Read [Take steps to keep recession from hurting retention](#)

Mark Your Calendars The District Membership Seminar

October 28th
Be There!

Check out the Seminar Information on the District web site, Get your registrations in by October 16th!

This District Membership Seminar is intended for all Rotarians, old and new.

New Rotarians have a fresh perspective on what worked and what they see can be improved, while older members can exchange good ideas from their years of experiance.

New Rotarians have recently made the key decision to make Rotary part of their lives, they have seen the club with fresh eyes and their input can help us shape better membership programs in all our clubs.

It is very important that Club Presidents and Membership Chairs as well as the other club officers and board members participate. They lead the clubs and are in the best position to effect change and encourage new approaches.

Rotary's strength comes from the diversity and breadth of talent of the club members, every member who can attend extends the potential gain of all the clubs.

Club Membership Chairs and Club presidents are urged to encourage and support as wide a participation as possible.

District Membership Committee: PDG Brad Jett Chair

DISTRICT SIMPLIFIED GRANTS

14 Clubs Receive a Total of \$19,275 to Support Local Service Projects

The Rotary Foundation's District Simplified Grants, which support new community service projects, have been awarded to 14 clubs. The projects that the clubs will undertake using these funds run the gamut from early literacy programs to a sustainable garden to accessible trails to supporting a camp project for immigrant teens.

The awards were very competitive -- a total of 21 clubs applied for the grants, and the total amount of funds requested reached over \$35,000. It's critical to remember that the amount of money available for these grants -- just over \$19,000 this year -- is directly related to the amount of money District 7780 Rotarians give to The Rotary Foundation

Congratulations to all the clubs that received these grants!

Rotary Club	\$ Award	Project Description
Bath	\$1500	Bike safety, helmets
Bethel	\$2000	Sustainable garden/greenhouse @4H camp
Breakwater Daybreak	\$490	Dictionary project for local 3 rd graders
Damariscotta-Newcastle	\$1500	Ready to Read program for preschoolers
Dover	\$2000	Park Street Park revitalization
Exeter	\$500	Support Open Minds camp for immigrants and refugees
Hampton	\$1100	Head Start early literacy program
Kennebunk Portside	\$300	Dictionary project for local 3 rd graders
Kittery	\$2885	Every 15 Minutes teen alcohol/driving program
Ogunquit	\$2000	Help build Skate Park at local recreational center
Sanford-Springvale	\$1000	Raised bed garden at Camp Waban center
Scarborough	\$1200	Public safety signs
South Berwick-Eliot	\$300	Seniors' emergency HOME bags
York	\$2500	Trails for elderly and disabled
Total	\$19,275	

Marty Peak Helman, Grants Coordinator

Matching Grant Program Update

The Rotary Foundation's Matching Grant program plays a major role in improving the lives of people who live in underserved communities around the world. Unfortunately, like other foundations, the economic crisis has affected the Foundation's ability to support Rotary work worldwide. Indeed, as of this writing, in September 2009, the Foundation budget to help support Matching Grants has been fully committed for this fiscal year (July 2009-June 2010).

Even so, eight Matching Grants involving a total of 17 District 7780 clubs and \$37,600 in club monies have already been submitted to the Foundation this fiscal year and they have either been approved or are in the pipeline for approval. These grants were augmented by a total of \$25,648 in District money, and the total value of the grants is greater than \$300,000, all of which will go to help improve the lives of our less-fortunate neighbors around the world.

At the current time, our District and The Rotary Foundation are making plans to continue the Matching Grant program this fiscal year. Stay tuned for updates -- and contact Marty Peak Helman, District Grants Subcommittee Chair, for details.

Marty Peak Helman: 207-633-6336; grants@walterfoundation.org

Give to the Annual Giving Program

Has Rotary had an impact on your life?

Here are just a few of the things I have heard or been told.

It has made me realize how lucky I am to live in the United States and not some third world country where there is not easy access to clean water, medical attention and education!

Helping to put water wells in a community that had no access to clean water changed my life!

I can't describe how I felt to see the amazement on a child's face the first time they saw a book with pictures!

To help a child hear sounds for the first time in their life was truly amazing. The expression of pure joy and amazement on their face when they heard their first sound made me want to laugh and cry all at the same time.

It broke my heart to see those children with distended bellies because of lack of nutrition and proper food – I had to do something!

The knowledge that my donations to the Rotary Foundation Annual Giving Program is saving multiple lives daily Well, there are no words to explain how that makes me feel!

To help these children get the medical attention that I take for granted for my own children – clean water, nourishing food, immunizations, dental care, corrective surgery – that just makes me feel good inside!

I think I am a better person because of the things I have help to do through Rotary to help make it a better place to live for others.

Rotary affects everyone differently but think of all the lives that have been changed because of you and your contributions to the Annual Giving Program which have allowed you and your club to get Matching Grants or even District Simplified Grants to do the things described above. Your dollars to the Rotary Foundation is changing the world one person, one household, and one village at a time.

Give to the Annual Giving Program today – continue to make this a better world for everyone!

Remember *The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands!*

Marie Williams
Annual Giving Chair 2009-10

Joe Pace recently sent out the following announcement, it is included in the September newsletter with some RYLA pictures the editor requested to accompany it

RYLA ~ Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

Fellow Rotarians,

It is my pleasure to introduce to all of you the new RYLA District Chairman for our District. Ben Wheeler is a Rotarian in the Portsmouth lunch club, and a graduate of Portsmouth High School, Keene State College, and holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of New Hampshire. Ben was a camper at the 1996 RYLA program, and has served many years on staff since then. He is an able and committed Rotarian and will take our cherished RYLA program to new heights.



Photo courtesy of Tim Byrne

Joe & Ben as they transition leadership at the 2009 RYLA

Thanks to all of you for your warm support over the past five years I've had the pleasure to steward this wonderful program. As many of you know, I was a camper in 1991, the first year our district had a RYLA event, and I've been on staff since 1999.



Picture of Joe -1991



Picture of the staff from 1999

I'm proud of how strong our clubs and Rotarians have been in their support of RYLA and the thousands of young men and women who have benefited from our unique version of the program. You've been there over the years for Ric Erickson and Phil Rinaldi, Dick Crabtree and Arthur Bradbury, Shannon Aldrich and Lionel Ingram, and for my wife Sarah (a 1997 RYLArian!) and I as we had our turn at the tiller. I know Ben can rely on that same passion and support.

We've established a RYLA 7780 email address: ryla7780@yahoo.com Please use this going forward to communicate with Ben and the program.

It's difficult to say goodbye to RYLA, but knowing it is in the best of hands makes all the difference. Thanks again to all of you.



Photo courtesy of Tim Byrne

Joe & Sarah with a much bigger challenge than RYLA
 Editor's Note: Thank you Joe & Sarah from all of us!
 DBG

Yours in Service,

Joe Pace
 Durham-Great Bay Rotary Club

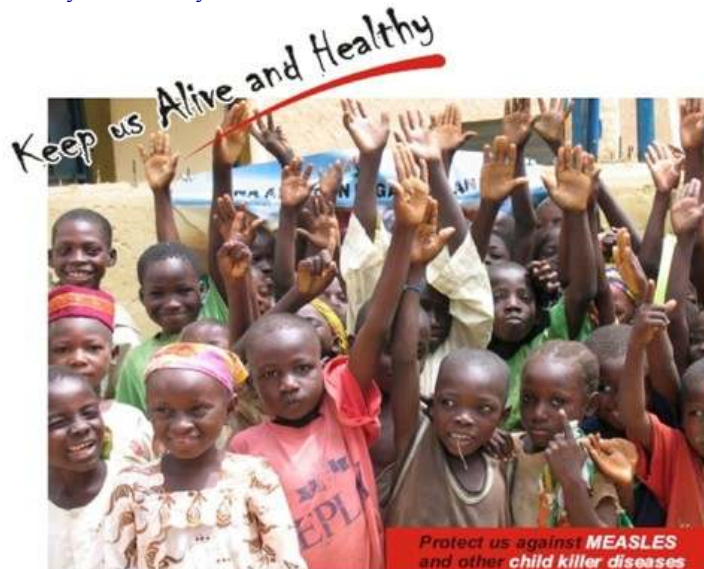
See a YAHOO video clip of the 2009 RYLA at our RYLA site
<http://www.rotary7780.org/RYLA.cfm>

..... From Your District Governor Elect
 Ann Lee Hussey

Reach Out to Africa Initiative (ROTA)

Africa is a continent where the needs far surpass the resources. Extreme poverty is predominant, contributing to the lack of peace and continuing conflict in many areas. Hand in hand with extreme poverty go hunger, illiteracy and lack of sufficient health care and educational opportunities. Meeting the basic needs for survival remains a daily challenge. Health issues such as polio, malaria, measles, AIDS and physical disabilities are just a few of the dramatic components of human life.

Based on the state of desperate living conditions came the idea of starting the "Reach Out to Africa Initiative". The purpose is to organize a systematic approach to support our fellow Rotarians, Rotary clubs and districts that are confronted with these and similar humanitarian problems in Africa. It is hoped that this initiative will continue beyond the three-year trial period initiated in Rotary year 2007-2008 and become a continuous cycle of Rotary service.



The aim of the Reach Out to Africa committee is to match the resources of Rotary clubs and districts in developed economies, the resources of The Rotary Foundation and other international organizations with

Rotary clubs and districts in Africa to address the dramatic needs of the continent. The emphasis is on service project development, needs assessments, “hands-on” participation, and membership development. This is done by local Rotarians facilitating identification of the needs by creating projects at the local level and finding resources at the international level beyond the boundaries of Africa.

You will find a breakdown of the organization plus descriptions of successful projects at ROTA’s website www.reachouttoafrika.org. Past Rotary International President Wilf Wilkinson initiated the idea of ROTA and chairs the Executive Committee with Co-Chair, Past Rotary International Director Orselik Balkan of Turkey. There are five sub-committees responsible for identifying resources and finding international partners to implement projects, create and maintain an excitement and interest in Rotary in Africa and work with Regional Rotary International Membership Chairs (RRIMC) to grow Rotary in Africa. As we all know, many hands make light work. In September 2008 the estimated population of Africa was 954,999,159 with the number of Rotarians at only 23,204, a mere 0.00242% of the total population. As of August 2009, the overall membership in African districts increased a significant 6% with a net growth of 1406 members in 2008-09.

Four Regional Committees cover South Africa, East Africa, West Africa and North Africa. Their responsibilities are to identify needs in their areas, seek to limit duplication, and to focus on sustainable projects.

The Service Associates Subcommittee (Partner Countries) responsibility is to cultivate sponsors, matching resources with needs and promoting adoption of a country or project. As a member of this committee I serve as a Functional Coordinator for Health Initiatives. In this capacity, I have been a liaison between IMEC and ROTA for the past year as they develop a handbook geared to assisting Rotary clubs in their humanitarian endeavors. IMEC of North Amesbury, MA, refurbishes medical equipment for distribution to developing nations. Once this succeeds it will be a tangible achievement for ROTA and it will be promoted extensively through ROTA, Rotary resource groups and eventually in Rotary magazines, portraying successful projects.

One program of the Reach Out to Africa Committee is The West Africa Project Fair. The country of Benin will host the 5th West Africa Project Fair, November 4-11, 2009. Approximately 200 project proposals will be displayed seeking adoption and funding by international partners. The Fair rotates annually from country to country in West Africa, a multi-lingual area of four Districts, comprising 15 countries. The West Africa Project Fair, was one of the benefits created from NID teams, visiting for polio eradication, and being exposed to the existing needs seen where polio immunizations were held. The hope is to create a continuing relationship with international Rotarians from North America and Europe that will endure beyond the eradication of polio. More information on the upcoming project fair being held in Contonou, Benin can be found at www.beninrotarywestafricaprojectfair.org.

ROTA extends many thanks to the clubs of District 7780 who continue to “Reach out to Africa” with their humanitarian projects. The future of Africa is also in our hands.



UMA, A Polio Survivor

Club Public Relations

Club Officers and Webmasters, please ensure you regularly review your entire website to make sure it is up to date. Themes, officers, the connections and location information on meetings, both of your club and others change. A review of some of the Club websites revealed several cases of out of date information, including reference to the current club year, officers, and contact information. To a visitor the state of the website conveys the activity of the club. If something on your web site has not been updated for a year it appears that the club has been inactive. Keep your websites fresh.

CLUB NEWS

As the school year is about to begin at Morse High School in Bath, Maine, **The Bath Rotary Club** Charitable Trust prepares to fulfill its mission of "furthering and enhancing the vocational education of the youth of the City of Bath, Maine and the neighboring communities."

The Trust was formed in 1972 and built its first house in that year. The Trust and the (now) RSU 1 vocational program have been building something new every year since. The program essentially works by having the trust providing materials, the school providing the teachers and the students doing the building (while they learn). The buildings are then sold at fair market value when completed. The income generated over and above the cost of the project is held in reserve to start up the next year's project and the rest is allocated towards the purchase equipment, tools and scholarships for the vocational program.



The 2009-2010 Trustees preparing for another exciting project.



The 2008-2009 almost completed house.

Club supports 4-H Camp, and children in Haiti

The **Bethel Rotary Club** has been granted a Rotary District Simplified Grant in the amount of \$2,000 for building a greenhouse and chicken tractor at the Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and Learning Center. These will be used as part of the Sustain Maine Initiative with the goal of sponsoring and supporting the use and awareness of sustainable agricultural practices within the camps programs and in the community. Construction of the greenhouse should begin in October.

One of our other international projects is Project Hope, a community in Haiti consisting of an orphanage, school, farm and medical facilities for children unable to be cared for by their families. A generous donor has challenged Hope Village supporters. You can help us help them by going to their web site, www.freethekids.org and sign up for email updates. Then, click the "Tell-A-Friend" button to spread the

word of their mission. For every five e-cards that you send, their sponsor will purchase a chicken for the farm at Hope Village. They are hoping to add chicken and eggs to the children's diet more frequently. To do that they need more chickens for a sustainable poultry population. Raising and breeding chickens is a valuable skill they can teach the children today, so they can have independence tomorrow.

Local service projects

Upcoming Bethel community service activities include installing a handicap access ramp for a local resident and assisting residents with weatherization installations.

Boothbay Region Interact Club Receives United Way Award

The United Way of Mid-Coast Maine has awarded the Boothbay Region High School Interact Club \$1000 to underwrite the club's "Winteract" event, which is designed to raise money for local fuel assistance. "The aim of this initiative is to promote opportunities for youth to engage and serve others while implementing winter preparedness strategies in their home communities," reports United Way board member Dennis Unger. The other youth organizations selected in the United Way's competitive grants process are in Waldoboro and Bowdoin.

The Boothbay Region Interact Club first conceived and carried out the Winteract fundraiser last winter. The January event encompassed outdoor family fun including snowshoe racing, a snowman building contest, lots of sledding, and a marshmallow roast. The Interact Club netted over \$1000 for the Boothbay Region Community Resources Fuel Fund through the fundraiser.

"Youth in the Region are looking for the chance to participate in their community in a meaningful and hands-on way," says Eden McDaniel, president of the Boothbay Region Interact Club. "Winteract allows them to have fun while raising awareness of a critical need: Keeping friends and neighbors warm during the harsh Maine winter."

The Boothbay Region Interact Club has had a busy summer. In addition to thinking about their neighbors' needs next winter, they are raising money via food and craft sales to support a return trip to Safe Passage in Guatemala. That trip is set to take place over the Thanksgiving holiday.



Think snow: Last January's "Winteract" fundraiser, sponsored by the Boothbay Region Interact Club, brought out kids of all ages who enjoyed the white stuff while raising money for fuel assistance.

The **Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club** recently took part in a Visioning Session, conducted by members of Rotary facilitators from Massachusetts. The purpose of the session was to build consensus, continuity and consistency in our Club for the future.



It was a great session and we enjoyed 'envisioning' what our Club would look like years from now! It has given us clear goals on areas we need to focus on.



The Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club had the honor to have DG Jeff Pelkey and his family join us in August for a picnic and Club Meeting. At our Club meeting we presented three Paul Harris Fellow awards to two Rotary members and one community honoree. Pictured here is the group at the ceremony.



The best part of Rotary is the fellowship...two of our Rotarians hosted a wonderful get together in August where we could relax and enjoy each other's company. A great time was had by everyone.

Falmouth Rotary Club presents an opportunity for all our District Clubs:



Here Is The Opportunity You've Been Waiting For!



Featuring

Marshall Tucker Band

and more...

the falmouth rotary club's
ktoberfest
Sunday, October 11th



Mike Gallagher
National Radio Talk Show Host



THIS FUNDRAISER WILL BENEFIT OUR TROOPS AND DISABLED VETERANS



**Don't Miss This Chance For Your Club To Fundraise With A Crowd of Thousands.
(And not just other Rotarians and their families!) Great Opportunity to recruit new members!!!**

The Falmouth Rotary Club invites all District 7780 Clubs to take advantage of FREE table space to sell your unique non-food items at Hatlock field at the upcoming OKTOBERFEST.

What do I do next you say ?

**Call or Email Sean Joyce for more info- 207-232-4239 or sjoycejoyce@gmail.com
Reserve your table space and get tickets for your club members, friends, neighbors and anyone who would enjoy a good time for a great cause! Tickets are JUST \$20.00 plus handling fee Order Today!!!**

ORDER your tickets today online: www.porttix.com

The **Rotary Club of Hampton** is pleased to announce that Jim Waddell of Hampton has been inducted as our newest member.



Jim was sponsored by current member Sandy Buck who helped introduce him into the wonderful world of Rotary. Jim has a background in education having worked in Belchertown, MA for over 36 years. We look forward to his participation in Rotary through our many avenues of service and many other projects that the Rotary Club of Hampton annually undertakes.

The club is also gearing up for our biggest fund raiser of the year in September with the Annual Hampton Beach Seafood Festival (9/11-13). Hampton Rotary Club members are responsible for collecting admissions to the festival and doing so requires over 280 shifts over the three day festival which translates to about 4 shifts per member. Look for people with the bright yellow t-shirts and you will see Rotarians in action having fun and living our motto: Service Above Self.



Nearly 900 people enjoyed the **Kennebunk Rotary Club's** 60th annual chicken barbeque in July.



Members of the Kennebunk Rotary Club and their spouses had a great time at their annual Kennebunk Pond cookout.



In August, Kennebunk Rotary Club members enjoyed a wonderful sunset picnic together at Goat Island Lighthouse in Cape Porpoise.

August 24th the **Rotary Club of Kittery** met our Rotary Youth Exchange student Luca Regallo from Italy. While sponsoring Youth Exchange Students is old hat to many of our District Clubs, this is a new Rotary experience for most in the Kittery Club. We are looking forward to a great year sharing with Luca.



Acting President Russ French exchanges banners with Luca



Luca shares a laugh with his club counselor Brad Hirst

Rotary Club of Portsmouth: Rotarian Stella Scamman introduced our guest speaker, Senator Judd Gregg, to a room full of members, press and photographers. She included some of Senator Gregg's many political highlights including being part of the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate and having the second highest amount of votes in New Hampshire's voting history.

The Senator gave a short but enlightening speech on the varying angles of the recent "Health Care Issue" to a very attentive audience.



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