



"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do."
~ Edward Everett Hale

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District 7780 News



Gary Speers
District Governor



www.rotary7780.org

August 2011

Greetings District 7780 Rotarians!

When R.I. President Kalyan Banerjee stated "There are so many things we are indeed good at: working for clean, safe water; spreading literacy; working in so many ways with the New Generations, our youth, in our newest Avenue of Service and **assisting them to become the leaders of tomorrow**", he may well have been looking at the wonderful projects and plans Judy and I have already seen as we began our club visits with Casco Bay Sunrise and then on to "The North Country" folks.

We are learning of fantastic accomplishments by individual Rotarians in support of multinational fund raising efforts for medical care for orphans in Haiti and a number of clubs working on a badly needed educational and prevention effort to prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome. These folks all really take Literacy seriously, providing quite a variety of local projects and are adamant about college and vocational scholarships.

And oh my, do they know how to have fun "The Moose are indeed on the Loose in the North Country" with Bethel, Bridgeton Lake Region, Fryeburg Area, Oxford Hills and River Valley (Greater Rumford Area) hosting an incredible combined social where tales of Moose Sightings and Adventures flowed! We were joined by so



many young folks, from kids frying burgers to several new Young Prospective Rotarians! What a start! Hope to see more of the same as we continue our journey through this fantastic District!

~Gary

Save the Date! Save the Date! Save the date!

AUGUST

Thursday, August 4— Thunder Chicken 5K Road Race (Portsmouth)

Saturday, August 13— Work Party at Partners for World Health (Scarborough)

Saturday, August 13 — PETS preplanning meeting, 9:00 am., Framingham Sheraton.

Wednesday, August 24— International Projects in the Philippines (South Portland-Cape Eliza)

August 25-28 — 24-32 Zone Institute, Boston.



SEPTEMBER

Thursday, September 1— GSE Team Leadership applications due. Contact Grace Connolly grace.connolly@verizon.net

Thursday, September 8— International Literacy Day. FMI Contact Penny Jett pennyjett@comcast.net

Saturday, September 10 — PETS preplanning meeting, 9:00 a.m., Nashua Marriott.

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 1— GSE Team Member applications due. Contact Grace Connolly grace.connolly@verizon.net

Saturday, October 1 — NorthEast LINK training for international students.

Sunday, October 2 — PETS preplanning meeting, 12:00 p.m., Boxborough, MA

Saturday, October 22 —RLI at Lewiston -Auburn College, Lewiston, ME. Sign up at www.rlinea.org

Monday, October 24 — World Polio Day.

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 5 — RLI at Stafford Technical Center, Rutland, VT. Sign up at www.rlinea.com

Saturday, November 5 — PETS preplanning meeting, 9:00 a.m., Nashua Marriott.

November 27— December 11 — Rotaplast mission to Togo, West Africa. Contact Bill Dunn, wdunn@sunsetpoint.biz



2012

Monday, Jan. 30, 2012 — Mid-Year Leadership Dinner for all club presidents, presidents elect and vice presidents.

Saturday, March 3, 2012 — RLI at York County Community College, Wells, ME.

March 8-10, 2012 — Multi-district President-Elect Training Seminar for all 2012-13 presidents, Sheraton Conference Center, Framingham, MA.

Official Governors Visits in AUGUST...

- 1: Exeter
- 2: Kittery
- 3: Durham Great Bay
- 3: Dover
- 4: Seacoast Portsmouth
- 4: Portsmouth
- 5: York
- 8: Rochester
- 8: Wells
- 9: Hampton
- 9: Newburyport
- 10: Ogunquit
- 11: South Berwick-Eliot
- 11: Kennebunk
- 15: Falmouth
- 16: Bath
- 17: Biddeford-Saco
- 17: South Portland-Cape Elizabeth
- 18: Boothbay Harbor



Official Governors Visits in AUGUST

Continued...

- 29: Brunswick
- 29: Topsham Expresso
- 30: Westbrook Gorham
- 30: Scarborough
- 31: Brunswick Coastal
- 31: Freeport

Official Governors Visits in SEPTEMBER.

- 1: Saco Bay
- 6: Kennebunk Portside
- 8: Sanford- Springvale
- 12: Yarmouth
- 13: Damariscotta-Newcastle



**Moose on the loose—
Bethel Club**

Save the Date! Save the Date! (continued)

2012 continued...

March 22, 2012— Read Across America Day FMI Contact Penny Jett pennyjett@comcast.net

Saturday, March 31, 2012 — RLI at Dartmouth -Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH.



May 6-9, 2012 — Rotary International Convention in Bangkok, Thailand.



May 18-20, 2012 — District Conference at the Harraseeket Inn, Freeport, ME.

2013

March 7-9, 2013 — Multi-district President-Elect Training Seminar for all 2012-13 presidents.

May 17-18, 2013 — District Conference at the Spruce Point Inn, Boothbay Harbor, ME.



June 23-26, 2013 — Rotary International Convention in Lisbon, Portugal.



M&M – Membership Matters

August is designated in the Rotary world as Membership Month. Membership matters every month, but in August we need to take a look at our Clubs and decide how we are going to add good quality members to our roles.

Why are we Rotarians? Why are YOU a Rotarian? Because someone wanted to share Rotary with you. Because someone felt you would be a **good, quality member**. When asked, most Rotarians can't remember who the President of Rotary International was when they were inducted, or **who the District Governor was, and many don't remember who the Club President was** when they were proposed for membership in Rotary. BUT almost all of us remember our sponsor – that Rotarian that wanted to share Rotary with us and felt we would be a good, quality member. Someone shared Rotary with you and it is our responsibility to share Rotary with others. Why do we need to do this?? Most Rotary Clubs need more members to carry out the Service Projects, Fundraising Events, and to share the fellowship of new members, with new classifications, and most importantly new ideas and new energy.

For helpful resources in promoting Membership, check the Membership Tabs at www.rotary7780.org or www.rotary.org.

Won't YOU consider proposing a new member during the month of August – Membership Month???

Governor Elect's Corner

My husband Frank and I first traveled to Guatemala on a Rotary-organized volunteer trip in 2005. We spent a week at Safe Passage, the literacy program for dump kids, and we made sure to build in plenty of sightseeing time. Our plan was to put in some volunteer hours, enjoy the sights of this beautiful but troubled nation, and then move along to whatever next adventure was in store.

It didn't quite work out that way.

Frank and I had driven by shanty towns in third-world countries before. **But it wasn't until we were Rotarians that we had the opportunity and privilege to stop the car, talk to the children who live in those shanties, learn their names and stories and — most important — be in a position to do something tangible to help them fulfill their dreams.**

Six years have passed since that initial trip. Six wonderful years. Today, **between Safe Passage and the Guatemala Literacy Project, it's hard to remember when Guatemala wasn't essential to us. Thanks to Rotary and these two organizations, Frank and I have had the good fortune to touch the lives of countless children for whom a book or a computer or a few educational dollars has made all the difference. Thanks to Rotary, we've watched the youngsters we first met in 2005 grow up. And thanks to Rotary and his own hard work, this year Juan Carlos, our sponsor student, will graduate from high school. Not bad for a dump kid in a country in which three-quarters of all children drop out of school prior to finishing the ninth grade.**

Our experience isn't unique. Rotarians from this District are making similar impacts in health care, polio eradication, literacy, and a myriad other services. And it's not just in developing nations that Rotarians are making a difference. After all, Rotary service trips should come with a warning label: Caution--The life you change may be your own.

--Marty Peak Helman, District Governor-elect



Photo credit: Ivan Pena Castro



The Foundation Minute

August 1, 2011. The July 31st deadline for submitting applications for District Simplified Grants has come and gone. Twenty-one clubs, over half of the district, have applied for DSGs! This ties the record of the year 2009. The proposed club projects are truly outstanding and all twenty-one clubs deserve a great deal of credit for taking the interest and the time to design these new projects. Competition will be stiff and the District Foundation Committee will face difficult choices in awarding the \$17,263 available when they meet in early September! Hats off to the clubs of District 7780!

~Liz Cullen



Thank you for continuing to support literacy!

District Governor Gary and the district literacy committee want to thank you for your continued support of supporting and promoting literacy within your local community and beyond.

We are all encouraged to continue to keep literacy in the forefront of the things that we do each week throughout the year with our projects, fundraisers and in our weekly club activities. Remember, there is no literacy project too small or insignificant – collectively, they are all making a significant difference in changing the lives of children and adults throughout our district and across the globe.



A student looks on as her teacher checks an assignment in a temporary classroom in Sri Lanka, which served 200 students during construction of Randonbe Kanishta Vidyalaya, a school in Ambalangoda. The effort was part of the Schools Reawaken project, which helped rebuild 22 coastal schools damaged or destroyed by the 2004 tsunami.

*Rotary Images/
Alyce Henson*

Consider participating in a fun, hands-on community literacy project at your local school or community center. Hugely successful to date by both Rotary Clubs & Interact Clubs in our district, your club does not want to miss out on the opportunity to implement the **‘United States Map Project’**. The expense is minimal and the rewards are over the top. Enjoy the fun and fellowship and at the same time provide the means to teach geography and social studies through creative play. Contact your local schools, select a date and reserve the stencils today!

Once again, the district will be hosting the 4-way test essay and speaking contest for all high school aged students, but this year we will be offering a slight twist from that of the past. This year, we will offer students various topics from which they can choose one to compose their speech. More information will be forthcoming to all of the club presidents and will be on the district website in the near future, so stay tuned.

Whether your club is participating in the dictionary project, providing scholarships, book drives, mentoring students, the Apple Dumpling Project, reading programs, Imagination Library, the map project, 4-way test contest, Read Across America Day, supporting local libraries, the Guatemala Literacy Project, providing books to Africa or whatever literacy project or program you are involved in, you are applauded each and every day for all of your tireless efforts. You are making a difference in the lives of so many.



~Penny Jett

Group Study Exchange with Northern Germany in 2012



The District 7780 GSE Selection Committee is now accepting applications for the upcoming exchange with Rotary District 1890 in Northern Germany.

This year's program will be a traditional, multi-vocational GSE, which will be open to eligible individuals of all professions and business occupations.

District 1890 is the northernmost district in Germany, and includes the provinces of Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg and the northern part of Lower Saxony. This is a beautiful area with a rich culture and history. There are 69 Rotary Clubs with 3,500 members. The Rotary Club of Hamburg, founded in 1927, was Germany's first club.

We are searching for one Rotarian Team Leader and four non-Rotarian Team Members to make up the District 7780 GSE Team that will go to Northern Germany from May 20, 2010 through June 21, 2012.

Any active Rotarian in good standing is eligible to apply for the Team Leader position. The Team Leader Application **must be endorsed by the Rotarian's own club President** and then forwarded to the Selection Committee. **The Team Leader Application Deadline is September 1, 2011.** Team Leader interviews will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2011.

GSE Team Member applicants must be between the ages of 25 and 40, have two years of full time work experience in their field and reside in or be employed in District 7780. Applicants may not be the spouse or child of a Rotarian.

The Team Member Application Deadline is October 1, 2011.

Team Member interviews will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2011.

continued.....

How to APPLY for GSE Exchange...

Completed Team Member and Team Leader Applications, signed by the President of the sponsoring Rotary Club, must be sent by the application deadline to:

Grace Connolly

GSE Committee Chair

P.O. Box 332

Newburyport, MA

01950

grace.connolly@verizon.net



Group Study Exchange



Team Member Applications must first be reviewed and endorsed by the sponsoring Rotary club before being forwarded to the District Selection Committee.

All expenses related to the exchange, including travel to and from Germany, and accommodations, travel and meals during the exchange in Germany are paid for by The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International and Rotary District 7780. GSE Team members usually stay with Rotarian host families during the exchange, which fosters the development of lasting personal and professional relationships.

The GSE program of The Rotary Foundation offers young professionals a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to travel to another country, learn about the people and culture and experience first hand how their occupation is practiced by their counterparts abroad. For the local clubs of District 7780, GSE is a great way to reach out to the younger population within their communities and introduce them to Rotary.

The District 7780 GSE Team will be visiting Germany from May 21 through June 21, 2010. The GSE Team from District 1890 in Germany will be visiting our District from April 20 through May 20, 2012.

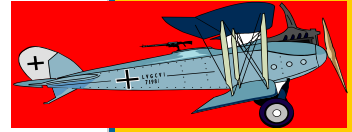


**The North
Country
Presidents
hosting DG
Gary and G.M.**



News from new Assistant Governor, Mae Bradshaw

MOMMA MOOSE DOES MARTHA'S VINEYARD And other exciting adventures of Area 1— District 7780 MOOSE ON THE LOOSE!



ON JULY 9, 2011 Momma Moose set out with pilot Dr. Burt Dibble and her trusty Assistant Governor Mae Bradshaw to fly to Martha's Vineyard. They took along Karen and Mike Schidlovsky who were the high bidders for the trip at the Exeter Rotary's Christmas Auction.



They took off from Pease Air Force Base after Mike and Burt pushed the

This year we will feature one of our Assistant District Governors in each monthly newsletter.

Thanks to Vic Taylor for an outstanding report on Area 7 in July.

And to Mae Bradshaw for this great tale of adventure with Momma Moose!



The pilot brought the girls along for the ride

Momma Moose was fitted with her headset for the flight so she could hear all the pilot chatter



She even got to sit in the cockpit !



They all landed safely at the Katania Plains and Momma Moose got up close and personal with a Red Barron.

Mae Bradshaw continued



In Edgartown, Momma Moose was distracted by a bagpiper



She wouldn't leave till she met all the bridesmaids at the wedding



But when she became rambunctious and wanted to kiss the bride,



The police took custody of this wedding crasher!



The only way she could escape his clutches was by clinging to the side of the Red Baron which raced her away to her get away place across state lines back to New Hampshire.



Our newsletter editor is Tari Conley, member of the Damariscotta-Newcastle club.

Please be sure to submit your information by the **20th** of the month prior to publication, to:

tari@appreciationworks.com

Word documents and PDF's please!

There won't always be space for every submission, yet we'll save the overflow for the following months newsletter.

Many thanks for your tremendous support and great articles, photos and captions. Remember, this is YOUR newsletter!

Kathy Thrall

District 7780's Outstanding Unsung Hero



Governor Gary Speers recognized Kathy Thrall as a "District 7780's Outstanding Unsung Hero" for her vision, compassion and dedication. Her efforts to raise funds through selling quilted luggage tags to buy a portable x-ray machine for the Kids, (Project Hope) in Les Cayes, Haiti, were awe inspiring. Because of her efforts other Rotary clubs and donors were inspired to contribute a total of \$27,000 to this project.

Here is Governor Gary's presentation to Kathy Thrall:

Today we honor one of our Rotarians who has shown tremendous vision, compassion and dedication. She has long been an advocate of Hope Village (Free the Kids) Orphanage and School in Les Cayes, Haiti. After the earthquake and the additional influx of students, it became apparent that a digital x-ray machine costing \$40,000 was greatly needed at Hope Village. The unit was digital and portable it would allow quicker diagnosis by sending the x-rays by computer to other facilities to be read.

Our Bethel Rotarian used her talents as a quilter to coordinate a massive fundraising campaign. After meeting a fellow quilter who was making quilted luggage tags for her friends and favors for her son's wedding, our Rotarian decided to make luggage tags and sell them for \$5.00 to raise funds for the x-ray machine. She enlisted fellow quilters, Rotarians, and other friends to make the 8,000 tags necessary to raise the \$40,000.

Her enthusiasm spread! After an article appeared in the "Lewiston Sun Journal", a local Dunkin Donut's owner contributed \$10,000 to the project. Clubs in South Carolina and New Jersey heard about the project and contributed money as did the Ogunquit and Bethel clubs. A Canadian group challenged us to raise at least \$20,000 which they would match in order to buy the machine. **cont'd.....**



Here's a look at Kathy's now famous luggage tags!



The portable x-ray machine is important to Haitians. Since 60% of their children contract TB, the portable x-ray machine is not only valuable for the orphanage but is used to detect the disease in neighboring areas.

Unfortunately this was not a Rotary program as there were no Clubs to partner with for a matching grant. However, Free the Kids received a matching grant of \$20,000 from a Canadian organization as a result of Kathy's effort.

Kathy, along with other Rotarians continue to make and sell the luggage tags.

***Kathy can be reached at
Info@Rostay.com***

Kathy Thrall ...continued

\$27,000 was raised through the sale of luggage tags and contributions, so the \$20,000 matching funds came through. The x-ray machine was bought. The extra \$7,000 was used for further improvements at the medical clinic. All of this because of the inspirational leadership of this Bethel Rotarian. Kathy Thrall we honor you today for your vision and inspiring so many to give to this worth cause.

PS: Kathy continues to make and sell the luggage tags to benefit the children at Hope Village. There is an Interact Student at Brunswick Coastal (Milan Tennant) who may be as active in making and selling the luggage tags today.

What's happening in District 7780???

Oopsey Daisy.... We made a mistake in the July newsletter.... Our apologies.

SEACOAST Outgoing President Midge Nelson and Incoming President Chris McMahon



Jim Stormont has been elected the Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club's president for 2011-12. The gavel was passed earlier this month from outgoing president Connie Jones, who named Jim Botti the club's Rotarian of the Year. Jim Botti was chair of last year's Charity Auction, and is the long-time chair of the club's popular Soup Bowl Supper. Here, from left to right: Jim Stormont, Jim Botti (holding the Rotarian of the Year plaque) and Connie Jones.

**Local Club Members Support Rotary's Worldwide Humanitarian Efforts**

Boothbay Harbor Club president Jim Stormont presents Paul Harris Fellowships to Rotarians Craig Tukey and Mike Pollard. This award testifies to financial support for the Rotary Foundation, the non-profit arm of Rotary International, which fuels the humanitarian work the organization does both here in our communities and around the globe.

Shown from left to right: Jim Stormont, Craig Tukey and Mike Pollard.

What's happening in District 7780???

Breakwater Daybreak, South Portland-Cape Elizabeth.



Ilse Yanis, Outgoing President; Michael Hulsey, President; Shirley Mooers, Treasurer; Mary Friesel, Secretary



Ilse Yanis, Shirley Mooers, Casey Dunfey, Karen Dunfey, Norma Willis are preparing pancake sandwiches for hungry swimmers, kayakers, and spectators

Bethel club's award ceremony for "Friends of Rotary"



Certificates of Appreciation were presented to each "Friend". Pictured are, from left: Carol Savage, recognized for her photography; Joe Arizzi, club president; Robin Williams, Bethel Inn waitress for club meetings; and Dave Frieday, for being there for Rotary in any capacity. (Dave is wearing a variety of unsold items left over from the Auction/Yard Sale).



Assistant Gov Sheila welcoming Area Eight Rotarians

District 7780continued



SACO BAY Changeover Dinner:
Co-Rotarians- of- the- Year. L to R: Leo Menard, Lucie Hatch and Dru Laduke



SACO BAY Outgoing President, Dru Laduke & incoming President Janet Davis holding unnamed club moose garbed in a hot dog outfit.



District 7780 instructors Tony Wagner, Lee Patenaude, Dru Laduke & Mike McGovern recently led a Visioning Program for the FRYEBURG AREA CLUB with an impressive 15 Rotarians! The Visioning Process is a way for clubs to look into the future 5 years from now and see what the club may look like at that time.



BETHEL President Ellie 'socializing' at the North Country Social