



If you want
happiness for an
hour, take a nap.

If you want
happiness for a
day go fishing.

If you want
happiness for a
year inherit a
fortune. If you
want happiness
for a lifetime,
help somebody.

—Chinese Proverb

In this issue...

**Calendar of
Events** 2

**Governor
Elect's Corner** 3

**Biddeford funds
Community Ctr** 4

**Read Across
America** 5

**District 4-Way
Contest** 5

**Mae
Bradshaw,
Asst Gov** 6, 7

RYLA 8

**S Portland-Cape
Elizabeth 50th
Anniversary** 9

**Meals on
Wheels** 10

Club News 11,
12

District 7780 News

**Gary Speers
District Governor**



www.rotary7780.org

February 2012

Greetings District 7780 Rotarians!

The District Mid – Year Presidents Dinner provided us with an opportunity to meet with our fantastic club presidents and share a few of the areas that we will need to focus on for the remainder of your Rotary year.

Deadlines are fast approaching for many of the R.I. and District awards, challenges and opportunities available for your clubs and Rotarians. Many of you will find that you do qualify for these, so please sit down with your presidents and assemble your information now. We have seen and heard of many of your projects and accomplishments that deserve recognition!



We are pleased with the planning efforts of our District Conference Committee and the Freeport Community to put on an enjoyable and rewarding conference. We encourage everyone to make their Harraseeket Inn Reservations now to be eligible for some nice prizes! We also want EVERY Rotarian to bring a small new child friendly stuffed animal to the conference for distribution to hospitals and First Responders in your own backyards. There are savings for early registration for the conference. It is your event; we want to see everyone there!

We have received several concerns from Rotarians about the use of the Rotary Four – Way Test in relation to political stances in news publications. Please remember no matter what passions a political season might fan that Rotary is an apolitical organization and respect your fellow Rotarians.

I believe I speak for our entire District when I state how delighted we are to learn that PRIVP Mike McGovern of the Rotary Club of South Portland Cape Elizabeth will be a Trustee of the Rotary International Foundation starting on July 1st of this Year. Congratulations Mike!

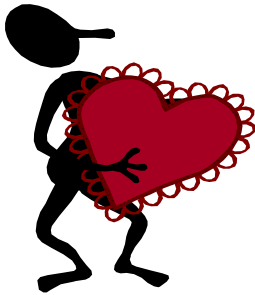
The District 7780 Nominating Committee has selected Lawrence Furbish of the Rotary Club of Sanford-Springvale as the District Governor Nominee (Designate) for 2014-15. Rich Emerson of the Rotary Club of Casco Bay Sunrise has been selected as the District 7780



Budget and Finance Committee representative for Division C clubs (clubs located in Lincoln, Sagadahoc and Cumberland counties) for 2012-2015. Congratulations Lawrence and Rich! We have been to several fun Club events in the past few weeks. Keep those invitations coming so we can get them on our calendar!

-Gary

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



February 9-12 -

National Immunization Day against Polio & Rotary Work Project INDIA.
FMI Contact ELIAS THOMAS
thomas@metrocast.net

Friday, February 17—

The World Understanding & Peace Dinner at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland, ME. Governor Gary is emphasizing the strength of the clubs and the work that it takes from all of us for peace to blossom. Each club will have a chance to nominate a "peacemaker" from amid its ranks to be celebrated at the dinner.

Friday, March 2 —

Read Across America Day

FMI Contact Penny Jett
pennjett@comcast.net

****NOTE: March 2 is correct date not 3/22 as previously listed**

Saturday, March 3 —

RLI at York County Community College, Wells, ME.

March 8-10 —

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



Saturday, March 24 -

District Assembly

Friday, March 30—

South Portland—Cape Elizabeth 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala. Kalyan Banerjee will be the honored guest. See Pg 9 for details.

Saturday, March 31 —

RLI at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, Lebanon, NH.



May 6-9 —

Rotary International Convention in Bangkok, Thailand.

Thursday, May 17—

District 4-Way Test Contest. For more information and timelines, contact pennjett@comcast.net

May 18-20 —

District Conference at the Harraseeket Inn, Freeport, ME. Harraseeket is now accepting reservations at the conference rate. It's important to get your reservation in early to be sure you get the Rotary rate. You can call them at 207- 865-9377



**Friday,
March 30,
2012.**

Mark your
calendars!

**Rotary
International
President,
Kaylan
Banerjee** of

Vapi Gujarat,
India is

coming to
Maine to

attend South
Portland-Cape
Elizabeth

Rotary's 50th
Anniversary
Celebration

Gala. A

District wide
(and beyond!)

invitation is
going out to

help honor
President

Banerjee's
visit and this

milestone for
the Rotary

Club of SP-CE.

Governor Elect's Corner

Peace through Service



District
Governor-elect
Marty
greets
Rotary
International
President-elect
Sakuji
Tanaka t

What is peace? This may seem like an obvious question. But, incoming Rotary International president Sakuji Tanaka points out, we tend to define peace by what it is *not* (the absence of violence) rather than what it *is*.

What is peace? Peace can be different things to different people. Peace can be freedom from fear or freedom to choose; peace can be as simple as knowing that one's children have the food they need to be healthy. Peace can be a secure and loving family; peace can be the promise of a good education. In other words, peace encompasses an inner, humanitarian value quite separate from its political context.

Sakuji Tanaka, who takes the reins as President of Rotary International on July 1, used examples such as these to introduce Rotary's 2012-13 theme: *Peace through Service*. He was addressing me and my classmates, the nearly 540 District Governors-elect from around the world who came together in San Diego at the International Assembly last month to prepare to be District Governors starting in July. President-elect Sakuji summed up all the humanitarian work that Rotary does under the rubric of *peace*.

It's an idea whose time has come. Peace defined as the absence of war is such a seemingly impossible target that many of us have given up on the possibility of ever reaching that goal. And yet. And yet. Isn't peace what we all should be striving for?

Back in December, I had the good fortune to spend a morning with Dr. Bob Scott, the chair of Rotary's Polio Plus committee, who said that he is often asked what Rotary's most critical humanitarian goal will be *after* polio is eradicated. Of course it's not his decision to make. Still, Bob's opinion and educated guess is that Rotary International's next overarching project won't be to eliminate malaria or AIDS or even to guarantee clean water, but rather, to strive for peace. When he says this, Bob says he is frequently met with disbelief and even disapproval. Working to cure a condition, he explains, is comprehensible; working for the absence of war is too amorphous to be considered more than leftover '60s idealism.

So President Sakuji's redefinition of peace is a way to bring new focus to the humanitarian work that is the lifeblood of Rotary. Service, it turns out, comprises concrete activities we can do to help make peace a reality.

When Rotarians dig a well or read to elementary school children or provide food to a local soup kitchen, we tend to think of these activities as water projects or literacy projects or nutrition projects. And so they are. But they are also stepping stones on the path to peace.

So the next time someone asks, tell them that your Rotary service is your way to work for a more peaceful world. When they ask, tell them that you support The Rotary Foundation because it's our Foundation that is the funding apparatus to make peace possible. When they ask, tell them that you are a Rotarian because you believe in peace.

—Marty Peak Helman, District Governor-elect

Rotary Club Auction Funds Help Promote Physical Activity

The Rotary Clubs of Biddeford-Saco and Saco Bay, in conjunction with a District Simplified Grant from the Rotary Foundation, presented checks equaling \$5,000 to the J. Richard Martin Community Center in Biddeford last week. The funds will be used for a \$10,000 upgrade to the current basketball court in the Community Center and Rotarians will assist with painting and the clean-up component. The City of Biddeford has agreed to match the remaining \$5,000 balance to complete the upgrade.

The Community Center project will entail replacing structural concerns, adding new basketball backboards, painting and clean-up within the facility. The structure that holds the backboards was put in place in the 1930's, and due to the age of the structure, it is not able to accommodate today's demands. This includes usage of the youth recreation basketball leagues; Community Partners open gym, teen open gyms, and adult open gyms along with youth vacation camp programs. On average the J. Richard Martin Community Center has close to 2,400 people pass through each week. This only includes regularly scheduled classes, programs and tenant visitors. These numbers do not take into account the 1000's that visit each year for special events and meetings within the facility.

The Rotary Clubs were pleased to be able to give back to the Community Center as they have had a long-standing partnership, including allowing Rotary to use the space at no cost for their annual TV Auction. The Auction, which will be held on March 25th this year, enables the local clubs to raise over \$40,000 each year to reinvest in the community. In the past the Rotary clubs also assisted with other safety concerns within the facility, including removal of seats to level the floors.

"An improved facility will provide us with the opportunity to continue providing healthy physical activity for youth and adults in a safer environment," stated Carl Walsh, Director of Biddeford Parks & Recreation. "Basketball is one of our largest youth programs and teaches good sportsmanship, team work, skill development, and a chance to meet and make new friends while having fun. With this upgrade we will also be able to safely accommodate vigorous play by adults."

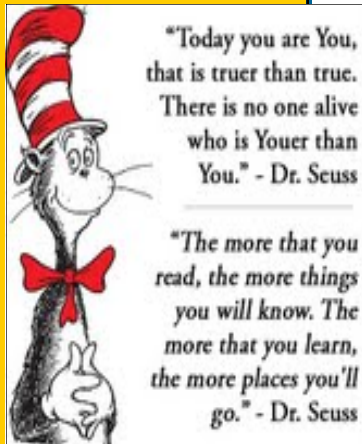
-Submitted by Karen Chasse, Biddeford Saco Rotary Club



(l-r) Janet Davis, Saco Bay Rotary Club President, Frank Dumais, Biddeford-Saco Rotary Club President, Carl Walsh, Biddeford Parks & Recreation Director, Mike Fecteau, Youth Sports Coordinator, and Karen Chasse, Biddeford-Saco Rotary Club President-Elect

Read Across America Day

Join the many clubs around the district and celebrate '**Read Across America Day**' on March 2nd by volunteering to read to children in classrooms in the communities that we serve. Schools throughout Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts are eager to have Rotarians visit their students and share information about their vocation, how reading plays an integral part in their daily business and personal life and then to read a few of their favorite children's books. The children love it and the teachers love it! The best gift we can give all children is to share our love of reading, to encourage them to read daily and we can remind them of this each year, when we, Rotarians from District 7780 visit their schools on '**Read Across America Day**.' Don't let your club miss out on the opportunity to make a difference!



-Submitted by Penny Jett, Hampton Rotary Club

District 4-Way Test Contest

On Thursday, May 17th, the district will be holding it's 4th annual 4-Way Test Essay and Speaking Contest in Freeport. This event gives every club the opportunity to reach out to their local high schools, public or private and encourage students to participate in this contest. Remember, the top winner will receive a \$500.00 cash award at the event and have the honor of reciting their winning speech at the district conference just a few days later. This contest is designed to introduce high school students to the Rotary principles of ethics and service and to involve local Rotary clubs with the youth of their communities. Information and guidelines for this year's contest can be downloaded off the district website. Contact your school today and participate in this year's 4-Way Test Contest.



-Submitted by Penny Jett, Hampton Rotary Club

For more information and timelines, contact
pennyjett@comcast.net



News from Area 1

~ **Mae Bradshaw, Assistant Governor**
Exeter NH, Hampton NH, Newburyport MA, Portsmouth NH,
Seacoast Portsmouth NH

Newburyport



Newburyport's President Sue Christ and her able Moose assistant awarded over \$13,000 in holiday donations to the following Newburyport area groups: Boys and Girls Club of the Lower Merrimack Valley; Community Service Inc.; The Firehouse Center; Hugh Doyle Resource Center; Jeanne Geiger Crisis Center; Newburyport YWCA; Pennies for Poverty; The Newburyport Chapter of the Salvation Army; Santa's Helpers; Turning Point.

Seacoast Portsmouth



Not to be undone, President Chris of the young Seacoast Club in Portsmouth **donated \$12,000 to local non-profits with proceeds from its 3rd annual turkey trot 5k family event** race held on Thanksgiving morning, November 24th, 2011. The 5K charity event sold out at 2,000 runners and walkers who enjoyed a 3.1 mile course through historic Portsmouth, NH. Since this annual event began in 2009, Seacoast Rotary Club has raised over \$95,000 for local non-profits. To see race results and pictures from this event please visit www.seacoastrotary.org



The beneficiaries this year were New Generation, Inc – a shelter for homeless pregnant women and their babies and The Chase Home for Children – serving at risk youth and teens ages 11-18 and their families.

Exeter



Exeter Rotary President Ken Bailey proudly announced that three fundraisers: Annual Apple sales, the 2012-2013 calendar sales and the Holiday Auction had raised \$18,500.00 which was disbursed to a number of Exeter areas needy causes: New Outlook Teen Center, Food Pantries, St. Vincent DePaul Renovations, American Independence Museum, Polio Plus, Recreation Teams, Annual Exeter Tree Lighting, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Salvation Army, and Chamber Children's Fund.



Fund raising was not the only thing Exeter Rotary did. The club had tons of fellowship with "Rack" the Moose at Diversity Camp BBQs where Momma Moose, the Assistant Governor, Mae Bradshaw's moose, got to play at camp too.



Then Rack helped at the American Independence Museum BBQ



The Moose attended Mae and Burt's Annual Clambake, District Governor Speers Social, Fisher Cats Game and Raffle, Dinner at Not Your Average Joe's-Newburyport Club Support, Powderhouse Clean-up, Luminaries lighting.

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards)



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards conference to be held at the Boy Scouts (BSA) Camp Hinds Wednesday June 27, 2012.

(RYLA) has begun planning for this year's event in Raymond Maine from Sunday June 24 –

This leadership training program is open to high school sophomores who will enter their Junior year in September 2012. The cost per student is \$300, which is paid for by the sponsoring Rotary club.

Clubs will typically recruit students in cooperation with High School guidance counselors, Interact clubs, youth groups, or other Rotarians. Start the recruitment process in March, obtain applications from students, and schedule interviews. Consult your club's protection officer for input into your interview process.

Clubs will select students for this program based on interviews and recommendations from teachers, advisors or counselors. Students who have attended RYLA in the past have held leadership roles or have been identified as emerging leader who would benefit from this program.

Some clubs have developed their own application form or use the sample application found on the district website. Once a student is selected, clubs must send registration material to our office. The only registration material required is the **student personal data form**, and the **parental permission form**. Both of these forms are on the district website, and should be completed as part of the application. Mail the forms together with \$300 per student payment to RYLA, PO Box 4632, Portsmouth, NH 03802.

On registration day at Camp Hinds, students will bring the **BSA health form** and the scouts **Venture Application**. Both forms are on the district web site and are required by the scouts. Each student who attends this program must have a school or sports physical prior to attending. The physical must have occurred after July 1, 2011.

After registration material is received by the district, we will be contacting students electronically with additional information and registration instructions. Each parent is also sent a letter regarding the program.

If you have specific questions contact Bob O'Connell, RYLA Chair, at RYLA7780@Yahoo.Com. Visitors are welcome at the RYLA program, contact us to schedule your visit.

-Submitted by Bob O'Connell, Dover NH Rotary Club



Portland Rotary is funding a significant program in the Dominican Republic to install 60 prosthetic hands on amputees. A team of seven Rotarians will be traveling this month to la Romana, DR. Shown are Bruce Moore and John Curran, the project chairman, practicing the hand fitting process.

South Portland—Cape Elizabeth Rotary celebrates 50 years!



The Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth is celebrating its 50th Anniversary this year and we hope that you and many members of your Club and their guests will join us for a special evening as we mark this grand occasion. We are especially honored that Rotary International President Kalyan Banerjee will be our esteemed guest for the evening. We want to ensure that he receives a warm welcome and meets many Rotarians and guests from our District and beyond.

The event will be held Friday March 30th at the newly updated Double Tree Hotel located at 363 Maine Mall Road (formerly known as Wyndham – name change February 1) in South Portland. A cocktail reception will begin at 5:00pm with dinner to follow at 6:30m. Space is limited and your response is requested by Friday, March 16th. [Details on signing up](#) have been sent to your club. We are offering to display club banners and for club members to sit together at the event.

There is a block of rooms reserved under “50th Anniversary of the Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth” at the reduced rate of \$99. You can call the hotel directly if you would like to reserve a room (207-756-6730).

Space is limited so please return your form and check by Friday, March 16th.

We look forward to sharing this special evening with you and members and guests from your Club!

- Marge Barker, President, Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth

To the Rotary Clubs of District 7780:

Pursuant to Sec 13.020.6 of the Rotary International Bylaws, I am pleased to announce that Lawrence Furbish of the Rotary Club of Sanford-Springvale is the choice of the District Nominating Committee to serve as District Governor in 2014-2015.

Lawrence was the only candidate nominated by our clubs to serve as district governor for 2014-2015, thus pursuant to Sec 13.020.8, of the Rotary International Bylaws, no club may challenge the nomination.

Lawrence is the current president of the Rotary Club of Sanford-Springvale and has met the qualification of having served a full year as club president at the time of nomination as the district has received a waiver of this requirement from RI President Kalyan Banerjee acting on behalf of the RI Board of Directors.

Therefore, pursuant to Sec 13.020.10 of the Rotary International Bylaws, I hereby declare Lawrence Furbish to be the district governor nominee for 2014-2015.

Congratulations Lawrence!

Gary G. Speers
Governor 2011 - 2012
Rotary District 7780



Hampton Rotary fulfills request from the Rockingham Meals On Wheels Program

The Hampton Rotary Club came to the aid of the Rockingham Meals On Wheels Program with a donation to purchase a much needed freezer which is located at the United Methodist Church on Lafayette Rd. in Hampton.

Meals on Wheels volunteers deliver a meal daily to over 1000 homebound seniors. The friendly visit from the volunteers and serving a nutritious meal to the homebound elderly allows many of those receiving the meals to remain in their homes.

Representatives from both organizations met at the Methodist Church on Thursday January 19, to recognize the important service that the Rockingham Meals on Wheels provides and to say thank you to Rotary for providing the funds to repair the freezer.



Pictured from left are Nancy Singleton, Debra Perou and Ann Marie Guilmette from the Meals on Wheel program, President Deb Marsolais, Immediate Past-President Dave Reid, and Service Director Larry Marsolais from the Hampton Rotary Club.

News from Bridgton-Lake Region



Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary presented a total of \$1000 to four local food pantries in the Lakes Region. (pictured right to left: Mark Clement of Cross Walk Community Outreach; Imelda Arris of Harrison Food Pantry; Chris Minnicozzi of St. Joseph's Food Pantry and Cathy Sullivan, President of Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary.)



Rotary took part in Bridgton's Festival of Lights Parade in December with a float reminding everyone that it is only 214 days until the Great Bridgton Duck Race; our Club's annual fundraiser on July 4th.





At his home club, Damariscotta-Newcastle, Rotary District 7780 Governor Gary Speers is pictured with Club President Lorraine Faherty and John Kameisha of the Portland Sea Dogs. They are joined by club moose, Scott Castle in his Red Sox uniform, looking forward to the start of baseball season!



District Governor Elect Marty Peak Helman at the District mid-year Leadership Dinner on January 30



District Governor Gary Speers at District 7780 mid-year Leadership Dinner, January 30



York Rotary club moose Melvin recently spotted Go-Kart Club riding in Maine!



Melvin (of York) is quite the world traveler. He's been to London twice, Paris once and now Stonehenge in the U.K.!



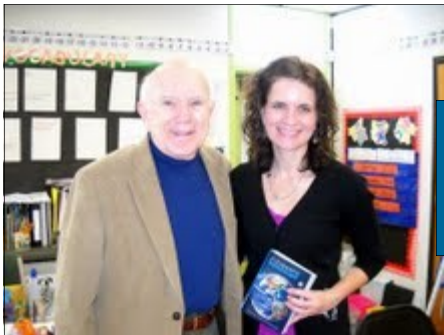
MORT the MOOSE of the Portland Rotary Club found new hands at the club's HAND project in the Dominican Republic

*More Club News...****The Sanford/Springvale Club thru its Literacy Program donated dictionaries to the Shapleigh Memorial School.***

*Fred Boyle with Pricilla Howard
of the fifth grade class*



*Fred Boyle and Linda Brown delivered
the dictionaries. Pictured here is Jon
Marines (L) with Fred.*



*Fred Boyle and Cheryl Finn
of the 2 fourth grade classes*



**The Durham-Great Bay Club's moose,
named Boomer for the club's July 4th
fundraiser, enjoying a golfing getaway
on Martha's Vineyard.**



**Boomer, with D-GB President Ron
Rodgers, takes a last look at Oak Bluffs
harbor before the ferry leaves for
Woods Hole**

CORRECTION!

FRIDAY

MARCH 2

IS

**READ ACROSS
AMERICA DAY!**

(NOT 3/22)

