



*The best way  
to find  
yourself is  
to lose  
yourself in  
the service  
of others.*

*-Mahatma Gandhi*

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# District 7780 News



**Gary Speers  
District Governor**



[www.rotary7780.org](http://www.rotary7780.org)

**March 2012**

## ***Greetings District 7780 Rotarians!***



***Gift of Life project meeting at the  
Maine Foundation for  
Cardiac Surgery***

One of the terrific things about serving as a District Governor is the opportunity to work alongside Rotarians with dreams and vision. Three years ago, then District Governor Jeff Pelkey brought the initial introduction of the "Gift of Life" program founded by Rotary District 7250 and now seeking the collaboration of Rotary Districts and clubs around the world, to the attention of District 7780 Rotarians.

Keynote Speaker Grace Agwaru, originally from Uganda, who as a four year old was the very first Gift of Life recipient, addressed us as a GOL staff ambassador and captivated us at Jeff's District Conference with her story. She spoke of the Gift of Life mission to

further the cause of world peace and understanding by facilitating free medical services, primarily to children suffering from heart defects and other similar or allied illnesses, regardless of race, gender, creed or national origin, and who would otherwise lack access to such services.

District 7780 Rotarian Paul Emery of the Rotary Club of Westbrook Gorham was an individual whose heart was particularly tugged at by the presentation as he had a family member with pediatric heart defects. Paul, upon learning that the closest chapter of GOL was in Boston set out to bring a chapter to District 7780. Three years of working with GOL staff in the Boston area has resulted in wonderful progress towards that goal, a journey that culminated in a February meeting in Portland, Maine.

Paul Emery, Judy and I, Ted Shaughnessy of Gift of Life, and Steve Rand of the Westbrook-Gorham club met on February 14, 2012 with Dr. Reed Quinn and his staff of the Maine Foundation For Cardiac Surgery at Maine Medical Center to elicit their critical involvement.

While still awaiting final confirmation on the acceptance of the two specific individual cases that were presented and tentatively accepted at that meeting, we are well on our way to bringing children from other countries to Maine Medical Center through Gift of Life for life saving surgery. We have their full support and commitment to perform up to six surgeries for individual children each year.

Our next step, with the support and cooperation of all of you, coordinated through the current Rotary Assistant Governors for your respective areas, will be to meet with each of the clubs in your areas and elicit the support of each club in supporting this Rotary District 7780 project.

If the cases we presented are accepted through the medical screening process, we plan to bring in the first child from the Dominican Republic within the next three months.

Jeff and Paul, Thank You for your dreams and your vision of saving children at risk in our world.

***-Gary***

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



## Saturday, March 31 —

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



## Saturday, March 24 -

District Assembly - The District Assembly at the University of Southern Maine - Portland Campus will be co-located with the annual Interact Conference. Registration is \$30 for adults; \$18 for Interactors, and includes both continental breakfast and lunch. To learn more and to register, go to the events calendar on the District Website or the flyer. The registration deadline is March 16.

**Friday, March 30—** South Portland—Cape Elizabeth 50th Anniversary Celebration Gala. Guest speaker will be Rotary International President Elect (2013-14) **Ron Burton**. (Ron is pictured here with his wife, Jetta)



## May 6-9 —

Rotary International Convention in Bangkok, Thailand.



## Thursday, May 17—

District 4-Way Test Contest. For more information and timelines, contact [pennyjett@comcast.net](mailto:pennyjett@comcast.net)

## May 18-20 —

District Conference at the Harraseeket Inn, Freeport, ME. Hotel reservations should be made now by calling the Harraseeket Inn at 1-800-342-6423 or 207-865-9377. Catch the early bird conference registration special NOW by registering online by March 19 via the calendar entry on the left hand column of the home page on the district website.



## Friday, March 30

Don't miss the So Portland—Cape Elizabeth 50th Anniversary Celebration!

## 5pm Cash Bar

## 6:15 Dinner

Our guest speaker will be Rotary Int'l President Elect (2013-2014) **RON BURTON**

PE Burton is a past RI Director, the RI Vice Chair of the Future Vision Committee, Chair of the 2011 RI Conference in New Orleans, member of the USA Polio Eradication Advocacy Task Force, and a member of the Rotary Club of Norman, OK.

The Dinner will be held at the **Doubletree Hotel**, formerly known as the Wyndham, located at **363 Maine Mall Road** in Portland, just off I-95. Cost is **\$50 per person**, and checks may be mailed to:

**SPCE Rotary**  
c/o Joanie Frustaci  
8 Rosewood Dr  
Cape Elizabeth  
ME 04107

## Governor Elect's Corner

### Did you know that PolioPlus started out as a club project?



It was back in 1979, and the Malolos Rotary Club in the Philippines decided to immunize school children against the disease. Malolos applied for a Rotary Foundation grant to help fund the project, and the rest, as they say, is history. (Actually, it's history in the making.)

Fast forward to the present. A Rotarian I met on a club visit recently pointed out to me that *his* club counted donations in small bites: \$500 here, \$1000 there. How, he asked, had Rotary successfully completed the \$200-million Gates Challenge to underwrite PolioPlus? How had Rotarians raised \$1 billion for polio eradication over the past 30 years? Where were the deep pockets that had made the big bucks possible?

The answer, of course, is that there are no deep pockets supporting the Rotary Foundation. Rotary's philanthropic finances are made up of a lot of little numbers, supplied by all of us. To In our District, 33 out of 40 clubs met that mark. The rest of the Gates Challenge came from "ordinary" Rotarians – folks like you and me – who reached into their pockets and their hearts to donate a few hundred or a few thousand dollars apiece. The power of Rotary is not in our wealth but in our numbers – and our long-term vision.

But it's critical to remember that PolioPlus – and the millions of dollars collected and the millions of lives saved – would never have happened at all if it wasn't for the Malolos Club in the Philippines, Rotary District 3770. Which proves that a few dedicated Rotarians can indeed change the world!

In fact, all of Rotary International's projects are driven from the club on up. And incredible programs have started right here in District 7780.

The Friends Forever program, which brings young Protestant and Catholic youth from Northern Ireland together to our District each year to discover how much they really have in common, started as a project of the Portsmouth Club 25 years ago. And Wrap-a-Smile, which has provided more than 17,000 quilts to children around the world who have undergone Rotary-sponsored surgeries, and which has involved Rotarians from all 50 states and beyond, remains close to its roots as a Wells Rotary Club project and the good idea (read: incredible commitment) of Rotarian Terry Hodskins.

Rotary is driven from the club on up. It's easy to get overwhelmed by the problems of this world and to think, for example, that giving a few dozen dictionaries to a local elementary school, or sending a few hundred dollars overseas to support basic reading in a country without proper schooling, can scarcely scratch the surface. But as the PolioPlus example proves, 1.2 million Rotarians in the world, mobilized in 34,000 clubs, can prove to be a truly awesome force. And can create peace through service.

Rotary is driven from the club on up. The lesson is simple: If you can't feed 100 children, feed just one.

*—Marty Peak Helman, District Governor-elect*

## News from Area 2 ....

~ **Marion Cheney, Assistant Governor**  
Dover, Durham-Great Bay, Rochester and South Berwick-Eliot

### Durham-Great Bay Update

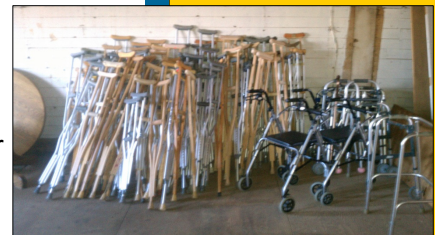
Over twenty five years ago, Bill Skinner with the Dover Rotary Club had an idea to spin off a breakfast club. Bill and Chis Haskell put the idea in motion. On September 10<sup>th</sup>, 1986 a group of 16 members started meeting at Benjamin's Restaurant in Durham. On December 2, 1986 RI signed the Charter. Each year the Durham-Great Bay Club celebrates Charter Night.

This year on January 20<sup>th</sup> my husband, Harry and I, along with DG Gary and wife Judy were guests of the Durham- Great Bay's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The dinner and celebration took place at the Flagg Hill winery in Lee. The evening was spent in fellowship with some of the Charter Members speaking of the early days of the Club. Janet Wall, the Clubs first Lady Member, shared her experiences and the importance that the Rotary family has made in her life.

The twenty five year celebration is marked by an array of projects completed over the years that have contributed to the vitality of the community. The Club continues to host the Rubber Duck Race and Fourth of July Celebration in addition to participating in the Crutches for Africa Project.



DG Gary Speers and President Ron Rogers and the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for the Durham-Great Bay Club



### Rochester Pizza Bowl a huge success

Over 200 people gathered at the Elks on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> for the Pizza Bowl. Nine area pizza restaurants participated this year and attendees enjoyed breakfast pizzas, loaded pizzas and yummy white pizzas. The monies raised went to help fund Howie's Field of Dreams.

Howie's Field of Dreams Update: The roof and siding are being put on the buildings. The Club is \$150,000.00 away from completion at this time. The committee is working on the Howie's Field of Dreams 5K Road Race that will take place on July 21<sup>st</sup>. Last year 240 participants ran/walked.





## *Meet Lawrence Furbish*

### *District 7780 Governor Elect for 2014–15*



Many of our District Rotarians by now have had the opportunity to meet our District 7780 Governor Nominee Designate. We are delighted to introduce Lawrence Furbish to the rest of you and share a little background information on our newest leader in the governor track, who will be your District Governor in Rotary year 2014-15.

Lawrence Furbish was born and grew up in Sanford, Maine. He received a BA degree from Colby College in Waterville, Maine and attended graduate school at the University of Maine and Ohio State University, receiving degrees in Political Science. He worked for the Connecticut State Legislature in the Office of Legislative Research, for over 30 years. This was a non-partisan position involving researching policy issues, writing reports, summarizing legislation, and staffing committees. He was the long-time assistant director of the office and finished the last few years of his tenure as director. He is now retired and living in Sanford in the house his grandfather built, and in which he grew up.

Lawrence has been a Rotarian for almost six years. He has been his Club's Community Service Chair and this year is its President. In 2008, he went on a Rotary mission trip to India and participated in a National Immunization Day. He served on the District International Service Committee in 2010-11 and the District Conference Committee in 2009-10 and 2011-12. He is a Paul Harris Fellow and in July, he will begin a term on the District 7780 Foundation Committee. He has been selected to be the Team Leader of the District GSE team traveling to District 1890 located in northern Germany.

He is active in a number of other community service organizations including three years as president of the local library board, four years as an elected town meeting member, Historical Society board member, and five years as a tenor in the Choral Art Society in Portland, Maine.

Lawrence is enjoying retirement with his wife, Barbara Sutcliffe, who is also a Rotarian. They enjoy golf, gardening, bicycling, yoga, beekeeping, and travel. Lawrence has two children, two stepdaughters and two grandchildren.

Please welcome Lawrence as he joins Marty and Carolyn in the leadership journey!

*-DG Gary*



Little Larry gets ready for his NID trip to India

*Please meet....*

## **Maria Agus Silveira-Galban**

### **Bethel Resident Selected for Rotary GSE Team to Germany**

"I am proud to be an American" said Maria Silveira-Galban in a recent interview. "The U.S. embraces me and I embrace the U.S." Maria, who became a U.S. citizen in 2009, has been sponsored by the Rotary Club of Bethel and selected by District 7780 to be on the 2011-2012 Group Study Exchange program to Hamburg, Germany.

Maria, who is now the interactive Marketing Manager for Sunday River Ski Resort, was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina. At the age of 18 she became a nun but after 9 years left the convent to start a new life. She came to the United States to work at Sunday River Ski Resort as an international and there met her future husband, Jay Boschetti proprietor of Steam Boat Antiques. She graduated from college with a technological degree which led to her profession today where she does online marketing, designs and develops websites and is involved in E-commerce and social media for Sunday River Ski Resort.

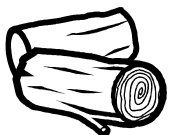
The first thing you notice about Maria is her terrific sense of humor. The second thing is her ability to embrace each new person she meets. She loves her change of lifestyle from the city to the Bethel countryside, from the convent to the technological world. She also speaks several languages, German being one of them. As a GSE team member one of the many experiences she looks forward to is meeting and interacting with people in her profession who live in another country. Because she is the only one in her field at Sunday River Ski Resort, this experience gives her the opportunity to communicate with others in her profession in the same technological language.

Maria is Bethel's first representative on District 7780's Outgoing GSE Team since Steve Wight served as team leader to Australia.

Maria who says she loves what she does will certainly ribute a great deal to the team through her enthusiastic spirit.



**Bethel Rotarians and friends  
celebrating President's Day by  
splitting a cord of wood for the  
needy**



*Left to Right - Mark Savage,  
Scott Hynek, Jim Mann, Dave  
Freiday and Steve Wight.*



## ***Portland Rotary Provides Prosthetic Hands, Hearing Aids in the Dominican Republic***

Portland Rotary Club led an international service trip to the Dominican Republic in January to conduct two medical mission projects. Working in partnership with El Buen Samaritano Hospital in the city of La Romana, the team conducted clinics to provide both prosthetic hands and hearing aids, helping over 100 patients over the course of a week. Team members participating included nine Rotarians - seven from Portland Rotary and two from Breakwater Daybreak in South Portland/Cape Elizabeth.

The Give Hope-Give a Hand project, a new international service initiative for the District, involved the delivery, fitting and training in the use of a simple yet functional prosthetic hand. Seven team members held clinic at the hospital and served close to 50 amputees during the week. Patients came from all over the country to receive a hand, some from as far away as the Haitian border. Most lost their hand from a work related accident or machete attack.

Patients were trained on how to use the hand to perform such daily tasks as eating, writing, driving, and using tools for work. The team also trained two hospital staff members and a local Rotarian on how to fit and train future prosthetic hand recipients. An additional 40 hands were left with the hospital for future patients.

All hands were given free of charge to the recipients. A number of Rotary clubs, as well as members of the community, provided the funding to allow for the purchase of the hands.

Another clinic was conducted by Drs. Roger and Liz Fagan as a continuation of their Hearts for Hearing project that gives children and adults the gift of hearing and a chance for a better life. The District 7780 Rotarians also attended a meeting of the Rotary Club of La Romana Rio Dulce, toured two schools and an orphanage, and met with a member of the La Romana Rotaract Club. There was great support and appreciation for all of our efforts in the Dominican, and a strong desire by all to continue and expand these efforts, as well as assist other clubs in the District interested in pursuing a Hands project.



***The Team: Ilse Yanis, Jan Chapman, Dick Giles, John Curran, Liz Fagan, Roger Fagan, George Crockett, Bruce Moore, Jim Price***



***Rotarian Jan Chapman fitting a patient***

## *Portland Rotary—Dominican Republic ...continued*

Over the course of the week the Fagans served more than 50 patients of all ages.

The Fagans have traveled to the Dominican Republic for 12 years conducting this important work. The connections they have built with the hospital and local Rotarians was a key component in the success of the new Hands initiative.

A side mission of the trip involved a visit to a rural village of Haitian sugarcane workers called Batey Brador to deliver solar-powered lights. The team donated one lantern for each of the 60 households.

The District 7780 Rotarians also attended a meeting of the Rotary Club of La Romana Rio Dulce, toured two schools and an orphanage, and met with a member of the La Romana Rotaract Club. There was great support and appreciation for all of our efforts in the Dominican, and a strong desire by all to continue and expand these efforts, as well as assist other clubs in the District interested in pursuing a Hands project.



**Hearts for Hearing - Liz & Roger Fagan with a Patient**



**Jim Price Building Relationships**



**Patients Waiting for a Hand**

*Did you know that....*

**Club members from 18 clubs out of 40 district clubs travel to participate in international service projects in host countries ?**



## Hampton Rotary Assists LOCO Sports with Food Drive

On February 19<sup>th</sup> LOCO Sports, a Newmarket, New Hampshire running club, held a winter Road Race for 1600 runners beginning at Hampton Beach. LOCO Sports is committed not only to organizing races, but to encouraging those runners to give back to the community. Race Organizer, Mike St. Laurent, recognizing that food pantries often run low on food items during the winter months, asked all runners to help restock the local food pantries by donating at least 2 food items as part of their registration. In return, they received-as Mike said-a "very cool" pair of running gloves.



**Larry Marsolais - Club Service Director, Joan Correll - Past President, and Rich Gibadlo - Sergeant-at-Arms**

Rotarians from Hampton were asked to help collect the food items, hand out the gloves to the runners as they registered, and most importantly distribute the food items to the local food pantries.

Larry Marsolais, coordinator for the Rotary project, remarked that the generosity of the Race Runners was overwhelming. As a result, Rotarians delivered over 2000 items on February 23rd to

The Salvation Army, Hobbs House at Trinity Church, St Vincent De Paul Food Bank and the United Methodist Church, all located in the Hampton.

This is the second time the Hampton Rotary Club has benefitted from a LOCO Sports race. In October 2011, Mike presented the club with a generous donation check that has helped fund many projects. The North Hampton Recreation Department, the Rockingham Nutrition Meals on Wheel program, The Hampton Community Coalition, Village Preschool and Winnacunnet High School Chem-Free Night are just a few of the organizations that have benefitted from LOCO Sports through the Hampton Rotary.

The Hampton Rotary thanks Mike St. Laurent for asking the club to become involved in this most worthy community project. Thanks also go to the many Rotarians who readily volunteered their time and energy to help LOCO Sports restock the food pantries of the Hampton Community.



**Bridgton-Lake Region's Moose on the Loose attends World Peace & Understanding Dinner in Portland**

## Kennebunk Portside Rotary Freezer and Fellowship Fun

Portside Rotary recently reached out to the need of York County Homeless Shelter in Alfred, where individual members of the club collected their own funds to purchase a brand new upright freezer for the shelter. With input from Martha and Joan at the shelter and the help of Sears in Biddeford, a new freezer was delivered to the shelter and Portside Rotary answered the needs of the community donations and your individual continued support of Portside Rotary.



Portsiders and friends

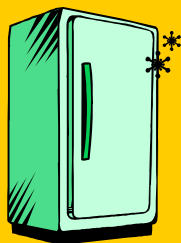
We also have FUN – Portside Rotarians gathered for a fun night out at the UNE vs USM hockey game on Friday, 2/3, with our own, Mike Manos as assistant coach for the UNE defensive team. Rotarians had a private room with lots of cheers. ADG and Portsider, Peggy Belanger got to ride in the Zambonie.



Peggy Belanger and her  
sister "Coach Marie"



Peggy on the Zambonie



## Bridgton-Lake Rotary Club

In 2011, the Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club provided \$2000 toward the purchase of a generator for a School/Multi-use building in Sudan. The building is progressing and this photo was just received from the South Sudan Youth Foundation. The generator will be used to power this facility once complete.

Mike Tarantino, Director BCC Fuel Collaborative and Carmen Lone, BCC Executive Director receive a check in the amount of \$1,530 for fuel assistance from the Bridgton-Lake Region Rotary Club. These funds were raised by the Rotary Club's annual citrus sale and distributed to the towns of Bridgton, Harrison, Naples, Sweden and Denmark by the BCC Fuel Collaborative.



**Fuel Collaborative Donation**

## Bethel Rotary Club... Literacy Project Partnership



**Sudan Project Update**



**L to R: Rotarian Dr. David Murphy; Cindy Coughenour and Fred Seibert, owners of The Jolly Drayman at Briar Lea Inn**

When approached by the Bethel Rotary Club to partner with them in funding a Telstar Middle School literacy project, the owners of the Jolly Drayman at the Briar Lea Inn did not hesitate.

Fred Seibert and Cindy Coughenour are shown presenting Rotarian Dr. David Murphy Superintendent of Schools SAD 44 with a check for \$1,027. The owners decided to use proceeds from their popular Wednesday Trivial Pursuit game night.

The donation was to purchase 30 copies of the book, A Wilderness Ranger's Journal – Rendezvous At Devil's Elbow, by Tim Caverly. Caverly will provide an interactive presentation with music and scenic and historic photos,

to several classes. Caverly will also direct a writing workshop for interested students. The Bethel Rotary Club purchased an additional ten copies of Caverly's latest book. Last year, the Bethel Club purchased 20 copies of Caverly's An Allagash Haunting. This book has been adopted in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum.

Tim Caverly served as supervisor of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway for 18 years. He has written several children's books.



## *Karl's Kids—Damariscotta/Newcastle*

Karl's Kids, a project of the Damariscotta-Newcastle Club, held its 5<sup>th</sup> annual Fun Ski weekend at Sugarloaf Maine March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Karl's Kids honors the late Rotarian Karl Berger by helping less fortunate children up to age 18 in Lincoln County who want to participate in sports. Helping make dreams reality, the program has supplied sports equipment, uniforms or cheerleading uniforms. This year Karl's Kids will be supplying safety helmets for the participants in the Great Salt Bay school bicycle rodeo. For further information, and/or to download an application for assistance, see [www.karlskids.org](http://www.karlskids.org)

In spite of the 100+ mph winds that greeted us on Saturday morning, lifts were open at noon and our race went off as planned. After the trails close in late afternoon, there is a silent auction with great possibilities: wine, restaurant gift certificates, ski equipment, bed and breakfast stays, and the top prize of a stay for 2 at the Hamilton Princess Hotel in Bermuda.



Past President **Linda Brunner**, looking very stylish, suits up for the afternoon race at Sugarloaf



Past President, **Carol Ransom** with club moose Scott Castle getting ready for the auction

## *Milton Moose goes to the sugar house*

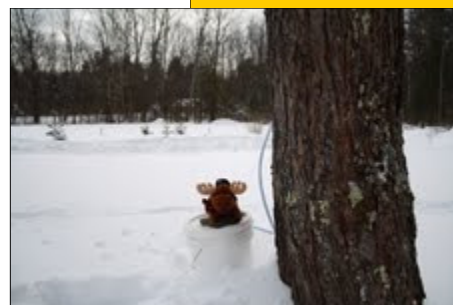
Milton Moose of the Rochester Rota NH Rotary Club had a fantastic weekend at the Currier/McCluskey Sugar Shack. He assisted in making a little over 1 gallon of syrup.



Milton Moose and **Christine McCluskey** standing next to the evaporator



Couldn't resist making snow angels



Milton sitting on a sap bucket



Milton Moose playfully perched on the pile of wood used to run the evaporator



Showing off the finished product!

