

*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

May 2012

Greetings District 7780 Rotarians!



Of the opportunities that I have been fortunate to be involved in this Rotary Year, up near the top has been the entire Group Study Exchange experience. From the first exchange of e-mails with District 1890 GSE Coordinator Wolfgang Janus whose first comment was "Is Freeport, Maine in your district, I love going to L.L. Bean?" to attending a recent reception for both of the wonderful GSE teams, inbound and outbound at District 7780 Coordinator Grace Connolly's home, incredible! An amazing amount of time, effort and care by countless individuals in both districts has gone into the process of bringing together young professional business people to share a vocational and cultural experience of a lifetime.

The District 7780 GSE selection committee picked a talented and diverse group to represent our district and it is now obvious that our counterparts in the Schleswig-Holstein, Hamburg and Nord-Niedersachsen area of Germany have accomplished the same.

We welcome District 1890 GSE Team members Fabian Gieschen, Torben Mothes, Kinka Tadsen, Maren Weisse and Rotarian Team Leader Klaus Nielsky to our clubs and into our homes.

Group Study Exchange has given so many individuals throughout our district the opportunity to meet, get to know and often become lifelong friends with people from other countries and cultures. For many of us Rotarians in smaller rural communities it may be the only chance to participate in an international process which contributes to so much more than just a "business" exchange, it fosters goodwill and contributes immensely to world peace and understanding.

Both the inbound team from Germany and the outbound team headed to Germany on May 20th will be presenting at the District Conference. Take the time to say hello and wish our outbound team of Arthur Adams, Myles Johnston, Ashley Randall, Maria Augustina Silveira-Galban and Rotarian Team Leader Lawrence Furbish a safe and fruitful journey. I am certain my counterpart and friend District 1890 Governor Wolfgang Muller-Michaelis will take good care of them!

~Gary

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



Thursday, May 17

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

May 18-20

District Conference at the Harraseeket Inn, Freeport, ME

June 24 - June 27

RYLA : High school sophomore leadership program at Camp Hinds, Raymond, ME



Sunday, July 1, 3:30 pm

Rotary Foundation Major Donor Reception by invitation only at Spruce Point Inn prior to the District Changeover

Sunday, July 1, 4:30-7:30 pm

District Changeover Lobster Bake at



Spruce Point Inn in Boothbay Harbor. Join your club President as he or she is inducted into his/her new responsibilities by Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka and enjoy an old-fashioned lobster bake with all the trimmings. Cost: \$55; register online (www.rotary7780.org).

Friday, August 10

Long-Haulers Luncheon for Rotarians who joined the organization prior to 1992. Place and details TBA.

Saturday, August 18

Deadline for DSG applications.

Applications for clubs to receive District Simplified Grants to help their community must be received by the District by this date. See details at www.rotary7780.org

Saturday, September 8 -

District Foundation Seminar.

Place and details TBA.

Friday, September 28—

Mardi Gras Fellowship Dinner

Guest speaker, Governor Don Bryan from Louisiana, will tell the untold story of what Rotarians did when disaster struck in their own communities. Place and details TBA.



September 29-30—

NorthEast LINK, Boxborough, MA, for all Rotary Ambassadorial and World Peace Fellows.

October 17-20—

Zone 24-32 Meeting in Vancouver, BC, for all past, present and future District Governors.

Saturday, October 27 —

District Membership/PR/Visioning Seminar, place and agenda TBA.

Because We've Always Done It That Way



It's an unfortunate fact: I meet too many older Rotarians who blame the shortage of youthful members in our clubs on this age group themselves. "They don't care about the community," a graybeard will grumble. "Young people today are only interested in themselves."

May I respectfully disagree?

Research shows that Young Professionals (the 25- to 40-year-old crowd) are as interested – maybe more interested – in service as are the rest of us. But being at the beginning of their careers, time is a critical issue for them, and so is cost. And Young Professionals are no different from the rest of us in their need to feel that their input will make a difference; any project they take part in must be of value to *them*. It's worth noting that this generation grew up in a more global world than did their parents, and many Young Professionals seek out Rotary (as opposed to other service organizations) because of our reputation for working internationally as well as in our own backyards. Of critical importance: Weekends are off-limits. No work parties, no nothing. And so is spending time in a meeting that they think could be accomplished more easily on-line.

What does all this mean for Rotary? Rather than blaming Young Professionals for not showing up, I think we need to take a hard, serious look at ourselves to see how well we are positioned to attract and keep them.

For a starter, there's nothing that says that Rotary and food are inseparable. Taking the meal out of the equation not only lowers costs and shortens the meeting, it makes it much easier to find meeting space. Topsham Espresso meets at breakfast time but is strictly BYO coffee, and both Yarmouth and Brunswick Coastal are experimenting with Dunkin Donuts or equivalent. Falmouth is the closest we have to a "pub club"; the group meets over pretzels and beer at 4:30, a time chosen as *between* work and dinner.

We also need to take a hard look at some of our clubs' most treasured customs which may be not-so-attractive to newcomers. I led a presentation on this topic recently, and here's a partial list of "turnoffs" that the young Rotarians in the room said would keep them from returning to a club:

- *Singing songs that were chestnuts back when Rotary was founded
- *Imposition of silly fines or telling in-jokes that are incomprehensible to visitors
- *Singing the "Welcome Song" while Club members approach total strangers to grab their hand
- *Talking in Rotary-speak and acronyms
- *Sitting through meetings that run over, are poorly run, or feature speakers that have nothing to do with Rotary or the club's activities

Continued on page 4 ...



L to R - Lawrence E. Engdahl;
Read Dickinson

Rotarian Read Dickinson donated a Paul Harris Fellow to former Rotarian Larry Engdahl. Read cites Engdahl's good works and volunteerism within the Bethel community.

Read, a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow, has donated over \$7,000 to Rotary's Annual Program Fund. He proudly wears his Paul Harris Pin of four sapphires which signifies his donation of \$5,000. Also, he has given two Fellows to his wife Leigh by donating to Rotary's annual Program Fund in her honor.

-Submitted by Joe Arruzio

Governor Electcontinued

It's worth noting that there's nothing that says that the meeting should follow the same format every week. The Seacoast Club uses club mornings for frequent field trips to visit places of interest throughout the Portsmouth area, for example, and a number of clubs in our District have experimented with monthly evening fellowship events.

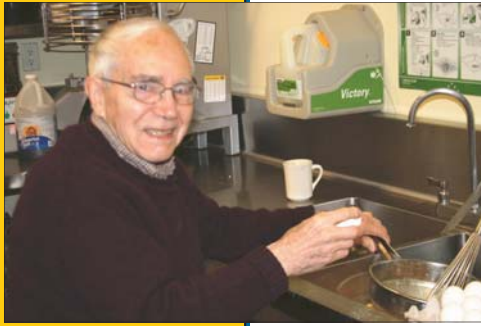
Or why not reinvent the meetings completely? Here's a proposal that came out of my discussions with the Young Professionals: That the first meeting of the month be a business meeting. The second meeting would feature a guest speaker on a Rotary topic. The third would comprise a service project. And the fourth would be a fellowship/family event.

How welcoming is your club to Young Professionals? The best way to find out is to ask! Invite your adult son or niece, or the young couple you met at a Chamber event, to come to a meeting. Afterwards, ask your guest to honestly describe what they saw and heard. Now comes the hard part: If your guest didn't like something at the meeting, don't try to dissuade them from their opinion. Instead, be the change agent at the club who tackles the question of whether it is really, really necessary that every meeting should highlight Uncle Bob's lame joke-of-the-week.

Rotary has a great deal to offer Young Professionals. After all, Young Professionals are the future of our movement. Just as our clubs needed to make changes a generation ago in order to appeal to women, so too do we need to make changes today in order to appeal to the next generation of potential members. We can do it. We need to, if we are to fulfill our promise as peacemakers of the world.

--Marty Peak Helman, District Governor-elect

Country Breakfast Fundraiser in Bethel



The Rotary Club of Bethel conducts a Spring and Fall All-You-Can-Eat Country Breakfast Buffet as fundraisers. It provides fun and fellowship for all while supporting our community projects and scholarships. The event is held at Ordway Dining Hall, Gould Academy.

Rotarian Walter Hatch breaking eggs. Walter arrives at Ordway Dining Hall at 6:00 a.m. to go to work. In recent years he has broken 360 eggs. The most

he can remember doing was 540 eggs.

His best guess is he has been working the Fall and Spring Country Breakfast close to 15 years. I estimate that Walter has cracked enough eggs to serve 10,000 plus meals.

Rotarian Jim Monahan also arrives at 6:00 a.m. to prepare bacon and sausage for the Country Breakfast. Jim was unable to estimate how long he has been helping out, but he is 94 years young and a delight to work with.



-submitted by Joe Arizzi

Oxford Hills Rotary Spring Event

The Oxford Hills Rotary Club, Andrew (Dru) LaDuke and the 2012 Exchange Students enjoyed breakfast at our Spring event.

GSE Out-Bound Team Member Agus Silveria-Galban with Catalina an Exchange Student from Chile enjoy the fixin's. Catalina presently lives with a host family in the Falmouth area. She loved meeting Agus and it was a nice surprise to the morning's event.



Dave Freiday, Rotary Volunteer, is the first to arrive and the last to leave. Shown here is Dave with Rotarian Scott Hynek. They along with Gould Academy's Head Mistress and Rotarian Kathy Kunkle are the diswashers.



-submitted by Joe Arizzi



AREA 5 CLUB NEWS

Breakwater Daybreak, Casco Bay Sunrise, Falmouth, Portland, Sebago Lake, Westbrook-Gorham

—submitted by Dick Hall

SEBAGO LAKES ROTARY CLUB

had a special Paul Harris award ceremony. The club has a long history of annually awarding Paul Harris Fellows, using club funds, to deserving Rotarians and community members. This year Kim Russell was awarded a Fellow for all her work to support the club. The work included writing a grant to support the fishing derby, and her tireless participation with the Interact Club. Two Paul Harris awards were given to Jon Morrill and John Peterson, of the Kittery Trading Post. They have supported the fishing derby for more than five years, with a donation, with their input, and with their personal participation. Jon Morrill is both a Rotarian and part of Kittery Trading Post.



CASCO BAY SUNRISE

Earlier this year the Rotary Club of Casco Bay Sunrise teamed up with students from Learning Works to paint a 20x30 map on the playground of Riverton N Elementary School. The club is scheduled to repeat the project on May 12, this time at Portland's Reiche school playground. Plans are in the works for a third map at Portland's Presumpscot School. The hope is to further literacy and geography skills, and to have fun!



Area 5

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**PORTLAND ROTARY CLUB**

Amy Chipman, Portland Rotarian, and Mike McGovern, incoming Rotary Foundation Trustee had the honor of awarding 19 Paul Harris Fellows on April 19th. This year Portland Rotarians have completed their pledges on 29 Paul Harris Fellows, 14 of which are first time. Amy was praised by President Jack Carr for all her hard work as chair of the Rotary Foundation. Well done Amy! Well done, Portland Rotary

**BREAKWATER DAYBREAK**

This was taken on donation day. This Rotary year, the Breakwater Daybreak club donated 284 dictionaries to 7 South Portland Schools

Rotary Club of Casco Bay Sunrise Visioning Event



Casco Bay Sunrise held a vision facilitation event on Thursday, April 5th at the Cumberland Club in Portland. Club participation was high with 14 out of 18 members. Facilitators, including Lead Tony Wagner, Dick Hall, John Lobosco, Lee Pautenaude and Sheila Rollins, guided club members through a well-tested process for identifying the club's vision of what it wants to be in five years. Positive comments from participants included:

"A great way to help us focus and plan for the next Rotary year and others going forward"

"It was great to see the excitement from fellow participants".



*Visioning Event***...continued**

Nineteen clubs in the District have held visioning events. Many have begun the process of developing plans to achieve their vision. Feedback from Clubs to date is that they are stronger as a result of the process. The Rotary Club of Freeport will be the twentieth club to participate with their event scheduled for June 26th.

Club leaders interested in scheduling a vision facilitation event should contact Tony Wagner, District Vision Facilitation Coordinator at tony.bellner@gmail.com.

-submitted by Susan Gesing



Left to right - Agus Silveira-Galban, guest of Joe Arizzi; Dean Walker; Kevin Bellinger, guest of Dean Walker; Kevin Finley; Lynn Arizzi and Ross Timberlake, guest of Lynn Arizzi

"Bring a Friend" to Bethel Rotary Club

The Rotary Club of Bethel held "Bring a Friend" at its April 17th meeting. The Bethel Rotary Club uses this method to attract potential new mem-

bers. Each active member is encouraged to bring a friend in hopes that they will eventually become a Rotarian.

Our speaker for the "Bring a Friend" meeting was David Reid. David is with the RC Hampton, and is the Chair of the RI District 7780's Public Image Committee. David is responsible for helping clubs and District 7780 promote and educate their communities, states and the world about Rotary.

-submitted by Joe Arizzi



David Reid



Sow the Seeds of Love-Hampton Rotary's Children's Gardens



Hampton Rotarian Tracy Gagnon is "sowing the seeds of love" this spring by working with the staff and children at The Village Preschool and Headstart in starting their very own children's touch and taste garden.

Director of The Village Preschool, Ginny Bridle, was a guest speaker at a Rotary meeting. She expressed her appreciation to the club for their support, and invited members to visit and see first-hand how their financial support benefited the children attending the preschool. Tracy decided to take Ginny up on her offer to visit the preschool and it was not long before she was volunteering each week, sharing her passion for nutrition and wellness with the children. In the meantime, she had also volunteered for reading at Head Start, another Rotary project. Both experiences caused Tracy to think that both places would really benefit from having a children's garden where the children could grow, touch and taste different things in the garden.

Tracy's personal adventures inspired her to create a "mystery garden" for the preschoolers that will grow during the summer and be harvested when they return in the fall. Her hope is that children will be more willing to incorporate new foods into their diets and some of their enthusiasm may go beyond school to doing container gardens with their families as an activity.

Both JoAnn Boddy, a Headstart Director and Ginny Bridle, were most receptive to Tracy's vision. Tracy presented her vision to the Rotary Board of Directors. Their support will help create gardens in raised beds in mid-May for the two preschools located in the Hampton community.

-submitted by Marilyn Rishkofski

Telstar Middle School Literacy Project

The Rotary Club of Bethel partnered with the Jolly Drayman at Briar Lea to bring this literacy project to Telstar Middle School students.

"Awesome" is how some TMS students described author and outdoorsman Tim Caverly's visit on April 11. Caverly enjoys sharing his outdoor experiences by presenting "A Literacy Celebration of the Maine Experience" at schools to encourage students to read, write and learn about their State. He brought the beauty and prose of the Allagash region to Telstar Middle School at all-day workshops.

Caverly, a retired Maine Department of Conservation employee who spent 18 years as the supervisor of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, took his love for that northern region as well as his skills in writing to teach youngsters how they can write books, too.

The Bethel Rotary Club and Jolly Drayman Pub owners, Fred Siebert and Cindy Coughenour, provided funding to bring Caverly to the school. They also bought 40 copies of his most recent book.

-submitted by Joe Arizzi



Fred Siebert and Cindy Coughenour of the Jolly Drayman Pub and President Ellie Andrews enjoy Caverly's Writing Workshop.



Tim Caverly with two promising journalists.

Rotarians at Work Day

Breakwater Daybreak teamed up with 30 Interact students from South Portland High School and other community groups on April 21 to clean up shorelines, beaches, trails, and parks. The South Portland Land Trust sponsored this year's Earth Day event.

Our team worked in Hinckley Park, an area of 40 acres with 2 large ponds and collected the typical bottles, cans and styrofoam products but also returned with bicycle tires, a large piece of farm equipment, a shredded sleeping bag and a head of a mannequin.

Volunteering on

Rotarians at Work Day or *Earth Day* is more than just picking up trash. It's about community pride and it teaches our children about the importance of protecting open space and building the connection with nature.

-submitted by Ilse Yanis



Rotary in Cambodia



Marty and Frank Helman of the Boothbay Harbor Club visited Rotary projects in Cambodia and delivered medical supplies to a provincial hospital. Here, Marty poses with children who are in a Rotary program to learn English, and she also helps deliver water filters. At the hospital, Marty and Frank (and the moose) deliver a suitcase of medical supplies donated through World Partners in Health, located in Scarborough.

