

District 7780 Newsletter



SERVICE Above Self

Sun Dec 02, 2012

[Home](#)

Mark Your Calendar

[Next Generation Zone Meeting](#) HOLIDAY
INN BOXBOROUGH (I-495 EXIT 28)

Dec 08, 2012 09:00 AM - 04:00 PM

[GSE Team Member Interviews Scheduled](#)

Dec 10, 2012 - Dec 18, 2012

[Governors Council Holiday Dinner](#) Dec 11,
2012

[Guatemala Mission Trip Planning Session](#) Dec
12, 2012 07:00 PM - 08:03 PM

[District Conference Planning Meeting](#) Dec 13,
2012 04:00 PM - 05:30 PM

[District Finance Committee Meeting](#) Dec 17,
2012 06:00 PM

[Sanford Springvale's 90th Anniversary!](#) Jan
12, 2013

[District Governor Nominations due](#) Jan 15,
2013

[NorthEast LINK GSE training](#) Jan 21, 2013

[District Nominations Committee](#) York

Chamber of Commerce

Jan 22, 2013 - Jan 23, 2013

[Mid Year Leadership Dinner](#) Jan 28, 2013
05:00 PM

[District Nominations Committee](#) York

Chamber of Commerce

Jan 29, 2013 - Jan 30, 2013

[Friendship Exchange to New Orleans](#) Feb 09,
2013 - Feb 16, 2013

[Stuff the Bus and Frugal Feast](#) Feb 23, 2013

[Presidents-elect Training Seminar 2013](#) Mar
07, 2013 - Mar 09, 2013

[Portsmouth Club's 90th Anniversary!](#) Mar 28,
2013

[District Assembly 2012](#) Apr 06, 2013

[District Service Tour to Guatemala](#) Apr 13,
2013 - Apr 21, 2013

[Rotary Generations & Long-Haulers -
rescheduled](#) May 10, 2013 12:00 AM

[Newburyport Club's 90th Anniversary!](#) May
11, 2013

[2013 District Conference](#) May 17, 2013 -
May 18, 2013

[New Members Luncheon](#) Jun 08, 2013

[District Changeover \(tentative\)](#) Jun 09, 2013

Governor Marty's Message

What Can Rotarians Do to Help?



Back in 1998 it was our District's turn. The ice storms that January led to downed trees and power outages that lasted for several weeks. Schools were turned into shelters, and businesses couldn't open. Marie Williams was District Governor at the time, and she remembers: *"Support came to this District from all over the world and a truckload of supplies was driven to Maine from Connecticut. I will never forget that event! It was wonderful to see how people pulled together to help those in need whether in their own backyard or around the world."*

Conventional wisdom tells us that Rotary is not set up for disaster relief. Our job after a disaster is to support the first responders and the

Red Cross in the work they do. That's why members of my club have been trained by the Red Cross to open and staff a shelter, if one should be needed in our community. That's why so many Rotarians also volunteer as firefighters and the like.

But sometimes conventional wisdom gets in the way of our heart strings. After Hurricane Katrina, after the Southeast Asian and Japanese tsunamis, after the earthquake in Haiti, Rotarians in clubs across this District opened their hearts and their purses to donate money for relief and recovery. They knew that money forwarded to Rotarians in the impacted area would be used directly to help those in need, not lost in a bureaucratic shuffle. They knew the money would go where it was needed most.

Rotary's Shelter Box program is only 12 years old, but it has grown exponentially with all these natural disasters. Shelter Box first played a significant role after the Southeast Asian tsunami, and it is now an essential part of the Rotary fabric.

Then the ante got raised, right here in New England. In the aftermath of last year's Hurricane Irene, Rotarians in our neighboring districts in New Hampshire and Vermont banded together and established the mother-of-all Rotary Foundation Matching Grants. Fourteen clubs in this District participated in a mega-grant that grew via District and Rotary Foundation matches to \$412,000, breaking all sorts of records both for a Foundation grant in the aftermath of a natural disaster as well as for a humanitarian project in North America. Yes, the grant moved slowly – as noted, Rotary doesn't attempt to compete with first responders – but that turned out

[2013 International Convention](#) Jun 23, 2013 - Jun 26, 2013

[2013 Zone 24-32 meeting](#) Sep 19, 2013 - Sep 21, 2013

[Northeast Link - Networking - Training - Resource](#) Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA
Sep 28, 2013 08:30 AM - 09:30 PM

[2014 District Conference](#) May 16, 2014 - May 17, 2014

[2014 International Convention](#) Jun 01, 2014 - Jun 04, 2014

William R Skinner Dies



William R. Skinner, District 7780 Governor 1998-99 passed unexpectedly last week at his home in Florida with family and friends by his side.

William R. Skinner "Bill" was born and raised in Charleston, West Virginia. He received his Business degree from West Virginia University in 1954 and his Masters in Occupational Education degree from the University of New Hampshire in 1976. He served two years in the Army as an R.O.T.C. officer at Fort Benning, Georgia, and Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Bill was invited to join the Dover-Durham Rotary Club in 1978. He was president in 1984-85, and became a Charter Member of the Durham Great Bay Club in 1986, where just twelve years later, he served our district as governor.

Bill married his childhood sweetheart, Lucy Love in 1954. Lucy has a degree in Business Administration from West Virginia University and retired in 1996 from the University of New Hampshire Admissions office. They were very proud of their three children and many grandchildren.

Bill was at home, with friends, when he fell on Monday. He never regained consciousness, but his family did have time to gather in Florida to say goodbye. "He definitely went out at the top of his game," his daughter Leyman writes. "Happy, healthy, and still as handsome as ever. It is how he wanted it to happen. Just way too soon for all of us!" Bill was 82.

A memorial service will be held in Florida in January. Expressions of sympathy can be sent to: Lucy Skinner 2505 Harbor Ct. Shell Pt Village, Fort Myers,

to be a blessing, because the grant money went to help individuals who, for whatever reason, had fallen through the cracks of support from government and social services agencies.

There was the gentleman who didn't have flood insurance because his house wasn't in a flood zone; wasn't, that is, until Irene diverted a river through his living room. And other people who made just a few dollars too much to be eligible for government assistance programs, but who needed megabucks to rebuild nonetheless. A grant of \$412,000 isn't enough to clean up the damage, but it is certainly enough to make a difference to a number of hard-hit families.

And then last month the Tri-State area was whacked by Superstorm Sandy. The lights hadn't yet gone back on when the Rotary Governors whose Districts were most directly impacted came together, agreed to work together, and set up a common informational website (www.nynjrotary.org), bank account, and staging area. That's Rotary at work! Already, the Districts involved are beginning to pinpoint potential rebuilding projects, and although it is too soon to tell, a Matching Grant similar to the one that followed Irene is very probably in the works. Meanwhile, we can help by donating directly to the Rotary District 7090 *Walter D. Head Foundation* which is serving as the focal point for charitable donations toward disaster relief.

And our District has responded! Through the leadership of the Hampton Club, a truckload of food, clothing, and blankets, was delivered to New Jersey in short order. Moreover, clubs throughout the District are already voting monies both for recovery and for rebuilding. I am warmed by the generosity of spirit that I have encountered time and again throughout the District over the past few weeks, and I assure you, your actions make me proud to be a Rotarian.

--Marty Peak Helman, District Governor

District News



[Shelterbox Response Team Still Hard At Work in Northeast](#)

Posted by Stephen Demeranville

Even though Hurricane Sandy no longer dominates the news, ShelterBox Response Teams (first responders) are still hard at work supporting those who lost so much in this epic disaster. ShelterBox is deploying aid in the Northeast of the U.S. in addition to having teams in Haiti and Cuba. ShelterBox has distributed more than a thousand blankets in the Far Rockaways and Long Island as well as parts of northern NJ. Our second team worked with Rotary District 7500 to deliver aid along the eastern seaboard of NJ. Thankfully, tented shelter was not needed since sufficient temporary housing and shelters were available. The ShelterBox team met with officials to see what was missing from aid that they were receiving from charities around the nation and it was determined that more blankets, hygiene kits, hats mittens and scarves and other items were still needed.

[Read more...](#)

[Good Decisions Don't Just Happen - Share the Four Way Test With Our Youth Today](#)



Posted by Mary Rennie

Muriel Jacobson Dies



Muriel Jacobson

died November 7 after a long illness. She was a long-time Rotarian and wife of PDG Bob Jacobson, who served this District as Governor in 2005-06. Muriel was born in Bridgeport, CT and earned her associate's degree at what is now Quinnipiac University before she moved to New York City and began her secretarial career. In 1941 she married her childhood sweetheart, Bernard Jorgenson, who subsequently died of wounds suffered in the Korean War. In 1976 she met and married Bob Jacobson, and after they had both retired, they moved to his family home in Boothbay Harbor.

Muriel and Bob were devoted to one another, and inseparable. It seemed only natural that she would join the Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club to be with Bob, and she turned down the opportunity to be club president because that was incompatible with the support she felt she needed to give Bob during his runup to be District Governor. Muriel was a Paul Harris Fellow, and received a multiple PHF just weeks prior to her death. That was the opportunity for this picture of the couple.

Muriel was a member and past president of the Boothbay Region Garden Club and later served on the board of the Garden Club Federation of Maine. Her passion was flowers and gardening, and she made the garden of their home on Harris Point a showcase. She also loved animals, and was a supporter of the Lincoln County Animal Shelter; her favorite breed was cocker spaniel. A celebration of her life will take place in the spring. Expressions of sympathy can be mailed to PDG Bob Jacobson, 36 Harris Point Rd. Boothbay Harbor, Maine.

Casco Bay Sunrise Changes Name

The District is planning another 4 Way Speech & Essay Contest (separate from the District Conference this year) which will be very exciting for all attendees. The purpose of the District Four-Way Test Speech Contest is to foster ethics in everyday life, as well as in business. The 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. It is also aimed at encouraging young people to learn to express themselves well in public. The District Contest will be held on Monday night, April 8, 2013 from 5:30-9 PM (pizza from 5:30-6 PM) at the Falmouth High School, Falmouth, Maine.

[Read more...](#)



[Future Leaders Seminar Held & Nominations Needed for District Governor & Finance Committee](#)

Posted by George Rice

A Future Leaders Seminar was held in Cape Elizabeth on November 10th with a small turnout, but a lot of good conversation, questions asked and questions answered. Due to the fact that the attendance was low, we have decided to hold another interactive session for anyone interested in pursuing the position of **District Governor**. We will plan to hold this on a weeknight evening in December, substantially prior to the nomination deadline on January 15th. If any Rotarian is interested in participating in this informal discussion, please contact George Rice at [\(207\)-743-2285](tel:(207)743-2285) or gwrice@myfairpoint.net or Governor Marty Helman at [\(207\)-633-6336](tel:(207)633-6336) or martyrotary@gmail.com, and we will arrange a date that is convenient for everyone.

[Read more...](#)



[Experience Guatemala & Return Home to Make a Difference](#)

Posted by Carolyn Johnson

A vacation with a difference, that's what the District 7780 tour to Guatemala promises you. We will meet in Guatemala on Sunday, April 14 and head out to visit project supported by various clubs and individual Rotarians in our district. There will be breathtaking scenery, but this trip is about the difference that Rotarians are making in this developing nation. Plans are to start at Lake Atitlán, where we will visit Hospitalito Atitlán, a new, private hospital built with significant support of Rotarians after the "old" hospital was destroyed by a mudslide during Hurricane Stan. From there, we will travel to Mazatenango to meet up with Rotarians and Interactors for Kennebunk involved in a water project and plan to spend social time getting to know Rotarians of the RC of Mazatenango.

[Read more...](#)



The Rotary Club of Casco Bay Sunrise has officially changed its name to the **Rotary Club of Portland Sunrise**. This change was predicated by the increase in social media and online resources to locate Rotary clubs. Club members agreed that online searches for the club would be eased if the name "Portland" were included in the official name of the club! The club will continue to meet Thursday mornings at the Cumberland Club in downtown Portland.

Presidents Midyear Dinner



The Mid

Year Leadership Dinner for all sitting presidents, presidents-elect and vice presidents will take place at the Fireside Inn, off Exit 48 in Westbrook, ME. on Monday, January 28th. Don't miss out on this important fellowship and educational opportunity for all presidents, present and future as they strategize their course and re-energize their enthusiasm for all that is Rotary and service. Stay tuned for details on how to register.

2011-12 Foundation Giving Goals Achieved



Last year, the South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club celebrated its 50th anniversary in grand style: Every club member donated at least something to The Rotary Foundation, thereby making SPCE the District's only "every Rotarian every year" club. The club also gave \$291 per

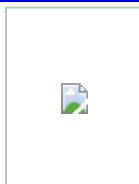


[Celebrating Rotary's Birthday with a "Frugal Feast"](#)

Posted by Martha Helman

Rotary International's birthday of February 23 has traditionally been a time for Rotarians throughout the District to get together to celebrate the good work we do. This year, a slight alteration in those plans will give us the opportunity to both celebrate our past successes AND do more good work at the same time. That's because on Saturday, Feb. 23, World Understanding and Peace Day, the District will promote our local food pantries and culminate the day with a "Frugal Feast" celebration.

[Read more...](#)



[District Conference will "Multiply the Magic" of Rotary](#)

Posted by Martha Helman

Plans are underway for a gala District Conference to take place the weekend of May 17-18 at Spruce Point Inn in Boothbay Harbor.

The Conference theme will be "Multiply the Magic." It's the magic of charitable commitment and the magical multiplying effect of the money we donate to The Rotary Foundation that makes possible the life-giving, peace-making work that we Rotarians do. In May, we will share the Rotary adventures and magic accomplished this Rotary year!

[Read more...](#)



[David Letterman Concurs With The NUMBER ONE Reason to Visit Lisbon in this Rotary Year](#)

Posted by Carolyn Johnson

Top Ten Reasons to Attend the Rotary International Conference in Lisbon

#10. Be an explorer. Lisbon is the center from where the "new world explorers" set sail. Visit the fabled St George's castle (possibly with a dragon?) which straddles the city's seven hills. Experience one of the world's finest private art collections at the Gulbenkian Museum. Wander the old market to find a bargain and sample the fresh produce.

#9. Escape a foggy New England week in June to a sunny, Mediterranean start to summer! Warm sandy beaches await! Experience one of the world's finest private art collections at the Gulbenkian Museum. Wander the old market to find a bargain and sample the fresh produce.

[Read more...](#)

capita to the Foundation – a remarkable achievement for a club of its size.

Yarmouth did even better at a whopping \$512 per capita. And Kittery came in third at \$148 per capita. These clubs are to be congratulated for their tenacity and ongoing support of our Foundation, which helps make it possible to fund our own Foundation projects.

Meanwhile, the Portland Club made history of its own by marking \$120 giving per capita in 2011-12. For a club of Portland's size to reach this number shows remarkable tenacity and dedication to the work of Rotary.

While the \$200 million Gates Challenge has been met, the need to eradicate polio continues. We're this close, and last year the following clubs gave directly to PolioPlus: Bath, Bethel, Biddeford-Saco, Brunswick, Fryeburg, Hampton, Kennebunk Portside, Portland, Portsmouth, River Valley, South Portland-Cape Elizabeth, and York. Congratulations to all these clubs for their commitment to our Foundation and all the good work that it allows us to do!

District 7780 Trivia



AND WE HAVE A WINNER!!!

Lawrence Furbish, DGN from the Rotary Club of Sanford-Springvale once again sent the correct answer in on November 1, 2012 at 8:40 PM. Is anyone beside Lawrence checking out the District Yearbook/History page? For answers to last month's trivia, click here. [Trivia Page](#)

This month's District History trivia question once again has two parts.

Which country has District 7780 had the most GSE exchanges with and what Rotary year did District 7780 have two outgoing and two incoming GSE teams?

If you can find the answer in the District Website's Yearbook page, send it to me at mawilliamsdpdg@comcast.net. The answer will be in next month's news bulletin along with the name of the first person to give me the correct answer along with their club name. Let's see if anyone besides DGN Lawrence Furbish is reading about the District History!



[Rotaplast - Mission to Guatemala 2014](#)

Posted by Ann Demeranville

The District Rotaplast Committee recently met and decided to work towards the goal of supporting a mission to Guatemala in April, 2014. Half of the clubs in our district have been visited to hear about the life-changing work accomplished by the Rotaplast mission to Togo last year. Members of the committee hope to speak to the remaining clubs in the near future. Our goal is to have each club fund the cleft lip and cleft palate surgeries for just two children over the next two years. Anyone interested in potentially participating as a non-medical volunteer on our next mission should contact Rotaplast Ambassador Ann Demeranville at rotaplast7780@gmail.com.



[New York City – In Just One 30 Hour Day!](#)

Posted by Martha Helman

What if we filled a bus with our Interact high school students and took them to New York City for Rotary-UN Day and some sightseeing? That was the adventure that District Interact Advisor Sarah MacGillivray bravely took on! What if the date selected would turn out to be five days after Superstorm Sandy? That was just one of the challenges that Sarah faced!

But because the trip was planned for Midtown, and most of the damage in Manhattan was south of below 34th Street, concerns about the storm proved unfounded. And so, at midnight on Friday night, November 2, 48 Interactors (representing 14 clubs throughout the District) and 10 chaperones boarded the bus and drove through the night.

[Read more...](#)



[Club Vision Champions Share Knowledge & Tools With Peers](#)

Posted by Sue Gesing

Thirty-one Rotarians from 16 Clubs attended a workshop in South Portland on November 15, 2012 to identify reasons for success and obstacles to progress toward their vision of the future. 'Vision to Plan' is the phase where the Club takes the Vision that was developed during a District Team facilitated event and proceeds to develop the strategic plans and annual programs to accomplish their goals. The Vision Champions ensure that their Club's vision remains in view as the leadership team develops the strategic plans and annual goals. This person is the primary contact with the District Vision Facilitation Team for communicating, requesting assistance and reporting progress.

[Read more...](#)



[LEARN MORE: Best Practices To Build Rotary Youth Programs](#)

Posted by Martha Helman on Nov 20, 2012

A multi-district meeting designed to share best practices to manage and grow our youth programs -- Interact, Youth Exchange, RYLA and Rotaract -- will be held **Saturday, December 8 in Boxborough, MA**. Come on Friday evening to receive training in Youth Protection from a representative from

This month's District History trivia question once again has two parts.

District Member Roster



Looking for contact info for a Rotarian in another club? Put the rolodex aside. The information you need is just a few clicks away. Visit our district website. www.rotary7780.org (we love it when you do) Go to the drop-down tab at the top labeled "About District 7780," click on either "Members by Club" or "Members by Last Name" and follow the prompts to get through the firewall and to the listings. If your listing is incomplete or out-of-date, please ask your club president or secretary to update it. You can also get help from our District webmaster, Scott Irving: scott@irvings.name

Speakers Bureau



Looking for a program speaker? Our district team members are prepared and excited about the opportunity to speak at your club and share their passion and expertise about various Rotary programs, projects, our Foundation and so much more.

Check out who is available on our new 'Rotary Speakers Bureau' site page.

[Speakers Bureau Page](#)

Welcome to Our Newest Members



As always, Governor Marty and the district leadership team welcome our newest members to Rotary District 7780. We encourage you to get involved, volunteer on a club committee that meets your interest. Attend your weekly meetings and enjoy the fun and fellowship that is realized in sharing time with other community minded business men and women. You will soon find your passion and commitment for Rotary service not only in your own community, but in communities throughout the world.

ESSEX, our Youth Exchange oversight organization. Stay through the day on Saturday to hear from our youth and their advisers on topics ranging from best practices to start new clubs, to possible service projects designer-made for our youth, to ways to ensure that we integrate our youth programs with Rotary. (A special hotel rate is available from the Holiday Inn in Boxborough!) Sign up via the link available via the calendar listing for **Next Generation Zone Meeting** at right.

Club News

[Rotary Clubs Capture the True Holiday Spirit](#)

As the holidays approach, check out what some of the clubs are planning for their annual holiday service, fundraising and celebration.

[more....](#)

[South Berwick-Eliot Rotary Club Matching Grant](#)

This grant is on behalf of the Eben Ezer School in Milot, Haiti which began with southern Maine communities and Rotary Clubs support in 2007. The school began with 35 students and this October they opened with 300 boys and girls! The school will begin the process of becoming self sufficient rather than rely on funding from 2000 miles away. The first project will begin with vocational school programs in cooking & hostelry, sewing & quilting, construction & carpentry and welding. The school will have a "one of it's kind" plane for woodworking in all of Haiti and should almost immediately begin to produce some income. We would invite any Rotary Club to help us with funding this grant with any amount of money. For further and more detailed information, email bonniep75@comcast.net. Bonnie Peterman, South Berwick-Eliot Rotary Club, International Chair

[more....](#)

Learn more about Rotary by reading the [New Member Bulletin](#). Also, please take a minute to visit [Member Access](#) to verify that RI has the correct information for you. Again, welcome to Rotary District 7780.

Check out the newest members inducted as reported to RI since November 15th on the link below.

[New Members Page](#)

District Facebook



How many of your fellow club Rotarians are on facebook? Let's get 100% of all members who are on facebook to like our 'District 7780 Facebook Page'. The district facebook page is where clubs can post what's happening in their own club and share it with members throughout the district. The opportunity to communicate information from Newburyport to Boothbay Harbor and everything in between is just a few keystrokes away.

Click on the link below and like our Rotary District 7780 facebook page today

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