



Peace Through Service
Sakujii Tanaka
Rotary International President
2012-13

District 7780 Newsletter



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



YOU ARE THE MISSING PIECE.

SERVICE Above Self

Fri Mar 01, 2013

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Mark Your Calendar

Vision Facilitation Refresher Training

Mar 04, 2013 06:00 PM - 07:30 PM

RYLA Informational Meeting

Mar 05, 2013 05:30 PM - 07:00 PM

Presidents-elect Training Seminar 2013

Mar 07, 2013 - Mar 09, 2013

"Early Bird" District Conference Deadline

Mar 14, 2013

Grants Management Seminar

Portsmouth Country Club
Mar 20, 2013 04:00 PM - 08:00 PM

Interact Conference

Mar 23, 2013

Portsmouth Club's 90th Anniversary!

Andrew Jarvis Centre
Mar 30, 2013

Grants Management Seminar

Westbrook Middle School Cafe
Mar 30, 2013 08:00 AM - 12:00 PM

District Assembly 2013

University of New England -
Portland Campus, Alexander
Dining Hall
Apr 06, 2013 08:00 AM - 02:00 PM

District 4-Way Test Contest

Falmouth High School
Apr 08, 2013 05:30 PM - 09:00 PM

District Service Tour to Guatemala

Apr 13, 2013 - Apr 21, 2013

Final Deadline - Conference registration

Apr 15, 2013

Rotary Generations & Long-Haulers - rescheduled

May 10, 2013 12:15 PM - 02:00 PM

Newburyport Club's 90th Anniversary!

May 11, 2013

Governor Marty's Message

War and Peace



I sometimes hear murmurs that PolioPlus isn't 21st century enough to serve Rotary well as our organization's Number 1 goal. That it's next to impossible to promote fundraising to combat a disease that occurs half a world away. That HIV/AIDs and malaria are of much more immediate concern in Africa and the

subcontinent, and that back here at home, polio eradication is viewed as inconsequential to many Rotarians – particularly the younger members we are trying so hard to attract. Why doesn't Rotary International take on something a bit more glamorous such as clean water or climate change as its signature project, I am asked?

There are several answers to that question. First, it's not so long ago that polio was a life-threatening, constant threat, right here in the USA. Kids in this country were kept out of school or away from swimming pools and movie theatres – anyplace youth might be expected to gather – for fear of polio in the late summer. The virus traveled easily from stranger to stranger, and every community – including my home town of Boothbay Harbor – has its stories about how the circus came to town – and left paralyzed children in its wake.

That's the post-war environment in which my parents – and every other set of Greatest Generation parents – raised their Boomer children. Until, that is, the year the vaccine became readily available. I remember lining up with every other kid in town on a Saturday in the early '60s to receive three precious drops on a sugar cube. It was intensive public healthcare initiatives like this that made polio a past-tense concern in North America and Western Europe.

So if you are too young to think of polio as a personal threat, thank your parents. Thank also the fact that you were born in the West -- because prior to the mid-80s, that's the only area of the globe where polio was under control. When Rotary got involved, one-third of a million children were being paralyzed each year from the disease. Thirty-five years and more than \$1 billion later, the number has fallen to a few hundred children in just three countries: Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria. But make no mistake: If we were to lose focus now, the numbers of paralyzed and dead would return with horrifying rapidity.

<p>Grants Management Seminar Spruce Point Inn May 17, 2013 09:00 AM - 01:00 PM</p>
<p>District Conference Spruce Point Inn May 17, 2013 09:00 AM - May 18, 2013 10:30 PM</p>
<p>Visioning Facilitators Workshop May 30, 2013 06:00 PM - 08:00 PM</p>
<p>New Members Luncheon Jun 08, 2013</p>
<p>RYLA Conference Jun 23, 2013 - Jun 26, 2013</p>
<p>2013 International Convention Jun 23, 2013 - Jun 26, 2013</p>
<p>Governor's Council/Changeover Jul 07, 2013</p>
<p>2013 Zone 24-32 meeting Sep 19, 2013 - Sep 21, 2013</p>
<p>Northeast Link - Networking - Training - Resource Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA Sep 28, 2013 08:30 AM - 09:30 PM</p>
<p>Zone New Generation Assembly Dec 14, 2013</p>
<p>Northeast PETS training Mar 06, 2014 - Mar 08, 2014</p>
<p>2014 District Conference May 16, 2014 - May 17, 2014</p>
<p>2014 International Convention Jun 01, 2014 - Jun 04, 2014</p>

RYLA Information Night!



Scarborough Rotary Club is hosting an informational evening on the District 7780 RYLA Program. There will be a video presentation followed by a Q&A period for all Rotarians interested in learning more about RYLA

In other words, it's Rotary's efforts – carrying on where our parents left off – that have made polio the little known disease that it is now in the new millennium. Let's not punish ourselves for our own success. There's another, even more imperative reason, why we should be justly proud to support PolioPlus and the work that we are accomplishing. And that's the "plus" in the PolioPlus name. The "plus" that stands for everything from vitamins to vaccinations. Before the immunizations could get underway across the tropical belt, PolioPlus had to create a "cold chain" of generators and refrigerators to hold the vaccines. As a result, communities throughout the developing world that had never seen a clinic suddenly had refrigeration and regular visits from healthcare workers. Those refrigerators hold more than polio vaccine. They hold serums that have slowed incidence of everything from tetanus to measles. And the healthcare workers who bring the vaccine to the clinics are also available to treat other health needs as well: dysentery, childbirth, even leprosy.

But there's even more. Polio eradication, it turns out, is something that almost all political factions and religions can agree upon. Christian, Muslim, animalist – no one wants their children to be crippled. In fact, polio immunization is recognized as such a universal that "Days of Tranquility" -- short truces between warring factions -- have taken place to allow PolioPlus workers to operate in places as warlike as Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia.

Days of Tranquility are a game-changer. After all, the initial Ping-Pong Diplomacy between China and the US wasn't really about table tennis. It was about finding a common ground for discussion. If opposing factions can get together to negotiate Days of Tranquility, the important thing is that they have gotten together to negotiate. And out of that, the two sides will eventually start talking about issues that are even more important than stamping out a disease.

But in the past few months, the situation has heartbreakingly disintegrated. In both Pakistan and Nigeria, healthcare workers have been singled out and murdered for their work to immunize children. Why? Because the bad guys believe the urban legends that the immunization efforts are some kind of CIA plot. Or at least, that's their excuse: What they really believe is that there's more at stake than eradicating polio. What's at stake is peace – something they don't want between East and West.

The situation is devastating. Healthcare workers should never be placed in jeopardy. But I am convinced that the terrorists will not win this one. Because PolioPlus has earned the respect of well-minded people throughout the developing world in the years since the work began. And because we have no option but to carry on: Rotary's signature project is clearly about peace. And that's a goal we can all get behind.

--Marty Peak Helman, District Governor

District News

Early Bird Pricing for District Conference To End Soon

Posted by Penny Jett

District Conference 2013 will take place May 17-18 at Spruce Point Inn in

and this year's program. We will answer all questions about the program including best practices for selection of students, how to apply, costs, dates and times, etc. The event will be held during the normally scheduled weekly meeting of Scarborough Rotary Club on **TUESDAY MARCH 5, 2013** at Cabella's in Scarborough.

Meet and greet is at 5:30 with the formal meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m. If there are any questions for this event, contact Jared Avery @ jared.avery@maine.edu

Rotarian Magazine Highlights



Ever have the feeling when the *Rotarian* magazine arrives that it's all about projects and people on the other side of the globe? Not so this month!

The March issue includes an article on how clubs in New Jersey and New York dealt with Hurricane Sandy (page 55). Our clubs were very much part of that! And page 12 highlights our own PDG Ann Lee Hussey, polio activist.

Boothbay Harbor. The speakers are lined up, agenda is organized, entertainment is booked, and registration is open on the District website, click on [Conference page](#) But hurry! Early bird pricing ends March 14! That's two weeks from now. The District Conference will celebrate all the magic that our Rotary clubs have accomplished this year. What does that include? Click here for a preview: <http://vimeo.com/rotary7780/discon2013>

[Read more...](#)



Don't Let Your Club Miss Out - Register Today for a Grants Management Seminar

Posted by Carolyn Johnson

The new Rotary Year will bring significant changes to the process and opportunities for accessing grants from the Rotary Foundation. To take advantage of these opportunities, clubs will need to start preparing now. One requirement of involvement in Foundation Grants (Community Grants or Global Grants) will be for at least two members of each club to participate in a Grants Management Seminars. To accommodate a variety of times and schedules, there will be three seminars from which to choose. Times and locations are:

[Read more...](#)



Excitement is Mounting As the District Assembly Nears

Posted by Carolyn Johnson

Why come to District Assembly on April 6? You could come for the fellowship with other Rotarians. Or you could come to learn strategies to strengthen your club. You might come to find out about how the new (and expanded!) Foundation Grants will work. Perhaps the best reason to attend District Assembly is to be inspired. You probably heard of the plight of the "Lost Boys of the Sudan," thousands of young men and boys who were orphaned and/or displaced during the Sudanese Civil war in the 1990's. But do you know the very real connection to our Rotary District?

[Read more...](#)



Bid High, Bid Often At Our Annual Silent Auction

Posted by Lawrence Furbish

As you all know, Governor Marty's District Conference will be here before we know it (May 17 & 18). It is customary to hold a Silent Auction during the conference with all proceeds donated to the Rotary Foundation. Governor Marty has asked me to chair the auction this year. Our goal is to raise at least \$5,000 through this event. Items for the auction are donated by clubs and individuals. Although clubs have traditionally donated to the auction, sometimes other Rotarians have as well.

Enjoy the read!

Check Out the Program for the Interact Conference



On Saturday, March 23rd the Lake Region High School in Naples, Maine will host District 7780's annual one day interact conference. Interact students from schools around the district will convene to share ideas, inspire one another, have fun and make new friends. Guest speakers will include individuals from the Barbara Bush Literacy Foundation, RYLA, Rotary Youth Exchange and so much more. Sessions will include topics on fundraising, club relations, community & international service. For more information, please contact Sarah MacGillivray at smacgillivray@fryeburgacademy.

Rotary Gear Deadline April 10



Wear the Rotary colors by purchasing a cycling jersey

[Read more...](#)



District Celebrates Rotary's Birthday by Giving Back (and Having Fun)

Posted by Martha Helman

Saturday, February 23, is Rotary's anniversary, and clubs around the District carried out "Stuff the Bus" projects to raise food and funds for their local food pantries. Stay tuned for the final numbers; what's clear is that all the Rotarians involved had a great time, and their local food pantries (and neighbors) will be the better for it. Shaws Supermarkets had partnered with us for this event, and other grocery stores got involved as well.

[Read more...](#)



Clubs Work Toward Foundation Giving Goals

Posted by Penny Jett

Congratulations to Rotarians in the following clubs, which rank the highest in per capita giving to the Annual Fund of *The Rotary Foundation* this year: Hampton, Portland Sunrise, Sanford-Springvale, South Portland-Cape Elizabeth, Yarmouth and York. Rotarians in these clubs know that every dollar given to *The Rotary Foundation* goes to on-the-ground humanitarian service, making possible the magic that is the essence of our movement.

[Read more...](#)



District Rotarians Enjoy Mardi Gras and Fellowship

Posted by Martha Helman

A team of nine District 7780 Rotarians traveled to the Gulf Coast this month to enjoy Mardi Gras, fellowship with local Rotarians, and to spend the morning volunteering in a soup kitchen rebuilt after Katrina through the generosity of clubs in our District. The Rotary Friendship Exchange returned the fellowship and hospitality that this District extended to a group of District 6840 Rotarians when they traveled here late last September in time to enjoy our autumn colors.

[Read more...](#)



From the Mouths of RYLArrians, The Impact of RYLA

Posted by Jared Avery

"I return to RYLA each year because it allows me to pass what I have learned through the program onto other people. Each year I get to watch these leaders grow and develop, and it allows me to learn something new through every individual. I can not imagine my life without RYLA." -**Katie Wallis**

and/or shorts. The Rotary cycling wear is a custom order and the ordering deadline is **April 10**.

Click on *Rotary Gear* in the left margin on the home page to view the ordering form or click here.

[Rotary Gear](#)

#

District 7780 Trivia



There was NO WINNER this month!

For the answer to last month's trivia question, click on the [Trivia Page](#) link.

This month's District History Trivia Question is: **Who is the only Past District Governor whose "Memories of his/her year as District Governor" are on the District History page under his/her name?**

If you can find the answer in the District Website's Yearbook page, send it to me at mawilliamspdg@comcast.n. 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. Marie A. Williams, District Historian

District Member Roster

"RYLA represents an opportunity for complete immersion in a beautiful outdoors environment and in the leadership activities that we take part in. It gives both group members and group leaders a chance for extremely meaningful self-reflection and interaction with others, providing them with feedback on their leadership styles that they can bring with them to their life outside of RYLA. But more than anything, RYLA is one week out of the year when I can be sure that my thoughts are completely clear and when I can focus on improving myself as a person." -**Max Rawson**

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Plans Underway for Group Study Exchange of Professionals Who Work with Special Needs Kids

Posted by Martha Helman

Our Group Study Exchange of professionals who work with special needs children and youth is working to prepare for their trip to Nigeria in April. While in-country, they will work in schools and other facilities and support a Matching Grant to bring clean water to a school for special-needs kids in the northern part of the country.

The team is under the leadership of Sheila Rollins, our District Governor Nominee Designate who is currently finishing up her Master's in Mental Health Counseling.

[Read more...](#)

Club Visioning



District Vision Facilitation Efforts off to a Good Start in 2013

Posted by Sue Gesing

Five more District 7780 Rotary Clubs will conduct club visioning events this spring—the Rotary Clubs of Kittery and Topsham Expresso in March, York and Bridgton-Lake Region in April and Breakwater Daybreak in May. Bridgton-Lake Region and Breakwater Daybreak, two of the first clubs in the District to participate in the vision facilitation process, have decided to repeat this activity based on the fact that their membership has grown to the point where more than half of the current members were not involved in the first vision event.

[Read more...](#)

Club News



The **RC Breakwater Daybreak** partnered with Shaw's Supermarket and the South Portland Housing Authority to Stuff the Bus. Fifty two (52) boxes of food items and \$800 were donated to support the South Portland



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](#)

District Facebook

Food Cupboard. Rotarians, students from SMCC, Chevrus and Mahoney Middle School rounded out the volunteer team and at the end of the day, we appreciated the generosity of the shoppers who helped fill the bus.



Freeport Rotary collected approximately 900 items (3030 lbs. of food & \$256.73 in cash.) Shaw's was extremely helpful, especially Patty Biggs and her staff, amazing participation from everybody. Community was generous and event was a huge success.



Sanford-Springvale - Collected 1042 lbs of food, plus \$180.00 cash, \$35 (check & food card) It was a great event and well supported by the community. The Sanford Food Pantry will be the recipient of this great effort.

Scarborough -\$379 was donated and a half a van stuffed with food collected during the drive.



Hampton - 498 food items collected by Rotarians and Interactors and a \$6000.00 cash donation received from *Loco Sports* to stock 4 to 5 local food pantries.



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



Rotary District
7780

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Portland Sunrise - Collected over 700 lbs of food - thanks to the shoppers of Shaw's Westgate all donated to Port Resources.



Freeport Rotary and Brunswick Rotary -collected over a ton of food each!

Boothbay Harbor - We had 16 people who volunteered to work a ½ hour shift. All stayed on longer & dozens or more showed up to donate food & offer good cheer. What else would Rotarians do. This all boils down that we collected 405 products & \$425.00 in donations.

Portsmouth Rotarians and Interact students joined forces for their Food Drive at Shaw's filling a truck with food and collecting \$281 to feed the local hungry. CrossRoads, a local shelter for the homeless was the recipient of this successful event.

Exeter - The energy and camaraderie among Rotarians, the YMCA staff (who donated the buses) and all four local grocery stores was inspiring. The Exeter St. Vincent de Paul Society food pantry was the recipient of this largest 'stuff the bus' drive the community has had in over twenty years.



Exeter - Rotarians joined NH Gov. Maggie Hassan, as she kicked off the second annual Exeter Job & Resource Fair at the Exeter Town Hall. The job fair was spearheaded by state Sen. Russell Prescott,

R-Kingston, and hosted by New Hampshire Employment Security and New Hampshire Works, the Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Exeter Rotary Club.



South Portland-Cape Elizabeth -

After a successful fundraising effort and many months of manual labor, members of the South Portland-Cape Elizabeth club were pleased to see their skating shelter find its way home on the bank of the Mill Creek pond.

The shelter was a commitment made by the club to the residents of South Portland as a way of commemorating 50 years of Rotary service to the community.