



Sun Sep 02, 2012

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Mark Your Calendar

Governor's Visits

Jul 24, 2012 - Oct 04, 2012

Rotary Success Seminar

Sep 08, 2012 08:00 AM

District Simplified Grant

Awards Announced

Sep 10, 2012

District Bylaws Committee

Sep 14, 2012 12:00 PM

Deadline for GSE Team Leader

Applications

Sep 15, 2012

Club Protection Officer

Meeting

Sep 19, 2012 06:00 PM

Friendship Exchange Team

here from New Orleans

Sep 22, 2012 - Sep 29, 2012

Mardi Gras Fellowship Dinner

Sep 28, 2012

District Membership Seminar

Sep 28, 2012 02:00 PM - 08:00 PM

NorthEast LINK

Sep 29, 2012 - Sep 30, 2012

Crutches4Africa Founder Dave

Talbot Visits

Oct 01, 2012 - Oct 06, 2012

GSE Team Leader Interviews -

Topsham

Oct 01, 2012 05:00 PM

Club Protection Officer

Meeting

Oct 02, 2012 06:00 PM

GSE Team Leader Interviews -

Wells

Oct 03, 2012 05:00 PM

Walk for Peace

Oct 06, 2012 - Oct 08, 2012

Zone 24-32 Meeting

Oct 17, 2012 - Oct 20, 2012

World Polio Day

Oct 24, 2012

GSE Team Member

Application Deadline

Oct 27, 2012

RLI in Lewiston, ME

Governor Marty's Message

Time and Expense



This past month I attended the Portland Club's "regular" lunchtime meeting – "regular" except that it was held at Hadlock Field and we chowed on dogs and soda rather than the more typical banquet fare usually served up by the Holiday Inn. Speakers at the meeting were two of the Double A Sea Dogs baseball players, who spoke to us with the field and scoreboard as backdrop. It was a glorious late summer day for baseball. And it got me to thinking about what it is that constitutes a Rotary Club meeting. Those of us who have been Rotarians for a while probably take the trappings of a club meeting pretty much for granted. But we shouldn't, not if we are serious about

attracting new members. After all, it's the club meeting – not the service purpose of Rotary – that week-to-week most clearly defines who we are to prospective and current members.

Moreover, studies show that the two most frequently stated concerns that prospective members have about joining Rotary are *time* and *expense*. Those concerns are almost completely determined by the venue and content of our meetings, and so clubs that wish to increase their membership are increasingly scrutinizing their weekly meetings. It should be noted that in most clubs, the biggest cost of membership is the weekly meal. Not club dues, not donations to our Foundation, but the price of our own appetites. Yet think about it: There's absolutely nothing in the Rotary Manual of Procedure that requires club meetings to be conducted over a meal! And in fact, several clubs in our District are experimenting with meetings and fellowship that do not rely on food.

Topsham Expresso, which has always been somewhat of a renegade club, meets at breakfast time, but is strictly BYO coffee. (Hint: If you ever visit the club, be sure to stop at McDonald's first for a bite and a cup of Joe!) At the other end of the day, the Falmouth club meets at 4:30 p.m. over pretzels and beer.

What these clubs have discovered is that cutting down on food not only cuts down on expenses, but also broadens the kinds of facilities where they can meet. And the dividends don't stop there: Topsham's venue, a corporate meeting room, boasts what have to be the most comfortable chairs of any club in the District. (They swivel!)

Oct 27, 2012

[District Foundation Seminar](#)
Oct 27, 2012

[Rotary UN Day](#)
Nov 03, 2012

[Assistant Governor meeting](#)
Nov 07, 2012 05:00 PM

[Future Leaders Seminar](#)
Nov 10, 2012

[Rotary Generations & Long-Haulers - rescheduled](#)
Nov 10, 2012

[GSE Team Member Interviews Scheduled](#)
Nov 12, 2012 - Nov 13, 2012

[Protection Training](#)
Nov 13, 2012 06:00 PM

[Club Vision Champions Workshop](#)
Nov 15, 2012 06:00 PM

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

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

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

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

[Mid Year Leadership Dinner](#)
Jan 28, 2013

["Stuff the Bus" and Frugal Feast Celebration](#)
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

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

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

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

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

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

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

And of course, less time spent eating shortens the meeting overall, and helps counter the time concern. The Falmouth club's 4:30 p.m. meeting start was requested by members who prefer to leave the office a half-hour early for Rotary and still get home to their families in a timely fashion at meeting's end. Easy in, easy out.

Holding their meeting off-site, as the Portland Club did at the ballpark this week, may seem a bit irregular, but it's strictly business-as-usual for the Seacoast Club. If you plan to visit Seacoast, check their Facebook page first, because the club frequently spends its morning meeting time at an offsite somewhere in the Portsmouth community it serves.

And off-site fellowship gatherings are great, but why not go further and combine meeting time with service? After all, there's also nothing in the Manual of Procedure that says a club must have a business meeting on a set day, and relegate its service projects to the other six days of the week.

I'll never forget the first time I visited the Fryeburg club, when the president apologized for the lack of a speaker that morning and explained that the club was "only" wrapping packages for the local charity Christmas tree. Only? During that morning meeting we put the finishing touches on the 1,600 presents that were given to families in need in the community that holiday season, and the meeting was not only a real Christmas feel-good, but one of the most productive sessions I have ever participated in! Believe me, neither I nor anyone else felt bereft that the usual Rotary announcements and happy dollars went unsaid that meeting.

And remember: You don't need permission to experiment with the weekly format of your meetings. If you think something a bit unorthodox will work for your club, and especially if it cuts down on time or expense, just try it! Because who knows? You may have hit upon something that offers enhanced membership appeal.

Want to hear more? Come to the District Membership Seminar which will be held in Rochester on Friday afternoon, September 28. District Chair David Longo is working up an agenda packed with 21st century ideas to reinvigorate your club meetings and, in so doing, cut down on both time and expense. We will explore everything from social media to e-formats to real-life experiences of what it takes to successfully reach out to today's younger professionals – while reengaging more mature members.

Sign up on the District website for the Membership Seminar – I look forward to seeing you there.

—Marty Peak Helman, District Governor

District News



[Register Now for the Membership Seminar](#)
Posted by Penny Jett

The District Membership Seminar will take place this month at the Governor's Inn in Rochester, NH, **Friday afternoon, Sept. 28**. Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn about Rotary International's Young Professionals outreach – and how your club can get involved. Hear about Social Media tools you can use to spread the message of your club's activities and programs. Talk to Rotarians from clubs that have adapted to attract younger members – while reinvigorating the old. Discover the e-club of New England and what

2014 International Convention
Jun 01, 2014 - Jun 04, 2014

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

Grant \$ To Be Awarded



Stay Tuned - Rotary District Simplified Grant awards will be announced (assistant governors will distribute checks to the clubs with the winning service projects) the week of September 10th. These awards are just one way in which our yearly contributions to the Annual Funds Program come back full circle and help support the projects our club members feel most worthy.

District 7780 Trivia

it means for you. There will be a special presentation from our Friendship Exchange Team: How Gulf Coast Rotarians responded to Katrina when disaster struck home. Click [here](#) to register today online via credit card or click [here](#) to download registration form and pay via check.

[Read more...](#)



The Opportunity to Share Rotary is Here

Posted by Penny Jett

How many people in your community would give you one dollar to be donated to one of the most respected Foundations in the world? How many of them would give you a minute or two of their time to listen as you share what makes you passionate about being a Rotarian? Accept the **Rotary Walk for Peace** challenge and expose your friends, family, neighbors, co-workers and residents (young and old) to the power and magic of Rotary.

Just what is this challenge? Inspired by RI President Sakuji Tanaka, Dru Laduke from the Saco Bay Rotary Club crafted the idea of having 300 "Ambassadors" walk the walk and talk the talk. Participants will be asked to speak to 100 different people about this year's Rotary theme "Peace through Service" or a local service project that your club has initiated or whatever makes you proud to be a member of your club. Each Ambassador will be asking for a single dollar donation. "It's about participation on so many levels," states Laduke; "Who cannot give up a minute of their day to hear about something good happening in their community? Who cannot give up one dollar to help us reach our goal of \$30,000? It's about one person at a time making a difference, one dollar at a time."

[Read more...](#)



Ten Months and Counting to the New and Improved Rotary Foundation

Posted by Penny Jett

Your District Foundation transition committee members, under the leadership of **DGE Carolyn Johnson** have been working diligently in preparation for July 1st 2013, when 'future vision' becomes terminology of the past. Committee members have researched numerous future vision pilot districts within the United States and Canada scouring websites, interviewing district governors and foundation chairs all in an effort to make recommendations to the standing foundation committee and make the transition easier for our district, our clubs and ultimately you, our members. Join us on **Saturday, October 27th at the Foundation Seminar** in Bridgton Maine as we pour through the purpose, the strategic mission, and the changes that will effect each and everyone of us.

[Read more...](#)



Protecting Our Youth and Most Vulnerable

Posted by Joel Merry

Rotary has a long and successful history of providing service to youth. In fact, each year, more than 250,000 young people participate in Rotary International youth programs such as Interact, Rotary Youth Exchange, and RYLA. In addition, many Clubs have mentoring programs, job training programs, literacy projects, and other initiatives that are designed specifically to help young people.



No correct answers to last month's trivia question! Try your luck with this one. Who was the Rotarian that served as District Secretary twice, yet has never been a club president? If you know the answer or can find it in our [District Yearbook](#), e-mail mawilliamsdpdg@comcast.net by September 20th. Good luck!

Click here for last month's answer [Trivia Questions & Answers](#)

BTW, did you happen to read which District 7780 Rotarian is quoted in this month's Rotarian magazine in an article on family friendly clubs? Click here [September Issue](#) to read the article, just in case you missed it.

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 New Members



In recent years, programs that involve young participants have had to endure **allegations of sexual abuse and harassment**. Any organization that works with youth is vulnerable, as child sex offenders seek out positions that offer them easy access to children and teenagers, whether it's teaching, coaching, or volunteering. Many adults committed to working with youth are so focused on helping young people that they find it difficult to believe others will abuse the trust placed in them.

[Read more...](#)



[Crutches 4 Africa Founder To Visit Us!](#)

Posted by Martha Helman on Aug 30, 2012

Dave Talbot, the founder of Crutches 4 Africa, will be here in District 7780 **the first week of October**. Already, this District has pulled together and filled a 40-foot container with crutches, walkers and other mobility devices that otherwise would have ended up in our landfills. Instead, through

Crutches 4 Africa, we sent them to Nigeria, where they were given directly to people in need. And there's no reason why we can't collect enough gently-used canes and crutches to fill a second container by this spring!

[Read more...](#)



[Friendship Exchange Planned With Gulf Coast Rotarians](#)

Posted by Penny Jett

Rotary District 6840 in the Gulf Coast covers the territory that was wiped out by **Katrina in 2005**. The clubs in our District 7780 were very responsive after Katrina, and we helped numerous communities, schools, shelters reopen and get refurbished.

Now we have the opportunity to meet some of the Rotarians we partnered with at that time! A contingent of 10 Rotarians and their spouses from the Gulf Coast will be in our District the last week of September. They will home-stay B&B style with Rotarians here, while they visit our clubs and enjoy their stay. But unlike a Group Study Exchange or other international exchange, they will have their own rental cars and will manage their own sightseeing, et cetera.

[Read more...](#)



[Make No Little Plans](#)

Posted by Ann Lee Hussey

The size of your wallet is less important than the **size of your dreams**.

This heading was the title of an article in the February 2011 Rotarian. The article spoke of the wealthiest families and individuals of today who answered the challenge from Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett, pledging to give or leave at least half of their wealth to charity. Granted, Gates and Buffett are two of the wealthiest folks in the country and writing a large check is not a challenge for either of them, but as Warren Buffett so aptly pointed out "it is all comparative, there are individuals who give more to others every day."

[Read more...](#)

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.

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 on the link below.

[New Members Page](#)

Club ProjectLINK



Are you looking for other clubs to partner/support your international or community project? Then, look no further than the Club ProjectLINK site page on our very own district website. This site allows all clubs the means to promote and SHARE their service projects. It provides the opportunity for clubs who want to work together, pool their resources, energy and talent to jump onboard and work together to not only bring hope to those in need, but to bring sustainable and meaningful change to communities locally and abroad.

Check out the link on our district website below.



Save the Date: Seminar for Future District Leaders

Posted by Martha Helman on Aug 30, 2012

Curious about what it takes to be a District Governor? Interested (maybe) in a District position, but not really sure what that entails or what the possibilities are? Then this seminar is for you! Past District Governor George Rice is putting together a morning program to be held **Saturday, November 10** in the Portland area. Any Rotarian interested – even interested maybe – in a future leadership position at the District level is invited to participate.

[Read more...](#)



A Tough Year for Polio in Pakistan

Posted by Ted Trainer

It has been a tough year for polio eradication in Pakistan. Dr. Shakeel Afridi, a polio eradication official and member of the tribe that inhabits the Kyber Pass (the heart of the polio endemic area) is **exposed as a CIA agent**. He tried to take blood samples from the Bin Laden family under the guise of a polio vaccination. Unofficial and official outrage is seriously undermined the credibility of the international organizations promoting polio eradication. The depth of the official outrage may possibly also be attributed to scapegoating the US for Pakistani failures in the polio campaign.

[Read more...](#)

Are You Taking Advantage of Technology in the District?

Posted by Scott Irving



Technology has profoundly changed our everyday lives and will continue to do so. It also is **changing our Rotary lives**. It has the ability to reduce the time spent on administrative tasks, make information more readily available, and to allow us to communicate in new ways.

Not so long ago, if Rotarians from opposite ends of our district wanted to collaborate on a project, they had three choices, expensive phone calls, slow postal services, or lots of time spent traveling to meet. Today, options exist to allow us to meet and communicate directly with no travel time and no meeting costs. Other technologies allow us to work together on documents for a project, as easily as if we were sharing the same computer.

[Read more...](#)



Interact Minute

Posted by Sarah MacGillivray

Do you have a minute? **Just a minute to give to our youth today?** We have many strong Interact Clubs already in our District. We could have many more though. All it takes is a minute.....OK, we all know it will take more than a minute, but we also know it will be worth it! Think of all that our youth have at their finger tips today, and think of all the good they could be doing in our local communities and the world beyond. And think of how you will feel knowing you were a part of that.

[Read more...](#)

[Club ProjectLINK Page](#)
[Club Fundraiser](#)


There is a new and easy way to promote all of your club fundraisers to the members in our district. Simply send a .pdf of your flyer to pennyjett@comcast.net and it will be loaded up onto our district website. Check out what clubs already have scheduled for this coming Rotary year and remember to keep the flyers coming in. You may be surprised how many other Rotarians, friends and family members may be showing up at your event!

Check out the link on our district website below.

[Club Fundraiser Site 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.


[Clubs Band Together To Make Greater Impact](#)
 Posted by Todd Doolan

District #7780 Clubs Band Together to Supply Healthcare in the Dominican Republic

The Clubs of **Freeport, Portland, Sanford-Springvale and Bethel** recently were granted matching funds from the Rotary Foundation in the amount of \$12,300 to provide basic healthcare services- with an emphasis on women- to Haitian émigrés living in the sugar-cutting communities of the eastern Dominican Republic. Combined with \$5000 in District Designated Funds, and contributions from the clubs in #7780 and their local partner The Rotary Club of La Romana Rio Dulce the project will total almost \$32,000 and impact ten small sugar cutting villages over a period of three years.

[Read more...](#)

[Club Champions Save the Date](#)
 Posted by Sue Gesing

District Vision Facilitation Committee Plans Fall Workshop for Club Champions

The District Vision Facilitation Committee is planning a November 15th workshop for representatives from clubs in the district that have participated in visioning. This person is typically identified as the Club Vision Champion. The workshop will provide Clubs with an opportunity to share success stories and lessons learned, in a peer environment, as they discuss their efforts to move beyond the vision facilitation event.

[Read more...](#)

[Huang Nominated for Rotary International President 2014-15](#)
 Posted by Penny Jett

Gary C.K. Huang, a member of the Rotary Club of Taipei, Taiwan, has been selected by the Nominating Committee to be President of Rotary International in 2014-15, the year that Lawrence Furbish will serve our district as governor. Huang says his vision for Rotary is to increase membership to more that 1.3 million members.

[Read more...](#)

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