

Rotary District 7780

Carolyn Johnson, District Governor

April 8, 2014

www.rotary7780.org ... or friend us on Facebook!

Shared Stories. . .

Last fall, I challenged each Rotarian to share their Rotary story -- to talk about those moments when each of us stop to think "wow, I am so proud to be a Rotarian." Our Rotary story is the keyway of our Rotary wheel, the power that sets our wheel in motion.

"Shared stories" is the theme of this year's District Conference. It will be a celebration of our Rotary stories: some local and others from far away, some new and others familiar — but all stories to make Rotarians proud.

What stories might set your wheel in motion? Joe Pratt has an incredible story of his climb of Mount Everest to raise awareness and funds for polio. Nearly all clubs were involved with our District project to reach out to Lac Megantic; it will be an honor to welcome first responders and Salvation Army representatives to share their story of recovery — as well as hear first hand of the efforts of our D7780 Rotarians. DF Pace's story is one of peace — the story of a Rotary Peace Scholar who is also a Philadelphia police officer. Many of you have heard my story about working in rural schools of Guatemala. Come hear the stories of native Guatemalans, Yanira Batres and Rodolfo Bianchi, and their perspectives of Rotarian support improving the future for children and communities in Guatemala. Bob Crowley, Maine's own Survivor! has a great story to share of perseverance leading to success. And our President's Rep, Betsy Owen, will share her personal story, The Power of One, of her fight to overcome polio — for herself and for all children of the world.

Rotarians' stories are the power that turns the wheel. Be sure you are part of this District Conference to share in the stories and begin a new chapter of your own!

—Governor Carolyn Johnson

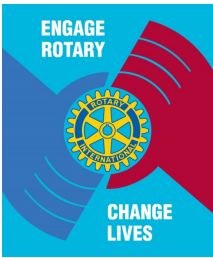
District Conference - May 16-18 Portland Westin Harborview Hotel.

Register today - special hotel rate is only available until April 16!

Is Your Club Sponsoring Teens to the District RYLA Leadership Camp?



RYLA is just around the corner and that means it's time to register students NOW. All registration information and forms are available on the RYLA home-page which can be reached through a link under "youth services" on www.rotary7780.org. It is one-stop shopping this year, as we have consolidated everything into one document. The deadline to register is May 1 but please communicate with us if you feel your club will not make that date. Email Jared Avery at Jared.avery@maine.edu and I will be glad to help you through this process. We would love to have a representative from every club at camp this year. Don't let your club miss out on the incredible benefits of this program! For those clubs already engaged in an active RYLA program. THANK YOU so much for your continued support. This camp could not exist without you!



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Damariscotta-Newcastle Celebrates 90th Anniversary

Damariscotta-Newcastle rang in its 90th anniversary last week with a dinner and celebration enjoyed by 100 Rotarians and community members. Rotary guests were led by Gov. Carolyn Johnson, and political guests by state representative Mick Devin, shown here (at left) with past president Lorraine Townsend and PDG Gary Speers. Rep. Devin presented a resolution to the legislature commending the club for 90 years of service to the communities of Newcastle and Damariscotta.

Club Visioning: Turn Your Club's Goals Into a Workable Plan

The District Vision and Planning Committee is holding a vision-to-plan workshop on Thursday April 24, from 6-8 p.m. It will be held at the South Portland Housing Authority Conference Room at 100 Waterman Drive, S. Portland, just over the bridge.



A registration fee of \$7 for supplies, pizza, salad and drinks can be paid at the door. Early birds can join us at 4:45 p.m. at the Snow Squall Restaurant, 18 Ocean St. a few blocks away (799-0811), for a cash bar and cash appetizers.

FMI and to register:

Vic Taylor, vtaylor@tpointsolutions.com or
Tony Wagner, tony.bellner@gmail.com

District Service Teams Return from Far-Flung Project Trips

The three District 7780 Rotarians who were part of the Rotaplast mission to Guatemala returned last week full of excitement for having helped hands-on to replace cleft lip/palate deformities with smiles. At right, Dalit Wolfe from **Brunswick Coastal** uses her nursing skills in the OR. Also on the mission and representing our District were Ellie Andrews (**Bethel**) and Cate Rafferty (**Dover**).

Meanwhile, the District Cultural Exchange Team has returned from Uganda. This trip came about as a direct result of District Rotarians' request to continue a cultural exchange and builds on existing Rotary relationships.

The six musicians who explored Ugandan music and returned humming African rhythms are: Curt Combar (**Freeport**); Mary Bastoni (**Fryeburg**); John Dennen and Ken Brunsvold (**Brunswick Coastal**); Jennifer Davis (wife of Brett Davis, **Kennebunk**), and Marty Helman (**Boothbay Harbor**).

