

Rotary District 7780

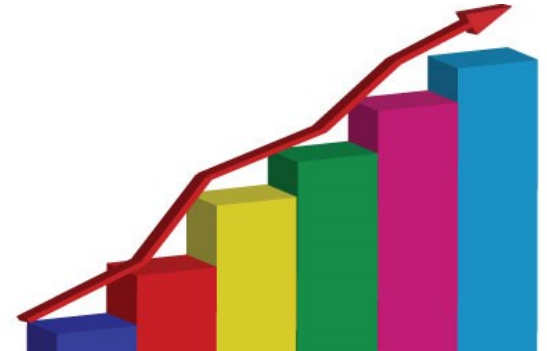
Carolyn Johnson, District Governor

January 29, 2014

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

Rotary Awareness - and Stewardship

Last Monday evening, the Club Presidents, Presidents-elect, VPs, and many District Governors — past, current and future — met to reflect on the current Rotary year and to look to the future. I believe that our District is unique in holding this kind of event where club and District leaders meet to discuss where we've been and where we're going. I believe that meetings like these are important to the longevity of Rotary. Through stewardship, each of us takes our turn to move things forward, then hands the reins to our successor.



So what does stewardship have to do with Rotary Awareness? The current Club Presidents raised the question of how each can help next year's club leaders prepare for the job. The conclusion we reached is awareness. Club leaders (committee chairs, project coordinators) need to be aware of what came before so they can plan for what will come next. What are your club's goals this year? How far is the club in achieving those goals? What has been done to reach them? Now is the time for current and future leadership to engage in these discussions. To do that, your club's members, your board, your club leaders need to have a keen awareness of the club and its goals.

Awareness of Rotary also extends beyond our own club so our clubs can access resources available through the District and Rotary International. To be a good steward of the club, leaders *and members* need a strong working knowledge of Rotary. There are many options to accomplish this. Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is a great opportunity to learn about Rotary and best practices of effective clubs. The next RLI will be held on Saturday, March 1 in Wells. District Assembly is another learning opportunity. This day offers training for specific club roles as well as opportunities for clubs to collaborate. Our District Assembly will be held Saturday, April 12 in Westbrook. Three options to learn about our Rotary Foundation will be offered this spring in the form of Grants Management Seminars — opportunities to learn how to access and use resources of our Foundation.

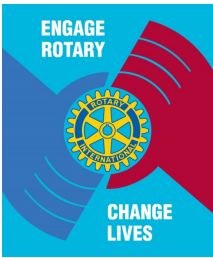
In order for Rotary to be strong, we need good stewards — Rotarians who care about the club and the organization and who work with others to keep it strong. Good stewardship depends on awareness of what is going on around us, what happened before us, and awareness of what is possible. As we come to the end of January, Rotary Awareness Month, reflect on your Rotary awareness and your stewardship to your club.

—Carolyn Johnson, District Governor



Oxford Hills 30th Anniversary

Club members and friends gathered to celebrate Oxford Hills' anniversary. The evening included roasts and toasts and camaraderie, presentations of Paul Harris Fellows, a surprise presentation to Curtis Cole as Club Rotarians on the year, and a fast and furious history of the club by charter member and PDG George Rice.



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Our Foundation Dollars at Work

All our clubs put the bulk of their efforts into local projects. But for those who are interested in overseas involvement, the breadth and scope of Rotary's international projects is unmatched!

The following projects are just a subset of this District's efforts. These are grants which were approved prior to last July 1 and not yet completed. This list does not include those grants approved this fiscal year, nor the overseas projects done without grant money, nor international cultural exchanges.

Water drainage, well, toilet facility, Kaduna, Nigeria

- ◆ Portland Sunrise, with Boothbay, Exeter, Fryeburg, Hampton, Saco Bay contributing, total \$13,600
- ◆ Total project \$59,717

Healthcare coordination and service provider training, La Romana, Dominican Republic

- ◆ Freeport, with Portland, Sanford, South Berwick contributing, total \$14,500
- ◆ Total project \$31,900

Crutches for Africa shipment

- ◆ Portland Sunrise, with Brunswick Coastal, Scarborough contributing, total \$4,750
- ◆ Total project \$17,620

Water well and storage tank, Adamawa, Nigeria

- ◆ Bethel, Boothbay, Bridgton, Fryeburg, Oxford Hills, River Valley, Saco Bay, Sanford, total \$9,050
- ◆ Total project \$30,725

Water well, storage tank and generator, Cap-Haitien, Haiti

- ◆ York, \$9,200
- ◆ Total project \$24,103

Vocation training equipment and supplies, Cap-Haitien, Haiti

- ◆ South Berwick – Eliot, with Dover, \$7,066
- ◆ Total project \$24,749.

These six projects represent \$59,000 of cash from our clubs, leveraged up by district contributions of another \$50,000 and yet again by Rotary Foundation grant awards of over \$78,000. The leverage is only possible because of our ongoing contributions to The Rotary Foundation. All in, \$187,000 provided to dramatically impact the lives of many **tens of thousands** of people. Where else can we spend this kind of money for such powerful results?

Unlike any other charitable contribution we make, the trustees of the Foundation do not control where the dollars are spent. We do. We chose the project. We chose our partners. We direct the cash. How cool is that?

—Peter Johnson, District Foundation Chair

Save the Date!

Friday, Jan 31: **South Berwick-Eliot's** annual Community Geography Quiz at Marshwood Great Works School at 6:30pm. FMI: bonniep75@comcast.net

January 31-February 1—**South Portland-Cape Elizabeth** second annual **Winterfest**. FMI: Ellie Speh, ellie-speh@yahoo.com

Wednesday, February 5— **Portland Sunrise's Beer and Wine Tasting Social and Silent Auction** at DiMillo's, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. FMI: John Henniges, john@jmhfin.net

Saturday, February 8—**South Berwick-Eliot** hosts a **Red Cross blood drive** at the South Berwick Town Hall from 8am to 1pm. FMI: Bonnie Peterman, bonniep75@comcast.net.

February 15-16: **Sebago Lakes** welcomes the National Geographic Channel to its annual **Ice Fishing Derby** this year! Volunteer: Toby Pennels at tobypenn@maine.rr.com. More info can be found at www.icefishingderby.com

Saturday, February 22 — **District-wide "Stuff the Bus" and Frugal Feast**. All clubs are invited to join forces with their local supermarket and collect food and funds for their local food pantry. That night, we'll gather at Woodfords Congregational Church in Portland for a Frugal Feast that will satisfy our inner gourmand AND raise money for The Rotary Foundation. FMI: Marge Barker, mbarker173@yahoo.com



Saturday, March 1: **Damariscotta-Newcastle** hosts its annual **Karl's Kids Ski Race and Silent Auction** at Sugarloaf. FMI: Lorraine Faherty, townsend13@aol.com

Saturday, March 1: **Rotary Leadership Institute** in Wells. FMI: www.rlinea.org

March 6-8: **Presidents-elect Training Seminar** in Framingham, MA. All 2014-15 Club Presidents should attend. FMI: www.rotarynePETS.org

Saturday, April 12: **District Assembly** at the Westbrook Middle School, Maine.

Saturday, March 29: **New Generations Conference**, York HS, Maine. FMI: kevin.raymond@peoples.com

May 16-17: **District Conference** at the Westin Portland Harborview, Portland, ME

Thursday, June 19: **District Changeover**; save the date!