

Rotary District 7780

Carolyn Johnson, District Governor

May 22, 2014

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District Conference Highlights Stellar Year

District Conference 2014 held last weekend in Portland was a smash success, as speaker after speaker shared their stories and told how Rotary has made a difference in their lives — and in the lives of others touched by Rotary programs.

The District Conference was also a time to celebrate the successes of this Rotary year! A total of 15 clubs were cited for fulfilling the requirements of the 2013-14 Presidential Citation; three of those clubs did so and more and were cited by Governor Carolyn for their Distinguished Service. And 10 Interact Clubs also earned the Interact Presidential Citation for their hard work this year. These Rotary and Interact clubs are:

- ◆ Boothbay Harbor, Distinguished
- ◆ Hampton, Distinguished
- ◆ Rochester, Distinguished
- ◆ Biddeford Saco
- ◆ Brunswick
- ◆ Dover
- ◆ Freeport
- ◆ Ogunquit
- ◆ Oxford Hills
- ◆ Portland
- ◆ Portsmouth
- ◆ Saco Bay
- ◆ Sebago-Lake Region
- ◆ Wells
- ◆ Yarmouth
- ◆ Winnacunnet HS (Hampton)
- ◆ Dover HS (Dover)
- ◆ Spaulding HS (Rochester)
- ◆ Biddeford HS (Biddeford Saco)
- ◆ York HS (York)
- ◆ Seabrook MS (Hampton)
- ◆ Exeter HS (Exeter)
- ◆ Oxford Hills Comprehensive HS (Oxford Hills)
- ◆ Kennebunk HS (Kennebunk)
- ◆ Philips Exeter Academy (Exeter)

The District's Four-Way Test Video Contest was won by Kennebunk HS Interact, with special mention going to Fryeburg Academy Interact and Spaulding HS Interact (sponsored by Rochester).

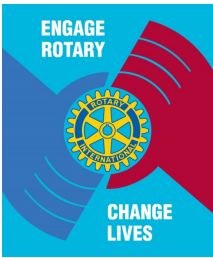
The focus at the Conference was on the lives changed by Rotary service, but we also took time out to celebrate some individual Rotarians for the remarkable work that they have done this year and over the course of their Rotary careers.

Roger Fagan (**Portland**), was honored with the Service Above Self award for the work that he has done to provide solar-powered hearing aids in the Dominican Republic and elsewhere over the past 20 years. Roger, who is an audiologist by profession, makes annual service trips to provide the gift of hearing. Most recently, members of his club have traveled with him to provide clean water and prosthetic LN-4 hands as well.

No more than 125 Service Above Self awards are made annually by the Directors of Rotary International, and our District has had its fair share: Bill Skinner (**Durham-Great Bay**); Brenda Thibodeau (**Fryeburg**); Dan Mooers (**South Portland-Cape Elizabeth**); Ann Lee Hussey (**Portland Sunrise**); Carolyn Johnson (**Yarmouth**); Elias Thomas (**Sanford-Springvale**); John Dennen (**Brunswick Coastal**); and Terry Hodskins (**Wells**).

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Ellen Labrie (**Portsmouth**) earned the Citation for Meritorious Service, which recognizes individual Rotarians who have demonstrated ongoing active service to the Rotary Foundation. Ellen joins a number of other outstanding Rotarians — including her husband, PDG Jim Labrie (**Portsmouth**) who have received the award in previous years: Art Richardson (**Hampton**); Dan Mooers (**South Portland-Cape Elizabeth**); Craig Wellman (**Kennebunk**); Mike McGovern (**South Portland-Cape Elizabeth**); Tim Placey (**River Valley-Rumford Area**); and Peter Johnson (**Yarmouth**).



The District Service Trip to Lac Megantic earned a special place in many hearts this year, and led to several awards, including the Rotary Spouse Service Award, which went to Paula Gagne (**Biddeford Saco**), and the Governor's Citation of Achievement, which went to Paul Deschambault (**Biddeford Saco**). Moreover, a special Paul Harris Fellow was awarded to Anne Marie Dagenais, of the Salvation Army in Quebec. Other Paul Harris awards — one for firefighters, another for the local EMTs, will be presented in Lac Megantic later this summer.



District Rotary Foundation Service Awards were awarded to Mary Tennant (**Brunswick Coastal**) and John Atwood (**Damariscotta Newcastle**) for their outstanding service on the District Foundation Committee over the past three years, during a remarkable period of change.

Save the Date! Grant Deadline: June 1!

Have you got a project that could benefit from Rotary Foundation monies? The deadline to apply for Springboard and Community Foundation Grants is June 1! Information and application forms are on the District website — go to the drop-down tab marked “Foundation” and you’ll find everything you need to apply.

Save the Date! District Changeover June 19!

On Thursday evening, June 19, Rotarians from across the District will depart at 6:00* pm by Ferry Boat from Casco Bay Lines terminal in Portland for Peaks Island. The festivities at the Inn on Peak’s Island are only a short distance away. Heavy hors d’oeuvres will be served, and a cash bar will be available. The program will include swearing-in of new club presidents by incoming RI Director Julia Phelps. Tickets are \$50 per person, including ferry ride and food; registration is available on the district website: www.rotary7780.org.

District 7780 Rotarians Remembered at Memorial Service

The District Conference is traditionally a time to remember those Rotarians who helped build our Rotary clubs, but who died in the past 12 months.

This year, PDG Jeff Pelkey organized a especially meaningful memorial service on Sunday morning, and asked us to remember those whose service has meant so much in years past and will not soon be forgotten. Their names are listed at right.



- William Bodwell, Bath
- Mark Thomas, Biddeford- Saco
- Edwin Bliss, Boothbay Harbor
- Wally Johnson, Dover
- Dick Brewster, Exeter
- Dean Cushing Ellis, Fryeburg
- Norman Wilkinson, Ogunquit
- Naj Lofty, Portland
- Danae Perce, Portland
- Nan Sawyer, Portland
- Penny Walsh, Portsmouth
- Stephen Hart Wilcox, Ogunquit
- Mark Hough, Yarmouth
- David Carter, Oxford Hills