



Rotary District 7780

February 25, 2014

Carolyn Johnson, District Governor

New Generations Conference – Youth Making a Difference

The District's first New Generations Conference will be Saturday, March 29, at York High School. This bigger, replaces the former Interact Conference. The idea is to encourage involvement from Interact, Rotaract, and former and future RYLarians and Youth Exchange students.

This year's theme is "Together We Can". The keynote speaker is Michael Chase (the kindness guy) with a great message.

The breakout sessions include: Interact Best Practices, Rotaract Basics, Effective FUN-draising, RYLA, Public Relations & Membership, Community Service, International Service, and Youth Exchange Program.

In keeping with the theme of "Together We Can", the conference will include a Can Drive and Blood Drive. We encourage sponsoring Rotary Clubs to help out with the can drive. Which Interact Club or Rotaract Club will claim bragging rights for most items donated? Will it be yours? The food will be split between the York Food Pantry and the Good Shepard Food Bank. Together We Can...be engaged, Together We Can...make a difference, Together We Can...change lives.



The conference includes a light breakfast and lunch. All this, and some surprises, for \$6/pp thanks to the generosity of the following Rotary Clubs: York – Dover – S.Berwick/Eliot – Hampton. Thank you to York High School Interact Club for hosting the event.

Encourage your Interact Club and Rotaract Club to participate in the Conference. Register and pay on line at the District 7780 website.

World Peace Day Celebrated by Giving Back

Rotarians from across the District spent last Saturday morning "stuffing the bus" to collect food and funds for their local food pantry or soup kitchen. Then, Rotarians came together for a delicious dinner catered by our own Governor-nominee Sheila Rollins. Keynote speakers spoke of the problem of hunger and food insecurity right here in our own communities, and specifics of what nonprofits and for profits are doing to combat the situation. The Harbour Singers including AG Peggy Belanger, who perform for hospice patients, shared their music. Meanwhile, a Guatemalan quilt was raffled off, and raised \$2800 to benefit Rotaplast and the District's work for cleft lip/cleft palate surgeries. The evening was awesome, and because we all ate frugally, a portion of each registration will be a donation to The Rotary Foundation, helping to Rotarians' efforts to address humanitarian problems locally and internationally.





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Singing Rotarians of District 7780

Love to sing? Dan Allen, an **Oxford Hills** Rotarian and choral director for 40 years, is eager to start a group of singing Rotarians to perform at District events and beyond.

Singers should have sung in a group at some time in their lives, and they should be willing and capable of learning musical part on their own. If you meet these criteria, you're in! NO auditions!

Please email Dan at singingrotarians@hotmail.com to learn more. Let him know your voice part and choral experience, and if you MIGHT be willing to assist with organization – or to be an accompanist. All talent eagerly welcomed!

Grant Sending Medical Equipment to Mongolia

Several years ago, our District took part in the first Group Study Exchange to travel to Mongolia. That exchange of medical professionals – led by Burt Dibble, now president of the **Exeter** Club, brought home stories of just how rudimentary medical facilities were. Now, a Global Grant is underway – in coordination with District 7870/NH and Vermont – to do something tangible to help. Pledges and or checks supporting this grant are most welcomed. Make them out to The Rotary Foundation and put our Global Grant number GG1411744 in the memo line – send checks to Capital City Rotary – Mongolia PO Box 1394 Concord, NH 03302 – PHF credit will be given and donations are tax deductible. For more information or a presentation, contact Burt Dibble, (603) 770-3750, fdibble@comcast.net



Sebago Derby Fish Feed the Hungry

The **Sebago Lake** Ice Fishing Derby proved to be a cool success! Not only did the Derby raise an approximate \$18,000 for the club's charities, but for the first time, fishermen were invited to donate their catch to "Hunters for the Hungry." As a result, close to 1400 pounds of Tommy Togue was donated to Wayside Soup Kitchen to help feed the hungry in multiple communities. It was a huge success, and one that will make a delicious difference to hundreds of families who are food insecure this winter. Congratulations, Sebago Lake Rotary!

Is your club involved in the Four-Way Test Video Contest?

Calling all high-school age videographers! Content of the video should illustrate The Rotary Four Way Test, and answer the question: "How can I use the 4-Way Test to make good decisions in my life?" The situation can be anything that teens deal with: Social situations, bullying, substance use, academic pressure – anything that's real.

All teens – Interactors and those who are just plain interested in participating – are invited to create and submit their original video.

FMI: check the District website for details and dates. District winners will be announced at the District Conference on Saturday, May 17.