THE INSPIRATION

Rotary District 7870

June 2026	District Newsletter 2026, Number 12	Donna Deos District Governor

www.rotary7870.org

Rotarian Editors in our 8th year!
Maureen Mooney (Merrimack, NH) and Martin Cohn (Springfield, VT)





Rotary Theme of the Year: ***Unite for Good***

Rotary Theme of the Month: ***Rotary Fellowship Month***

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Rotarian Editors Announce Last Edition of Newsletter

With this June edition, we're saying goodbye to our role as volunteer co-editors of the District newsletter after nearly nine years.

It's the end of a really special chapter in our lives, one that's been all about sharing stories, connecting with others, and working together towards a common goal. We've had the chance to work with eight different District Governors, and we've seen the District grow and change over time. We've helped document all the big moments, the important milestones, and the spirit of service that makes the District so special.

We've done a lot more than just collect articles and photos. Every month, we've tried to capture the spirit of our District, by highlighting projects that help the community, celebrating the achievements of our members, and making sure that the good work being done locally gets the recognition it deserves. We hope that by sharing these stories, we've created a space where people can find inspiration in the service of others and feel more connected to each other, across all the different clubs.

We're really grateful for all the help we got with our newsletter. Lots of people came together to make it happen, sending in articles, sharing photos, and telling stories that made each issue special. It just shows how much our District cares about what we do and wants to share it with everyone. As we move forward, we're proud to leave behind a lasting legacy of the District's achievements over the past decade, highlighting the many ways our members have made a positive impact every year.

Yours in Rotary,
Maureen Mooney and Marty Cohn





Greetings From Your District Governor Donna Deos



Hello Rotary Family,

Thank you all for a fantastic Rotary year! We hope you will join us at the District Passing of the Gavel on Saturday, June 27th in Wallingford, Vermont. This is where I officially hand things over to our Incoming District Governor, and now a very good friend of mine (thanks to our years together on the DG Track), Ruth Clough of the Killington-Pico, VT Club.

Ruth is a tremendous person and leader. She is calm, steady, wise and fun! You are all going to love having her as your new Governor. I will still be around as your Immediate Past District Governor, District Membership Chair, District Nominating Committee Chair and a member of both the District Finance Committee and District Foundation Committee. Oh, and I'm also District Governor Nominee, Lou Botta's Vice Governor for his DG year of 2027-2028. So, you are far from being rid of me. Apologies for that! j/k.

My first duty for the incoming Rotary year is to find the next person to join the District Governor Track and be in line behind Lou and then Diane McCormick – to serve in the 2029-2030 year. Soooooo, if you've been considering experiencing all of the wonderful things I have been doing over the past 3.5 years, I do hope you will consider applying. I'm planting the seed here now. More to come on that in the new Rotary year. If you have questions now though please reach out. I'm happy to speak with you on this amazing leadership journey that is both life changing and rewarding beyond belief.

Likewise, if you're interested in helping on the District Membership Committee, reach out to me as well. As I said at the District Conference, Rotary has infinite leadership possibilities. Let's work together to find your next great Rotary adventure.

Speaking of that, stay tuned for the District Learning events coming in July, September and November as well as our annual District Golf Tournament.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not take one more opportunity to thank everyone involved in the recent District Conference. What a day we had celebrating our Rotary year in Keene, NH – home to two Rotary Clubs, one Rotaract and three (yes, 3!) Interact Clubs. They have so many students involved there is a club for each year Sophomore – Senior!

Led by PDG Chris Parkinson, the District Conference Committee included:

- Nancy Thompson and Yves Gakunde (Keene Elm City, NH)
- Emma Siemer and Madeline Phaneuf (Greater Keene Rotaract, NH)
- Denise Laroche (Keene Rotary, NH)
- Gale Kenison, Matt Gatzke and Gerry Carrier (Bow, NH)
- Marty Cohn (Springfield, VT)
- Ian Bowker (Nashua, NH)
- Ruth Clough (Killinton-Pico, VT)
- Webmaster Diane McCormick (and DGND from Brattleboro Sunrise).

We also had wonderful behind the scenes support from:

- District Treasurer, Jeff Mobus (Springfield, VT)
- PDG Randell Barclay (Wallingford, VT)
- Foundation Chair, Dianne Barclay (Slate Valley, VT)
- IPDG Bill Stevens (Bellows Falls, VT)
- PDG Alley Boucher & Charlie Boucher (Gilford, NH)
- Our vivacious Sergeant, AG Paula Telage (Milford, NH)
- Janine Parkinson (Bow) at Registration with Gerry Carrier (Bow)

Speakers/Presenters:

- PDG Chris Parkinson “The Singing Governor” (Bow)
- AG & Sergeant Paula Telage (Milford)
- DGE Ruth Clough (Killington-Pico)
- Dick Swett (Bow)
- Nancy Thompson (Keene Elm City) & team
- Peter Tobin (Rutland South, VT)
- IPDG Bill Stevens (Bellows Falls, VT) & his panel of:
- Samantha Howard (Bellows Falls, VT)
- Matt Dodge (Bow, NH)
- Kayla Diskin (Hooksett, NH)
- Mark Anderson (Brattleboro, VT)
- Jill Pierson (Rotex Alum Rotaract)
- Dr. Randy Pierce – Keynote Speaker from “Future In Sight”
- DGN Lou Botta (New London, NH)
- Albert St. Pierre (Charlestown, NH)
- PDG David Saturley, White River Junction, VT
- Our 8 Long-term Inbound Youth Exchange Students from 8 Countries (and 8 host clubs!)

- Latricia Decory & Teton Saltes from The Bear Project at Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, South Dakota
- Marty Cohn (Springfield, VT)

Our Sponsors:
- WinniDeck at T-Bones, Laconia
- Savings Bank of Walpole
- Bow Rotary Club
- Killinton-Pico Rotary Club
- New London Rotary Club
- PDG Rich Berryman (Capital City Sunrise, NH)
- Bow Early Act Club
- Brattleboro Sunrise Club, VT
- David Gazaway (Bow, NH)
- PDG Tony Gilmore (Hopkinton, NH)
- Hopkinton Rotary
- Keene Rotary
- Keene Interact: Sophomores, Juniors & Seniors
- Keene Elm City Rotary
- PDG Dr. Ben Lawton (Killington-Pico, VT)
- NE Delta Dental (Concord, NH)
- Queen City Rotary (Manchester, NH)
- PDG Venu Rao (Hollis-Brookline, NH)
- Springfield Rotary (VT)
- PDG Bill Stevens (Bellows Falls, VT)
- Peter Webb (Hollis-Brookline, NH)
- Carol Niegisch (Bow, NH)
- PDG Chris Parkson (Bow, NH)
- Speedy Printing

As you can see, many hands make for light work! Let's keep that in mind as we face the new Rotary year. Wearing my incoming Membership Chair hat, I welcome you to help us figure out we can continue to attract new members, engage the ones we have, revitalize our existing clubs and create new ones.

Rotary has infinite leadership possibilities ~ how do we bring that to fruition right here in our beautiful, vibrant New England District?! I welcome your ideas and your willingness to help. Let's continue to reach out and invite others to join us, embrace them when they do, and help each other

continue to plant the seeds that grow the trees that provide shade for future generations to come to sit in the shelter of while they find ways to continue to serve our world that fit with who they are and how they wish to do it! Rotary is for everyone, let's open our arms and hearts and let them in.

All my best,
DG Donna

District News

Conference Service Projects Benefits Pine Ridge Reservation Students and Families



Conference attendees demonstrated Rotary's commitment to service by participating in a hands-on project benefiting children and families living on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota.

The service project, held during the Rotary District 7870 Conference, supported the B.E.A.R. (Be Excited About Reading) Project, a literacy and educational outreach initiative. The project focuses on providing educational resources, books, school supplies, and personal care items to children and families while promoting literacy, self-confidence, and academic success.

Located in southwestern South Dakota and home to the Oglala Lakota Nation, Pine Ridge faces significant economic challenges. Many families have limited access to educational resources and other essential services. Through the generosity of Rotarians and community supporters, the B.E.A.R. Project helps address some of these needs while encouraging a lifelong love of reading and learning.

During the conference, Rotarians heard from Laticia Decory and Teton Saltes about life on the reservation and the success of the BEAR Project. Thanks to the conference's sponsors and 12 Rotary clubs, supplies for the project were obtained. In addition, several direct contributions to the project allowed us to contribute close to $6,000 towards the BEAR Projects.

Participants assembled close to 400 packets: Summer Wellness Kits (sunscreen, bug spray, water bottles, and more), Pack Back-to-School Kits (notebooks, pencils, crayons, folders, and essential supplies), and Teen Empowerment Packs (journals, hygiene items, socks, and encouragement cards).

The completed kits and materials were shipped to the BEAR Project where they will be distributed through schools, libraries, and community organizations serving families throughout Pine Ridge. The service project was a highlight of the District 7870 Conference, bringing Rotarians together in a shared effort to make a meaningful difference beyond their own communities. It also reflected Rotary's longstanding commitment to education, literacy, and service above self.

Through their generosity and volunteer spirit, conference participants demonstrated how collective action can help strengthen communities, support young people, and create hope for future generations.

For more information, contact Martin Cohn at martin@cohnpr.com.

District Changing of the Gavel Announcement

Dear District 7870 Rotarians,



I'd like to invite you to join us for one of our most meaningful and enjoyable traditions — the **69th Annual District Changing of the Gavel** — as we thank **District Governor Donna Deos** for a year of dedicated service and officially welcome **District Governor Ruth Clough**, along with our incoming district leaders and club presidents.

The **Wallingford Memorial Rotary Club** is once again hosting this much-anticipated event. We would love to see Rotarians from across the district come together for good food, fellowship, and celebration.

§ **What:** BBQ Lunch ($25), followed by the Changing of the Gavel ceremony and installation of the 2026–27 District leadership and Club Presidents.
§ **Where:** Paul Harris Memorial Building ("The Little Red Schoolhouse") 96 North Main Street, Wallingford, VT 05773
§ **When:** Saturday, June 27, 2026 at 12 Noon
§ **Why:** Because Rotary is about connection, tradition—and yes, a little fun, too!

Please **register by June 20, 2026**, on the District Website under "Upcoming District Events," or directly at:

https://rotary7870.org/events/district-change-of-the-gavel-2026/

Let's start the new Rotary year together — with appreciation for where we've been, and excitement for what's ahead.

Advocating for Fellowship and Fun in Rotary Service,

Randell Barclay
Past District Governor 2022-23
Wallingford Memorial Rotary Club

Robbie Grady Awarded District 7870 MVP Award at District Conference



DG Donna happily presented Assistant Governer and Goffstown, NH Rotarian, Robbie Grady with a very special award: what we believe is the first ever District MVP award!

Robbie joined Rotary in September of 2017, she has been club President for Goffstown multiple times including in the coming Rotary year when she will take the helm again. Robbie has also served as an Assistant Governor for at least four years and been a member of the District Learning Committee.

At President Elect Learning Seminar (PELS) this year Robbie kicked off the training with a presentation on "Club President Roles & Responsibilities" using sports metaphors that hands down is the best presentation on this topic EVER!

Robbie embodies Service Above Self, truly makes and impact in everything she does and is (to the best of our knowledge) the first recipient of a District 7870 MVP award!

Congratulations Robbie and thank you so very much for your Service, your style, and your gigantic Rotary heart!

Living Legend Jim Rumrill Receives Award at DisCon



Jim and Patty Rumrill joined DG Donna at the District Conference to not only thank Jim for his exemplary leadership in our Youth Exchange Program, but to present the living legend with an award in his name.

We all know that when someone dedicates so much of their lives to others you need some very special support on the home front to make it possible. Patty – you are a rock star as well! Thank you for letting us have so much of Jim's time over the years. We know he couldn't do it without you, your love and support. Jim said so himself when accepting the award.

Here's Jim's background:

- Jim joined Ludlow Rotary Club in 1990.
- He became involved with Youth Exchange (YE) in 1993 at the club level – hosting Ludlow Rotary's first of now 29 inbound exchange students.
- He joined the District YE Committee and was Short Term Coordinator from 2002 – 2005
- Inbound Coordinator from 2005 – 2017
- District Committee Chair from 2017 – 2026

When asked about how many lives his service has touched, he came up with over 300 in just inbound students alone. He estimates about another 100 in the outbound program. That's 400 children's lives he fundamentally touched and changed in his years of service.

Talk about Impact and Legacy!

Jim's service does not end here. He has also been very involved with ESSEX, Eastern States Student Exchange that handles all inbound and outbound students for most all of the Eastern Seaboard and is about to become the Chair of ESSEX for the next 3 years.

All of this is why Jim was awarded the first ever "**Jim Rumrill Youth Exchange Legacy Award**."

Congratulations Jim!
Thank you Patty and Jim.

Club News

Jack Jacob of Wise Oak Tree Service Addresses Ludlow Rotary Club



Jack Jacob is an arborist and lawn maintenance expert from South Londonderry who spoke to the Rotary Club about the loss of many tree species, such as Ash, American Chestnut and Elm Trees. There is also a Beech bark disease attacking local Beech trees.

A major issue facing the Northeast is the Emerald ash borer, a native of SE Asia, where there are natural controls, attacking ash trees. The first population was found in Michigan in 2002. The damage is concentrated in New England and the Midwest because of its weather conditions and large population of ash trees. The disease does not discriminate between young versus old or sick versus healthy trees.

Moving firewood is a huge problem in terms of spreading diseases. Monocultures are also a problem. Ash tree removal is the best option for larger stands because chemical treatment is too expensive for broad application at $400 to $500 per tree. Trees must be removed before they are dead to protect any arborist who must climb the tree to remove it. Rotarians had many questions for Jacob as he ended his talk.

The LRC meets Tuesdays for lunch in Ludlow. The LRC is small and is always looking to welcome new members. If you would like to attend a meeting and learn how you may 'Serve Humanity' while enjoying the fun and fellowship of others, please contact any Rotarian or drop a note to Ludlow Rotary, PO Box 216, Ludlow, Vermont.

Photo (l-r)*: Rotary President Kevin Barnes and Arborist Jack Jacob .*

Springfield Rotary's Food Drive a Success



The Springfield Vermont Rotary Club's "Fill the Cart from the Heart Food Drive" was held on Sat., May 16th in the Springfield Shopping Plaza to benefit the Springfield Family Center Food Shelf. 900 pounds of food and $ 775 in monetary donations were collected. Thank you to Shaw's for the location and a big thank you to the greater Springfield community for all your generous donations to help your neighbors in need.

PHOTO *(l-r): Rotarians Ed McQuaide, Alan Englander, Ashley Newton, Bob Flint, and Past President Deb Cox*

Raymond Area Rotary Food Drive Fills Shelves and Hearts



On May 2, 2026, members of the Raymond Area Rotary gathered at Market Basket in Epping for our annual community food drive — and the response from the community was truly overwhelming.

In just six hours, Rotarians, including members of our Community Impact Team, Friends of Rotary, and volunteers from several local food pantries worked side by side to help stock the shelves of four area food pantries: New Life Church in Raymond, Epping Community Church, Candia Community Women's Club, and Raymond Baptist Church.

Thanks to the generosity of the Market Basket shopping community, donated food was distributed to the participating food pantries by the end of the day, helping address food insufficiency throughout the towns we serve. In addition to the large quantity of food donations received, monetary contributions from the event will allow Raymond Area Rotary to provide healthy snacks to the nurses' offices of 10 area schools this fall, helping support students who may need a little extra nourishment during the school day.

More than 31 volunteer hours were contributed during the event, demonstrating the dedication and compassion of everyone involved. We are especially grateful to the pantry volunteers who came out to assist and help ensure the event's success.

Raymond Area Rotary is proud of what can be accomplished when a community comes together to help neighbors in need. A very special thank you goes to Paula Frenette for organizing this important annual event and helping us make a meaningful impact in our communities.

Springfield Rotary Club Hosts Presentation on Fulbright Program Experience in Colombia



Dr. Lisa Mobus recently shared insights from her Fulbright Program experience in Colombia during a presentation to the Springfield Vermont Rotary Club.

Mobus, a Riverside Middle School teacher, visited South America last July through the Distinguished Awards in Teaching Research Program. She previously spoke to Rotary members about educational research programs, but this presentation focused more broadly on Colombia itself — including its geography, politics, and people.

During her talk, Mobus shared several photographs illustrating the country's diverse climate regions, comparing Bogotá's cooler, rainy conditions with the warmer climate of Medellín. She also highlighted Colombia's colorful culture through images of local cityscapes and artwork.

Mobus also addressed questions from audience members regarding safety and how Americans are treated in Colombia. She said she never experienced animosity during her visit and noted that while she took normal precautions, she always felt safe throughout her stay.

The Springfield Rotary Club is part of a global network of Rotary clubs dedicated to community service and civic leadership. Springfield Rotary Club continues to host speakers who inform, inspire, and connect members to meaningful service opportunities both locally and beyond.

The Springfield Rotary Club meets every Tuesday at 12 p.m. at the SAPCC Workforce Development & Training Center. For more information, visit springfieldvtrotary.org

New Windham Club is Thriving



The Windham Club has been actively serving the community since before receiving our charter and nonprofit status, in February and we are proud of the momentum we've built together.

Our service journey began in November 2025 with the planting of daffodil bulbs at the American Legion. During the holiday

season, members supported several community efforts—spreading cheer at Christmas on the Commons in Londonderry with the Rotary Club of Londonderry, participating in the Windham Senior Christmas Party at Castleton, ringing bells for the Salvation Army alongside the Derry Village Rotary, and delivering holiday meals to local seniors through the Windham Recreation Department.

Since officially chartering in February 2026, we've continued to expand our impact. Members have volunteered at Sonshine Soup Kitchen and supported the Rotary Club of Plymouth, NH with "Common Man for Ukraine" thank-you mailings.

In March, we hosted an information table and community raffle at the Windham Town Elections to raise awareness and welcome new members—congratulations again to our raffle winner, Jess Toole. Around Easter, we partnered with Cheryl Haas and the Windham Recreation Department to deliver Easter bags to local seniors.

On April 4th, six members served as course marshals for The Cheap Marathon held on the Windham and Derry Rail Trails, demonstrating our continued hands-on commitment to the community and on April 18th Mike Lucci, Bill Urbon, John Garon. Jim Maigret, Alan Yankowski, and Ric Rincon, helped out at the second Bring Back the Trades Expo at Londonderry High School alongside members of The Rotary Club of Londonderry.

There are lots more events and activities in the works!

Paul Dana Highlights Workforce Development Efforts at Springfield Rotary Club



Members of the Springfield Vermont Rotary Club recently welcomed Paul Dana, Subtractive Engineer for The Manufacturing Collaborative, who spoke about the organization's efforts to strengthen Vermont's manufacturing workforce and support economic growth throughout the region.

During his presentation, Dana discussed the critical role manufacturing plays in Vermont's economy and outlined how The Manufacturing Collaborative is helping address workforce and capability shortages connecting students, job seekers, educators, and employers and provide advanced contract manufacturing The organization works with manufacturers across the state to

promote career opportunities, provide training resources, and develop pathways into high-demand manufacturing jobs.

Dana emphasized that modern manufacturing offers a wide range of rewarding careers that require advanced technical skills and provide competitive wages and opportunities for advancement. He shared examples of partnerships between manufacturers, schools, and workforce development organizations that are helping prepare the next generation of skilled workers.

"The future success of Vermont manufacturing depends on attracting and developing talented employees," Dana said. "By working together, educators, businesses, and community organizations can help ensure that manufacturers have the workforce, technologies, and capability they need to thrive."

Rotary Club members learned about initiatives designed to introduce students to manufacturing careers, support apprenticeships, and help employers recruit and retain qualified workers. Dana also highlighted the importance of manufacturing to local communities, noting the industry's contribution to job creation, innovation, and economic stability.

The Manufacturing Collaborative serves manufacturers throughout Vermont by fostering collaboration, promoting workforce development, and supporting initiatives that strengthen the state's manufacturing sector. To learn more about The Manufacturing Collaborative, visit https://themfgcollaborative.com/blog/vermont-leaders-tour-manufacturing-collaborative/

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Ludlow Rotary Hears about Internet Safety



Ludlow Rotary heard horror stories about scams and frauds from M&T Bank branch manager, Art Randolph at a recent meeting. Randolph, a long time Rotarian, provided written and verbal details of how to avoid becoming a victim of such scams.

He cautioned that if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is. He also said count to ten on any call, text or email which is suspicious. He urged skepticism and further checking the source of emails which are possibly a fake from what is believed to be a familiar source, by hovering over the sender address to see whether the sender is valid. Oftentimes they look like a familiar business or contact, but the email will not be from that source. Those are all scams.

People in our communities are falling victim to scams daily. The bank makes an effort to discourage withdrawal of unusual amounts of funds from individual accounts for what they have found to be fraudulent sources. Randolph also cautioned, "never let a stranger come to your home to pick up large amounts of cash, regardless if they say it is for a loved one." Take it slowly and never act with urgency to be safe.

As the world faces increasing challenges, the Ludlow Rotary Club is reaffirming its commitment to the dual pillars of Community Service and World Peace and Conflict Resolution. Local Rotarians invite community members to join their mission of "Service Above Self" to create positive change starting right here in the Okemo Valley. LRC meets most Tuesdays at DJ's at 12:15 p.m. We invite others to have lunch with us to learn about what we do. Visit us at www.ludlowrotary.com or like us on Facebook!

PHOTO (l-r) , Rotary President Kevin Barnes and Art Randolph

A Fellow Rotarian: Living with MS, Building a Nonprofit, and Growing a Movement in New Hampshire



At the Henniker Area Rotary Club, we believe in service above self—and few embody that spirit more fully than our fellow Rotarian, **Sarah Locke**. Many of us know someone living with Multiple Sclerosis, but here in Henniker, we have the privilege of knowing Sarah, who not only lives with MS herself but has transformed her diagnosis into a mission to support others across New Hampshire.

Last year, Sarah launched **Locke's Promise**, a nonprofit dedicated to ensuring that no one in our state faces MS alone. With nearly 377 **people per 100,000 residents** estimated to be living with MS in New Hampshire—one of the highest regional rates in the country—the need for local, compassionate support is undeniable.

In its first year, Locke's Promise hosted the inaugural **MS Golf Classic**. The turnout was small, but the impact was real: every dollar raised stayed in New Hampshire to help individuals living with MS access mobility equipment, financial assistance, and essential support.

This year, on **Friday, August 21st**, the 2nd Annual MS Golf Classic returns with a bigger vision and a growing community behind it. As a club, we are proud to stand with Sarah as she builds this event into a statewide movement.

Our club president, **Ed Carignan**, shared a message that reflects how deeply we value her leadership:

"We all may know someone with MS but in Henniker we have the pleasure of knowing Sarah Locke. She's not only a Rotarian who puts service above self every single day, she is also a force—a determined force—to help all those in NH that live with MS so they don't have to MS alone. Locke's Promise is her nonprofit and their motto and her 'promise'—never MS alone. It would be wonderful to see the full force of our Rotarians behind her in whatever way you can: golf with your team, or sponsor as our club does."
— Ed Carignan, President, Henniker Area Rotary

Sarah has also offered to visit Rotary clubs across New Hampshire to share her story and raise awareness about MS. Her courage, transparency, and unwavering commitment to others remind us what Rotary service truly looks like.

On August 21st, we invite Rotarians, community members, and local businesses to join us—on the course or as sponsors—as we support Sarah, Locke's Promise, and every person in New Hampshire living with MS.

Henniker Area Rotary Club
Service Above Self.

Springfield Rotary Club Awards Local Scholarships

Springfield Vermont Rotary Club President Sue Phelps, and scholarship committee members Jim Fog, Bob Flint, Ed McQuaide, Alan Englander, and Ed Grossman selected Cooper Palmer and Lacey Perry as winners of this year's local scholarships. Each student will receive a $3,000 scholarship.



Cooper is planning to attend Union College to study mechanical engineering. Perry is planning to attend Norwich University to study criminal justice to pursue a career in forensic investigation. Funds for the scholarship awards came from the annual Springfield Rotary Penny Sale, which will return this October.

PHOTO (l-r)*: Springfield Rotary Club President Sue Phelps, Ed Grossman, Jim Fog, Cooper Palmer, Lacey Perry, Alan Englander, Bob Flint and Ed McQuaide.*

Woodstock Rotary Spruces Up Woodstock

The Woodstock Rotary Club is at it once again wielding paint brushes and rollers to spruce up the public spaces in the Village of Woodstock. This year it gathered at the historic Vail Field, on South Street, on a sunny morning on June 10, to repaint the decking and storage bins of the pavilion. The "Field" has been nurtured and developed by the local citizens over the years and now is host to a playground, picnic area, pickleball and tennis courts, baseball and softball fields with bleachers and backstops, soccer pitch, and an ice skating rink in the winter. The land, dedicated to the Town of Woodstock over 100 years ago and named after its benefactor, Henry



Hobart Field, was nurtured and developed by local citizens and is today a beautiful and very well-used space. It is overseen by the Woodstock Recreation Center, with the Woodstock Rotary Club volunteering with its maintenance over the years. The Club's Service projects abound here, with members jumping to for all kinds of jobs; big and small.

PHOTO: Norm Frates, Sr. (age 93), Marisa Traniello, and Bettyanne McGuire

Cavendish Team Presents Winning Project to Ludlow Rotary



During a recent meeting of the Ludlow Rotary Club, Team Manager Wendi Dowst-McNaughton shared the remarkable accomplishments of her Cavendish Fletcher Community Library's (CFCL) Destination Imagination team.

Destination Imagination is a global, volunteer-led nonprofit organization that challenges students to apply creative and critical thinking skills to real-world problems. Through team-based challenges in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM), students develop innovative solutions while strengthening collaboration, problem-solving, and communication skills. Teams from 48 states and more than 30 countries compete from around the world where they present original solutions to complex challenges.

This year, the CFCL team, consisting of fourth-grade students Lily Woodell, Fisher McNaughton and Carter Watkins, earned first place in the Technical Challenge division at the Vermont State Tournament. Their award-winning project featured a dragon with a movable jaw and tail that could play music, along with an original game show built around the dragon's character and abilities. The team's creativity, engineering skills, and teamwork impressed the judges and secured them a spot at the Global Finals competition in Kansas City.

During the opening parade, they proudly carried the Vermont state flag and banner, representing both their school and their state on an international stage.

Their success serves as an inspiring example of what young people can accomplish when they are encouraged to think creatively, work together, and embrace challenges.

The Cavendish team's achievements are a source of pride for the entire community and demonstrate that local students can compete and excel at the highest levels of global competition.

The CFCL team had a challenge for the Ludlow Rotary members as well: a competition to create the tallest standing structure using only straws. Art Randolf, Branch Manager of M&M Bank, was the winner!

If you are interested in learning more about Rotary and would like to be a guest at our Tuesday luncheons, contact a local Rotary member.

PHOTO: *Rotarian President Kevin Barnes proudly displays his structure.*

Capital City Sunrise Celebrate Conclusion of Semi-Annual Cornhole Tournament



Rotary members, family members, and guests from the Concord, Capital City Sunrise, Bow, and Hopkinton Rotary Clubs gathered around the four-foot-tall "Cornhole Cup" to celebrate the conclusion of the fourth edition of the popular semi-annual Cornhole Tournament. Once again, the event was graciously hosted by Alan's Restaurant, whose outstanding staff helped make the evening a success. Kim, a member of Alan's exceptional waitstaff, ensured participants and spectators were well supplied with food and beverages throughout the competition.

District Governor Donna Deos and District Governor-Elect Ruth Clough served as honored guests, enthusiastically cheering on the competitors and adding to the festive atmosphere. Special thanks also go to the Bow Rotary Club for providing the cornhole boards used during the tournament.

Following a spirited and good-natured semifinal round featuring all four clubs, Concord Rotary advanced to a winner-take-all championship match against two-time defending champion Hopkinton Rotary. In a closely contested showdown, Concord emerged victorious, reclaiming the coveted Cornhole Cup and earning the collective $750 first-place award, which will be donated to a charitable cause.

What began two years ago as one Rotary member's idea for a friendly competition and fellowship between the Concord and Capital City Sunrise Rotary Clubs has grown into a regional fellowship event that continues to attract increasing participation. The tournament was created to strengthen

friendships among Rotary members throughout the greater Concord area while celebrating the fellowship that lies at the heart of Rotary. From the beginning, organizers envisioned expanding the event across the two-state District 7870 region.

This year's tournament also featured an international touch, as Felipe, an exchange student from Brazil, joined the festivities and experienced Rotary fellowship firsthand.

The event reflected the same spirit that inspired Rotary founder Paul Harris in 1905 to build and maintain meaningful connections among friends, colleagues, and community leaders. In true Rotary fashion, the evening concluded not only with friendly competition and camaraderie, but also with a commitment to service through charitable giving.

Adding to the excitement, District Governor-Elect Ruth Clough announced during the May 30, 2026, District Assembly that District 7870 leadership has agreed to support and expand the Cornhole Tournament throughout the district. The decision ensures that even more Rotary clubs will have the opportunity to participate in this growing tradition of fellowship, fun, and service.

As Rotary members know well, the ultimate purpose of every Rotary gathering is to help others. This tournament once again demonstrated that fellowship and service go hand in hand—and it doesn't get much better than that.

Bow's Pierson Receives International Service Award

At the 5/30/26 District 7870 Assembly in Keene NH, Jill Pierson, member and Past President of the ROTEX ALUM Rotaract Club, was presented the "International Service Award" from the Bow Rotary Club.



According to Bill Stevens, Immediate Past District Governor ('25-'26), the award honors individual Rotarians whose efforts focus on "expanding Rotary's humanitarian reach globally." Recipients are recognized for their exceptional ability for looking "beyond their local borders to address critical global needs such as clean water, literacy and disease prevention ".

Jill's youthful enthusiasm and principled adherence to Rotary's global mission projects a hopeful vision for Rotary. "...the young people out there, the notion that young people don't want to serve is ridiculous. What they don't want is to serve like we did, in the 80's, 90's and early 2000's. The

product (Rotary Clubs) needs to be attractive. If all you're offering is breakfast, happy dollars and a speaker, you'll continue to struggle with attraction..."

Club News from New London

Twenty-one Kearsarge and Sunapee students received New London Rotary scholarships. Two Service Above Self Awards were presented to a student from each school for demonstrating dedicated service to others. Over $750,000 has been awarded by our club over the last thirty years.



International

International Coffee with JB - An Informal Zoom Get Together

There will be no International Coffee With JB in July.

Rotary Short Term Youth Exchange

Do you want to help a student have a 'Great Adventure' next summer? Rotary Short Term Youth Exchange can do that for you. Here is the link to the program description - Rotary Short Term Exchange Program. Or contact our District's Short Term Youth Exchange coordinator – Gary Dehnel, gcdehnel@verizon.net, cell: 571-455-0602.

November 2026 Rotary Project Fair - South India

Dear Rotarians and Friends,

We are excited to invite you to the Rotary Project Fair – South India, taking place November 13–22, 2026, hosted by Rotary Districts 3150, 3181, 3182, 3191, and 3192.

This unique 10-day experience offers the opportunity to:

- Visit four Rotary project fairs across five districts

- Explore impactful, sustainable service projects
- Identify potential Global Grant partnerships
- Experience the rich culture and heritage of southern India

From arrival in Bangalore to departure from Hyderabad, all accommodations, meals, and local transportation are arranged for your comfort.

We encourage you to review the attached flyer for full details, itinerary, and registration information. Space is limited — early registration is recommended. Price and itinerary details can be found by clicking here.

Come witness Rotary in Action and build meaningful international partnerships while experiencing Incredible India.

Warm regards,
PDG Randell Barclay & PDG Venu Rao

Fundraisers

Milford Rotary's 100 Hole of Golf Offers 50/50 Split with Other Clubs - June 19, 2026



The Milford Rotary Club will hold its 32nd Annual 100 Holes of Golf in One Day fundraiser on Friday, June 19 at Amherst Country Club. This event has become one of the District's largest and best-known fundraisers, attracting golfers from throughout the region to play 100 holes on a dedicated course—a golfer's dream.

A significant amount of the money raised comes through the sale of raffle tickets, with cash prizes totaling $12,500 including a $5,000 grand prize. In addition, each raffle ticket offers six discount coupons worth more than the $20 ticket price. It is an easy sale! The Milford Rotary Club makes ticket sales available to other Rotary Clubs in the District and will split half of all the income from the sales with the participating club. No golfer needed! For more information, contact Jay Dinkel at Jay.dinkel@comcast.net or 603-801-1601.

State Valley Rotary Club Annual 5K Run/Walk - June 27, 2026



Lakes Region Rotary to Hold its 14th Annual Charity Car Show - July 25, 2026

The Lakes Region Rotary Club of Laconia, NH is excited to host its 14th annual charity car show on July 25th at 70 Endicott St., Weirs Beach, NH. The show will run from 10am-2pm. Pre-registration is $20 per vehicle, and $25 per vehicle the day of the show. Spectator entrance fee is $5 per person, with under 12 yrs. of age free.

With over 200 vehicles on display and more than 1,000 spectators in attendance, the Lakes Region Rotary's charity car show has seen tremendous turnout in recent years. The event showcases cars from the early 1900s to present day. Car enthusiasts, family and friends are encouraged to attend and will get to view some top-of-the-line classic and modern cars, vote on their favorite cars, and enjoy an afternoon in the Weirs.

Last year, the club raised over $52,000 **for local charities**, with 100% of the proceeds going directly to support families and children in need of food, clothing, shelter, and other essentials. For more information on the event, please visit www.lakesregionrotary.org.

Concord Rotary's Annual Golf Tournament - August 13, 2026



THE ROTARY CLUB OF CONCORD'S
26th Annual Golf Tournament

Nine & Dine

smp RUMFORD STONE MERRIMACK COUNTY SAVINGS BANK

Beaver Meadow Golf Course: Concord, NH
Thursday August 13th, 2026
Dinner Provided by Alan's of Boscawen
Dinner to start between 6:00 and 6:30

SCRAMBLE FORMAT- 2:00 PM Registration- 3:00 PM Shotgun Start
Player Registration Form: Please register by Thursday July 31, 2026

Company _____ Contact _____
Address _____ Phone _____
Email: _____

Player 1: _____ Player 2: _____
Phone: _____ Phone: _____

Player 3: _____ Player 4: _____
Phone: _____ Phone: _____

Golf, Carts, Driving Range, Dinner & Prizes

Check One: ____Foursome $500.00 (includes signage at the tee or green)
____Foursome $400.00 ____Individual $100.00 Dinner Only $40.00

Total Enclosed: _____

Checks should be made payable to:
The Rotary Club of Concord Mail: PO Box 2246 Concord, NH 03302-2246
CONTACT: Vince Trento vince@rumfordstone.com 603-410-6715 or Rena DiMuccio 401-692-0735

Laconia Dragon Boat Festival - Sept. 19, 2026

Dragon Festivals started in Asia. Unlike Americans, who typically consider dragons to be evil and demonic, Asians regard dragons as wholesome and benevolent, and thus worthy of veneration, not slaying. Veneration of dragons in China is associated with annual rituals to ensure life-giving water and bountiful rice harvests.



Dragon boat racing has taken place in China for over 2000 years. Much more recently it has become popular in the U.S. In Laconia, New Hampshire we have been holding it for 6 years.

Laconia Rotary dragon boat race teams consist of 17 people paddling a 40-foot-long canoe. We do it for fun and to raise money for local nonprofit organizations. The 2026 race will be raising money for 603 United.

For more information go to our website at laconiarotary.org or contact the event leader, Pat Anderson at LaconiaDBF@gmail.com.

$2,500+ Corporate Sponsorship Benefits

- Recognition on all Dragon Boat Festival marketing materials before, during and after the festival (must commit prior to 8/1/2026)
- Logo on official event t-shirts (must commit prior to 8/1 /2026)
- Your sponsorship may also include a team registration under your corporate name, if you desire

$2,000 Event Sponsor Benefits

- Recognition on all day-of-event materials (if committed prior to 8/1 /2025)
- Your sponsorship may also include a team registration under your corporate name, if you desire

The fundraising is being done through LARO, Laconia Rotary's 501 (c) 3. Please make payments to LARO, PO Box 503, Laconia, NH 03247 or through our website at https://www.laconiarotary.org/Page/laconia-rotary-dragon-boat-festival.

Raffle Tickets Still Available to Support Ukrainian Humanitarian Projects



Common Man Inn Getaway

Raffle tickets are still available to support Ukrainian humanitarian projects. If you like to ski and are interested in supporting Ukrainian humanitarian projects, this raffle is for you! The Claremont-Sugar River Rotary Club is raffling a $200 gift certificate for a one-night getaway at the Common Man Inn and Restaurant in Claremont. Located on the banks of the Sugar River, the Inn is within 30 minutes of ski resorts in both New Hampshire and Vermont. Ski a day in one state, enjoy a stay in a luxurious room, and wake up fresh for another day of skiing elsewhere.

Raffle tickets are $10 each and the drawing will be held once 100 tickets are sold. All proceeds will benefit club or district projects for Ukrainians who are facing another winter in wartime. Raffle tickets can be purchased online at Common Man Inn Getaway The gift certificate is valid for a mid-week stay, subject to availability and date restrictions.

For more information about the Common Man Inn and Restaurant in Claremont, please visit their website at Home - The Common Man Inn Claremont Together we can make a difference!

Charlene Lovett, Claremont-Sugar River Rotary, Past President

Miscellaneous

District Calendar

So much going on within the clubs in the district! Be sure to regularly check this District Calendar of Events: http://rotary7870.org/events/calendar

Do you have an entry for the District online calendar? Please email your entry to: prrotary7870@gmail.com.

Months of the Rotary Year

Many months of the year are designated by Rotary International for special significance.
July – Maternal and Child Health Month
August – Membership & Extension Month
September – Basic Education and Literacy Month

October – Economic and Community Development Month
November – Rotary Foundation Month
December – Disease Prevention and Treatment Month
January – Vocational Service Month
February – Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month
March – Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month
April – Environment Month
May – Youth Service Month
June – Rotary Fellowships Month

Have Something You'd Like to Share with the Entire District?

Updates and short (1 page) articles, along with images **(Word and JPEGS only. NO PDFs please)** may be submitted to Martin Cohn and Maureen Mooney at prrotary7870@gmail.com to be included in the Monthly Newsletter. **Please limit your photos to one per article.** The District Newsletter is a means of communicating with other clubs in our district: items of interest, upcoming events, fundraisers or opportunities for service. **Deadline for next newsletter submissions: N/A.**

Website and Social Media

Be sure to check (and share) the Rotary District 7870 **website** at: www.rotary7870.org.

Be sure to join (and share) the Rotary District 7870 **Facebook page** here: