



District 7790 Newsletter



DG Doug with Family

A message from 7790 District Governor Ibarguen

Happy New Year 2008!!

What a delight to meet all fifty-two of our clubs during my visit from July 2 to October 26! We can all be proud of the tremendous service each of our clubs provides for their respective communities.

It is time for New Year's resolutions. Perhaps we could all think of the many times we have been asked the question "What is Rotary?" And how often do we give a good succinct response? Remember, as I said to each of our clubs during my visits, we all need to have our 'elevator' speech ready at all times.

January is also "Rotary Awareness Month," a good time to make ourselves and our communities more aware of what Rotary is. It would be great if each club resolved to run an RI public service announcement on their local radio station during the month of January and personalize it with the service they have provided their community or a community in another country. Please check the article, "Market your club" in the January *Rotarian* for ideas on promoting Rotary awareness in your community.

Rotary International is the oldest, most international service club organization in the world, and one of the largest. Rotary was first established in 1905 by four business leaders in Chicago. Since then it has grown to 1.2 million Rotarians in some 32,000 Rotary clubs in more than 200 countries. The motto of Rotary is "Service above Self". Have you thought about what that means to you and your community as you carry out your daily activities? This of course, is the essence of what it means to be a Rotarian. Rotary is all about building goodwill and better understanding around the world through humanitarian and educational projects. These projects, funded and carried out by Rotarians, address the underlying causes of conflict (terrorism and war) such as illiteracy, poverty and disease. In recognition of these efforts, the United Nations Association of New York presented Rotary International and the Rotary Foundation with its Humanitarian Award for our work in providing clean water and sanitation around the world.

Since 1988, when Rotary's quest for the eradication of polo began, Rotarians have raised more than US \$600 million to support that eradication in 122 countries.

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News from around the district inside:

District 7790 World Service project

- **Meet our GSE team**
- **Sign up early for our District Conference**

"The Magic of Rotary lets ordinary people like you and I do absolutely amazing things!"



DG Doug completes his visits to all 52 clubs in our district!



With great pleasure Rotary International has announced a new partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates foundation that will provide a much needed US 200 million dollars in support of our top goal of a polio-free world.

Governor's message continued:

We have saved the lives of thousands of children through the polio vaccine and the vitamin distributed with it. At the present time, the incidences of polio cases have been reduced by more than 99 percent. Pockets of endemic polio virus remain in only four countries, and Rotarians continue to work in these areas. A recent matching gift of \$100 million from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will go a long way toward completing this project. As Rotarians we are challenged to match this gift over the next 3 years for a total of \$200 million. The financial support of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will be invaluable in the months ahead, and their trust in Rotary is an honor to us all.

So during the month of January and throughout 2008, let us resolve to make our communities more aware of Rotary's contributions toward bringing about world peace and telling everyone how *Rotary Shares*.

Sincerely,
District Governor
Douglas Ibarquen

District 7790 World Community Service Project

DG Doug has followed his family roots and selected a dual world community service project that will help many of our friends from Latin America. With family connections in both Guatemala and Colombia Doug was very familiar with the need and has a plan in motion that will be very beneficial in helping to break the chains of poverty. The Guatemala project will be a literacy based project working in conjunction with Safe Passage and Rotarians from our district and Guatemala City. Funds will be used to purchase books, computers and other educational items and plans are under way to send groups of Rotarians to Guatemala starting in February. DG Doug will lead the 1st team of 12 who will work hands on with the children of the dump. They plan to teach English and give math lessons to the children.→



Together we are making a difference in the lives of many!

District 7790 Rotary Youth exchange student Pia Laine from Tampere, Finland is one of approximately 8000 high school students who participate worldwide. To learn more about hosting a student visit www.exchangestudent.org or contact district chairs Claude Martell at claude_martel@hotmail.com or Bruce Cole at bcole@midcoast.com.



Rotary's programs for students and youth can change the lives of those who participate. Through these programs young people can earn scholarships, travel on cultural exchanges, or help a community through a service project.

Rotary District 7790

C/O DG Doug Ibarguen

PO Box 864

Farmington, Maine

04938

Let us hear what is going on in your part of the district. Email DG Doug Ibarguen or Secretary Steve 'Al' Feather and we'll be sure to include you in our next addition!

Email: dribar@verizon.net or fenwayal@msn.com

Check out our awesome website:

www.rotary-7790.org

Webmaster:

Hugette Nadeau

hnadeau@propection.qc.ca

Rotary is:

Service Above Self

Share this newsletter with your club and you share the Magic of Rotary!

Meet our GSE Team!

District 7790 Group Study Exchange Chair Sylvia Plourde has announced this year's team traveling to Venezuela. They are team leader and Rotarian Jean-Louis Joly a civil engineer, Guillaume Cyr a forest engineer, Julie Hudson a physiotherapist, Helene Bouffard a professional photographer all from Quebec City and Brian Hodges a business development specialist from Auburn, Maine. This group of ambassadors will be in Venezuela from April 22, 2008 and returning home on May 20, 2008. The GSE team from District 4380 in Venezuela will arrive here at the Portland Jetport on May 4, 2008 and depart on May 31, 2008.

CONTINUED:

The Colombia piece is a continuation of an on going district club project in 'La Davina Pastora' in Cucuta, Colombia. The district will work with the Cucuta Rotary Club to help supply sewing machines and supplies where widowed mothers will be taught to sew so they can earn a livelihood. There will also be a literacy piece so their children will receive an education. Your club can help by making a donation today and if you make a gift of \$1000.00 you will receive an additional 200 points towards your DG Citation!!!

Rotarian Gatherings!

7790 District Conference

Head to the District website today and sign-up early for extra savings on our District Conference to be held May 16-18 in beautiful Bar Harbor Maine!

LA 2008 Convention

With Rotary International President Wilf one of our own Zone 22 champions DG Doug wants to remind all District 7790 Rotarians to show our support in LA! Register today!!

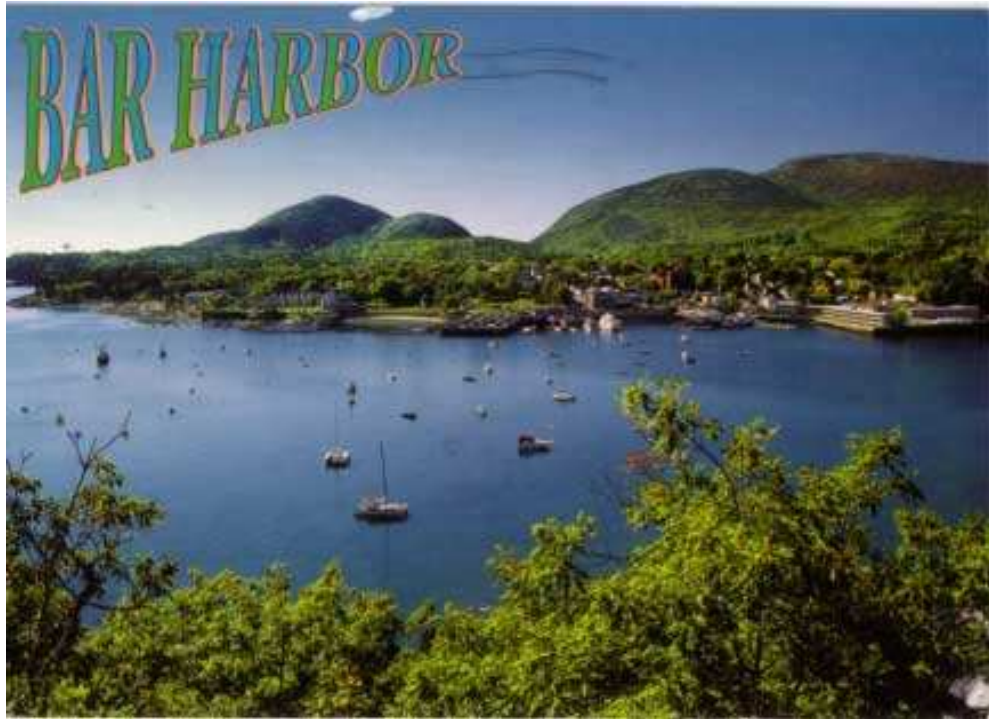
IN FOCUS:
Whose guiding principals are world peace and understanding?

A Rotarian!



Dates for the 2008 PETS announced.

Please pass this information along to your club's president-elect. PETS training will be March 14, 15 & 16 in Le Georgesville, Saint Georges, Quebec. This is required and valuable training for all incoming presidents.



Site of the District Conference 2008 ~ May 16 -18

Rotary District 7790
C/O DG Doug Ibarguen
Box 864
Farmington, Me
04938

