



Look Who Got Roped into a Group Photo...

The District 7850 Rotary Friendship Exchange Team with fellow Rotarians from District 5360 (Southern Alberta, Canada) on their visit to the Bar-U Ranch in Alberta, Canada, one of the oldest ranches in Alberta! Our District will return the favor by hosting our northern neighbors in October 2019.

District Connections



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Got Something to Say? Here's Your Chance!

Do you have an event to announce? Do you want to promote a project or celebrate an achievement? Publish it here!

For all events and announcements, please forward the information to fox@foxlawvt.com by the 20th of the month for publication in the following month's District Connections.

For articles, please forward the article in Word format at any time to fox@foxlawvt.com for review, editing, and future publication in District Connections.

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Interact

Club of Lamoille Union



WE WANT YOU!

New Interact Club in District 7850

Please join us in welcoming the **Interact Club of Lamoille Union** to District 7850! This new club, chartered by the **Cambridge Area Rotary Club**, will be based out of the Lamoille Union High School and serve the surrounding communities and students within them.

Interact clubs bring together young people ages 12-18 to develop leadership skills while discovering the power of Service Above Self. Interact clubs organize at least two projects every year, one that helps their school or community and one that promotes international understanding. Rotary club sponsors mentor and guide Interactors as they carry out projects and develop leadership skills.

For more information on how to start an Interact Club in your area, contact District Interact Chair **Ben Fuller** at bfuller@therichardsgrp.com, or District New Generations Chair **Jay Polimeno** at jaypolimeno71@gmail.com.

You Can Be District Governor!

All Rotarians in good standing who 1) have been a Club President, and 2) will have been in Rotary for at least seven years by 2022 are eligible to apply to be nominated to be the District Governor for 2022-23.

Being District Governor is an immense honor as well as an opportunity to share your vision and commitment to Rotary. It is also a chance to be part of a team of other committed Rotarians and to have a lot of fun!

To apply for the nomination, fill out the Governor - nominee form found at <https://my.rotary.org/en/document/district-governor-nominee-form> and have your club secretary sign it.

Once you have done so, send it to the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Past District Governor **Larry Vars** at Larryvrotary@gmail.com.



Middlebury Rotary President **Betsy McCarthy** presents longtime Rotarian **Ron Hadley** with an honorary membership award in recognition of his over forty years of Rotary membership.

Rotarian Perspectives on RYLA

By Jason Schnoor, Middlebury Rotary Club

Going to RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) back in June 2019, I did not know what to expect. I had felt the nudge the prior year from Past District Governor **Eric Denu** to go and help with RYLA. I then felt that I really needed to help when the **Rotary Club of Middlebury** decided to sponsor six kids to go this year. I had heard a few things about the program but to be quite honest, I am very impressed at how well things are run!

I thought I was going to go help facilitate the program but RYLA is run by our youth leaders. Being able to see first-hand how the leaders of the future were able to execute such a great program to help the next generation to be leaders in their communities and beyond was very impressive.

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Middlebury Rotary Recognizes Ron Hadley

Ron Hadley had been an active Rotarian for over forty years, regularly attending meetings and service projects until July 2019 when health concerns kept him from participating in the **Middlebury Rotary Club's** meetings.

So Middlebury Rotary came to him.

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There were many activities for all of the RYLarians to participate in and they were separated into multiple teams of around eight kids. Each team had a team leader who in the previous year was a RYLarian as well. They were called a Junior counselor. To achieve this level, their counselors for their year of being a RYLarian decided that they had what it took to move on to be a counselor. Each year after that, a select few counselors are asked to come back and some have been coming back for almost 10 years. You could tell that they really enjoyed their role and this caused the participants to enjoy their RYLA experience.



Everyday there were team building exercises that helped each participant grow in their leadership abilities. Many times the RYLarians were taken out of their comfort zone and asked to lead a group of RYLA participants who they had never met and with some English was not their first language but now had the task of guiding others to a common goal.

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On August 17, 2019 the Middlebury Rotary Club had its regular breakfast meeting at EastView at Middlebury, a local Senior Retirement Community where Ron resides with his wife **Belle**. The meeting was a tribute to Ron, including the presentation of Club and District awards, as well as members of the American Legion Color Guard presenting the National Colors in Ron's honor.

Ron, who just turned 98 years of age, was a WW II Naval officer who served in four (4) major invasions: Omaha Beach on D-Day, Operation Dragoon in Southern France, the Iwo Jima landings, and Okinawa landings.

Congratulations to Ron and thank you for your service, both to the United States and to Rotary!





I think the event that stood out the most for me was the Rise Against Hunger service project. **Rotary District 7850** invited Rise Against Hunger so that we could have a service project on Saturday afternoon. All who were at RYLA including the Rotary volunteers were able to participate. In the end with around seventy participants working together, we were able to accomplish **10,152** meals for six people in less than an hour. It was pretty emotional for some knowing that we were making a difference in so many peoples' lives.

On my ride home with a few of the RYLarians from Middlebury, they each told me that they would like to participate in a Rise Against Hunger program this school year. After having them speak at our club, many of them said the same thing.

In addition to the Rise Against Hunger service project, many of the RYLA participants were able to raise money for PolioPlus. In the end, RYLarians raised \$2,646, and with the Bill Gates Foundation two-for-one match of \$5,292, this totals **\$7,938** for PolioPlus. This really means a lot to me since I was able to go to India and join one of the NID (National Immunization Day) back in 2012.

I feel that as Rotarians we need to all make a conscious effort to support youth. RYLA helps with the future of Rotary. We need young leaders to make a difference and RYLA is one step in the right direction for our youth!



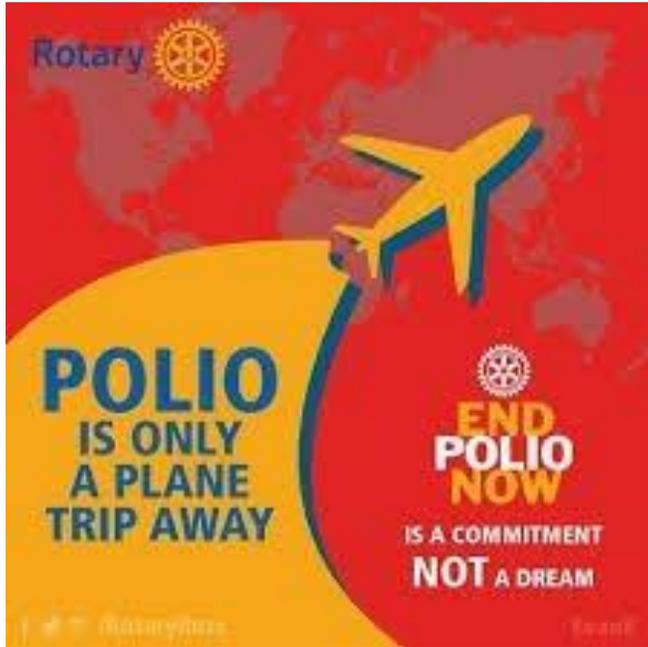
Rotary Penny Sale Draws Interest From Near and Far

By Donna Rhodes, Newfound Landing (reprinted from <http://www.newhampshirelakesandmountains.com/Articles-Newfound-Landing-c-2019-08-14-164569.113119-Rotary-Penny-Sale-draws-interest-from-near-and-far>)

BRISTOL – The 67th Annual **Bristol Rotary Club** Penny Sale was supported this year by not just the immediate community, but by people from all over who were also hoping to win prizes in support of a worthy cause.

Each year, the money raised by the Rotary Penny Sale provides funds for educational scholarships that benefit graduating seniors from Newfound Regional High School. Many of those recipients are grateful enough to come back time and time again to help raise more funds for future graduates of NRHS.

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How Can You Help on World Polio Day?

By PDG Marilyn Bedell, Assistant Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator

World Polio Day will be celebrated on 24 October 2019. If you already have an event planned, you can stop reading and please accept my thanks for organizing your event.

If your club has nothing planned, there is still time to consider acknowledging World Polio Day on 24 October, or during the week of 24 October.

Events do not have to be elaborate or time intensive. You can always use the World Polio Day Tool Kit found at <https://www.endpolio.org/world-polio-day> for ideas.

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Bristol Rotarian Scott Haines and his wife Mary Kay know firsthand how much that scholarship can mean to a college-bound student. Their daughter Sandra was the 1996 recipient of a Rotary Scholarship and went on to have a successful career as a result of that financial backing.

"She became an MRI tech and is now the Chief Technician for Concord Hospital," said Mary Kay. "It goes to show that all of this money raised here tonight goes to a good cause."

Not only that, but many grateful students and graduates like her daughter, still support the Penny Sale every year, helping with set up, ticket drawings, prize dispersal, clean up or whatever else is needed to make the night run smoothly.

"These are all awesome kids we are doing it for," she said.

This year's prize selections included sporting goods, household décor, art, tools, gift cards and many other items donated by generous local businesses and community partners. Participants purchased tickets for each of three rounds of multiple prize drawings then sat back and hoped to hear their ticket numbers called. In the meantime there were refreshments available and still more tables filled with great items donated toward a special silent auction. At the end of the night all ticket holders were encouraged to stick around as every ticket was placed back in the drum for a chance at one of six Grand Prizes. This year those included a newly built wooden picnic table for the backyard, a mountain bike, 125 gallons of heating fuel, 100 scratch tickets, dinner for two at Bristol House of Pizza and a total of four cash awards amounting to \$350.

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No matter how big or how small, everything that is done helps raise awareness about the need to eradicate polio. It has been 3 years since health officials last reported a case of polio caused by the wild poliovirus in Nigeria. This milestone means that it is possible for the entire African region to be certified wild poliovirus-free next year. We need to continue to support ongoing efforts to make this a reality.



Here are a few easy things you can consider:

- Hold a club program that highlights the work we (Rotary) are doing to eradicate polio.
- If you can't fit in a program have a Rotary Moment at your meeting to highlight the End Polio Now efforts. Here's are examples:
- Consider making a personal donation to the Rotary Foundation Polio Plus Program. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will match your donation by 2 dollars for every dollar you give.
- Write a letter of editor to your local newspaper to help educate your community about Rotary's efforts to eradicate polio.
- Post information about End Polio Now on your social media pages for your clubs and ask members to share them on their pages.
- Ask members or your club to make donations to polio at your meeting, and send the donation to the Rotary Foundation.

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As people made their way into the gymnasium at NRHS last Thursday evening, two women drove 70 miles from Milford all the way up from Milford because they didn't want to miss out on all the fun and winning. Karen Batchelder was joined by her friend Gail Sprague, and both said they couldn't resist a penny sale for a good cause. Both had childhood memories of days spent on Newfound Lake and since Sprague has a camp on nearby Paugus Bay in Laconia, they decided it would be a great adventure.

"We had no idea they had something like this up here until we saw it on Facebook," the women said. "We came up early to have dinner at the Big Catch and look around, and we've been reminiscing all afternoon about things from 50 years back."

Both were certain they would leave as lucky winners that night and looked forward to the event.

And while summer visitors and people from nearby towns also showed up to enjoy the evening, it was local residents of the school district who came out in full force to take part in a fun and long-standing tradition in their community that supports local youth.





- Consider not having a meal at your meeting and ask members to donate their meal fee to PolioPlus.

Feeling a little more ambitious? Try this:

- Have members host dinners with their friends at their homes, and ask those who attend to make a donation to PolioPlus in exchange for the meal.
- Ask your Interactors and Rotaractors to hold Purple Pinkie Events at their schools and ask members to help with this activity. Google "Rotary Purple Pinkie" for ideas on how to do these events.
- Hold public event. There will be a LiveStream event on 24 October. Have a viewing party.

Feeling even more adventurous? How about:

- Ask members to join you on a local bridge and hold End Polio Now Signs, and signs stating "Bridging the Gap". You can contact the **Rotary Club of Portsmouth New Hampshire** to learn about the events they have held on the bridge that connects Maine to New Hampshire. <https://www.portsmouthrotary.org/singleemail/contactus>
- Hold a community dinner with food donated by Rotarians and funds raised going to PolioPlus

It's my bet you can come up with even more creative ideas than the ones listed above.

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Your September District Calendar

September 6, 2019

Rotary Club of Lincoln-Woodstock Corvette Raffle



More details available at:

<https://lincolnwoodstockrotary.org/stories/corvette-raffle>

September 14, 2019

Rotary Club of North Conway Rise Against Hunger



More details available at:

<http://events.riseagainsthunger.org/RCNC19>



Here are some general Polio talking points for your consideration and use:

1. Polio mainly affects children under age 5
2. There is no cure, but polio is preventable with a vaccine
3. Only three countries remain endemic (Afghanistan, Pakistan and Nigeria, though Nigeria has been polio free for three years)
4. We have reduced polio cases by 99.9% since 1988
5. Until we end polio, all children are at risk.
6. We can't become complacent - polio continues to be only a plane ride away.

If you do an event, don't forget to register the event at <https://www.endpolio.org/register-your-event>

Thanks in advance for highlighting polio on October 24, 2019!



September 27, 2019

Rotary Club of Drummondville Malouin 7th Annual Beer and Fine Tastes



More details available at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/380367786015003/>

September 28, 2019

Ossipee Valley Rotary Club Golf Tournament and Golf Ball Drop



More details available at: <https://www.facebook.com/Ossipee-Valley-Rotary>

Check the District Calendar at www.rotary7850.org for more events!

Sherbrooke Rotary Celebrates Summer!



A group of Rotarians, including **Sherbrooke Rotary** Past President **Maurice Busque**, revel in fellowship, wine, and a beautiful evening.



Past President **Maurice Busque**, current President **Luc Pomerleau**, and Rotarian **Faruk Seyrek** compare wine tasting notes.



Rotarian **Catherine Lavallée**, a new member and Rotary transfer from Lacrosse, Wisconsin, and her husband share a moment of fellowship. Bienvenue à District 7850, Catherine!



A fellow Rotarian frames Assistant Governor **Andre Lemire** with President-elect **Sylvie Gosselin** as they enjoy the evening.