



Rotary Club of Merrimack, N.H. Newsletter

4th Edition: October - December 2013
www.merrimackrotary.org

October 2013 – December 2013

Officers 2013-2014:

Andrew Steeves
President

Phil DeGregorio
President Elect

Maureen Mooney
Vice President

Jane Hoover
Secretary

Paul Belfiore
Treasurer

Steve Russell
Past President

Rick Crawford
Sergeant-at-Arms

Board of Directors:

Lynn Christensen ~ Mike Hoover ~ Ron Douville ~ Joyce Jobin ~ Dick Hinch ~ Bob Freed

FROM THE DESK OF ANDREW STEEVES, PRESIDENT 2013-2014:

Dear Rotary Club of Merrimack,

We are a third of the way through another Rotary year! As I get older it amazes me how quickly time flies! It seems like a short while ago I was asking a girl out on my first date. As I have gotten older, I reflect more on my own mortality and what I have been doing. Did I accomplish as an idealistic teenager in the 1970's what I wanted to do? Have I at least worked toward those goals?

Ron Burton, our Rotary President, chose for his theme this year "Engage Rotary - Change Lives." Rotarians in the Merrimack Rotary are engaged! Just think for a moment what we have accomplished in 2013. We have added four new members. They have stepped up by joining committees and our board. As members of those committees, they are not only participating but they have taken the lead jumping right in and getting things done. In



*Published by the Rotary Club of Merrimack
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the three and a half months of this Rotary year we already have done so much. Two big community service projects were very successful. Our Club has stepped up to be the sponsor of the New Hampshire Glen & Melinda Adams National Eagle Scout Service Project of the Year Award. We have participated in the Merrimack Business Expo and passed out 41 information packets to the Merrimack community which engage the public on what our part is in the Rotary mission. Our members have worked up a good sweat installing a much-needed run off border around the Pavilion at the same time enhancing the beauty of the structure and the park. Our club has been recognized for supporting the Middle School in attaining the 2013 Gold Circle Award for the previous academic year! We have applied for, and been given, a Global Matching Grant for our work with the Guatemala Literacy Project. The Rotary Club of Merrimack is well on its way toward finally completing our strategic plan. We are engaged!

I would like to say a word of caution to our members. Stay away from the negative nay-saying curmudgeons. We are a volunteer business service organization. Each member brings his or her own special talents and abilities. At certain times of the year, our businesses demand more attention. Our personal lives present each of us challenges that must be attended to. We cannot expect everyone to be involved in every project. As volunteers, we all support our club's goals. Don't let Club members say things such as "she doesn't do this" or "he gets away with that." Look for the positive and you will find it. Encourage our brothers and sisters and they will be inspired! We have a lot ahead of us working towards the greater good. I look forward to the upcoming two thirds of this Rotary year and beyond. Stay the course. Stay engaged. Thank you all for making us a vibrant club!

In service,
Andy

Events:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Events</u>
Oct. 1	October is Vocational Service Month
Nov. 1	November is Rotary Foundation Month
Nov. 7	Bob Freed gave his professional bio.
Nov. 16	Night at the Monarch hockey game.
Nov. 21	Leslie Burnard is a new member of Rotary!
Nov. 28	Turkey Trot 5K event.
Nov. 29	Christmas tree set up at 9:00 am.
Nov. 30	Christmas tree unload.
Dec. 1	December is Rotary Family Month
Dec. 1	Christmas tree fundraiser begins at 10:00 am.
Dec. 14	Holiday Party at the home of Andy and Robin Steeves.

Sept. 28 Annual Merrimack Fall Festival/Business Expo table 10 am – 3 pm.

Membership:

The Rotary Club of Merrimack is a volunteer organization of business people and professionals supporting the community. Merrimack Rotary projects have included scholarships, reconstruction of Kids' Kove Playground, support for Merrimack flood relief, the Merrimack July Fourth festivities, the Rotary 4-Way Speech Contest, Interact Club, lighting at Reeds Ferry fields and more. The club works with other clubs on international projects like eradication of polio, Pure Water for the World, and hurricane relief in Honduras. To RSVP for a breakfast meeting or for information about membership, contact Chris Christensen at [603.424.2542](tel:603.424.2542) or Chris@ChristensenNH.com or visit www.merrimackrotary.org.

Meetings:

The weekly meetings are held every Thursday morning at 7:15 am at the John O'Leary Adult Community Center (4 Church Street, Merrimack) with the Pledge of Allegiance, singing of "You're A Grand Old Flag," and recitation of the "Four Way Test" and invocation. Breakfast was catered by the Stocked Fridge (www.thestockedfridge.com).

Guest Speakers:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Host Rotarian</u>	<u>Speaker/Topic</u>
7/4/13	N/A	No Meeting – It's Family Fun Day!
7/11/13	Troy Aarthun	Bill Spacciapoli, director of JUMP Inc. they are a non profit that focuses on youth leadership development through outdoor adventure training.
7/18/13	Bob Best	Maria White, the CEO of NH Red Cross on the topic of disaster relief efforts.
7/25/13	Andy Steeves	CLUB ASSEMBLY
8/1/13	Andy Steeves	David Hoopes - District Governor
8/8/13	Paul Belfiore	Official from The Virtual Learning Academy (www.vlacs.org).
8/15/13	Barbara Michael	Bruce Treat -Maple Syrup Trader speaking on the industry in NH.
8/22/13	Chris Christensen	Elizabeth LaRocca - is a NH native and 32 year veteran of Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH), the electric utility company which serves approximately 75 percent of the State. Elizabeth has spent 20 years on PSNH's community relations team, which interfaces with municipal officials and community groups regarding economic development, energy efficiency, or power reliability projects. Her responsibilities also include media relations, corporate contributions, issues management, and emergency management.
8/29/13	Lynn Christensen	Jim Burnard of Colorco LTD -founded the company in 1986 and it has grown to a full service custom surface fabrication studio that works with architects, designers, artists and showrooms. Their artists produce projects utilizing a wide variety of styles and techniques, including classic

9/5/13	Rick Crawford	European mosaics, water jet cutting, whole tile image mosaics, custom etching and printing on tile. Projects have been installed in a wide variety of settings, including residences, hotels, restaurants and public spaces. (Meeting at Duhamel Pavilion) – Bill Stoughton from the Nashua Area Habitat for Humanity.
9/12/13	Steve Russell	July 4 th Appreciation of Volunteers and Sponsors
9/19/13	Phil DeGregorio	Jason Patch – President of New Hampshire Pop Warner
9/26/13	Ron Douville	Bob Best on Changes in Healthcare Law.

Member Blurbs:

Turkey Trot Information
By: Bob Freed

After a one year hiatus the Turkey Trot committee has resurrected the Merrimack 5K Turkey Trot. Although we lost some momentum not having a race last year, our goal is to get 300 runners. With 2 weeks left we have approximately 60 signed up. Although this looks like a long way from our goal, there are still two weeks to go and same day registrations could help.

Whether we hit the goal or not, we like to think this will be an annual event that will grow to large numbers over time. Anything the club members can do to encourage runners to register or sponsors to take part, would be greatly appreciated.

Two recognized names have lent their name to this event---

New Balance
Runner's Alley