



# Rotary Club of Merrimack, N.H. Newsletter

January - June 2014  
[www.merrimackrotary.org](http://www.merrimackrotary.org)

## January 2014 – June 2014

### 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 ~ Bob Freed ~ Bill Wilkes

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

Thank you for all you do! Thank you for all the good works you support and do locally and internationally. Thank you for being a Rotarian.

It is amazing to me how fast the year has gone by. It seems to me as if it was just yesterday I was storing the unused pancake mix in the basement and now I am inventorying what's on hand for my order for this year's Pancake breakfast! My how time flies when you are having fun! I had fun and I hope you did too.

We have had a great year. Our fundraising efforts have surpassed our goals even without doing a new major new fundraiser! We started the Rotary year with a very successful Pancake Breakfast. Our 4<sup>th</sup> of July Family Day ended in the black. We resurrected the Turkey Trot which was a huge success. I believe the Gobbler 5K will become one of our signature events. Christmas Tree sales were very strong and we ended with very little unused inventory. The Rabies Clinic was once again a real service to our community helping many dogs and cats and

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making their owners happy while bringing in additional needed funds to our coffers. All these efforts allow us to support many causes and meet unfilled needs in the local community and beyond our town's borders.

At the urging of some members at our June Board meeting, I queried the board about their frugal stewardship of these funds. They have given thoughtful consideration on disbursements and leave our Club with a very healthy balance for the 2014- 2015 Rotary year. I was flabbergasted at the response from one of our board members, "We had no worthy causes to support this year."!

No worthy causes? This year we have once again supported aspiring students and residents with scholarships to further their education. We have provided fuel assistance to an elderly town resident. We have spent more funds toward the wonderful Roger Duhamel Pavilion. We have sent money earmarked to help survivors of the horrible 7.1 magnitude earthquake and subsequent Tsunami that struck Cebu City in the Philippines. A family of 8 are still living in the Shelter Box our Club provided. We participated in our first of what will be many new District Global Grant that RI has set up. Our monies have gone towards the fund that will be used to create a new Fraser Square Memorial to all New Hampshire soldiers and servicemen and women which will prove to be the best Monument in New Hampshire recognizing our Veterans. We have funded a new recognition in perpetuity of the wonderful Eagle Scout Project's Scouts throughout the State complete each year. Our monies have helped Hanna Vaccaro and other students in their efforts to help the world. We have continued to support Rotary's effort to conquer Polio and we are this close to total eradication throughout the world once and for all. All this and more is what our hard efforts in fundraising have supported.

Last year at the beginning of our Rotary year the Club implored me to please have a quiet year and please don't take on another major project which would stress our members. We needed a time to catch our breath and recuperate from some major projects that we had taken on. I think we had a good year and still supported many worthwhile projects.

Rotary gives us all a vehicle to help those in need and those charities that are most dear to our hearts. What I love about Rotary is that every member can bring to the Club causes and needs that are important and concern them. I want to ask each of you to come to the Board or the Club with your great ideas and needs that you see. We can and do make a difference. As a Rotarian, join and Chair committees when asked. All of our committees should have at least three members. Stay involved and get involved! I guarantee your efforts will come back to you tenfold and you will have some fun!

Thank you for being a Rotarian. Stay engaged. Keep doing your good works for the world!

Andrew Steeves  
President, Merrimack Rotary 2013-2014

**Events:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Events</u>
<b>Jan. 15</b>	Board of Directors' Meeting at Merrimack Public Library.
<b>Jan. 16</b>	Four Way Speech Contest @ MHS Little Theatre at 7:00 pm.
<b>Feb. 15</b>	Rotary Night Out at Chateau Dinner & Theatre "Sex Please, We're Sixty."
<b>Feb. 19</b>	Board of Directors' Meeting at Hoover Home.
<b>Mar. 19</b>	Board of Directors' Meeting.
<b>Mar. 28</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Planning Committee at DW Diner @ 7am.
<b>Apr. 5</b>	District Assembly in Keene.
<b>Apr. 10</b>	Excellence in the Workplace
<b>Apr. 11</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Planning Committee at DW Diner @ 7am.
<b>Apr. 12</b>	Rabies Clinic at the Merrimack Town Hall
<b>Apr. 21</b>	Board of Directors' Meeting at Christensen Home.
<b>Apr. 29</b>	Rotary Night Out at Margarita's Mexican Restaurant in Nashua.
<b>May 9</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Planning Committee at DW Diner @ 7am.
<b>May 21</b>	Board of Directors' Meeting at Douville Home.
<b>May 23</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Planning Committee at DW Diner @ 7am.
<b>May 30</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Planning Committee at DW Diner @ 7am.
<b>June 6</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Planning Committee at DW Diner @ 7am.
<b>June 13</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Planning Committee at DW Diner @ 7am.
<b>June 14</b>	Habitat for Humanity Volunteer work
<b>June 18</b>	Board of Directors' Meeting @ Christensen Home.
<b>June 26</b>	Changing of the Gavel Dinner
<b>June 27</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Planning Committee at DW Diner @ 7am.
<b>July 4</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Rotary Family Fun Day with Pancake Breakfast.

**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](mailto:Chris@ChristensenNH.com) or visit [www.merrimackrotary.org](http://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](http://www.thestockedfridge.com)).

**Member Blurbs:****Two Big Ships.****By: Chris Christensen**

To me, Rotary is not primarily a service organization. We were hijacked by the service pirates.

MemberSHIP and ~~service~~-FriendSHIP are the basics. When you talk to people about Rotary, do you brag about the great service projects we have done? Stop that!

The original plan from Paul Harris was to gather some business clients together at their homes, in rotation. They had something to eat, discussed their businesses (we've always been a business organization) and sang songs. Not much else to do in 1905. When they invited a new member, I don't think there was much emphasis on upcoming service projects or fundraisers. It was a social and business emphasis.

When you talk about Rotary to a friend or business acquaintance, think about this: How much time do you spend in various Rotary activities?

Meetings (meal, singing, good humor and a guest speaker)	51.0 hours
Social events (1 per quarter?)	8.0 hours
Projects (Others helping you)	<u>8.0 hours</u>
Subtotal	67.0 hours
Meetings (announcements, committee reports)	8.5 hours
Projects (Christmas Trees)	8.0 hours
Other projects (to help a friend)	<u>8.0 hours</u>
Subtotal	24.5 hours

No matter how you do the math, there's a lot more to Rotary than service and work. Next time you talk about Rotary, invite your acquaintance to come to ~~a meeting~~ a great breakfast, to have some fun, meet some great people and learn about other businesses from a guest speaker.

**Guest Speakers:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Host Rotarian</u>	<u>Speaker/Topic</u>
1/2/14	Tony DeBlasio	<b>Bob Best – Healthcare Law Updates (Part II)</b>
1/9/14	Bill Wilkes	<b>Venu Rao - PV Solar Electric Systems for Children with no Access to Electricity</b>
1/16/14	Troy Aarthun	<b>Dan Marcek, Founder of Vetflix along with John Teger. Vetflix is a non profit that produces documentary films to raise awareness of veterans' and active duty military's service experiences and issues.</b>
1/23/14	Paul Belfiore	<b>CLUB ASSEMBLY</b>
1/30/14	Bob Best	<b>Ami Sarasvati, Marketing Liaison Certified Senior Advisor (CSA) Visiting Angels Topics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Choosing a Homecare Agency with Confidence</b></li> <li>• <b>Taking the Keys Away, Coming from Love</b></li> <li>• <b>10 Warning Signs your Loved One May Need Homecare</b></li> </ul>
2/6/14	Marge Chiafery	<b>Dave Yakuboff - Fraser Square Veterans Memorial</b>
2/13/14	Chris Christensen	<b>Town Councilor Bill Boyd. Bill is very active in the sport of mushing (dog sledding) and will give a presentation on his experiences and those of his dogs.</b>
2/20/14	Lynn Christensen	<b>Pat McDermott – Northern Pass Project</b>
2/27/14	Peter Flood	<b>William Fahey, Ph.D. – President of Thomas More College</b>
3/6/14	Rick Crawford	<b>Carl Soderberg – Co-Founder/Owner of Able Ebenezer Micro Brewery</b>
3/13/14	Tony DeBlasio	<b>Town Manager Dean Shankle Jr. PhD, on the Ukraine</b>
3/20/14	Phil DeGregorio	<b>Adam Jacobs from DPW about how the town really faired with this terrible winter, from the DPW point of view, and what kind of priorities we have going forward, costs from last winter's storm work, etc...</b>
3/27/14	Ron Douville	<b>Hannah Vacarro – Haiti Service Projects</b>
4/3/14	Leslie Burnard	<b>Bernadette Wilkinson-Robinson representing the non profit Breakthrough Manchester at the Derryfield School.</b>
4/10/14	Chris Christensen	<b>Excellence in the Workplace</b>
4/17/14	Jane Hoover	<b>A representative from CASA - Court Appointed Special Advocates NH - will be speaking about the organization and the programs they offer.</b>
4/24/14	Brian Snow	<b>DWC Scout Executive Donald Shepard &amp; DWC Commissioner Craig Donais for the dedication of the Glenn &amp; Melinda Adams NESAs Eagle Scout Project of the Year Award plaque.</b>
5/1/14	Joyce Jobin	<b>Shaunae Nolet from High Hopes Foundation</b>
5/8/14	Barbara Michael	<b>Sen. Bob Smith</b>
5/15/14	Joe Mitchell	<b>CHECK PRESENTATIONS: Mike Lachance, Matt Casparius, Hannah Vaccaro. SPEAKER: Joe Mitchell on Estate Planning.</b>

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5/22/14	Bob Freed	<b>Speaker from Family Promise of Greater Nashua at Anne-Marie House. AMH supports the needs of children and families experiencing homelessness as they work to achieve sustainable income, housing and transportation. We do this by providing safe and secure transitional housing, wholesome meals, transportation, continuing education and other support services, such as parenting and financial literacy programs.</b>
5/29/14	-	<b>NO MORNING MEETING. Meeting in the late afternoon at the Merrimack High School to support Interact Spring Fling. Time: 3PM</b>
6/5/14	Mike Hoover	<b>Troy Aarthun on "China Travel Experiences."</b>
6/12/14	Andy Steeves	<b>MEETING HELD AT WATSON PARK Pavilion. Peter Flood is the speaker.</b>
6/19/14	Bill Wilkes	<b>Check Presentation to Merrimack Library for Seismograph. Rotary Scholarship Committee Presentation</b>
6/26/14	Andy Steeves	<b>"Changing of the Gavel" Dinner – Evening Meeting</b>

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