



## Nancy Hawes

President, Rotary Club of South Portland - Cape Elizabeth (1998-1999)

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December 31, 1998

Dear *Warren*

As Janet mentioned in her invocation last night, we have reached the midpoint in our Rotary year, which is a good point to reflect on the progress we've made so far this year and on the goals we hope to achieve in the remaining half of this year and continuing into the future. Our bulletin editor, Mark Boulanger, has submitted his resignation from the club so this letter will double as this week's bulletin as well. Mark contributed a great deal to our club, not only in his time and talents, but also with his constant smile and we will miss him as a member. -

### January 6 Meeting

First, before I forget, remember that next week's meeting will be at CCCS, 111 Wescott Rd in SP. *Do not go to Purpoodock - they will be closed!* The meal will be catered and a bar will be available. If last summer's catered meal there is any indication, this should be a very tasty meal. The program will be a club assembly. Normally we review our progress at club assemblies, but since I am doing that in this letter, we will be doing something a little different. Instead we will discuss two issues of importance to our club:

1. How can we increase our membership?
2. What are the most pressing needs of our communities and how can Rotary help?

### December 30 Meeting

Many thanks to all who contributed to the discussion on ethics in business last night. We barely scratched the surface of ethical issues encountered in the various professions and it was enlightening for me, as I hope it was for you, to hear about the situations in club members' vocations that raise ethical questions. (Adrienne could not attend the meeting but she had prepared some examples of issues in the real estate profession - a copy is enclosed).

We heard more tree stories and were glad to hear that the lot is cleaned and everything is put away (Dave Nisbet - Dick Yerxa has your chain saw). Jeff Gabrielson (Jeff who? Is he a member of our club?) was appreciative of those who helped with lot clean-up. I didn't take notes so I better not say who they were because I'll leave someone out, but suffice it to say that they were the faithful regulars who can always be counted on to help out.

Janet had a visitor Lorena from Argentina; Frank B. had good news on the college bound front; Eleanor and Dave Lourie are getting into celebrating multiple holidays; Happy anniversary to Dan & Shirley Mooers (New Year's Eve) and Happy birthday to Janet McLaughlin (New Year's Day). Our condolences are expressed to Joan Houghton on the death of her father.

### *New Member Proposal*

Bob Packer has proposed Daniel Dalfonso, a professional land surveyor, for membership. If you have any comments on this individual's candidacy for membership, please contact a member of the Board within ten days. As always, this proposal is confidential and should not be discussed with Mr. Dalfonso or with anyone who is not a member of the club.

### *The Year So Far*

*Fundraising.* We have had 5 successful fundraisers: 3 fried dough events, an inaugural road race and a Christmas tree sale. Although the main purpose of these activities is to raise money, they are also great public relations functions and help to raise community awareness of the club. What a great job Kathy Ray, Dave Bagdasarian and Adrienne Murphy did on all these fundraisers.

*Vocational Service.* We have put on a lunch for public works employees, listened to a classification talk, taken a tour of a business and held a forum on ethics. This is typically the most neglected area of service, but we have already almost completed the requirements for the Presidential Citation in this category. Thanks to Rick Dobson for keeping us focused on this area.

*Community Service.* Our contributions to the community consist of our labor and our money. Our main contributions of labor have been the ongoing soup kitchen (coordinated by Joe Conroy) and the bleachers (designed by Bob Howe). We also hosted our annual senior citizens Christmas party, thanks to Warren Simpson and Bill Stanton. Many of our financial contributions will occur later in the year but some of the donations we have made so far include the Wayside Evening Soup Kitchen, Holy Cross Food Pantry, Cerebral Palsy Center (for a wheelchair), Pine Tree Society for Crippled Children, Juvenile Diabetes, City of South Portland Centennial Committee, Waterfront Market Association, and Fort Williams Centennial Committee. We will shortly be paying off our pledge for the renovation of the pond at Fort Williams Park. Thanks to Bob Packer for keeping track of all of our activity in this very busy area of service.

*International Service.* Our primary "accomplishment" in this area has been our sponsorship of Lera Tissen, our exchange student from Siberia. We were also a sponsor of a Friends Forever team (thanks to Janet's persistence!), hosted a team of Russian fishing industry professionals at a club meeting, and had a program on Finland by the GSE team members we sponsored last year. Our club, as well as some very generous club members, made a substantial contribution to Rotoplast. Janet, Mike McGovern and Karen Dunfey serve on district committees involving international service. Members of our club have named two new Paul Harris Fellows this year: Emily Cherry and Christine Wagner. Karen has recently returned from a trip to Romania, where she gathered information to enable us to make plans for a project there.

*Club Service.* This is probably the busiest avenue of service of all. We had our annual lobsterbake as well as Greek Night and Italian Night. We also had a cookout at the Cape Community Center and a catered meal at CCCS, so we have been eating quite well! Our club runs smoothly thanks to the efforts of many people: Bill Stanton faithfully sets up for the meeting each week, Warren Simpson fills in as raffle conductor whenever needed, Mark Boulanger did an outstanding job as bulletin editor, Dan Davidson sends out countless press releases, and Paul Butler devotes many hours to keeping track of attendance, filling out all the RI paperwork, paying bills and greeting everyone with a smile. We have learned more about Rotary through Rotary Info "Minutes" – I found Dick Kilroy's to be especially interesting. We have had varied and interesting programs – thanks to Eleanor for coordinating and staying on top of the

program schedule. I really appreciate Jeff Gabrielson picking up the ball mid-year as director in this area of service.

I think I've managed to thank all of the Board members above except for one: Keith McAlary. Keith is doing an outstanding job keeping up with our external finances and being available when people need checks. As treasurer, he is not responsible for any one particular area of service but more or less has to be aware of what everyone is doing, and he is a valuable member of our Board.

I've mentioned some of the club members who have official "duties" this year but our club literally could not be as successful as we are and accomplish so many things without the efforts of every single member of the club. It has truly been a pleasure to be a member of this club and to serve as your president for the past six months. I hope that we can continue to have fun together and do great things for the community in the months to come.

Best wishes for a great new year!

Yours in Rotary,



*Thanks for all your helpfulness!*

#### DUTIES

	<u>1/6/99</u>	<u>1/13/99</u>	<u>1/20/99</u>
<b>Songleader</b>	<b>Bags</b>	<b>Brainin</b>	<b>Butler</b>
<b>Invocation</b>	<b>Mooers</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	<b>Nisbet</b>
<b>Raffle Gift</b>	<b>Murphy</b>	<b>Nisbet</b>	<b>Packer</b>
<b>Conductor</b>	<b>Russell</b>	<b>Simpson</b>	<b>Stanton</b>
<b>Program</b>	<b>Club Assembly</b>	<b>Ft. Wms Cent.</b>	<b>USM Lifeline</b>