



Apr. 3, 2024 – In-person & zoom meeting, 12:15
 Pres. Kathy welcomed all to the Rotary Club of Dover

Program: Harry Cheney – Northeast President-Elect Training Seminar (NEPETS)

Dover Rotary’s President-Elect Harry Cheney recently joined PEs from seven Rotary Districts in Newton, Mass, for the annual training seminar he described as an interesting, challenging, and fun event. RI President-Elect, Stephanie Urchick, set the stage announcing her goal of growing Rotary by 100,000 new members – primarily needed in the USA.

In turn, Harry discussed how Dover Rotary could increase membership, increase meeting attendance and do more for the community.

“I don’t like meetings but I do like doing things,” he said. “What can we change? Should we change meeting times to 4 or 5 in the afternoon? Have fewer meetings or not? Have a mixer? What works?”

Suggestions were plentiful:

- Should we call members we haven’t seen?
- Pay more attention to the people in the room than those not in the room?
- Should the club have a signature project like other clubs? (Westbrook has a pizza tasting event and Falmouth sells lobster rolls.)
- Have a community lunch/event “Garden Party” around the Garden planting in May? Invite food trucks. Focus on visibility.
- How do we get more interest in working Bingo?
- Should we do more classification talks, get to know each other?

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meetings:

- Apr. 10:** Lunch included thanks to Dave B. Program: Amy Rich- Reach for the Top Therapy Services
- Apr. 17:** Jen Krans, Director Curriculum, Assessment Dover Schools.
- Apr. 24:** Club Assembly

Events:

- Apr. 20:** District Assmly – Westbrook
- Apr. 27:** Don’t Trash Dover event at Dover Skatepark, 9:30 a.m. followed by ribbon cutting of Dover Rotary Pavilion
- May 2:** Senior Visit, Maple Suites, 3-4 pm (rescheduled)
- May 4:** Meal Packaging
- May 24:** Centennial, CCC, 6 pm
“Party like it’s 1924”
- June 29:** District Conference – Star Island, ferry leaves Portsmouth at 8:50

Today’s newsletter authored by Noreen B.

- How does Rotary grow the economy? Scholarships? Our recovery initiative? Support for community projects such as Hope on Haven Hill?
- Get more involved in Interact projects?
- Keep weekly meetings for fellowship?

“What’s happened to attendance?” Harry asked.

- Maybe we need food? How do we pay?
- Should individual Rotarians sponsor lunch? **Dave B. will sponsor next week’s lunch.**
- How do we let people know what we do?
- Rather than focus on growth? Is “small & mighty” okay too?
- We should eat and talk together and wear Rotary logo clothing, recognize changes in culture and adapt with different membership types, other ways to bring people together.
- Visit other Rotary clubs to learn about their projects and community involvement.
- “Have fun!”

Announcements:

Bingo: Hall will be closed this Thursday due to weather.

International: Committee agreed to support Mexico project for \$2,500 to help prepare patients for kidney transplantation to cover hematology and blood tests for 18 people.

Vocational Training & Tools: Granted \$1,000 to applicant for service tech equipment

Foundation: Jim M. noted the Poland trip is possible thanks to donations to RI and the district designated fund.

International Café: Saturday, Apr. 6, 9:30 via Zoom – will discuss Poland trip

District Grant: New deadline to apply – April 30

Upcoming events:

---**Saturday, April 20 District 7780 Assembly at Westbrook (ME) High School.** Marion encourages all to attend this informative session from 8am to 1pm. The \$35pp cost is being picked up by our club. Carpools will be arranged.

Date change ---May 2 - Senior Visit at Maple Suites ---Bingo session from 3-4pm. Plus blood pressure clinic by Cornerstone VNA. Interact students will be attending, and all club members are invited. Melissa L. is coordinating and is sending around a sign-up sheet.

---**Saturday, May 4 Meal Packing Project at St. Thomas Episcopal Church Hall.** Through the Outreach Project, members will assemble 1600 non-perishable food packages (enough for 10,000 meals) and distribute them to local food pantries. President Kathy will send out Sign-Up Genius to collect Rotary volunteers to work from 12-3.

--- **Saturday, June 29 District Conference on Star Island.** Ferry from Portsmouth at 8:50am (be there by 8:15), followed by four hours of programs and activities (for kids too) on the island. The changeover will occur also that day with Marion voted off the island! Ferry home at 2:50pm, arrival 3:50pm, perhaps to be followed by dinner/drinks in Portsmouth (TBD). Cost ca. \$50 per person, includes conference, boat trip and parking fees.

---**Saturday, April 27 Don't Trash Dover partners with Dover Rotary at the new Skatepark.** Trash collection from 9:30—10:30am followed by ribbon cutting and dedication at 11am of the outdoor shelter/educational classroom structure donated to the City by Rotary. This will be dedicated to Gary Bannon for his 34 years of work for City's recreation department. (Shhh! Don't tell Gary...it's a secret!) There will be cake!

Happy Bucks:

Marion C. \$74 for Harry C.'s birthday!

Nancy B. for meeting with RI Foundation campaign rep

Gregg D. \$1 for international Committee and \$1 for great work by many to prepare for trip to Poland

Harry C. \$5 for good discussion today

Jim M. for our members respectful opinions

Jay S. for trip to NC to see all grandkids and "too early" morning egg hunt

Kathy F. for worker fixing her roof leak before the storm

50/50 Raffle: \$302 – no winner, pot grows!

March Birthdays:

Bob R. Mar. 5

Mike D. Mar. 6

Naila A. Mar. 14

Jim M. Mar. 26

March Anniversaries:

Gary D. 23 years

Mike B. 19 years

Ron R. 14 years

Ute L. 13 years

Jim V. 13 years

Gregg D. 8 years

Megan K. 4 years