



**Aug. 2, 2023 – In-person & zoom Meeting, 12:15**

Because Pres. Kathy was attending via Zoom, Melissa L. led the in-person meeting and welcomed everyone to the only Rotary Club with a District Governor and two Assistant Governors as members!



*Dover Rotarians attending Marion's changeover to DG!*

**Thanks** to Doug L. for picking up lunch and Gregg D. for being our greeter.

**7-Day Notice:** Brendan Madden is on notice to become a member.

**Passing:** Marion C. sent word that June Clark (Dick's wife) passed away last Saturday and Marion will send service details when known.

**Program – Patti Frew Waters – Seacoast Family Promise**

Patti Frew Waters is the Executive Director of Seacoast Family Promise, a local branch of the national Family Promise network. The Seacoast branch covers Rockingham and Strafford Counties and is located in Exeter. Patti has been its director for 17 years.

Seacoast Family Promise serves families with children who are experiencing homelessness. In partnership with local schools, businesses, municipalities, and social service organizations, their trained

**Upcoming Meetings & Events**

Meetings:

**Aug. 9:** DG Marion C.

**Aug. 16:** Peggy Belanger Past District Governor and Steve Puderbaugh Membership

**Aug. 23:** Elsa Cimpirini New Generation

**Aug. 30:** Harvey Bernier Mexico update and Richard Donhauser Solar Suitcase Project

Events:

**Aug. 22: Together on Tuesday-** Gregg D. home – 5:30 pm

**Pledge:** Jay S.

**4-Way Test:** Gregg D.

**Guests:** Peter Widmark, Bjorn Ericson, Ross Armstrong, Brendan Madden, Michael Roscoe, and Speaker Patti Frew Waters

*Today's newsletter authored by Cathy B.*

staff and community volunteers help families learn goal setting, financial management and budgeting, employment and job-hunting skills, plus receive housing search assistance and placements.

Pati said the average age of a homeless person in NH is nine years old. An average family of four would need to work 60 hours/week apiece to obtain reasonable housing. Families are waiting up to seven years to receive a Section 8 housing voucher. They've helped 110 families from Dover and Somersworth, and placed 87 other families in Dover, Somersworth & Rochester. Seacoast Promise's success rate is 87%.

Pati also mentioned the program "Caring Cars" through which people can donate used vehicles in good condition to the organization because transportation needs are dire for these families. They hope to expand to a facility in Greenland which can accommodate larger families and Pati hopes that Rotarians will contribute toward that project.

#### Questions:

Tom D. observed that people tend to "look the other way" when noticing homelessness. Pati says that there is a solution: education and understanding is the key.

Gregg D. asked about their clients with addiction or mental health issues. Pati says they run a "dry shelter" (no active addicts) and will refer/counsel those with addiction problems to proper agencies. They do accept people in recovery at their shelter.

Brendan M. asked about family size. Pati says there are still many families with large numbers of children that need shelter.

Brian H. asked if it's better to hand money to a person on the sidewalk or to donate instead to Seacoast Promise? Pati said it's a personal decision for each person to make.

Kevin Q. asked how the educational systems handle children who are homeless. Pati mentioned there are social work staff/homeless liaison staff at all the schools.

Bjorn E. inquired about funding. Pati explained they get some federal and state funds, had recently purchased a home with COVID relief funds, that they write many grant proposals, but ¾ of the budget is from private donors. They rely on hundreds of volunteers for meal deliveries, rides to work, etc.

#### **Announcements:**

**Foundation**—Full report next week, but Gregg D. mentioned he has a Foundation check for Phil R. for our grant.

**Bingo**—No definitive opening date yet. Possibly August 18 at the earliest.

**BOD**—Budget will be available soon. BOD approved sponsorship of Rest & Respite Tent at Apple Harvest Day (we also did this last year, and it was well used).

**Together on Tuesday**—Aug. 22 at Gregg D.’s house in South Berwick. Bring tapas to share, 6pm. South Berwick/Eliot Rotarians are also invited.

**Back to School**---Committee will meet on Wednesday at 10am for discussion. Then Committee to meet on Friday at 10am with Stacey at the Seymour Osman Community Center to finalize plans.



**Rotary Garden:** Kevin Q. asks members to review schedule:

Date	Weekday/Time	Objective	# People Needed	Est. Time to Complete
08/26/2023	Sat. 9-10am	Weed all the gardens as needed	6-8	1 hour
09/23/2023	Sat. 9-10am	Weed all the gardens as needed	6-8	1 hour
10/10/2023	Tues. n/a	Order Fall Flowers (Wentworth)	0 n/a	
10/13/2023	Fri. n/a	Pick up flowers (Wentworth)	0 n/a	
10/14/2023	Sat. 9-10am	Pull flowers front, plant mums, weed remaining gardens.	6-8	2 hours
11/04/2023	Sat. 9-11am	Pull annuals, pull mums, trim perennials	6-8	2 hours

**Happy Bucks:**

**Nancy B.** \$5 for getting her Wi-Fi fixed. Happily, it was not her fault!

**Peter W.** \$20 for the new Babcock Ranch Rotary Club in Florida which he founded. Now 35 members strong!

**Norm H.** \$2 for harvesting 270 bales of hay at his property and for his new wood-fired pizza oven.

**Gregg D.** \$2: \$1 for Rochester Rotary’s invitation to their meeting to hear Ron DeSantis speak, and \$1 for the Dover Rotarians who attended and behaved themselves!

**Montana F.** \$5 for Flight Coffee meetup with Brendan M. and Kathy F. and for visit to Pope Humane Society where she almost adopted a bull mastiff.

**50/50 Drawing:**

\$659 in the pot. The winning ticket was Peter W.’s but Jack of Hearts was not the winner.

**August Birthdays:**

Marion C. Aug. 2  
Sheila T. Aug. 8  
Frank C. Aug. 17

**August Anniversaries:**

Nancy B. 30 years  
Melissa L. 16 years  
Jonathan N. 1 year  
Nathania S. 1 year  
Michael D. 1 year