



Aug. 23, 2023 – In-person & zoom Meeting, 12:15

President Kathy F. welcomed everyone to Dover Rotary and thanked all for the potluck lunch.

Guest Speaker: Elsy Cipriani, Exec. Dir. New Generation

Born in Bogotá, Columbia, Elsy Cipriani has dedicated her career to helping vulnerable populations, especially women and children. She is currently the Exec. Director of New Generation, founded in 1987 in Greenland, NH, serving Strafford and Rockingham counties.

New Generation provides a safe living environment with 24/7 support, food and access to basic necessities for mothers and children who face homelessness and have nowhere else to go. Moms and children often come from domestic violence and traumatic experiences and don't have a strong support system. They face financial hardships and need support for substance abuse disorders.

Eslly said in 2022, the center offered shelter and care for 150 mothers; 80% of their children were between 0 and 4 years old and 50% had no income. The shelter turns over occupants two to three times a year and some residents stay for up to one year. Funded through Catholic Charities of NH, United Way, state grants and private donations, the center features single and shared rooms and a transitional apartment where residents must work full-time and have their own form of transportation.

Residents are required to have at least one case management session per week and must complete a credit report and work with a financial consultant every three months. The center works closely with NAMI and many support services throughout NH and connects residents to public housing choice programs to seek affordable rents after leaving.

New Generation has a strict visitor policy and works with local police to protect residents from threats of domestic violence. A grateful resident said via video, "They made me feel safe" and "I knew New Generation would always be there for me." For more information, visit www.newgennh.org.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meetings:

Aug: 30: Harvey Bernier Mexico update and Richard Donhauser Solar Suitcase Project – **meeting starts at 12 noon!!!**

Events:

Aug. 29: Back to School Backpack distribution – 1:30, Seymour Osman Community Center (Whittier Falls)

Sept. 19: Together on Tuesday- Doug Locy home, 185 Spur Rd, Dover, NH

Pledge: Jim M.

4-Way Test: Nancy B.

Guests: Ross Armstrong and Scott from Hope Memorial

Visiting Rotarians: Harvey Bernier and friend Don.

Today's newsletter authored by Noreen B.

Announcements:

Bingo - Gregg D. reported the anticipated start date is the first week of September with Rotary Bingo’s first night **Sept. 7**. Watch for a sign up sheet for volunteers – Dover needs to provide 5-6 volunteers per night. An orientation may be planned – more to come.

Together on Tuesday – Gregg D. thanked all who came and brought food and fun.

Garden – Kevin Q. reminded cleanup is Saturday, Aug. 26, 9 am.

Back To School – Backpack packing will be **Friday at Broadway at 11 am** with pizza. Distribution of 65 backpacks will be held at the Seymour Osman Community Center (Whittier Falls) on Tuesday, Aug. 29, at 1:30 with ice cream treats. Beth F. asked if the Kid’s Closet was also continuing. Gregg D. said the program will once again support needy children in Dover’s public schools. He will be meeting with Guidance Counselors to determine needs and how to implement this year. Pres. Kathy also said more information on Rotary programs and committees will be presented to the membership in September.

Investment Committee: Nick P. said the group met and decided to continue the current strategy of investing ¼ in stocks and ¾ in bonds and consider taking some cash out of checking accounts to put into short term CDs earning about 5.5%.

Shoe & Boot: Nick P. said this year’s program will continue and he will be meeting with school counselors to provide more details.

Hilltop Ticket Sales to help support NH Coalition for Support of Service Dogs – Brendan M. has tickets for sale - \$8 with no expiration date.

Next week’s Meeting at 12 noon – Pres. Kathy announced next week’s meeting will begin at 12 noon – due to a longer 3-part program featuring a Decolfmacker scholarship winner, Harvey B. update on the Mexico project and Richard Donhauser (So. Berwick-Eliot Rotary) on the Solar Suitcase project in Haiti.

Happy Dollars:

Tom D. for a long story about his trip to Paris, meals in Paris, and losing his Apple watch at the Paris airport that has subsequently been located in the Congo.

Jim M. for the long wait to speak after Tom’s tales and for getting to spend the summer in PEI with no alarm clock needed and how he rented and didn’t rent his house to the local hairdresser.

Gregg D. for (1) his amigo Harvey B., (2) for his family celebration of his 50th anniversary and for (3) last night’s Together on Tuesday.

Beth F. for Gregg and Liz’s Together on Tuesday

50/50 Raffle: Cindy I. won the chance to draw for the Ace. No luck! \$735 pot grows!

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