



Rotary Opens Opportunities

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF DOVER,
NH SINCE 1924

.MEETS WEDNESDAYS AT 12:15 PM

GOSS BUILDING 121 BROADWAY, DOVER, NH

Aug. 26, 2020 - Rotary Club Meeting Zoom Meeting

Submitted by Cate R.

Welcome to the Rotary Club of Dover – the greatest Rotary Club in the Universe –
Onward and Upward!

Pledge: All

Invocation: Gregg D.

Rotary Moment: Rotary Affinity Groups

4-Way Test +1: All

Visiting Rotarians: None this week

Program: Crystal Paradis, Founder of Feminist Oasis, N.H. Women’s Foundation

Crystal Paradis is a Marketing and Communications Professional in the Seacoast area and an advocate and activist involved in a variety of community organizations, boards, projects and initiatives.

She serves as the Communications and Community Engagement Director for N.H. Women’s Foundation.

In 2015, she was named as one to watch in “10 to Watch” by Seacoast Online.

She is active with TEDx Portsmouth and is an independent business owner, founding “Feminist Oasis” in 2018. Its mission is to promote intersectional feminism through experiences and spaces.

Crystal began by sharing that today (August 26) is Women’s Equality Day and the 100th anniversary of 19th amendment being certified. For 100 years, voting has not been denied based on gender, however the amendment guaranteed voting for White women. Black women were not granted the right to vote until the 1965 Civil Rights Act. Translated ballots came even later and it wasn’t until the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1960 that voters were guaranteed physical access to balloting places.

Crystal joined the Women's Foundation this year. The Women's Foundation recruits and trains women to run for office. They answer their questions and help them to center their campaign and figure out the nuts and bolts of communication. Forty women in NH went through program and filed for office in June 2020. Will know more after the elections.

Tonight, the Women's Foundation is hosting "She votes" focused on 100 years of women getting the right to vote and all the changes that have happened. They are amplifying the message that there are even more ways to vote this year in NH and want to expand voting rights further.

Crystal started Feminist Oasis in 2018. She was reading and educating herself and really wanted to make it fun for people to communicate in these kinds of conversations. The kickoff event was a screening of Beyonce's Lemonade film. The discussion following was about the metaphors and messages of the film. The group hosts book and article clubs. This year's focus is taking Feminist Oasis into University Chapters to see how other groups can self-organize. Covid has been a blessing and a curse in that the group has stepped back more than they had even planned.

Feminist Oasis has 4 principals:

- Solidarity: Build community
- Resilience: Particularly in activist space. Burnout is a big factor in this area so there is a lot of community-supported self-care events. They host community events to get together and do something creative.
- Sustainability: Looking ahead to all the work we are doing. The work will continue for generations ahead. This is somewhat freeing - to think that we don't have to solve everything now.
- Systemic justice: We thought about the positive vision we are looking to create in the world. How do we build systemic justice into our businesses, our work-style, our activism, our art, etc.?

Crystal is a City Councilor in Somersworth. Her primary goal in running was to get a dog park in Somersworth which will be opening soon. Her attention and the requirements of being a Councilor during Covid have been unexpected.

Q: What drove you to get into politics?

A: She got into politics to help people understand and know about resources available. Also, in 2015, NH Exec Council voted to defund Planned Parenthood. She learned about how the funding process worked in NH and it created urgency in her to educate and inform herself and others.

Q: What is the position of Feminist Oasis on voting by mail?

A: The Feminist Oasis does not have a position. The NH Women's Foundation's position is to encourage everyone to know their options and to vote in the way they feel comfortable.

Comment: You are doing a great job in the Somersworth community. Thank you very much.

Q: The TEDx program in Portsmouth has been postponed. Will there be another?

A: Crystal has passed on her license to others so she does not know specific plans. There are many rules from the larger TED organization and an event can take a number of forms within the rules. It is a full year of preparation to set up a TED event.

Announcements

From President Gregg:

- Gregg attended 2 Rotary eClubs this week. One was hosted by Maulian Dana, Penobscot Nation Tribal Ambassador. Club members should consider checking into the eClubs.
- Gregg spoke to Hampton Club and did a protection talk. They had a meeting with about 20-23 people meeting live. Check out other clubs on Zoom.
- Consider joining or starting a Rotary affinity group. District 7780 has about 10 so far including interests such as Peace Corps Alumni, Diplomats, Paddling, Running, Hiking, Sports Cars, Traveling Rotarians & Healthcare Workers. Anyone can go to the district website and suggest a group. Gregg has suggested a bicycle affinity club.

Foundation minute: It was announced August 25th that Africa has been declared wild polio free. Afghanistan and Pakistan are the only countries left in the world with polio. It has been 4 years since there was a case in Africa.

Upcoming Events:

- September 2 will be a Zoom meeting. September is literacy month and our Guest Speaker will be Sheila Shea with Seacoast Charter.
- September 9 our Guest Speaker will be Caroline Johnson who is active in the Rotary Literacy Action Group
- September 15 will be the next Thirsty Tuesday – mark your calendar. Location TBD.
- September 16 we hope to have a live meeting. Venues are still under consideration. This will be a club assembly so each Committee Chair should be prepared with a brief update.

Updates/Reports:

- **Back to school program.** There is a meeting on August 27 to plan distribution. No other updates as this time. Phil shared that 12 Rotarians have donated the cost of 16 headsets so far. You may donate \$30 to cover the cost of a headset.
- **Shredding event:** Saturday, September 26, 9:00 – 12:00. Free will donation. We hope to raise \$10k through sponsorships and donations. Have received 3 \$250 sponsors so far. Please reach out to sponsors or consider sponsoring yourself. A banner or sign will thank our sponsors.
- **Committees:** We have a group working on a policy on the use of the reserve fund. A new committee on Fund Raising will be formed shortly. Look for more information soon. The Mental Health committee is meeting on Friday Aug, 29 and will share more information after that meeting. The Shoe and Boot Committee is now accepting applications. We have received more than 100 so far!
- **Food transfers** between Church and CAP will continue through September. Jim V. will send out an updated survey sign up for those interested.
- **Bingo:** Jerry D shared that we will begin hosting Bingo on the 10th of September. If you are willing to volunteer, let Sheila know. Sheila will send out information about protocols and expectations. It will be an evening program with a slightly modified schedule of games to match with what the other nights are doing.

Other Items:

- **2020-21 Club Goals:** Collaborations with other clubs, other nonprofits, business partners, government entities, other civic groups. As we move into the fall be thinking about what we can do.
- Food needs are still present in our community: If you are able, there are 2 drop off points. First Parish Church has a drop off bin and End 68 Hours of Hunger has resumed their Saturday collection at St John's Methodist Church. Support as you are able.

Sergeant at Arms; Kathy L., Anniversaries, Birthdays, Fines

- Kathi fined her self because after a visit with her grandkids she (an IT Professional) was unable to get her computer camera on during the meeting
- \$1 if you did not know the great news about Polio-free Africa

- \$1 if you didn't know that Nick hosted a horse show (by reading his Meet the Rotarian profile)

And, if you see him, it is Ken McCann's birthday today!

Dover Rotary Spotlight: Nick Pellman

1. How long have you been in Rotary?

I joined Rotary around 2001 not really knowing what it was at the time. I was hoping to network in the community since I was new in my career and someone suggested I check it out.

2. My favorite Rotary moments:

In my first month or so as a Rotarian I was roped into being the chair of the Rochester Rotary Club's 2nd annual horse show. I was maybe 21 years old, knew nothing about horses, and was in over my head but in spite of it all we pulled it together and made it work! All contingencies were prepared for except for it snowing on us in the middle of May on the day of the event!



I always enjoy reading to the kids at the local elementary schools and helping with the literacy programs.

I also enjoy any chance I get to have my kids get involved with the hands on work, whether it is for the Senior Visits or weeding the Rotary Gardens.

3. Where I currently live and where I grew up:

I grew up in Dover and still live here! I did live in Rochester for several years but we are back and here to stay.

4. My Hobbies:

Lately, my hobbies have changed a bit due to Covid. I've always been a gym rat but now I am doing more outdoor activities like playing tennis or taking hikes with my wife and kids.

5. My Business Profession or Current Working or Non-Working Environment

After starting a career in banking while still in high school, I grew into my role as a Financial Advisor for the last 17 years or so. I work mostly with local families helping them manage their investment portfolios to prepare for or live in retirement.

6. Something my fellow Rotarians don't know about me:

While in high school, I saw that there was a local bank who was interviewing for an internship position for a high school student. My guidance counselor said "No way Pellman, get back to class!", but I bought my first suit and tie at Goodwill and showed up on the day of interviews anyway. Somehow I got the chance to meet with the interviewing team, parlayed the unpaid internship into a paying job, and the rest is history! It didn't exactly pass the 4-Way Test at the time, but it all worked out!

7. *Final words:* I joined Rotary at first for all the wrong reasons, thinking it was more of a business building program like the Chamber of Commerce. I quickly realized that wasn't at all what it was about, but I had a few amazing Rotarians take me under their wing and show me what "Service Above Self" truly means and I fell in love with it. I don't know of a better way to help the world in big ways and small while making friends along the way. It has been tricky juggling work, kids, and Rotary during the pandemic.



Next week's spotlight: Kalina L.

Birthdays: August

Marion C. Aug. 2
Tracey D. Aug. 2
Michael C. Aug. 5
Sheila T. Aug. 8
Frank C. Aug. 17
Ken McC. Aug. 26

Anniversaries: August

Nancy B. 27 years
Melissa L. 12 years
Stacey K. 4 years

ROTARY'S 4-WAY TEST of the things we think, say or do:

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

THE OBJECT OF ROTARY is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.