



Rotary Opens Opportunities

BING

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

.MEETS WEDNESDAYS AT 12:15 PM

GOSS BUILDING 121 BROADWAY, DOVER, NH

Aug. 5, 2020 - Rotary Club Meeting Zoom Meeting

Submitted by Jim V.

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

Pledge: All

Invocation: Moment of Reflection & Silence for all who are suffering through the
COVID crisis, especially for the homeless and those who experience food insecurity
and those down in their luck. How might we, as Rotarians, reach out to help them?

Rotary Moment: Gregg D. August is Membership Month – Next week’s presentation
will be by Past District Governor, Andy Glazier, and Co-Chair Lorraine Flaherty,

4-Way Test +1: All

Guest: Deb Anthony

Program: Deb Anthony, Executive Director of Gather

Deb’s has had a long interest in Board and staff development, has directed Gather for
6+ years with several new services/locations added in her tenure. Its Mission is end-
ing local hunger through innovation, collaboration, and leadership.

Deb was once in Dover Rotary when she was with Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Now a
member of Rotary in Portsmouth.

Gather focuses on food for children. Continues providing meals for students. Pro-
gram is Mobile Market. Reach 56-60% of kids who qualify for free and reduced
lunch. Collaboration with other organizations, such as CAP and churches.

COVID required that Mobile Market be activated 12 weeks early this year. Have
been doing for almost 20 weeks. Rochester, Kittery, Portsmouth, Hampton.

Delivery for Seniors serves about 60 seniors. Seniors call in to order and a volunteer
delivers. Meets needs especially for homebound.

Rochester Rotary members coming out to volunteer for a day. Everyone needs to
know that hunger does exist here, people living on the edge with lots of uncertainty

which leads as well to struggling emotionally. Things could get more difficult in the next few weeks

Gather distributes healthy food – fresh vegetables,, quality meat, products from farmers. There is a cooking team that makes meals from ingredients that are in over supply. Make between 600 and 700 meals per week. Three days a week at St. John's Church in Portsmouth, M-Tu-W, 9 – 1:30. 4 volunteers in kitchen limit now due to COVID.

Easy volunteer site to login on: gathernh.org

A positive part of our communities, good to go to work every day.

Possible service project for us?

Deb will send a link to sign up the club – Mobile Market in the Staples parking lot – 70 people came for the second week, last Friday. Twice a month – could be more often if Gather has an over abundance of food. 3-4 people would be enough to make it work. Volunteers replenish tables, chat with those who come for food, unloading a truck.

Total reach: 600-700/week, over the course of the mont, 1,500 individual children. Rochester is a mainstay.

History of Gather

Over 200 years old, began in 1816, Ladies Humane Society, started to feed wives and children of sailors when they were at sea.

Story of Bob's Clam Hut – one of first places to pay livable wage – servers then donated their tips to nonprofits.

Collaboration with 68 Hours of Hunger. In Portsmouth they have stayed active. Dover has Grab & Go and CAP is working with both.

Waiver for summer to have these delivery programs is going away. Free & Reduced Lunch, 48% at Horne Street, without waiver they will no longer qualify for service. USDA waiver is controlled by head of NH Dept. of Ed, who has determined not to apply for a waiver renewal. A fundamental difference that is political – CAP has no control over how this is done. Because the waiver wasn't in place at beginning of summer, CAP had to kick in \$30,000.

Announcements

Thank You from Monarch School, Melissa L.

There is an excellent video, will try to show again next week, a great video.

Thank You to Bing Writer: Jim V.

Foundation Minute: Jim M. – Jim not here, to recognize Frank C. next week.

Rotary gardens care, Sat., Aug. 8 8:30 AM: Noreen B. – Weather looks good, front garden about done, lots of trimming to do.

Bingo: Thurs. 2:00-3:00 pm 10 players/10 games/\$10.00 - Need four more players to qualify us for 50% of electronic ticket sales. Ute, Doug, Peter will go. Sheila is monitoring – 10 maximum tomorrow, that will expand later.

Upcoming Meetings/ Events:

- August 12th District Growth Team Lorraine Flaherty and Past DG Andy Glazier
- August 18th Thirsty Tuesday Gregg & Liz D.'s Patio South Berwick
- August 16th Rotary Sponsorship of Cochecho Arts Festival, Visual Arts Showcase
- August 19th District Governor's visit Zoom mtg.

UPDATES

Food Delivery: Jim V. - BIG THANKS to all who have signed up. August is completely booked!

Back to School: Betsey A.P. / Stacey K.

Need for items that can be used at home: markers, crayons, pencils. Plan to do headphones for all, so will reduce actual cash value. Please shop on Amazon and/or donate funds.

Use the link to Amazon Wish List – Betsey will resend – click on link, buy something, and that will be sent directly to Seymour Osman Center. White boards and markers for them are particularly needed for working with teachers remotely.

Shred - It Event: Melissa L. – Flyers to be complete in the next day or so, Saturday, Sept. 26, 9-12, working with company that will actually do the shredding. Sponsorship “ask” coming.

2020-21 Goals: Meeting on Reserve Fund Policy - Meeting set up for next Monday, probably in the afternoon. Phil, Malcolm, Noreen & Gregg working on policy development.

Fines: Sergeant at Arms Kathy L.

\$2 if you didn't read & know Jerry D.'s special history experience

\$1 Gregg for arriving at Food Delivery later than Kathy.

Remember to do something kind for someone else.

Dover Rotary Spotlight: Peter Widmark and Laurie Widmark



1. How long have you both been Rotarians?

Laurie has been a Rotarian for almost 20 years and Peter has been a Rotarian for almost 40 years.

2. Our favorite Rotary moments:

Laurie:

Would have to be having the ability to help “kick start” the fundraising for the Rotary Arts Pavilion, we also had \$10,000 being donated in the memory of my youngest daughter, An’gela – through the An’gela’s Song Fund that was held at the Greatest Piscataqua Community Foundation; inviting then, local Philanthropist, Tom Haas to donate a substantial amount through Greatest Piscataqua Community Fund.

Spearheading the painting of “the Mural” located on the side of the Ear Craft Music side of the building on 1st Street in downtown Dover. BTW, it could us some touch up!

Participating in the fun fundraiser of the “Dover Dancing Bears.”

Receiving my Paul Harris Fellows.

Peter:

Too many to write about, yet meeting Laurie is the most significant/favorite event.

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

Laurie:

Currently, Peter and Laurie live in, what she refers to as “The Villa”, that is a duplex that they built in 2006. One side became vacant in March when the COVID hit, so they decided to move into it when they returned to NH from Florida in early June. “The plan” is to make improvements, then to make it an Airb&b for when they are not in NH – mid October until next Spring. Be sure to send your guests their way! Last November 2019, they were excited to discover Babcock Ranch, FL, which is the first sustainable “City” in the USA (Northeast of Ft. Myers). They signed a contract to build a new home and moved in the first week of March. Although the “City” is less than 3 years old, they are proud to say that they are located in the “Historic District.” They want to be sure that we all visit them the next time any of us are in the area. Laurie reminds us that she does remember saying “I’ll never move again!” Laurie was born in 1950 and raised on Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester, MA. When Laurie was 16 years old, the house that her parents built after WWII was “taken” by eminent domain by the State, as well as her maternal grandparents’ home

next door in order to build the bridge over the Lake (Rte I-290). After much looking, her parents settled in Webster, MA, close to the famous Lake Chaubunagungamaug, which according to Indian folklore means – “you fish on your side, and I will fish on my side and no one will fish in the middle.”

Peter:

His great grandparents came to the US from Sweden in 1890. They had one daughter Anna born in Boston in 1892. In 1915 a Swedish engineer came to Boston from Sweden and met Anna. They got married and had three children. One of the children was his mother. In 1946 his mother wanted to meet her roots in Sweden so she took a ship from NY and landed in Sweden 10 days later. While in Sweden visiting her paternal grand mother she met Bo Widmark and the rest is history. He was born in Sweden and spent a total of 17 years there. While in Sweden, he came to the US several times and spent one year in Newton, MA with his grandmother 1961-62. He also spent one year in Salzburg, Austria in 1966-67. In 1969 he left Sweden for the Canary Islands and spent 3 years there, “having the time of my life”. Peter worked for a Swedish/Spanish construction company building vacation homes for the Swedish Employers Confederation. During his three years there, they built more than 1,000 homes, several hotels, two shopping centers and most interestingly, a Wild West town for film making. In 1972, he came back to the US and attended UNH and got his business degree.

4. *Our Hobbies:*

Laurie:

She has come to realize that she has never had any one hobby, yet she has sewn her kids' clothes with they were little, knitted, crocheted, embroidered and played with various crafts. She has painted and wallpapered walls ferociously and learned to appreciate playing the chromatic accordion, yet it never became a hobby.

She has become drawn to self-development work and work on self-improvement and follows Darren Hardy and Sean Maloney daily. She enjoys exploring new ideas when she reads magazines like INC and Fast Company that write about new inventions, businesses concepts that the 30-40 something generation is doing. She remembers being that 30-40 something and often forgets that she is not one now. True stories inspire her, including Milton Hershey, Colonel Sanders, Ray Crock, Bethany Hamilton, Amberly Snyder, and so many more. She loves walking and holding their three mini dachshunds, Sunshine, Moonshine and Starshine. She is a big fan of cooking (not baking) different genre of foods and spices. She admits that she could stare at water views for hours!



Peter:

Growing up outside Stockholm (also known as Venice of the north) with it's a beautiful archipelago including some 30,000 islands; it is the perfect place for sailing. He started at an early age to sail since his father was an avid sailor. In 1985, he went to Finland and ordered a large motor-sailer built by Siltala Yachts. He kept that boat for about 10 years during which time they sailed down to Bermuda and the Virgin Islands in addition to the New England coast. It was a great time. After selling the yacht, he got into Motor Yachting and has spent the past 15 years on the road seeing this beautiful land. They have been to all lower 48 states and his favorite state is Utah with its many breathtaking National Parks.

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

Laurie:

She was a real estate agent, then Broker for 17 years. Currently her license is "hanging" in Concord, NH until further notice. She has been a side-kick to Peter's various endeavors and projects and, in the past two years, she has been studying cryptocurrencies and buying/saving gold in small increments as an Affiliate with a German based company.

Peter:

He started his company in 1976 by purchasing three apartment complexes comprising 80 apartment units on Rochester Hill. As time went on he purchased more complexes and at the height of his apartment career he had somewhat close to 900 apartments between NH and Texas. In the early '80s he began developing land and building single family homes. His last development was a 20-unit condo project in North Conway. Dealing with apartment residents is a challenge that take its toll on you, to say the least, so he started to divest his apartments and went in to the storage business - much easier and better. If your apartment renter does not pay the rent it is almost impossible to get them out and it takes a long time if you can. In the storage business if the renter doesn't pay he can over lock the unit and, he said, "the content becomes mine until the rent is paid." If the rent is not paid in 30 days he can auction off the contents or, most likely, throw it in the dumpster. Currently they have commercial and industrial warehouse space, mini storage units and a few rentals. He said, "Less is more, believe me!"

6. Something my fellow Rotarians do not know about us:

Laurie:

Her dream is of writing a book, the title being, "One Wife, One Bathroom, 5 Daughters". She would also include a note to her four sisters: "This is MY story. If you think you recognize yourself, or not, please feel free to write your own book. I love you."

Peter:

He has an addiction. When he was five, he begged his mother for an accordion. She was kind enough to purchase a little black used, one octave, 12 bass accordion. When they got home from Stockholm on the train he was ordered down to the base-



ment if he wanted to practice. Peter had never held an accordion so you can imagine how it must have sounded when a 5-year old was trying it for the first time. When his father got home and heard the noise from downstairs he asked his mother what the noise was. "I bought Peter an accordion" she replied, "Är Du alldeles förbannad kärring?" Are you out of your mind woman. In any event he still plays almost every day and has gone to Sweden several times to attend Bälgaspel vid landsvägs kanten in Ransäter. It is the world's largest accordion rally and is attended by close to 10,000 crazy Scandinavian accordion fanatic's. "Google Ransäter, I'm sure you get a kick out of it," he said. He now owns 14 accordions, 750 + or - accordion CD's, old 78's, VCR's and probably a cubic yard of accordion sheet music. Addicted? HMMMM

7. Final words:

Laurie:

Over the decades (and especially while traveling all these years in their Motor Coach), she has recognized how important Community, as a whole, is to her - her personal family, her Rotary family, her "Golden" family all around the world. With so much uncertainty and upset in our World, these Communities (most recently via Zoom) are her antidote to "the noise" being pushed by the media et al. She said "I am blessed, and do not take for granted my very good health – thank you, Mom & Dad."



Peter:

Having been a Rotarian for four decades, with perfect attendance, he has had the opportunity to visit many other Rotary Clubs worldwide. He has always been received with respect and friendship which he said is rare in these day. Peter may have never been religious but the Rotary 4-way Test is his religion.

Next week's spotlight: Jim Munro

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.