



Aug. 9, 2023 – In-person & zoom Meeting, 12:15

Because Pres. Kathy attended via Zoom, Megan K. led the in-person meeting and welcomed everyone to the Rotary Club of Dover, NH.

Program – District Governor Marion Cheney

Despite a rocky start, Marion Chaney said she is addicted to Rotary, loves its mission, purpose and fellowship. Her Rotary journey began 34 years ago at a Roanoke VA Rotary Club where she had been invited to speak on two occasions in a smoke-filled room to the all-male membership. She said, “the only other woman in the space was the piano player Alice.” After the a Supreme Court ruling and RI’s 1989 constitution and bylaws changed to allow women members, Marion applied for membership in the Roanoke club and was rejected.

Turned down but not deterred, Marion pursued membership again after moving to Florida a year later and has now been a Rotarian for 33 years. She moved to NH, transferred her membership to the Portsmouth Rotary Club, then joined our Dover Rotary in 2006.

Her path to becoming District Governor five years ago began with another denial but as she said, “it all worked out just fine,” since her term would have been during the COVID lockdown era. When she reapplied 3 years ago, she was welcomed into the role and began an series of regional and international trainings/meetings where she met amazing Rotarians from around the world working together on this year’s theme to *Create Hope Around the World*.

Marion, and her husband Harry, attended the International Assembly in Orlando earlier this year for intense training with 550 other DGEs. Their goals are to Empower Women & Children, support the Foundation/Polio Plus and Peace (a new Peace Center will open in Istanbul in 2025).

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meetings:

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: Peter W.

4-Way Test: Ross A.

Guests: Peter Widmark and Ross Armstrong

Today’s newsletter authored by Noreen B.

Supporting a Rotary Action Group Mental Health initiative was one of the focuses discussed at the Australia Rotary Convention and one of Marion's goals – looking for ambassadors for this project from each district club. After attending the funeral of a Brunswick club member, on behalf of the district, she was overwhelmed at the crowds giving their respects when she discovered the deceased had committed suicide and was only 32 years old – a young family man with a bright smile in all the photos on display at the service. Marion wants everyone to ask friends and family not “How are you doing?” but “How are you really doing.”

At the International Assembly, Marion met a Rotarian from Poland who noticed NH on her ID badge. “I know people in NH,” he said. The people he knew were from the Common Man and the Plymouth Rotary Club who have raised over \$2.1 M to fund trips to Poland to support Ukrainian families displaced by Russians. Their current efforts are focused on sheltering children from Russian traffickers. Another trip to support this effort is being planned for next April.

Membership will be one of the themes at the **2024 District Conference scheduled for June 23, 2023** at the Isles of Shoals. The Thomas Leighton will transport attendees to the event, leaving Portsmouth at 7:20 am and return from the Shoals at 3:45 pm.

Questions

How can we support you?

Improve attendance at district events: **District Training Apr. 20, 2024** the **Peace Conference on Feb. 17, 2024** at Noble High School – a 900 seat venue that will be open to the public as well and one way to get the word out about the good works of Rotary. Also on **Nov. 4, 2023** Rotarians will be invited to participate (cost of \$65) in a recording a peace song at the **Boston Symphony Hall**, to be premiered at the Peace Conference and the opening of the Peace Center in Istanbul. They hope to raise \$40-50,000.

How can we attract younger Rotarians?

Marion suggested inviting people to participate in our hands-on projects and to join other groups in their community activities and engage current members who cannot make lunch meetings to join in our outreach. Forming satellite clubs is another approach to expanding members.

Announcements:

Thank you received from **My Breast Cancer Support** for our donation of \$1,500 and an invitation from Monarch School to attend a reception to introduce their new director on Sept. 7.

District Grant – Gregg D. reported our club received a District Grant for \$4,000 to support 30 first responders to attend the Seacoast Areas Critical Incident Intervention Training.

Bingo – Gregg D. reported our work continues on an MOU with the Rochester, South Berwick-Eliot and Durham Great Bay clubs to create Rotary Bingo, set up training and assignments. The gaming group is completing renovations and awaiting approvals from the Fire Marshall. Potential start date is September.

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:

Gregg D. \$5 for multiple visits from friends and 50 years of wedded bliss! Congrats to Gregg and Liz!

Cindy I. \$5 for proud to be in Dover Rotary with our DG Marion

Nancy B. \$for bragging rights to sell t-shirts for Hope Memorial fundraiser.

Jay S. \$1 for a \$2 winning lottery ticket

Meg K. \$2 for trip to Disney and visit from family member to Dover

50/50 Drawing:

\$676 in the pot. The winning ticket was Jerry D.'s but 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