



Dec. 6, 2023 – In-person & zoom meeting, 12:15

President Kathy welcomed all to the Rotary Club of Dover, NH.

Presentation:

Pres. Kathy presented a Rotary Community Giving check to Denise Richter of the Step Up Parents organization. Denise told club members that our donation is much appreciated.

Thank you notes (2) were read from CAP’s Summer Meals Program for our donation to that cause.

Program: Patty Cohen & Wendy Munroe - NH Pet Aid

Patty Cohen is the organization’s president and has worked for non-profits for over 20 years, specifically WomenAid. Her work there led her to notice their clients often needed help with pet care in emergency situations. She founded NH Pet Aid which can donate up to \$500 for cats or dogs in need of urgent veterinary care. They work in Rockingham and Strafford counties and are based in Dover.

She discovered that a group of veterinarians were looking to establish such a group but needed help with organizational structure and fundraising. Forming a Board of eight including experienced non-profit professionals and medical doctors, they applied for 501(c)(3) status in 2021 and found donors for seed money and start-up costs. They built a website and an online application process and began funding cases in the fall of 2022.

There are four criteria for applicants: 1.) must upload their ID; 2.) must show proof of need (receiving State or Federal aid); 3.) must have a treatment plan from a veterinarian; and 4.) the dog or cat must have a favorable prognosis. They have since funded almost 100 cases in the past year. They are the only such organization in NH and one of the few in the country that provide these services. Applicants meeting the criteria can often be approved in only 15-20 minutes so treatment can begin quickly. Their 3-member Decision Team (2 vets & 1 lay person) votes to approve any application. They then pay the animal clinic, not the individual.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meetings:

- Dec. 13:** Ryan Crosby DHA
- Dec. 20:** Holiday program – potluck lunch
- Dec. 27:** no meeting

Events:

Dec. 19: Sandy Hill Farm Light Show in Eliot – 5:30

- Pledge:** Beth F.
- 4-Way test:** Malcolm M.
- Greeter:** Gregg D.

Today’s newsletter authored by Cathy B.

Her colleague, Wendy Munroe, a 30-year veterinarian, then spoke about various cases they'd handled: everything from smoke inhalation to fractures to glaucoma to critical medications administered. It is amazing to be able to help restore the sacred and loving patient/owner bond to those clients who would not have been able to afford treatment.

All the veterinary clinics in the area are aware of their services and help refer people to the NH Pet Aid website. Although they are relatively new, they are making a big impact for pet owners. For more information visit: www.NHpetaid.org.

Announcements:

Pres. Kathy passed out ballots for the 2024-25 Rotary officers and directors. Club members voted and the slate was unanimously elected:

Harry Cheney---President; Gregg Dowty---Treasurer; Marion Cheney---Secretary; Cathy Beaudoin---President Elect; Kathy Fink---Past President; Cindy Imbro---Director; Cate Rafferty---Director; Kevin Quigley---Director; Jay Stephens---Director; Nick Pellman---Director; Phil Rinaldi---Director.

Bingo: Last week 23 boxes were sold.

Together on Tuesday--- 26 people have signed up for the December 19 event at the Sandy Hill Farm's light show in Eliot, ME. We'll meet for the 1-mile walk at 5:30pm and then gather at the Shipyard in Eliot for dinner ca. 7pm.

December 20 meeting will be a potluck lunch. Pres. Kathy is looking for a volunteer to organize the potluck sign-up. She will be organizing the Christmas music and sing-along with four performers she'll bring to the meeting.

Literacy Project: Marion C. said the first dictionary distribution among 3rd graders will take place on Thursday, **December 15** at 2:10pm at Horne St. School.

Festival of Trees: Noreen B. proclaimed that our tree was fabulous and the whole event was a rousing success. We gave away hundreds of children's books as well. (There are still books at the Woodman Museum which they hope to give away to participants at their Holiday Light Trail on weekends (4-6pm) in December.

International Committee: Tom D. said the committee is meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, December 12 at 5pm to discuss the Mexico proposal.

Student of the Month: Gregg D. was joyous about this program which awards one middle school student who has shown "service above self". The ceremony at Dover Middle School was held last Thursday and the student received a \$100 gift card plus can choose an additional \$100 to go to the charity of his choice.

Senior Visits: The first of (we hope many) Bingo tournaments will commence this Friday, **December 8** at Riverside Rest Home at 10am. Show up before 10 in the lobby if you want to help! Next visit will be to Maple Suites.

Happy Bucks:

Marion C. \$20 for her 22 (thus far) visits to Rotary Clubs in our District 7780 and for participation in 12 hands-on projects. She is recruiting club ambassadors at each venue to Rotary's Mental Health Initiative.

Cate R. \$1 for Marion's letter in this month's District Newsletter. Read it and do it!

Cindy I. \$2 for a jam-packed Thanksgiving holiday at her house which included a rambunctious bunny!

Gregg D. \$3 for the Mannheim Steamroller concert in Portland, for Harry's visits to 7780 clubs, and for Melissa drawing the Ace of Spades in last week's drawing (which they split!).

Brendan M. \$2 for joining with Montana F. this weekend at the Christmas event in Kittery and for enjoying his first Morning Mixer at the Chamber of Commerce this morning.

50/50 Drawing: \$12 in the pot (wah-wah). The winning ticket was Malcolm M.'s but the 8 of Spades was not the winner. **Please note: Going forward, the person who picks the Queen of Clubs (because we are a Club) will be the winner. No more Ace of Spades!**

December Birthdays:

Dave D.	Dec. 10
Nancy B.	Dec. 11
Heather B.	Dec. 16
Jerry D.	Dec. 29
Cathy B.	Dec. 30