



BING



The Newsletter of the

Rotary Club of Dover, NH since 1924

Zoom Meetings: Wednesdays at 12:00 pm

June 23, 2021 - Zoom Meeting

Club dues are now due. If you have not yet paid, please pay before June 30. We need to know who will be rejoining for the 2020-2022 year. Please let Phil Rinaldi know if you need support paying your dues.

Program: Tom Kaufhold: Seacoast LGBT History Project

Bio: Tom Kaufhold has spent the last six years leading the Seacoast LGBT History Project. Since the early 1990s, he has been involved in LGBTQ community initiatives, including an equal rights ordinance in Portsmouth and an AIDS service group. A retired business systems analyst, Tom is married, has two grown children and lives in Portsmouth.

Tom started the LGBT History Project because he had a lot of “stuff” and didn’t want to get rid of it. He got to know a lot of people and those at the Portsmouth Atheneum (which does a lot of research on the history of Portsmouth) and they agreed to displaying a collection.

The year 2019 was the 50th anniversary of the Gay Rights movement which began during the Stonewall Riots (see note) in NYC in 1969. The Seacoast LGBT History Project is a total volunteer group. Not a 501c3 and not historians, but they love history and want to preserve their history.

They are focused on getting word out about their collection and their efforts. In October, they started the Rainbow Symposium – getting panels together to speak about their experience on the Seacoast. They have also been attending Pride events to get the word out and to collect more artifacts.

Upcoming meetings/events:

June 28 - Golf Tournament - CCC

June 30 - Year End Celebration at CCC– 5 pm, catered event/cash bar. RSVP and please attend!

July 7 - Woodman Museum Rotary Open House - 4:30. Please RSVP if you plan to attend.

Pledge & 4-Way Test: All

Reflection -Summer has arrived! Give some thought to “those lazy, hazy, crazy dazes” and what you look forward to this summer.

Rotary Moment: : This month’s Rotary Magazine article - *A Time to Look Forward* - featured a \$15.5M gift to build the first peace center in the Middle East. Frank & Marty Helman are a driving force behind this donation.

Guests and Visiting Rotarians:

Heather Blumenfeld, Harvey Bernier and Tom Kaufhold.

Today’s newsletter submitted by Cate R.

At first, they were unsure how to arrange and catalogue their collection. Early on they were approached by a Rochester Gallery who suggested a timeline. It is interesting to note that LGBT History goes back to the earliest time in NH. Tom shared that in 1679, when NH separated from Massachusetts, one of the first laws they passed was to make sodomy a crime which was punishable by death.

Ultimately the group opted to organize by the colors of the rainbow flag:

Red - Arts & Culture

Orange - Health

Yellow - Politics. Tom pointed out that history is still happening – Chris Pappas was elected to Congress.

Green - Commerce

Blue - Social. Tom shared that the Friends Meeting House is where Dover GLBT support group met for 10 years. The group was intentional about including all.

Purple - Spirituality

When the project started it was all about the “stuff” and in the end it was more about the stories of the people behind the stuff. Tom related the story of Charlie Howard. Charlie was born in Portsmouth in 1961, had asthma and autism and was very “out” and proud of who he was. Charlie was extremely bullied in high school. Others threw his books out the windows and held him out the window, too. He graduated in 1980 but refused to attend the ceremony out of fear of being bullied on stage at graduation. Charlie moved to Bangor, ME, started attending a support group called Interweave and found a home.

In 1984, after a July 4 potluck, Charlie and his boyfriend were walking home when a car load of teenagers started chasing them. His boyfriend got away but the 3 boys started beating him and were trying to throw him off a bridge. He told them he could not swim but they threw him in. They found his body 6 hours later. Charlie’s parents didn’t want to put a marker on his grave because they were afraid it would get vandalized. The group did a fundraiser to put a marker on his grave. During his life, when Charlie was told to blend in, and tone it down, his response was “This is who I am” so that is on his marker.

The LGBT History Project has now created loanable panels to tell the story of the Seacoast LGBT community in each color. They can be used at meetings and to help better understand LGBT history. The group has taken on other projects as well. They are creating oral histories with the support of a UNH Professor. They have an Audio/Video archive from a group that

Happy Bucks

Gregg D. \$5 for his last Zoom meeting – *Hooray!*

Melissa L. \$1 for last Zoom meeting with Gregg, and \$16 for the 16 years in business – It was announced yesterday that Melissa is the 2021 Stafford County Board of Realtors Realtor of the Year. *WOW and Congrats!*

Peter W. \$10 for Melissa - *nice!*

Doug L. \$1 for his granddaughter coming in for a visit! *Have fun!*

Birthdays - June

Jim V.	June 1
Mike B.	June 15
Ian O.	June 20
Kathy F.	June 24
Cindy I.	June 28
Matt S.	June 30

Anniversaries - June

Sheila T.	4 years
Tom McS.	37 years
Matt S.	15 years
Laraine H.	3 years
Phil R.	37 years
Rebecca J.	5 years

met in Portsmouth (PFLAG: Parent and Friend of Lesbians and Gays) and a lending library including books and videos. The goal is for this all to be stored and available at Portsmouth Public Library in 2023. They started the Portsmouth walking tour – second Sunday of every month from May – Oct. and point out where various historical things happened; done through the Portsmouth Historical Society.

There is an upcoming event about transgender issues at RiverStones Customs Framing – home of first exhibit. Reach out to Tom for more information.

Note: Stonewall Riots were a series of spontaneous demonstrations by members of the gay community in response to a police raid that began in the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, at the Stonewall Inn in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of Manhattan. Patrons of the Stonewall, other Village lesbian and gay bars and neighborhood street people fought back when the police became violent. The riots are widely considered to constitute one of the most important events leading to the gay liberation movement and the twentieth century fight for LGBT rights in the US.

Announcements:

Foundation Minute/President-Elect Update: Jim M. has a “stack” of Paul Harris Fellows to hand out. He let all receiving one know and asks they attend the June 30 event where he will distribute them.

WE ARE BACK! On July 14 we will be back at 121 Broadway for our club meetings. Jim is happy to report that he and Marion checked out the space and all the Club banners are still there!! We will meet and eat and return to our regular meeting format. A few reminders: As is the Rotary custom, guest speakers receive a standing ovation when they are introduced. Look for more info on the July 14 meeting. The caterer will provide us with boxed lunches and needs a count by prior to meeting.

Club Committee Reports/ Service Project Updates:

- **Bingo: Jerry D.** We need workers for Bingo – please let Sheila know if you can help.
- **Rotary Gardens:** Noreen B.- use the collapsible hoses provided.
- **Golf Committee Update:** Kathy F. 68 golfers and 7 Major sponsors. We will definitely have a money-making event this year. Kathy will send out info for all the volunteers.
- **Shredding event:** Laurie W. – planning for the event will happen after Golf Tournament.
- **Together on Tuesday:** Anyone with venue suggestions, or who would like to help coordinate it are asked to reach out to Jim M. Gregg & Liz will host in August but we need to plan for July. Any ideas please let Jim know.

That's it for this week! Wishing everyone health, joy and a grateful heart!

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?