



May 1, 2024 – In-person & zoom meeting, 12:15

President Kathy F. welcomed all to the May 1 meeting of the Dover Rotary Club.

President Kathy welcomed Sandy Tucker to the meeting. Sandy will be transferring to the Dover Rotary from the Portsmouth Rotary Club as she works in Dover and lives in South Berwick. Welcome, Sandy!

Announcements and events:

Our club had a great turnout for the Don't Trash Day event at the Dover Ice Arena, followed by a wonderful dedication ceremony at the Skate Park Pavilion, named for and honoring Gary Bannon on his retirement from the City of Dover after 34 years. Kudos to Beth F. for organizing the ceremony, the speakers, and the cake.

Kevin Q. reminded members the Rotary Gardens planting (upper garden) will take place on Saturday, May 18 at 9am. Bring gloves and tools! Then, on the 5th Wednesday of the month, May 29, we will also plant the three lower gardens at 4pm, followed by dinner at a nearby restaurant. Note: no lunchtime meeting at Broadway on the 29th!

The next **Senior Visit**, coordinated by Melissa L., will be held at The Wentworth Home (next to WDH) on Monday, May 13 from 1-2pm. There will be a Mexican theme with music and maracas!

Saturday, May 4 is the Meal-Packing Event from 12-3pm at St. Thomas Episcopal Church Hall on Locust St. Rotarians, Interact students, and church volunteers will assemble ca. 1600 packaged meal kits (approx. 10,000 meals) and these will be distributed locally to food banks. Note: May 4 is also Dover Pride Clean-Up Day throughout the City.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meetings:

- May 08:** Gregg D. – Poland Visit
- May 15:** Open
- May 22:** Assembly
- May 29:** TBA

Events:

- May 24:** Centennial, CCC, 6 pm
"Party like it's 1924"
- May 30:** Senior Visit, Maple Suites, 3-4 pm
(rescheduled from May 2)
- June 29:** District Conference – Star Island, ferry leaves Portsmouth at 8:50
- Pledge:** Cathy B.
- 4-Way Test:** Beth F.
- Guest Rotarian:** Sandy Tucker

Today's newsletter authored by Cathy B.

Saturday, June 29 District Conference on Star Island. Ferry from Portsmouth at 8:50am (be there by 8:10), followed by four hours of programs and activities (for kids too) on the island. The changeover will occur also that day with Marion voted off the island! Ferry home at 2:50pm, arrival 3:50pm, perhaps to be followed by dinner/drinks in Portsmouth (TBD). Cost \$45 per person, includes conference, boat trip and parking fees. Get your tickets online---see QR code in this month's District 7780 Newsletter. Marion will also send registration link by email to club members.

Rotary 100 Year Gala---"Party Like It's 1924" at Cochecho Country Club, Friday May 24. Please RSVP to Noreen B. ASAP and pay Phil R. \$75 per ticket. 30+ have registered thus far. Jim V. to bring DALC bear to the event. Marion may hold a Gala planning committee meeting on Monday, May 6 at 10am. On Saturday, May 11, Noreen B. will lead a shopping tour for decorations for the Gala. Time TBA.

Program---Jay Stephens Classification Talk

Jay is a civil engineer and has been a Rotarian for 32 years, introduced to the Club by Kerry Forbes. Highlights of Jay's talk included:

- Service in the Army Reserves for 28 years (18 in Infantry Training, last 6 doing engineering work.)
- Born Hartford, CT to Engineering Prof. (@UConn) dad and mom Virginia. Jay helped dad build their house in Storrs, igniting his interest in engineering. He has one brother and two sisters, all names beginning with letter "J" which he continued with his own children, Jonathan and Johanna.
- Met future wife Joyce in college at UNH. Found out she had dated his roommate in high school (in Biddeford ME). Her family spoke only French at home.
- Joined ROTC, so got draft deferment (his number was #36). Married Joyce 3 days after graduation.
- Got Master's at UNH in Structural Engineering. (Previously his education had focused on soils).
- Worked for 10 ½ years for City of Dover as City engineer before moving to a smaller, private engineering firm where he's been for the past 38 years.
- Only had one complaint filed against him---and it was by a fellow Rotarian, Grant Davis, who opposed the enforcement of some regulations. All was resolved.
- After 3 months training with the Army, became Certified Army Engineer. During officer training, he was put in "charge of duty" of women's barracks in Virginia.
- Became Chief of Plans for New England, supervising construction and site prep for all Army Reserve Centers.
- Never activated for active duty by the Army. Removed from the service as a Lieutenant Colonel.
- Gleefully served as Sergeant-at-Arms in Rotary. Compiled a "Book of Fines" and has an assortment of 52 hats to accompany them.

His home has numerous gadgets he's engineered. Cate R. begged a tour and had to sign an NDA post-visit!

Bingo---Ticket counters desperately needed. Please contact Cate R. or Ken P. if you can help. Discussion about holding a regular Rotary meeting at the Bingo Hall and have everyone band tickets.

Happy Bucks:

\$1 from Kathy F. for Megan R.'s Peace Corps talk while Kathy was enjoying mini-vaca with her sister.

\$3 from Harry C. for Sandy's transfer to Dover; for week spent in Denver; for Jay's talk.

\$2 from Jim M. for vacation in Barbados; for Spring and getting his sports car out of the barn.

\$1 from Cate R. in contemplation of her signing Jay's NDA!

\$1 from Sandy T. for the warm welcome and for finding her home again in Rotary.

50/50 Drawing: \$399. Drawing won by Doug L. who drew the 5 of Spades. Pot grows!

April Birthdays:

Harry C. Apr. 3
Rod B. Apr. 3
Jay S. Apr. 4
Kim F. Apr. 15

April Anniversaries:

Ken P. 16 years