



Rotary Opens Opportunities

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

.MEETS WEDNESDAYS AT 12:15 PM
GOSS BUILDING 121 BROADWAY, DOVER, NH

Nov. 5, 2020 - Rotary Club Meeting Zoom Meeting

Submitted by Noreen B.

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

Pledge: All

Moment of Reflection: Our moment of reflection on the state of the nation and democracy moving forward.

Rotary Moment: Polio Plus; Africa declared free of wild polio virus this past August. Rotary has partnered with WHO, U.S. Centers for Disease Control, UNICEF and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation through the Global Polio Eradication Initiative

4-Way Test +1: All

Guest: Mike McGovern, Chair of Rotary International's Polio Plus Committee

Program: Mike McGovern - Polio Plus, Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth,

Bio: Mike McGovern has served as the Chair of Rotary International's PolioPlus Committee since 2014. In this role, he is the volunteer leader of Rotary's largest humanitarian project, the global eradication of polio. Rotary is the spearheading partner of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and has donated over \$2.0 billion to ending polio and has worked with other partners to reduce the number of polio endemic countries from 125 in 1988 to 2 today.

After mentioning a fond memory of meeting the legendary Irish songster, Tommy Makem at the Dover Rotary club, Mike McGovern took Rotarians on a zoom tour of the world, featuring RI's global efforts to eradicate polio. Through a photo collage and commentary he highlighted 5,000 events held on this year's World Polio Day including vignettes of clubs in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Abu Dhabi, Bangladesh and Hong Kong. He showcased a lab in Nigeria that identified the last case of the wild virus four years ago, then displayed a photo of polio survivors in an African village, clad in yellow vests, some in wheelchairs, all volunteering to distribute polio vaccine.

While the wild virus is close to eradication (the goal of Polio Plus) and now only in Pakistan and Afghanistan, the vaccine derived virus continues to mutate. A new oral polio vaccine is expected to end this strain but it will take several more years.

Every dollar dedicated to Polio Plus matters. In the past 35 years over 36,000 Rotary Clubs have donated \$1.1 billion to the cause. The impact is extraordinary. Mike said, "Nineteen million people are now walking the earth that are not paralyzed or dead."

The work continues, hampered primarily by dubious parents and leaders, not convinced of its effectiveness and occasional political interference. The devolution of the polio in India, as an example, should make all Rotarians proud. When the program began they had 740 cases, reduced to 43 cases, a single case and now - zero cases in India. Eradicating polio, Mike said, will take persistence, patience and passion - all qualities exhibited by Rotarians around the world.

For more information visit: polioeradication.org or endpolio.org.

Announcements:

Thank you to volunteers delivering food, to all who participated in the Willand Pond Cleanup Day and to bingo volunteers.

Foundation Minute: Jim M.

Thank you to speaker Mike M. for Polio Plus presentation. Jim M. will be speaking at a District Rotary Foundation zoom event on Saturday, Nov. 7 at 9 am.

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

Nov. 7: Rotary Garden Cleanup and Purple for Polio Crocus Planting, 9 am

Nov. 7: Willand Pond Cleanup Part II, 9:30 am

Nov. 7: District Foundation Zoom event, 9 am

Nov. 11: Club Zoom Meeting

Nov. 18: Club Zoom Meeting - Robert Siciliano on Cyber Security

Nov. 25: No club meeting

Nov. 26: Dover Rotaries Worldwide Zoom, Thanksgiving morning, 8:30 am

Reports:

Bingo: Last week very busy. In light of increasing numbers of Covid cases in NH, continuing to check on potential changes/group size limitations.

Holiday Decorations Contest: Info is out on the Facebook Page. May need more than one bus for Rotarian judges to tour the week of Dec. 6-12. More to come.

Festival of Trees: Dec. 4, 4-8 p.m. Committee will be meeting soon to review theme ideas and plan craft projects. One idea - create "Rotary Door" ornaments with "Rotary Opens Opportunities (this year's theme) on the outside and a holiday message inside.

Willand Pond Cleanup II: Nov. 7, 9:30 - 11:30 - meet behind the old Staples location. Marion will have blue bags available.

Finance report: Phil R. will be sending the club the annual 990s for review.

Service Projects:

Food delivery: Jim V. send the schedule - most spots filled for November.

Homeless Project: A shopping list has been developed and Jim M. will send date/time soon.

Food Drive: Marion C. noted our club will be collaborating with Gather and CAP for a food drive, possibly on Dec. 12 at Henry Law Park using the Rotary wagon.

Fines:

Kathy L. fined anyone who did not know one of Jay Stephen's hobbies and no other fines, just "Be kind to one another."

Dover Rotary Spotlight: Jay Stephens



1. How long have you been in Rotary?

Since 1992 (28+/- years). My sponsor was Kerry Forbes.

2. My favorite Rotary moments:

Just about all of them. Rotary really is a family. My year as Sergeant-At-Arms was challenging.

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

Grew up in Storrs, CT. Dad was the Chair of the Civil Engineering Dept. at UCONN so I had to go elsewhere to pursue an Engineering degree (Civil Engineering no less). Went to UNH

where I found a young lady whose English major helped me get through the liberal arts side of the program. We married in 1973 and moved to Dover where we have been for 47 years.

4. My Hobbies:

Embarrassing my 2 children and now 7 grandchildren (since I no longer get reactions from my children). Maybe model trains (I am an engineer after all).

5. My Business Profession or Current Working or Non-Working Environment:

My first job out of college was as the City Engineer for the City of Dover NH (10+ years). I have been working as a Professional Civil Engineer for a small engineering firm in South Berwick (Civil Consultants) for the last 34 years (which unfortunately means I pay Maine State Income tax). I piggy backed 28+ years in the Army Reserve with my engineering work and continued working for the Army Reserve as a civilian contractor for another 10 years after my mandatory retirement in 2004 as a Lieutenant Colonel.

6. Something my fellow Rotarians don't know about me:

Sometime in 1967/68 I was part of a Boy Scout Order of the Arrow group that did a guest performance on the “Bozo The Clown Show” in Boston (you can google Bozo The Clown).

7. Final words:

While the more recognized purpose of Rotary is to bring together business and professional leaders in order to provide humanitarian service and to advance goodwill and peace both locally and around the world, I find interaction with fellow Dover Rotarians to be equally rewarding. As noted earlier, Rotary truly is a family – a family that I am proud to be a part of.



Next week’s spotlight: Phil Rinaldi

Birthdays:	November
Hemant D.	Nov. 1
Laraine H.	Nov. 8
Dan S.	Nov. 11
Betsey AP	Nov. 17
Maria A.	Nov. 24
Malcolm M.	Nov. 25
Nick P.	Nov. 25

Anniversaries - November

Frank B.	38 years
Norm H.	24 years
Frank C.	43 years
Ram R.	40 years
Maria A.	2 years
Michael C.	2 years
Kathryn L.	2 years
Yulia R.	2 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.