

Newsletter





Oct. 16, 2024 - In-person meeting, 12:15

President Harry welcomed everyone to Dover Rotary and introduced our guests. He indicated that Simon V. was placed on 7 Day notice for membership by the board at yesterday's meeting

Program: Classification Talk: Bjorn Sigurdsson

Bjorn was born in Iceland and lived there until age six when his parents purchased an 80-ft wooden boat and sailed throughout Europe and the Mediterranean. After several years they traveled across the Atlantic to the Caribbean and sailed around that area. Eventually, they landed in Florida before finally settling in Central Pennsylvania. Bjorn attended college in Erie, PA. He relayed that a professor there said something that had a lasting impact on him. "Appreciate the serendipity of life, your path, your meandering, where you end up, your interests and choices and the cascade of your career."

Bjorn shared that his journey has been exactly that. Circumstances, people he met along the way and the decisions he made led him to where he is today. He connected with Phil and Donna Rinaldi through Manpower and started on a journey as an independent contractor and financial analyst. This led him to a job with Hewlitt Packard, then onto a Canadian Company owned by IBM, eventually becoming a corporate account manager specializing in logistics. He traveled to such places as Hong Kong and China in that role before being laid off during an economic downturn. He and his wife then bought an RV and traveled around the country. While in the

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meetings:

Oct. 23: No meeting

Oct. 30: Meeting will be held at

Stella's at Pointe Place

Events:

Nov. 16: Garden clean-up, 8 am – changed from Oct. 19.

Pledge: Doug L. 4-Way Test: Jay S.

Visitors: Simon Verkaik, Jon Newcomb

and Tim Cheney

Today's newsletter authored by Gregg D.

Northwest, he was hired by Boeing because of his experience in China. Family and care for a relative brought his family to New England and Wolfeboro, NH. He worked for Westinghouse Nuclear until Covid caused another lay off. He now works with Cytiva, a division of GE.

Throughout his journey he has kept public service in mind. Bjorn revealed that he coached youth soccer for 35 years in Pennsylvania and while in college he worked with others to collect over 700 pounds of food for people in need. Bjorn wants to bring his skills and volunteer efforts to Rotary to help people in our community.

Announcements:

Membership Drive:

Steve Papajohn reported on the board discussion around ideas that he has for increasing Rotary membership. Steve has proposed that we hold a membership recruitment meeting once every quarter. This would be a special meeting where everyone would invite a guest, and we would share our stories. We all have Rotary stories to tell, and we need to get those stories out to the greater community. The meeting would focus on fellowship and conversation.

We also want to develop a promotional video that can be shared to tell the Rotary story. We have a videographer in mind who has recently completed a video for the Teen Center. The vision is to fill every seat in the room and spread the Rotary message. Our goal is to make it easy for people to join Rotary. The first Recruitment meeting will be held November 29th.

Visioning:

President Harry reported that we have requested a February date to start our visioning work. The recruitment effort certainly is part of the vision.

Finance:

Gregg D. reported on the club's finances. We are through the first quarter of the Rotary Year and our revenue projections are well ahead of our budget estimate. Bingo profit was budgeted at \$109,000 and we are currently projecting Bingo profit to be more than \$328,000. Dover Rotary share of the Bingo revenue will be more than \$87,000. We currently have \$406,239 in assets available to our club.

Hurricane Relief:

We contributed \$2500 to the Rotary Zone 33-34 Disaster Relief Fund following Hurricane Helene. We plan to send another \$2500 in support of Hurricane Milton victims.

Garden Cleanup:

Kevin Q. reported garden cleanup will now be held on November 16th. We are putting any work we do on the garden infrastructure on hold until we can meet with the city. The walls and drainage of the gardens need repair, and the responsibility lies with the city. Estimates we have received indicate that the repairs will exceed \$28,000. We are requesting a meeting with city officials regarding this matter. We want to determine a course of action before we commit to removing the perennials and replacing the soil.

Interact Shred Event: The Interact Shred Event raised over \$2000 for the Interact Club. It was well attended and another success for the students.

5th Wed. Meeting on October 30: We will meet at Stella's Restaurant in Pointe Place. Please plan on joining us as we check out this new meeting place.

Happy Bucks:

Cindy I. happy to be here with Rotarians.

Nick P. for upcoming Amy's Treat event and for Bjorn's talk.

Bjorn S. for being able to join Dover Rotary

Malcolm M. welcome to Bjorn

Gregg D. for family gathering this past weekend.

Frank C. for visit with elderly aunt and welcome to Bjorn.

Noreen B. for everybody.

Steve P. for new members, reception of membership ideas, and Teen Center Event

Harry C. for Bjorn, today's visitors, and membership drive.

50/50 Raffle: Gregg D, won the chance to draw. He drew a King, but it was the King of Diamonds!

October birthdays:

Gregg D. Oct. 5

Doug L. Oct. 7

Gary D. Oct. 10

Phil R. Oct. 11

Noreen B. Oct. 14

Melissa L. Oct. 18

Sam K. Oct. 18

Kevin Q. Oct. 19

Tom D. Oct. 26

October anniversaries:

Tom D. 40 years

Ed H. 33 years

Cindy I. 18 years

Cate R. 14 years