



Sept. 20, 2023 – In-person & zoom meeting, 12:15

President Kathy F. welcomed all to the only Rotary Club with a District Governor and two Assistant Governors as members. This is a Club Assembly meeting and a Potluck luncheon.

Paul Harris Presentation: Jim M. presented Gregg D. with a Paul Harris + 3 pin, thanking him for supporting the Rotary Foundation

Program: Club Assembly

Each Committee Head was invited to the podium to give a brief synopsis of their functions, responsibilities, budget, recent achievements, and future goals.

Budget---Kathy F. and Gregg D.:

Copies of the proposed budget covering July 2023 through June 2024 were passed out. We will be voting to adopt the budget at next week’s meeting. President Kathy explained that it is a bit later than usual but the huge adjustment in Bingo revenues and expenses had yet to be determined. The figures listed in the budget are conservative estimates. Gregg D. explained the new Bingo cooperative, sharing the workload, the expenses, and the profits with three other clubs. We have a signed MOU by the four Club Presidents that governs operations and distributions through the end of FY’23. Estimated net profit this year, after expenses, will be \$140,000, to be split four ways; or \$35,000 per club. (Our Charities budget lists profit estimated at \$74,000 but that is due to our (sole) June profits of \$35,000 which carried over into the July budget.)

Bingo---Cate R.:

Cate R. and Ken P. are the two Dover representatives on the new Bingo Committee. There are 2 people from each club. She cited Gregg’s cooperative and collaborative skills in getting this new committee up and running so smoothly. Each club has five shifts per week, on a rotating 4-week basis. We are now in Week 3 of the new Bingo and things are going very smoothly. Small glitches and ongoing training, but overall working quite well. Members are encouraged to learn new roles, not just ticket sales, to give us flexibility in staffing. Starting next week, we will start Sign-Up Genius once again and dates will be available for filling through the end of the year. Link to come; watch your inbox!

Upcoming Meetings & Events

Meetings:
Sept. 27: TBD

Events:
Sept. 23: Garden Cleanup – 9 am
Oct. 14: Shred It recycling 9 am
St. John’s Methodist Church

Pledge: Harry C.
4-Way Test: Cate R.
Guests: Michael Roscoe

Today’s newsletter authored by Cathy B.

Milk & Egg---Cate R.:

Coupons for one dozen eggs and one gallon of milk are now distributed at three sites: CAP, Dover Food Pantry, and (new in October), Our Daily Bread at St. Ignatius Parish. Coupons are given out by food pantry staff and may be redeemed at Janetos. Over the last year, approximately 2100 coupons have been redeemed which averages out to a remarkable 40 per week. For a family of four, we supply essential food items for about 160 people per week. Budget was \$12,000 last year; went up to \$18,000 in April due to price increases. Total spent was \$16,809.11. This year's budget is \$25,000 with the addition of the new site at St. Ignatius. We are trying a 6-month pilot program there, supplying 25 coupons per week and will monitor results and needs. Beth Fischer is the new Committee co-chair.

Shoe & Boot---Nick P.:

This year's budget is \$2500, reduced from \$4500 last year because redemptions decreased. This will equate to about 30 pairs of shoes/boots. Vouchers with a value of \$55 are distributed as needed by counselors at Dover schools and can be redeemed at Red's Shoe Barn (or used to purchase "special needs" footwear if the situation requires). About 3-5 vouchers per month are coming back to Nick from Red's. Phil then pays the invoice to Red's.

Kids Closet---Gregg D.:

Kids Closet is an upgrade to a supply program that, two years ago, focused on just Dover Housing Authority children at Woodman Park School. This new program distributes gift cards to all Dover public schools, plus the Dover Children's Home. The gift cards are handed out by school guidance counselors wherever there's a need determined. They can cover costs for clothing, footwear, bedding, school supplies, gasoline, other transportation costs, groceries, sports equipment, and laundry materials. Budget this year of \$20,000 includes \$4,000 to DHS, \$2500 to DMS, and \$1500 to each of the elementary schools. This totals \$11,000. Other expenditures will be supplies of snacks for the elementary schools, ca. \$1500. Gregg read letters of support and thanks from several school counselors who declared this Rotary program invaluable!

Investment Committee---Nick P.:

Our investment account is at Edward Jones, invested in conservative, low-risk bonds and equities. The committee is Nick P., Malcolm M., David K., Doug L., Phil R., and Harry C. Total is currently almost \$300,000: \$158,000 in bonds, \$66,000 in mutual funds (blue chip stocks and ETFs). We are cash-flush and have excess capital: in case of Bingo shortfalls, we will still be able to support all our charitable programs. Recently, \$75,000 was withdrawn from our Operating Account at the bank (with a very low yield) and invested into an Edward Jones Money Market account yielding 5%. These funds are quickly accessible if needed. Our average return in the Investment Account over 15 years is 4.9%.

Community Giving---Jay S.:

Now called the Grants and Donations Review Committee, this group has eight members who review application requests from worthy charitable organizations and can grant up to \$2,000 annually for a cause. Higher requests, up to \$10,000, are sent on, with a Committee recommendation, for a Board decision. This year's budget is \$13,000. Six applications have been received thus far this year and the group is discussing how to publicize this process to a greater extent. Jay has all applications digitized back to 2013.

Foundation---Jim M.:

Budget is \$1500 for “Every Rotarian Every Year” program which is inclusive of 60 members. Polio Plus budget is up \$1000 this year, to \$2500. Our club has historically been great supporters of the Rotary Foundation and has many Paul Harris Fellows. Jim looks forward to working with new members to devise a new and innovative project for Dover this year and applying for a District Grant to carry it out. World Polio Day is October 24 and the Dover Rotary Club plans to donate its Bingo proceeds from October 26 to this cause. The other three clubs will also be invited to take part in this initiative.

Interact---Phil R.:

Club at DHS has a new advisor, Kaitlin York, and their first meeting will be October 5. The Club will meet at DHS on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month. The committee is Phil, Melissa L., and Cindy I. Interact students devise projects and fundraisers on their own and keep the proceeds. They are working the Shred Event on October 14. There were about 50 members last year; this year 13 are returnees.

100 Year Celebration---Kathy F.:

May 24, 2024 will be the 100th anniversary of the Dover Rotary Club and a big party is planned. We have reserved Cochecho Country Club for that Friday evening. Kathy invites all to join the Celebration Committee. More to come!

Gardens---Kevin Q.:

September 23 is weeding at the Rotary Gardens from 9-10am. October 14 is planting mums, and November will be putting garden to bed for the winter. Budget for flowers and plants is \$1500 and Kevin welcomes any input on what we should do there next year. Kevin also gave a summary of the Back-to-School Backpacks program which filled 65 packs, valued at \$4000) and distributed \$6000 in gift cards.

As time was running short, President Kathy deferred reports from:

Scholarship, Student of the Month, International, Literacy, and Hands-on Projects Committees until next week’s meeting.

Announcements:

Apple Harvest Day: Gregg D. needs help on Apple Harvest Day, Saturday, October 7, at 7:30am in putting up Rotary tent on Henry Law and attaching signage to Respite Tent in Cochecho Courtyard. Cate R. mentioned we’ll also need help at 4pm for breakdown. Cathy B. and Phil R. are working on a tentative (TBD) plan to get the children’s books from Rotary storage to Henry Law area.

Happy Bucks:

Nick P.: for hearing such great reports and belonging to an awesome Club!

Gregg D.: for District Recovery Conference on Thursday in Portland (we are a sponsor); and for the amazing things we have going on here at Dover Rotary!

Phil R.: for breakfast with Bob Lapointe and Deedee

Tom D.: for his daughter’s barking dog who alerted him that his front door was wide open in the middle of the night!

50/50 Drawing: \$827 in the pot. The winning ticket was Doug L.'s but the Queen of Spades was not the winner. Pot grows and only 16 cards left in the deck!

September Birthdays:

David B. Sep 11
Terrie H. Sep 13
Brendan M. Sep 13
Rebecca J. Sep 14

September Anniversaries:

Jim M. 33 years
Dan S. 39 years
Noreen B. 35 years
Kathy F. 23 years