

# BING

Newsletter

# Rotary

Dover, NH

Doing good. Very good!



# UNITE FOR GOOD

## September 3, 2025 – Broadway

President Cathy B. welcomed all to the Rotary Club of Dover.

### Program: COAST, Rad Nichols, Exec. Director

A UNH grad and COAST employee for over 26 years, Rad Nichols' goal is to continue connecting people and the community in multiple ways. The non-profit Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation or COAST, founded in 1982, served 374,000 passengers in 2024 and expects to serve over 410,000 in 2025, Nichols explained.

He displayed a slide featuring the photos of passengers who exemplified the impact of bus travel in the region. The cost of living in cities is often prohibitive for many workers who instead choose to live in surrounding towns with affordable housing and take public transportation to their jobs.

One photo was of a woman with disabilities who gave gifts last Christmas to all the employees she interacted with throughout the year. "This is the kind of person, I love, it makes me so happy to be doing this work," he said.

COAST's annual budget is \$7.5 to 8.5 million based on funds from federal, state, local sources, private philanthropy and earned income. COAST is currently replacing its undersized facility at 6 Sumner Drive in Dover with a larger building from 10,500 to 48,000 square feet. The new facility will be able to house more buses, which is especially important during winter months.

The bus line offers two routes: fixed and on demand. The cost to ride the fixed routes \$1.50 in cash one way and demand routes (for non-emergency medical needs) are free to \$3 one way. Buses travel Portsmouth to Dover, Somersworth, Rochester, Farmington and towns in Maine – Berwick, South Berwick, Eliot and Kittery.

Two routes will soon end from the Shipyard and from downtown Portsmouth to Pease due to low ridership and an Exeter and Newmarket route is expanding due to a significant donation.

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

### Meetings (12:15 pm):

**Sept. 17** – Meeting – Broadway, Club Assembly

### Events:

**Sept. 6:** Social: Malcolm M. home for Blue Angles Show – 12-4 p.m. 44 Colony Cove Rd., Durham

**Sept. 17:** Social - Gundalow Trip: 3:30 p.m., for tickets visit:

<https://fareharbor.com/embeds/book/gundalow/items/56754/availability/1785769399/book/?full-items=yes>

**Sept. 8:** Kids Closet – meet at BJs at 12:30 p.m.

**Sept. 20:** Mitten Project, 9 a.m. Broadway

**Sept. 25:** Food Packing, St. John's Church, 8 a.m.

**Oct. 8:** Mental Health Putting event, 5-8 p.m. Form a team!

**Guests:** Speaker Rad Nichols, Becky Crowley and Margaret Joyce

**Pledge:** Cathy B.

**4-Way Test:** Frank C.

*Today's newsletter authored by Noreen B.*

Nichols stress the value of COAST to the seacoast and said every \$1 spent on COAST results in \$4.08 in local economic activity or \$33 M in economic impact in the region. Ways to support - invest, partner, advertise, and stay informed. For more information visit: [info@coastbus.org](mailto:info@coastbus.org)

#### Announcements:

**Cathy's book recommendation for September – Rotary Education and Literacy Month:** *That Librarian*, about book banning in America by Amanda Jones.

**Club Excellence Award:** The Dover club received this award, one of 7 in the district, for 2024-45 – Harry C's year. Congrats!

**Gundalow Adventure:** Still time to register for the Gundalow adventure on September 17. The trip runs from 3:30 – 6:30 and departs from Prescott Park

**Mitten Project:** Your next chance to participate in mitten making with Seacoast Sweet Stitches will be Saturday, Sept. 20 from 9:00 – 11:00. No sewing skill needed. Held at our regular meeting location.

**PR Committee:** Beth F. shared an update from the PR & Marketing Committee. Lots of work is being done and more hands are needed. Reach out to Beth to see how you might be able to lend a hand.

**District Grant:** Melissa L. briefed members on our recent receipt of \$3,965 from a district grant distribution to support our request to purchase an HVAC – mini split system to provide heat in the winter and cool in the summer in a building used by 68 Hours of Hunger at St. John's Methodist Church. The total project is expected not to exceed \$6,820 and the difference in funds will be paid by our club. Volunteers pack and deliver food for 200 school-aged, food insecure children living in the Dover area. Rotary will be joining other volunteers on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month to help with the project. The next event for Rotary at the location will be **Sept. 25, 8 – 9 a.m. for packing, 9-9:30 for delivering.**

**Kids Closet:** Gregg D. said snack pickup will be held at BJ's on **Monday, Sept. 8 at 12:30 p.m. followed by** delivery to three Dover elementary schools.

**Mental Health Putting Event:** Steve P. announced this year will be **Oct. 8, 5-8 pm**, for a Rotary team!

#### Happy Bucks:

**Jim M.** for being back from PEI and for granddaughter turning 9 and starting 4<sup>th</sup> grade

**Jim V.** gave a "significant" donation in appreciation for Carlos's great care at WDH

**Rod B.** for having two nametags

**Doug L.** from great summer getting to see all his kids and happy his daughter from Illinois is moving to Dover – not with him but in Pointe Place

**Malcolm M.** for Carlos's care even though he's been off the WDH board for over 7 years

**Harry C.** \$5 for volunteers to help mover the old heavy sign, for Jim, for guests and for speaker.

**Kathy F.** for final summer week at Lake George and working only part time this year.

**Gregg D.** for Picnic on the Patio, for songs from Ukraine performance and for twins starting 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Cathanne P.** for all we do in the community and for nieces and nephews moving on in school and college

**Maggie S.** for Malcolm's invite to watch the Air Show and she will be ten friends and five dogs.

**Melissa L.** for 15 things with little sister and for upcoming condo purchase on Marco Island.

**Steve P.** for having a senior in high school and looking at colleges in the coming year.

**50/50 Raffle:** Maggie had the ticket but did not pull the Queen of Clubs – the \$138 pot grows!