



The Navigator

The Exchange Club of Greater Newburyport

P.O. Box 31, Newburyport, MA 01950

Meetings on the 3rd Thursday at 6 p.m., Portside Restaurant

February 14, 2023

www.exchangeclubofgreaternewburyport.org

President-Stuart Deane, Secretary-Judy Corsetti, Treasurer-Barbara Griffith, President Elect-Open
Newsletter Editor-Stuart Deane

Special meeting addresses some long-term concerns

By Stuart Deane

The February 7 meeting, a special meeting of the whole, was called to address the direction of the club as we exit the COVID years. The major concerns were finding a “home,” filling positions and having fun.

With the lack of in-person meetings during the pandemic, with several on-site cancellations of direct service projects and thus the lack of building team spirit opportunities, we have lost one member for “no longer having the heart for it” and another is on the brink for “no longer having fun.”

The purpose of the meeting was to see if we can reverse the trend and return to that group of good friends doing good things for the community while having fun.

With few other options, it was the consensus that we return to the Starboard Galley on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 6 p.m., starting on March 7. Being “homeless” made it difficult to schedule speakers or to invite potential members.

As for club positions, yours truly will continue as President, as will Judy Corsetti as Secretary. Steve Di Camillo will take over the duties of Treasurer. The President-Elect position remains open.

Joe Murphy will be the overall chair for the Field of Honor, with this writer in charge of the ceremony, Jim Noyes in charge of the physical set-up and Erin Fournier taking over the job of soliciting sponsors.

Jim will resume his chairmanship of Kids Day in the Park after being out of commission last year due to illness.

Steve D will chair the new member committee, with an emphasis on social media and the recruitment of younger members.

Finally, new member Paula Cutter has stepped up to accept the position of chair of a new social committee. Please share any ideas with her as to how we can make membership more FUN.

Schedule

- Feb. 9: Steve Di Camillo attended a Chamber of Commerce mixer at Turning Point to look for networking opportunities and possible new members.
- Feb. 16: Regular Meeting at Mr. India at 6 p.m. with speaker Joe D’Amore of Groveland discussing his program to assist foster children with new clothes so that they transition to their new homes with dignity
- Feb. 25: District Zoom initiative for club presidents at 10 a.m., hosted by District President Rick Lunetta of Needham
- Mar. 7: Regular Meeting at the Starboard Galley, with guest speakers Jen Cantwell and Sarah Wescott of the Haverhill Luncheon Club reprising their District Education Conference ideas on recruiting younger members. Jen is the District President-Elect. Sarah is the granddaughter of old friend Bob Wescott. You will be energized by their enthusiasm for Exchange.
- Mar. 21: Regular Meeting, with tentative speaker Don Jarvis to discuss issues faced by veterans
- Mar. 28: Board of Directors, site to be determined

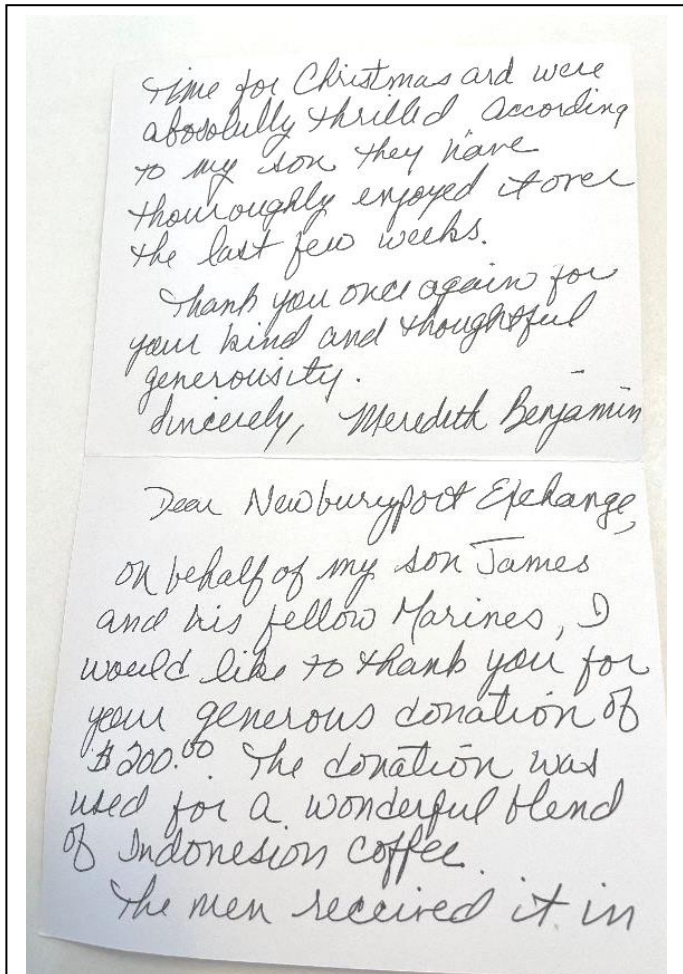
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Roundtable. Steve DiCamillo of Newburyport, Jen Matthews of Haverhill Lunch and John Terry of Needham make presentations on club fundraisers at the N.E. District Education Conference at the Haverhill Country Club on Saturday, January 28.



Loot. Stu Deane poses with Maine items from his raffle basket win after returning home from the District Education Conference (see below).



Mother's Response. The mother of an overseas Marine writes to thank the club for its donation of \$200 for a Christmas package

Commentary

“Most folks ‘from away’ picture a tall, lean guy with a ruddy complexion, slightly scruffy, yet dashing, salt and pepper wavy hair and a great mustache and a look in his eye that says, ‘Come on, Maatha Naitcha, gimme ya best shot – I’m reddy!’

“And here stands Stu with a hat from a store that most likely has a sign out front advertising guns, cold beer and wedding dresses; a flannel shirt from Marden’s, where their motto is ‘I shoulda bought it – when I saw it – at Marden’s.’

“He’s gotta tight grip on a pack of Baxter Brew and an even tighter grip on the neck of a bottle of Maine wine.

“Yessah, by golly, strikes me as a real Mainah. Ayuh!”

Rollie Heckethorn
 Auburn ME Exchange Club
 After N.E. District Education Conf.
 Raffle Basket of Maine Items
 1/28/2023