

29
MEETING OF AUGUST 4, 2000

The meeting was called to order by **President Bill St. Laurent**. **Pres. Bill** led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. **Rev. Dave Avery** led us in song and prayer.

Alan Robinson served as Sergeant at Arms.

Visiting Rotarians: **Gil Lutz**, South Berwick; **Chuck Andrews**, York; **Charles Inman**, Hudson, NY; **John Pratt**, **Ralph Lincoln**, and **Dick Kalsner**, all from Portsmouth.

Other guests: **Julle Patten**, **Debbie Ronnquist**, and **Judy Mitsui**, all representing Fair Tide, Inc.

HAPPY DOLLARS: **Dave Cizmadia** paid \$5 as he missed two meetings (due to work), went to VT with his wife, he missed the Community Service meeting and he has to scoot. **Marle Williams** paid a happy dollars as her cholesterol is down, she's leaving for Baltimore for a Rotary meeting, and is taking the club tax report to the accountant. **Dave Hager** went to a VNA luncheon to honor **Ernie Hanscom**; **Leziye** paid as she has several grandchildren are going back to school or college. **David Dimmick** played in a golf tournament and his team won the "horses' rear end" trophy. **Randy Zito** paid to congratulate "Grandma Dee" (details next week). **Gil Lutz** paid to sell tickets to the So. Berwick Lobsterfest (9/9). **John Pratt** paid as he won the calendar raffle last week..it helps with 2 kids in college! New member **Dave Cizmadia** was fined for not wearing his badge (he paid in spite of the fact that he hadn't been issued one yet!).

50/50 raffle winner: Visiting Rotarian **John Pratt** (it does pay to makeup)
Calendar raffle winners: #347 - **George Bean**

The first order of business was to present **Dave C.** with his badge!

Pres. Bill announced that the Sea Dogs game raised \$17,000 for the homeless fund and 50 cartons of food with was donated to the York County Shelter and Bon Appetit Food Pantry.

We received a thank you letter from Priscilla Guy, Kittery Youth Connection, for donating our leftover auction items. They had a yard sale and raised \$600.

PROGRAM: Ellen McClure introduced our speakers, Julie Patten, Debbie Ronnquist, and Judy Mitsui. They are involved with Fair Tide, Inc. an organization which is trying to provide housing and other support to help people work toward being self-sufficient.

There are many people who do not make a living wage and are not able to find adequate housing. They said that a 2-BR apt in our area is typically \$900/mo plus utilities. Fair Tide is currently working to raise funds to buy a 5-unit apartment house in Kittery which would give families a place to live while they work on the skills they need to get jobs that will pay a living wage.

Fair Tide has done a lot of fundraising (\$25,000 so far), the last being an ice cream social, but need to raise \$50,000 more to be able to get a Federal Housing Loan released. They plan to renovate the house to make 3 2-BR apartments for families, a 1-BR handicapped accessible apt., and 1 efficiency apt. for homeless youth. They have a list of the renovations needed and are looking for skilled and un-skilled volunteers as well as money.

The idea for the project started 4 years ago when a young man couldn't find a place to live as there is no low income housing in our area. In the process of trying to help him, a task committee was formed to investigate the needs. It was found that many families are unable to find adequate housing.

In addition to renovations needed to make the apartments livable and cost efficient, it is planned to have laundry facilities and a fenced play area. Residents would pay 30% of their income for a defined period of time. People will apply through York County Community Action. Volunteers are needed to mentor, drive people to appointments, and work with people on job skills.

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TAKE ACTION**