



## **Rotary Star July 22, 2010**

With just two weeks until the Boothbay Harbor Rotary Club's annual Charity Auction and Flea Market, its biggest event of the year, the Club devoted its meeting last Thursday evening to reviewing preparations and insuring that all loose ends were tied up.

Auction Chair Jim Botti opened the discussion by noting that the trailer is filled to capacity – “Step back when you open it,” he warned members – and Doug Harley's garage is approaching that condition.

Arrangements for the tents have been finalized, said Jim, and we will be getting tables from the Y, for which we will need two trucks after breakfast on setup day, Friday, August 6. He asked that he be informed of any requests for last-minute pickups as soon as possible.

Mike Thompson reported the donation of a truck. Otherwise, there is a dearth of big-ticket items.

Publicity chair Marty Helman showed an auction flyer created by Jennifer Page, which is electronically attached to this email – please print it out and post and distribute it wherever appropriate. Jen has also created a FaceBook page for our club which we are using to publicize the Auction – check it out!

A signboard has been placed at Bet's fish fry, which will be moved to the Y after their auction. The smaller signboard will be on the library lawn.

Please notify Marty of any items that would be suitable for Uncle Henry's, so she can publicize them there.

Auction T-shirts and Rotary baseball caps are available; the T-shirts are complimentary to all auction workers, the caps are \$10 each.

Water and Gatorade will be available for auction workers all day Friday and Saturday until the clean-up is finished. Everyone should be sure to keep hydrated.

In addition to the traditional breakfast at 6:30 Friday morning at Sprucewold Lodge, pizza and beverages – adult and otherwise – will be served on the Common at the end of the day on Friday, in lieu of our regular Thursday meeting, which will not take place that week. Cost is \$5 for members, free for non-Rotary volunteers.

Daren Graves reported that security arrangements are in order and the Porta-Potties have been ordered. He has also secured several donations of loam, etc., but noted that delivery can be made only on the peninsula.

Deb Graves put out a call for work gloves for flea market workers, as well as tarps to use in case of rain. As always, large quantities of grocery bags are needed. Big Al says he has “lots of stuff” for us.

The “tool shop” will have a separate entrance this year. Dwight Swisher and Seth Hedgcock report that they are all set, although they, too, would like to have as many tarps as possible; if anyone has a canopy, that would be nice, too.

We have had a “terrific response” from merchants, said silent auction chair Annette Stormont, with many contributions – including some significant ones – from new sources. Closing time for the silent auction will be 11:30 a.m.

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If you would like to learn more about Rotary and about our Club and all the good stuff we do, check out our website: [www.boothbayharborrotary.org](http://www.boothbayharborrotary.org), or find us on FaceBook. Prospective members, visiting Rotarians and guests are always welcome to join us at our weekly meetings, held Thursday nights at our one-of-a-kind Clubhouse at 29 Oak Street in downtown Boothbay Harbor. Conviviality commences around 6:00 p.m., dinner is served promptly at 6:30, and we then have a short business meeting followed by a special speaker. The evening ends at 8:00 p.m.

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President Connie Jones opened the business meeting preceding the program by welcoming visiting Rotarians John Dodge of Rockland, ME, and Tari Conley of Damariscotta-Newcastle, as well as summer Rotarian Michele McLaren of Hudson, NY. Marty Helman noted that Tari is the daughter of Jane Conley, one of the four women who broke the gender barrier at our Club.

Connie then announced a special treat: Three musicians from Houston who were to perform in the Mainly Mozart event at the Opera House later that evening had come by to offer a sample of their program and to urge members to come to their concert, the proceeds of which are for the benefit of the Opera House. Sonja Bruzauskas, accompanied by Anita Kruse and Rodney Waters on piano, then sang “Summertime” from Gershwin’s “Porgy and Bess.” The members’ enthusiastic applause showed their appreciation. Sonja first came to Houston as a Rotary scholar and ended up marrying a local boy and making her home there.

Seth Hedgcock is closing down the bike project for this season, having distributed some 120 bikes. He thanked Bob Raudenbush, Dwight Swisher, Doug Roberts, and Tony Curulla for helping to keep the wheels rolling. He also mentioned significant donations: \$300 from the Club, \$200 from Hannaford, \$150 from the owner of several rental cottages (in appreciation of assistance in putting some of his bikes in shape), \$73.18 contributed by Hannaford customers (organized by Evelyn Andrews), and a \$50 gift card from Wal-Mart.

On July 29 Ginny McKeenzie will present a documentary of a 90-year-old lobsterman. Waiters at the July 22 meeting will be Bob Raudenbush and a player to be named later, with Bob Jacobson as greeter and offering the invocation and Mike Thompson in charge of the program. Monthly assignments for July are steward Foster Stoup, sergeant at arms Annette Stormont, innkeeper Vic Taylor, and 50/50 Bill Kautzmann.

There will be no meeting August 5. Friday, August 6, will start early with a 6:30 a.m. breakfast at Sprucewold Lodge, followed by auction setup on the Common; the auction itself is Saturday, August 7. District Governor Ann Lee Hussey will make her “official visit” and discuss the new Rotary year on Thursday, August 12. And the meeting on August 19 will be a club assembly to wrap up the auction.