

Goodness Gracious - Great Balls of Fire!

By Donna Deos

What could she possibly be talking about this month, you are asking yourself. Well, let me clue you in.

As I write this I get ready to head off to the Rotary District 7870 Annual District Conference, held in Brattleboro, VT this year, and I am contemplating my one-minute speech that I was asked to give on Saturday.

Yes, you read that correctly – I did say one-minute speech. Okay, you can stop laughing now, I too found it extremely funny. For, as you do know me by now, you realize there are no short stories with me! So, I was caught between “do I really have to keep it that short?” And, “Or does the person who asked me know me that well and told me super short so I would be fairly succinct?!” (Most likely the latter.)

Anyway, my one minute speech is about the goodness in the world. I know these days if you look at any form of media (TV, Print, social), all you see or hear about is how awful the world is and all of the bad people and bad things going on. All the vial Hatefulness one could ever fail to contemplate or understand. Well, I gave up TV long ago for this exact reason and I stay away from FaceBook as well except for family photos.

Conversely, as a Rotarian I truly do know about the Goodness in the world. I also know about the Graciousness in the people as well. I know about it because as Rotarians that is what we do. We help others, we make a positive difference in the lives of all those we touch. We do it because we believe in “Service Above Self.” That’s right, the opposite of Selfishness.

We pick up trash on the side of the road, we clean up Rotary



Park alongside the Garden Club, we host a summer concert series at the Gazebo – with the Men’s Club by our side providing food.

We host an annual Car Show – that just happened in May – and an annual Auction in November and sell Christmas Trees in December. We use the proceeds to help others. We provide scholarships, camperships and other community support.

We host a number of events in conjunction with the Bow Schools including a read-in, providing customized books to first graders, career day speeches to older kids, a 4-Way Test speech contest for High School kids. Plus we sponsor the Early Act Club (middle school age Rotarians) and the Interact Club (high school age Rotarians) to foster the ideals of Service Above Self to all age levels and generations.

Now, that’s just what our very own Bow Club does locally. Let’s look at International Service. We provide Clean Water for the World; Shelter Boxes to those surviving traumas of all sorts; build schools in Honduras; provide e-learning tools to children in need in India; medical and dental supplies and treatment to a variety of destinations around the globe; participate in National Immunization Days for eradicating Polio;

Giving you confidence and control in life’s toughest situations.

Call Now!

Donna Deos, LLC
Spiritual Teacher & Transitions Specialist

Counseling, Coaching & Education
for senior citizens and their adult children regarding the challenges of aging

603-224-4178 www.donnadeos.com 1-855-772-2622

and the list goes on.

We also have hosted and sponsored a Student Exchange Program within the District where high school age children spend their senior year abroad. They live in a foreign country with a few different host families during their stay. Likewise, kids from other countries come to the US to experience life here first hand. These kids – usually about 14 per year in our District – form lifelong connections and friendships and they become family with the host families who love and support them during their stay. These are bonds that last their entire lives. How do I know this? Because we just witnessed one of our inbound exchange students graduating college here in the US because one of his host families let him come back to live with them during his college years.

The grant we did to help provide e-learning tools to children in India was done in conjunction with the mother of another of our inbound exchange students who is now the President of a Rotary Club in India. The bonds we form are unbreakable and span the globe and generations.

What better way to find out the truth about a place and its people than to live there amongst

them?! We break down barriers of superstitions, false narratives, negative stereotypes, etc. all by providing a real life experience for the future generations of our world to see firsthand that what they see and hear about a country and its people is often not how that group really is when you actually know them.

The best way to change the world and make it a better place is to lead by example!

Be an example of Goodness and Graciousness.

Complaining and finger pointing really doesn’t help. Boots on the ground, digging in and getting good deeds done is where it’s at! Taking the time to get to know someone and something first hand instead of believing someone else’s take on it is much more valuable.

Likewise, promoting the bad instead of the good only propagates more bad. What the world needs is more people turning off negativity and tuning on positivity.

Goodness and light are prevalent in this world. Need to see it? – watch a Rotarian! Want to be part of it? Join us!

Goodness Gracious! How will I nutshell that into 60 seconds or less?!

*It's been 88 years
Since We First
Opened our doors &
Grevior Furniture
is celebrating
all year long!*

Our 88th Year

Over 35,000 Square Feet of Fine Furniture

Daniel's Amish
FURNITURE 1ST

Southern Motion

FLEXSTEEL
HOME

SMITH BROTHERS

America's MATTRESS

Vaughan-Bassett
furniture company

Serta

440 Central St. Franklin, NH M-F 9:30 am - 5:30 pm
603-934-4159 Sat 9:30 - 5 pm
Sun 11 am - 4pm

Catch a Great Price When You Shop at Grevior Furniture