

# The Windjammer

## News from the Rotary Club of Portland, Maine

Tue Aug 26, 2014

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Hello Loretta! This email has been generated just for you as a member of our club. We hope you enjoy receiving this newsletter!

*Editor David Smith*

*If you have any comments or questions, please contact the editor.*

### Speakers

Aug 29, 2014

**Portland Seadogs**  
What It's Like to be a Player!

Sep 05, 2014

**Gerard Cassidy**  
Comprehensive View and Outlook for the Banking Industry

Sep 12, 2014

**Theo Kalikow, President USM**  
Community Engagement: Public Higher Education - "What's In It For Me?"

Sep 19, 2014

**Profession Charles Norchi, USM**  
Afghanistan

Sep 26, 2014

**Nan Heald, Pine Tree Legal**  
Pine Tree Legal's History and Present

[View entire list...](#)

### Club Executives

President

**Kris Rosado**

First Vice President

**Bowen Depke**

Second Vice President

**Laura Young**

Treasurer

**Scott Blakeslee**

Executive Secretary

**Loretta Rowe**

Immediate Past President

**John Marr**

Sergeant-at-Arms

**Mike Fortunato**

Vocational Service Chair

**Ralph Hendrix**

Director-Term End 2015

**Charlie Frair**

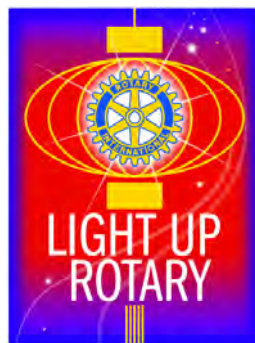
Director-Term End 2015

**Steve Stromsky**

### Stories

#### 08/29/14 MEETING LOCATION

Posted by David Smith on Aug 23, 2014



**FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 2014**

**WE ARE MEETING AT**

**HADLOCK FIELD**

**HOME OF THE**

**PORTLAND SEA DOGS**

#### \*08/29/14 HADLOCK FIELD - PORTLAND SEA DOGS

Posted by Bill Blount on Aug 23, 2014



This week we meet at Hadlock Field, home of the league's first-place Portland Sea Dogs. Since this ball team came to town 21 years ago, we have had a summer meeting every year at Hadlock, all except one. Join us and ask **Bill Blount** why we go there and why we missed one year at the ball field, if you're interested.

The home runs and double plays will be provided by the Franks and Burgers; stolen bases by the Ice-Cream sandwiches, aka Sea Biscuits; and the cheers by Club Members. Bring a friend...prospective member... your children...your parents/grandparents...or extended family...smell the fresh-cut grass...smile in the sunshine...and enjoy some time away from the daily grind.

Speaking to us will be a member or two in the Sea Dogs' organization, sharing their experiences of what it's like to work or play for a minor league baseball team.

Directions: Go to the main gate and signs or ushers will direct you to the meeting site....the picnic area down the first base line. Go Sea Dogs!

Director-Term End 2016  
[Mac Collins](#)

Director-Term End 2016  
[Julie L'Heureux](#)

Community Service Chair  
[Steve Stromsky](#)

International Service Chair  
[John Curran](#)

Youth Service Chair  
[Laura Young](#)

Rotary Foundation  
[Amy Chipman](#)

Administrative Coordinator  
[Elise Hodgkin](#)

Club Protection Officer  
[Kath Grammer](#)

Communications-Bulletin Ed  
[David Smith](#)

Communications-PR (Ext)  
[Tom Talbott](#)

Web Administrator  
[Erik Jorgensen](#)

## Download

» [Maine Outdoor Challenge 2014](#)

» [Membership Application](#)

» [Portland Rotary Constitution](#)

» [Portland Rotary Bylaws](#)

## 08/22/14 Mercy Health System and Eastern Maine Healthcare System

Posted by Richard Hall on Aug 23, 2014

**Dave Small** gave a glowing introduction of both Eileen Skinner, CEO of the Mercy Health System of Maine (MHSM) and Michelle Hood, CEO of Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems (EMHS).

Michelle led off and told us how the health care industry is trying to address the issues of an extremely complicated system. These include:

- a slowly recovering economy;
- employers now offering high-deductible health plans;
- the *Affordable Care Act (ACA)* continuing to change the health care landscape in many areas; and
- an aging population across the country.

Although promised under the ACA, reduced charity care by hospitals in Maine has not happened. Outpatient reimbursement rates were reduced by 10% last year, but without any corresponding reduction in charity care. Employers are shifting costs to employees, especially by way of having higher deductibles and higher co-pays. Some employers are cancelling their own health plans, forcing employees to get coverage through the health care exchanges

Due to higher co-pays, consumers are being more careful, asking for fewer services and delaying care, all of which have an adverse impact on providers. These include lower reimbursements rates, implementation of cost-cutting measures, deferral of capital projects, a shifting to population management, and consolidation of health care facilities to reduce costs and increase efficiency.

Eileen then gave us more information, specifically about MHSM, describing their mission to serve the community, including the poor and disadvantaged. With no expansion of Medicaid in Maine, this is very difficult. MHSM plans to work in partnership with non-government organizations, other health providers, and is now a part of EMHS. Mercy is 100-years old....was founded in 1918 during the flu epidemic. In 1997, it became part of Catholic Health East, and then in 2013 became a member of EMHS. Mercy's flagship is the new hospital on the Fore River. In addition, they have 9 primary-care facilities, 4 urgent-care facilities, and their Mercy Express Care Plus, is located at the Fore River site.



Dave Small, Eileen Skinner (MHSM), Michelle Hood (EMHS)  
and President Kris Rosado

Why partner with EMHS? There was an excellent match in their culture, the mission, and the community-based health approach. EMHS provided complimentary strength and balance, while Mercy will benefit not only from the scale of EMHS, but also from combining their capital needs. Together they

will complete the move to the Fore River location over the next 3-4 years.

EMHS is involved nationally as a health care leader. Their system, as a whole, is based on collaboration, coordination of services, and a strong Maine network. The vision of EMHS is nationally recognized as a model of health care, adopting evidence-based best practices. EMHS has 611 employees, 9 long-term care facilities, life flight, and major ambulance services. They were an early adopter of electronic records, and now have 2 million patient visits per year. They provide a comprehensive integrated delivery network with all services.

EMHS's health care philosophy includes:

- affordable services for all Mainers, using multiple health hubs,
- tele-medicine where reasonable,
- transfer of patients back to their home hospital as soon as possible,
- no interruption of existing referral pattern.

EMHS is a pioneer accountable-care organization, with 93% patient satisfaction, and quality scores in the country. Value-based plan designs were introduced to its own employee plan successfully and have reduced by 50% the people in high-risk. This was done through preventative care and with the right care at the right place and the right time. EMHS is committed to preserving choice for both patients and employees.

#### QUESTIONS:

##### **Is the health of the average Mainer improving?**

Quality scores are not improving. Hospitals still make medication errors. Overall health status is improving, which is evident in longer life, even in the presence of chronic diseases.

##### **What will happen to the building on State Street?**

MHSM will eventually move acute care to Fore-River, but there is no decision yet on what to do with the building.

##### **10 years out- will we still be fighting "Obamacare"?**

The *Affordable Care Act* will have the most changes occurring in the next 2-4 years. It is being redesigned continuously.

##### **How does the number of uninsured people in Maine compare to other parts of country?**

Enrollment through the exchanges has been very successful in Maine. Since there was no expansion of the federal safety net in Maine, we still have a very high number of uninsured.

##### **Doctors are closing their offices and becoming employees of large health care organizations. Where will it end?**

It is difficult for individual physicians' offices to compete, due to the drastic expansion of regulations, and the IT needs of electronic medical records. Doctors want to practice medicine, not manage businesses. They are able to do this by joining hospitals and benefiting from the hospital's size and operational structure. Also, it appears that the generation coming out of medical school wants to focus on medical practice and don't want to manage a very complex business.

##### **Please explain reimbursement from Medicare vs private insurance.**

Commercial insurance pays better, but due to high deductibles, some people cannot afford the deductible, so they also turn into charity care situations. Presently 85% of cost is reimbursed by Medicare, 72% by Medicaid and 120% by commercial insurance companies. This is a significant cost shift. The target of most health care organizations is to have costs be at or below the Medicaid reimbursement rate.

**Alan Nye** provided us with a poignant invocation, recognizing the founding of the Red Cross on this day and expressing the hope that our future will see a diminishing need for the Red Cross to aid those victims of conflict worldwide.

**Laura Young** asked our presenter, Eileen Skinner of Mercy Hospital, to pick the winning raffle ticket: Erik Greven. Sadly, Erik didn't win and the raffle prize continues to grow.



Among today's Rotarian guests were John and Juanita Cawley of the West Point, VA., Rotary Club, visiting Maine on vacation. Juanita exchanged a Rotary club banner with **President Kris**.

**John**

**Curran**, International Service Committee chair, announced that the benefit concert with the Dominican Republic (DR) band on Wednesday evening brought in \$2400 of contributions for the DR 3-H programs. The concert was a joint effort with the Brunswick, Freeport, and Topsham Rotary clubs.

**Dick Giles** gave us a 'Rotary Moment,' reflecting on how he became involved in the H2O project in the Dominican Republic. He described his involvement as, "The best vacation I ever had." The 2014 goals are ambitious: to install 195 water filters in residences in the DR. **Dick** urges us to get involved in this terrific program.

**Laura Young** and **Bowen Depke** gave us an update on the "Childhood Hunger and Education (CHE)" program that the club had voted to concentrate its efforts on over the next 3-5 years. The program is off to a great start with our working with the United Way this summer on two "feed and read" locations for 6/7-year olds in Portland. A steering committee has been established to help develop future programs.



**Amy Chipman**, Foundation Committee chair, introduced two Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) award winners from this year's "Circle of 5" groups that participate with donations to the Rotary Foundation.

**Don Lowry** and **Loretta Rowe** were selected by their respective "Circle."

**Don** gave his PHF award to **Harry Sawyer**, making him a 6-time Paul Harris Fellow.

**Loretta** gave her Paul Harris award (plus another one that she had already accumulated) to her two young grandsons, Hunter and Tanner Edson. She gave each young man a Paul Harris medallion in a moving ceremony that reminded us of the importance of introducing younger generations to Rotary. Loretta's daughter and son-in-law, Christine and Jerred Edson,



were beaming as their sons (and possible future Rotarians) received the awards with pride and dignity.



For more information on how you can participate in a "Circle of 5," contact Amy at [amy.chipman@rbc.com](mailto:amy.chipman@rbc.com)

#### 08/29/14 THIS WEEK'S DUTY ASSIGNMENTS

Posted by Loretta Rowe on Aug 23, 2014



**Invoker:** Julie L'Heureux  
**Program/Speaker Reporter:** Erik Jorgensen  
**Bits & Pieces Reporter:** Julie L'Heureux  
**Registration:** Rich Campbell  
**Meal Ticket Sales:** Loretta Rowe  
**Greeter:** Scott Blakeslee  
**Raffle:** Lester Evans  
**Music - Song Leader:** Bill Blount  
**Music - Piano Player:** None  
**Sgt-at-Arms - Early:** Peter Noyes  
**Sgt-at-Arms - Late:** Charlie Frair

#### 2014 ON-THE-ROAD LOCATIONS FOR PORTLAND ROTARY MEETINGS

Posted by Loretta Rowe on Aug 23, 2014

Rotary year....2014-15.

If you would like to mark your calendars for where our meetings will be held, we are at the following locations through the end of the year:

Aug 29 - Hadlock Field

Sep 5 - The Clarion

Sep 12 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay

Sep 19 - The Clarion

Sep 26 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay

Oct 3 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay

Oct 10 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay

Oct 17 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay

Oct 24 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay

Oct 31 - The Clarion

Nov 7 - The Clarion

Nov 14 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay



**Nov 21 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay**

Nov 28 - NO MEETING - Happy Thanksgiving!

Dec 5 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay

Dec 12 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay

**Dec 19 - Holiday Inn By-the-Bay**

Dec 26 - NO MEETING - Happy Holidays

Dates that are in **bold** are scheduled Board of Directors' meeting days.

Any questions, please contact Loretta at: [lrowe@maine.rr.com](mailto:lrowe@maine.rr.com)

**Laugh Corner!**

Posted by Loretta Rowe on Aug 26, 2014



**New Member Applications**

Posted by Loretta Rowe on Aug 23, 2014

Proposed new member applications are posted to our home page for you to

review and provide any feedback to the Membership Chairperson (Harold Crabill) or the Club Secretary (Loretta Rowe). Click on the appropriate "Proposed New Member Applications" title at left, under the "Site Pages" heading.

#### **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Posted by Loretta Rowe on Aug 16, 2014

The meeting minutes of the Portland Rotary Club's Board of Directors are posted on our website the month following their approval. From the "Home Page," click on the "Board Meeting Minutes" in the listing at the left.

#### **Missed a Program? Catch it on CTN Cable TV!**

Posted by David Smith on Aug 23, 2014



You can watch our recent Portland Rotary Club speakers on the Community Television Network website:

<http://ctn5.org/shows/rotary-club-speakers-series>

You can always find the link on the Portland Rotary Home Page!

### **Loretta's Commitments**

#### **Duty Roster**

#### **Responsibility**

Meal Ticket Sales

#### **Current Club Committees**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Role</b>
CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS	Member