

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

April 19, 2017

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

April 26 – Jen Fullmer, USAF, Ret., Boots 2 Roots

May 3 – Ed Googins, SP Chief of Police

May 10 – Dutch Dresser, Wood Pellet Heating

ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>April 26</u>	<u>May 3</u>	<u>May 10</u>
Opening Words	Wagner	Yerxa	Swift-Kayatta
Raffle Gift	S Irving	Knupp	Kubeck
Conductor	Livingston	LoBosco	Lourie

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

April 27 (Thursday); 4:45 – 8:00 (first hour is social only) – Visioning Workshop at South Portland Housing Authority for anyone interested in the vision process, strategic planning and leadership development. The \$10 fee includes a light dinner and will be paid by our club. Please join other club members and Rotarians from across the District in a working session that will benefit you professionally, as well as the club.

April 29 (Saturday) – Planting at Fort Williams picnic shelter – see Tom Meyers email to sign up.

April 29 – 1st Presidential Seaside Duathlon, Kennebunk Rotary (duathlon = 5k run, 16 mile bike ride, then 5k run)

May 1 (Monday), 7 p.m. – Orientation for all new members (definition of “new” – if you haven’t been to an orientation yet, this is for you) at the Irvings’ home, 27 Crescent View Ave, CE (behind Kettle Cove Dairy Bar)

May 9 – Soup Kitchen – please sign up online or on the sign-up sheet at club meetings.

May 10 (SP) and 11 (CE) – Public Works Luncheons – sign-ups will be posted.

May 19-21 – District Conference, Samoset, Rockport – register on District 7780 website.

What's New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to Joan Frustaci (4/27)

Happy Birthday and Happy May Day to Hugh O'Shea

How is "Marge" Doing? – Even though the accomplishments of our District and all the clubs in our District are very much a collective effort, we have a tendency in Rotary to identify the achievements each year with the person who is District Governor that year. So how is Marge (really all of us) doing in accomplishing her goal of donations to The Rotary Foundation?

Annual Fund:

District 7780 Goal = \$170,876

Actual through 4/15 = **\$166,879.64**

% of Goal Achieved = 97.66%

Polio Plus:

District 7780 Goal = \$44,060

Actual through 4/15 = **\$52,226.91**

% of Goal Achieved = 118.54%

Way to go, "Marge!" With many Rotarians and clubs making their donations at the end of the Rotary year (June 30), there is no doubt that "Marge" will far surpass her goal!

Speaking of our District – Where would one go to:

- ✓ Celebrate the achievements of the current Rotary year,
- ✓ Meet old and new friends around the District who helped accomplish those achievements,
- ✓ Be entertained,
- ✓ Learn about topical issues and how Rotary can address them,
- ✓ Have fun,
- ✓ Play golf at one of the finest golf course in the east,
- ✓ Enjoy the oceanfront views at one of the most scenic spots in Maine (along with our towns of course)?

All of these will be happening at the District Conference at the Samoset in Rockport from May 19-21. Registration for the conference is on the District 7780 website – registration deadline is May 1.

Rotary's "Finest Hour" – When I first joined Rotary in the early 90's, every now and then I would run in to someone who had attended the Philadelphia convention in 1988. They would describe what a magical event it was and how fortunate they felt to have been part of it. Here's the story of the convention that happened three years after the Foundation had made the decision to raise \$120 million in three years:

More than 16,000 Rotarians from every continent jammed into the Philadelphia Convention Center on May 24, 1988. While they enjoyed the entertainment and workshops and inspiring speakers, every single attendee had one question on his or her mind: “Did we make it?” The cavernous hall was ringed with large white unlit light bulbs. Promptly at 11:00, President Charles Keller introduced International PolioPlus Campaign Committee Chair Les Wright, who in turn brought Walter Maddocks onto the stage.

Maddocks began calling the names of each of the 44 national committees around the world. As a graphic of each geographic region flashed onto giant screens, Maddocks announced the total raised in cash and pledges. For each \$100,000 reported – enough to immunize 800,000 children – a “victory light” flashed on in the convention hall. Every report drew cheers and applause from the standing-room-only crowd.

All the lights down one side of the hall were illuminated, and then those across the rear began to light up as each national coordinator reported his numbers. A huge cheer reverberated through the convention center after the 34th national committee’s report came in: Canada, with a goal of \$4,211,000 had far surpassed that and reported \$7,323,525. Forty-three of the 44 national chairs had reported in. There was only one left. Had the United States been able to raise the remaining \$20 million to reach the \$120 million goal?

The tension was palpable, the silence absolute as Maddocks announced: “At 12:20 p.m. today, the 24th of May 1988, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, I can tell you that the USA PolioPlus Campaign Committee, with a goal of \$78 million, have exceeded that goal and raised \$119,186,869 – we’re over goal!”

People could hardly believe they had heard the correct number. But every one of the lights was flashing, setting off firecrackers on stage. Fifteen thousand balloons dropped from the ceiling as a marching band paraded into the hall. Everybody was clapping and hugging and screaming and dancing in the aisles and embracing one another – and more than a few tears were shed. By the time late-reporting clubs and unconfirmed contributions came in, the PolioPlus campaign had raised \$247 million. Rotary not only had met but had doubled the commitment it made to world leaders in October 1985.

The result stunned everybody in the nongovernmental organization and charitable fields. No doubts remained at Rotary’s partner agencies about Rotary’s ability to muster its members to deliver on their promises to humankind.

This is Rotary’s “finest hour,” declared RI President Charles Keller. And there was not a single dissenting opinion.

From Doing Good In The World, the Inspiring Story of The Rotary Foundation’s First 100 Years by David C. Forward.

**ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH
PORTLAND/CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE**

www.sp-ce-rotary.org

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DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR

Marge Barker
Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth