

# TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth  
February 21, 2018

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

February 28 – Jonathan Sahrbeck; Human Trafficking in Maine  
March 7 – Peace Jam Update  
March 14 – AJ Frustaci, Traveling Through Southeast Asia

## ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>February 28</u>	<u>March 7</u>	<u>March 14</u>
Opening Words	Mutty	Piper	Ray
Raffle Gift	Britt	Callahan	Conroy
Conductor	Daniels	Davidson	Daviero

*Our guest speaker, John Grew, drew the winning ticket – his own! He won a gift certificate to LL Bean donated by Frank Butterworth.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

**March 1-12** – Maine Restaurant Week.

**March 24, 7:30 – 3:30** – Rotary Leadership Institute, York County Community College, Wells (a great opportunity to learn more about Rotary!)

**April 7** – District Training Assembly, York County Community College

**April 12, 6 – 8 p.m.** – “Vision to Plan” workshop at South Portland Housing Authority, 100 Waterman Drive

**April 25** – tree seedlings arrive – not sure if we’re planting them on this day or a later day – or whether at Bug Light or Fort Williams – stay tuned for more information.

**May 4-6** - District Conference, Mount Washington Hotel

**June 23-27** – Rotary International Convention, Toronto

## *What’s New With Our Members*

*Happy Birthday to Dick Yerxa (March 6)*

*Enjoy the warm sunshine, President Sue as you travel around Florida!*

*Alec Livingston sends greetings through Sarah Higgins - we miss you, Alec!*

**President's Discretionary Fund** – Perhaps a misnomer because it's not spent at the President's discretion but at YOUR discretion. Each of us in the club has a **\$50** allotment to spend in a charitable way – no approval is needed from the Board or anyone else. It can go to a charity or to an individual – it's up to you. Some examples of how people have used their vouchers in the past include:

- Preble Street (soup kitchen)
- South Portland Food Cupboard
- Peace Jam
- Friends of Casco Bay
- SMCC students seeking asylum (and therefore ineligible for conventional financial aid)

These are just examples – people have used them for a wide variety of worthy causes. To use your “voucher” (actually a virtual voucher – the voucher itself doesn't exist), spend the \$50 in the way that you want to and then ask Nancy Irving to reimburse you.

**Whooo's Interested in Birds** (if you attended this week's meeting, you know that I stole Maine Audubon's pun) – Our speaker this week was John Grew, who retired to Maine just a year ago from Indiana, and has become very active as a volunteer for Maine Audubon. It was refreshing to hear from someone from “away” who has such a passion for Maine and our beautiful natural environment. A healthy natural environment is key to our state's economic vitality and Maine Audubon (in collaboration with many other organizations) aims to promote that through Education, Conservation and Advocacy. Maine Audubon has 7 chapters with over 10,000 members; they depend heavily on volunteers for some of their projects, especially the Loon Count and the Brook Trout Survey. For instance the annual Loon Count involves over 900 volunteers (who counted up over 3200 adult loons).

**“Frightened of Grass”** – This month's End Polio Now newsletter has an article about the Belfast (Northern Ireland) Rotary Club's event to mark the anniversary of the 1957 polio epidemic in that city. To most people polio is a historical disease, but the article recounts the stories of 3 woman who contracted the disease as babies, and for whom the local Rotary club had helped with rehabilitation. Here's part of Heather Scott's story:

“The polio outbreak happened in 1957. Lots of children were affected by it in Belfast and I was 14 months old when I was diagnosed. I had only started walking but I was dragging my leg and I had a temperature, so my mammy took me to the doctor, who sent me over to the Belfast Children's Hospital because of the epidemic.



**ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH  
PORTLAND/CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE**  
[www.sp-ce-rotary.org](http://www.sp-ce-rotary.org)

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