

# TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

November 1, 2017

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

November 8 – RI PolioPlus Chair Michael McGovern – The End of Polio is Near!

November 15 – Classification Talks, Ursula Schmidt & Michael Geneseo

November 22 – NO MEETING

## ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>November 8</u>	<u>November 15</u>	<u>November 29</u>
Opening Words	Knupp	Kubeck	Landry
Raffle Gift	Tranfaglia	Veroneau	Wagner
Conductor	Albert	Anderson	Altenburg

*Congratulations to Jim Britt who won a gift certificate to the Foreside Tavern donated by Bob Knupp.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

**November 7 – Election Day**

**November 7 – 6:00 p.m. Cape Elizabeth Lion's Club Dinner at Bowery Beach Schoolhouse. Cost is \$14 pp. See the email from Doug Schauf inviting you to sign up online.**

**November 9 – Membership Committee meeting at Laurenz's house (tentative; confirm with Laurenz if you're on the committee)**

**November 11 – Rotary UN Day**

**November 14 – Soup Kitchen – please sign up online.**

**November 18 – Tree Lot Set-up**

**November 26 – 1<sup>st</sup> Tree Unloading**

**December 2 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Tree Unloading**

## What's New With Our Members

*Happy Birthday, Nicole (11/13)*

*Happy Anniversary, Adrienne & Steve Murphy (11/12)*

*Congratulations to Phil Dube & Tom Meyers who were the tied winners in the Week 8 football pool (For those curious, Tom's method of picking winners - so he says - is the dartboard method.)*

**Do It Anyway** – Bob Danielson gave the opening words this week, which are attributed to Mother Teresa. They seemed to resonate with everyone so I'm reprinting them here:

- \* People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.
- \* If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.
- \* If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. Succeed anyway.
- \* If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. Be honest and sincere anyway.
- \* What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. Create anyway.
- \* If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. Be happy anyway.
- \* The good you do today, will often be forgotten. Do good anyway.
- \* Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. Give your best anyway.
- \* In the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.

**Soup Kitchen Sign-up** – You can now sign up online directly at the Preble Street Soup Kitchen's website. However if you can only serve for part of the event, continue to sign up on our own website *by Friday morning* and David Lourie will communicate this information to Preble Street.

**Get Out and Vote!** – Our speaker this week was Linda Cohen, former South Portland City Clerk and currently serving on the SP City Council. In addition, on January 1 Linda will become president of the Maine Municipal Association, which is made up of just under 500 Maine municipalities and plantations. We also know Linda as the mother of April Cohen who is the president of the SP-CE Buy Local. *(I was sitting next to Bev and she commented that we couldn't do WinterFest without April – she is a HUGE help!)*

Linda spoke about several aspects of the voting process, including the potential for voter fraud. She served on a statewide election commission a few years ago that held hearings and took testimony – the only instance of proven voter fraud that came to their attention was a father who filled out absentee ballots for his kids in college. Linda described all the controls over the voting process, and noted that Maine has some of the best municipal clerks in the country. Other topics Linda covered were:

- Absentee ballots – a few years ago the rules were changed such that you no longer need a reason to vote absentee. Clerks have been flooded with absentee ballots since that change, creating much more work for them. Fortunately the rules were also changed recently to allow them to begin processing the ballots prior to election day.
- Early Voting - this is where you actually cast your vote at city hall and put the ballot into the voting machine yourself, but you're allowed to do it before the actual election day. Maine pilot-tested this procedure a few years ago. It was wildly successful and the clerks lobbied the legislature to change the law to allow for this but they were unsuccessful.
- Machines – they are all stand-alone and not connected to each other. The clerks are required to test the machines with sample ballots prior to each election. Linda has never known the machine count to be in error – when there are discrepancies in recounts (which are always done by hand), it is always due to human error.

Linda also encouraged us to volunteer to help with elections. As residents of Cumberland County, we can volunteer at any polling place in the county.

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

[www.sp-ce-rotary.org](http://www.sp-ce-rotary.org)

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