

Rotary Club of South Portland - Cape Elizabeth August 22, 2018



UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

August 29 - Meeting at SP Boys & Girls Club - NOT at Purpoodock

ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>August 29</u>	September 5	September 12
Opening Words	Callahan	Conroy	Cotter
Raffle Gift	McDonald	McGovern	Meyers
Conductor	Mutty	Nadirli	O'Shea

If you had to guess who won the raffle this week, you'd undoubtedly guess right – yes, it was President Fran ... AGAIN!!! This time it was a gift certificate to CSalt Gourmet donated by Liam McCoy.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

September 8, 9-3 – Maine Open Lighthouse Day – open house at Bug Light. See sign-up email; most shifts are only 2 hours. A great way to meet not only your neighbors but people from all over the country!

September 15 – Tree planting work party

September 21 – Theater Night, Little Shop of Horrors

September 22 – Work party at Ft. Williams for tree rack maintenance, followed by picnic. You don't have to work in order to attend the picnic, but if you do plan to attend the picnic, please respond so that there will be enough food.

September 20-22 – Zone Conference, Montreal

What's New With Our Members

Happy Anniversary to

- 🕺 Kathy & Peter Cotter August 29
- A John & Sue LoBosco August 31

Get Well, Cap'n Lloyd! We wish you a speedy recovery as you recover from a fractured hip. (If you want to send your own card, his address is Lloyd Knight, 11 Oakview Drive, Cape Elizabeth)

Congratulations to Phil Dube, who was honored by the club with a Paul Harris Fellow + 2 pin in recognition of his many years of service to the club as its Sergeant-at-Arms!

DON'T COME TO PURPOODOCK NEXT WEEK... – because we won't be there! We're meeting next week at the South Portland Boys & Girls Club on Broadway. We will meet at the regular time, at the regular cost for dinner. Come enjoy a tour and hear about what happens at the B/G Club. It is very fitting that we'll be meeting here – AND that the meal will be catered by DiPietro's, since Sam DiPietro and our club were responsible for founding the SP B/G club.

"Mainers Together" – Lucas Desmond introduced our speaker this week, Claude Rwaganje, Executive Director of Prosperity ME. Claude was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo and came to Maine as an asylum seeker 22 years ago. Among the many other honors that he has received, he was named by the Portland Press Herald as one of 10 "Mainers to be Thankful for." Claude is "from away," as many of us are, but he encourages us to abandon that mindset and think about "Mainers together." He founded Community Financial Literacy ten years ago, in response to the obvious need for immigrants such as himself to learn more about the US financial systems – what is a 401(k)? what does it mean to co-sign a loan? Etc. The organization has just recently changed its name to Prosperity ME, The Center for Financial Education, in recognition of the fact that mere financial literacy is not enough – they want to help immigrants to get a good education and to pursue the "American dream." They have six employees with offices in Lewiston and Portland. They offer basic financial management and financial counseling, and have just recently started an interest-free loan program for security deposits and a scholarship fund for asylum seekers.

<u>YOU Can Spend the Club's Money</u> – President Fran's budget continues a program which was started when Kathy Cotter's husband Peter was the club president. It sets aside money for any member of the club to spend \$50 on a charitable need without getting permission from anybody. It can be to an established charity, but it doesn't have to be. For instance if you happen to find

out about someone who is in great need of a financial helping hand (for example due to medical costs), you can give them money and be reimbursed by the club. Or you can give to an established vehicle for helping people in need such as ProsperityME's scholarship fund, the B/G club, the Food Cupboard... the list goes on and on! You can give the money personally and ask Nicole to reimburse you, or give her the name and address of the recipient and ask her to send a club check.

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH PORTLAND/CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE <u>www.sp-ce-rotary.org</u>

<u>Officers</u> President – Fran Bagdasarian President-Elect – David Lourie Vice President – Anamaria Gonzalez Salguero Secretary – Kathy Cotter Treasurer – Nicole Albert

<u>Directors</u> Club Administration – Michael Geneseo Community Service – Bob Knupp Membership – Laurenz Schmidt International & Foundation – Chuck Redman Youth Services – Hugh O'Shea Director-At-Large – Sue Sturtevant

> <u>Committee Chairs</u> Publicity – Sarah Higgins Bulletin Editor – Nancy Hawes Program Chair – David Bagdasarian

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT Barry Rassin Rotary Club of East Nassau, Bahamas

DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR John LoBosco Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth