

# TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

April 17, 2019



*Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.*

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

April 24 – Chris Cary, New England Ocean Cluster

May 1 – Terry Hayes, Hospitality Maine

## ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>April 24</u>	<u>May 1</u>	<u>May 8</u>
Opening Words	McDonald	McGovern	McKenna
Raffle Gift	Conroy	Cotter	Butler
Conductor	Davidson	Daviero	Desmond
Set Up #1	Schauf	U Schmidt	Speh
Set Up #2	L. Schmidt	V Schmidt	Sprague

*Ray Healey (H-E-A-L-E-Y) won a gift certificate to TrueValue hardware donated by Catherine Callahan.*

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

**April 20, 8-3:30** – Rotary Leadership Institute, York County Community College, Wells

**April 24, 12-2 or 5:30-7** – Open House at South Portland Food Cupboard (if you intend to go, please call ahead if you can)

**May 18** – Bug Light Kite Festival; Bug Light will be open for tours

**May 20 (Monday)** – Seniors Lunch at McKernan Center, SMCC

**May 29** – Antique Car Show at Bug Light (open for tours)

**June 15** – Family Fun Day, Fort Williams Park

**June 21-22, 2019** – RotaryFest 2019! District Conference at Fort Williams. Free event for the whole family – plan to attend!! Register online at District 7780 webpage.

**June 30** – Cape Elizabeth Land Trust Art for Preservation (we will help park cars)

### *What's New With Our Members*

*Happy Birthday to*

🇮🇹 *Bill Daviero April 25*

🇮🇹 *Joanie Frustaci - April 27*

*Congratulations to Jim Britt, who finally got a job (!) and is the new Communications Director for the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry!*

*Congratulations to Sue Sturtevant, whose generosity enabled her to receive a Paul Harris Fellow +2 pin! The contribution that brought her to that level was made in memory of her friend Polly from her Rotary club in Connecticut.*



**Remembering Sally Campbell** – Bill Daviero had the unenviable task of delivering the opening words at the first meeting after the death of our dear friend Sally Campbell, wife of Tony Wagner. He rose to the challenge masterfully with a beautiful selection about finding God in the midst of pain. And what could be more fitting in remembering Sally’s life than to talk about God. As Tony said, “she had God in her an awful lot, and used that to help a lot of folks.” That pretty much captures Sally in a nutshell – we will miss this beautiful soul.

**Welcome Karen!** – This week we welcomed Karen Vachon into the club. Karen is a licensed health insurance agent and a former member of the Maine State Legislature. She lives in Scarborough with her husband Peter and has 3 adult sons. She was thrilled to get the Rotary sun visor and looks forward to getting it dirty at the Bug Light gardens maintained by our club!



**In the News!** – Our club (its members and former members anyway) is on a streak – we (our members and former members anyway) have been mentioned two months in a row in The Rotarian magazine! Last week it was the interview with Mike McGovern about polio, and this month there is a great article on page 14 about our district’s efforts to destigmatize opioid recovery, featuring Chief MacKenzie and Ben Lowry who spoke at our club recently. They didn’t actually mention Ursula and Fran by name, but we know the reporters had them in mind! At the back of the magazine (page 57) is an article about a Rotary club in Boston (Rotary Club of Evening Downtown) made up of young people, one of whom is Samantha Drivas, granddaughter of former SP-CE Rotarian Peter Drivas. “Samantha...remembers helping him (her grandfather) sell Christmas trees as a club fundraiser. ‘I wanted to be a Rotarian from age five,’ she remembers.”

**Segue into Membership Issues** – The article just mentioned above is about a Rotary club that is bucking the expectation that young people are only interested in meeting online and don’t want to meet in person. They have departed from the typical club format though in that they hold regular meetings only once a month (but supplement it with monthly social events and frequent volunteer events). The evolution of membership-related trends and requirements was the topic of our speaker this week, Mike McGovern. Dave Bagdasarian reeled off many of Mike’s qualifications in his introduction but there were so many I couldn’t get them all down. Suffice it to say that he has held many high level positions in Rotary, the current one being the chair of Rotary’s PolioPlus Committee, but the Rotary title he’s fondest of is “member of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary.”

Among the points that Mike made (on the slides operated by Jack) were:

- Rotary has about 1.2 million members and this has remained fairly constant for several years.

- Last year there was an unwelcome development in that more people left Rotary (170,000) than joined Rotary (160,000).
- The percentage of total Rotarians who are from the US has declined by a few percentage points in the past 10 years, while there has been a corresponding increase in Asia.
- Worldwide 22% of Rotarians are female; the percentage for our own club is 35%
- Our club is one of a minority that is seeing an increase in membership.
- Over half of the members who leave Rotary have been Rotarians for less than two years.

Mike gave a brief description of the Council on Legislation (which was meeting in Illinois this week) which controls the rules governing membership (meeting frequency, attendance requirements, etc.). At its session three years ago it determined that each club should have the right to set its own rules. Which is why the Rotary Club of Evening Downtown is able to be a full-fledged Rotary club even though it only meets once a month.

Mike also gave us an update on polio eradication – there are still two countries (Pakistan, Afghanistan) where polio is still endemic. I hate to jinx it by putting it on paper but he mentioned that there have been no new cases in the last month – but the environmental samples suggest that there will probably be more cases before polio is eradicate.

**Last but not least – don't forget your "vouchers"** – For new members (and as a reminder to experienced members) – every club member has a \$50 "voucher" of club money that they are allowed to use in any charitable way that they choose. It does not have to be approved by the board – it's your choice! To use your voucher, either give Nicole instructions on where to send your \$50, or donate your own money and ask Nicole to reimburse you. An ideal way to use the vouchers is to give the money to someone that you are aware of in a financially difficult situation (e.g. extraordinary medical expenses) because in general the board's miscellaneous giving guidelines don't allow the board to give money to individuals (other than through established programs like RYLA or scholarships). As an alternative you could give the money to a charity. It does not have to be a charity that the club itself already supports but it can be. (Speaking as an ex-treasurer, many people used to give their voucher to the Food Cupboard, for example.) You have until the end of this Rotary year (June 30) to use your voucher if you haven't done so already.

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

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

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