

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

May 15, 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:

May 22 – Sheila Rollins, Rotaract service trip to Puerto Rico

May 29 – Club Assembly

June 5 – Andrea Southworth, Ecology Manager at Fort Williams Park

ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>May 22</u>	<u>May 29</u>	<u>June 5</u>
Opening Words	Mutty	Nadirli	O'Shea
Raffle Gift	Danielson	Davidson	Daviero
Conductor	Egner	Frustaci	Geneseo
Set Up #1	Vachon	Speh	Albert
Set Up #2	Veroneau	Yerxa	Altenburg

Would you believe that President Fran won the raffle AGAIN! - a gift certificate to Ocean House Pizza donated by Rich Daniels.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

May 18 – 9 a.m., 20 Gooch Street, Biddeford – re-scheduled Crutches4Africa loading

May 18 – Bug Light Kite Festival; Bug Light will be open for tours. Sign up on the club website.

May 20 (Monday) – Seniors Lunch at McKernan Center, SMCC. Kathy Cotter reports that we have enough volunteers.

May 29 – note that we were originally going to have a Bug Light open house but this has been CANCELLED.

June 11 (Tuesday) – “Feeding Neighbors in Need” – a benefit concert for the South Portland Food Cupboard featuring the Don Campbell Band. 7-10 at Aura, tickets are \$35

June 15 – Family Fun Day, Fort Williams Park. Note that shifts will only be 2 hours this year so we will need more volunteers.

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

Welcome back (or bienvenue!) to Sue Sturtevant from 2 weeks in France.

Welcome home to AJ Frustaci who surprised Joanie on Mother's Day and is now home for good??

Thank you to the club members who helped raze a shed at the Cotter home last weekend.

What is a WASRAG? – No it's not what my grandmother used to call the little square of cloth you use for cleaning. And it's not a typo. WASRAG stands for Water And Sanitation Rotarian Action Group. It's a group formed in 2007 to connect Rotarians interested in water and sanitation projects, to facilitate collaboration and share best practices. They will be meeting on May 31 in Hamburg right before the International Convention. Other acronyms in this area include:

- WASH – Water And Sanitation Hygiene; a shorthand way of describing the whole issue
- WinS – WASH in Schools; a pilot program to motivate Rotary clubs to develop sustainable WASH and education projects.
- HANWASH – Haiti National Clean Water, Sanitation and Health Strategy; a collaboration between Rotarians, The Rotary Foundation and a Haiti government agency to bring coordinated WASH projects through all of Haiti.

Why so many people working on this problem?

Today 2.1 billion people lack access to safely managed drinking water services and 4.5 billion people lack safely managed sanitation services. Unsafe hygiene practices are widespread, compounding the effect on people's health. The impact on child mortality rates is devastating with more than 340,000 children under five who die annually from diarrheal diseases due to poor sanitation, poor hygiene, or unsafe drinking water – that is almost 1,000 per day. *(from UN Water website)*

Enter Bath Rotary! – Our guests this week were Lee Patenaude and Richard Cromwell from the Bath Rotary Club. After retiring Richard began to travel, and while in Cambodia happened to meet an orphan and saw his appalling living conditions. After several trips to Cambodia and fundraising efforts, he succeeded in building a beautiful new home for the orphanage children. But after spending so much time in Cambodia, he was aware of the critical need for WASH projects, particularly in the rural far north of the country. With money raised from The Rotary Foundation, Bath Rotary, other Rotary clubs in the district and GoFundMe, and help from Water for Cambodia (a nonprofit founded and funded by Rotarians), he was able to coordinate an effort to bring a holistic intervention to three of the villages with the most need. This approach included:

- ✓ Building community acceptance
- ✓ School-based hygiene education, including installation of handwashing stations (“tippy-taps”)
- ✓ Building 19 wells, each serving 30 families
- ✓ Building 100 latrines
- ✓ Installing biosand filters (basically a mini-septic system) to purify the well water

Richard noted that as soon as the water had been purified by the biosand filters, the villagers saw an immediate improvement in their health. He was heartened to find out that when he returned 8 months later, not only were all the wells still in use, but two of them had broken in the meantime and the villagers had fixed them themselves. We were all very impressed at the dedication that Richard has put into these projects, and it gave us warm fuzzies to hear firsthand about the way that money we donate to the Rotary Foundation is actually changing lives.



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

www.sp-ce-rotary.org

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