

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
October 3, 2018



UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

October 17 – Don Oakes, Sea Bags
October 24 - Luke & Jeff Holden, Luke's Lobster
Halloween – Club Assembly

ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>October 17</u>	<u>October 24</u>	<u>Halloween</u>
Opening Words	Danois	Davidson	Daviero
Raffle Gift	Nadirli	O'Shea	Ray
Conductor	Roberts	Schauf	L. Schmidt

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

October 17 – Board meeting

October 24 – World Polio Day. Livestream event from Philadelphia.

November 3 – District Joint Foundation & Membership Seminar, Husson University. Rotary Foundation Trustee Julia Phelps will be a featured speaker.

November 3, 5-6:30 – Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser for the Windham Veteran's Center sponsored by Sebago Lake Rotary Club

November 9 (Friday) at noon – Portland Rotary Club Veterans Appreciation Lunch, Holiday Inn by the Bay. \$25 pp BUT meal is complimentary for all veterans.

June 21-22, 2019 – District Conference at Fort Williams

Bob Knupp won an Amazon gift card donated by Marc Mutty.

What's New With Our Members

Congratulations to "Silver Dollar Dan" McDonald who scored 10 correct in the football pool and beat Bob Knupp in the tiebreaker. Unfortunately he was not able to collect the trophy because Sarah Flying Carpet Higgins conveniently "forgot" to bring it in (maybe she left at the Bruins game?)

It's Crutch Time! – Thanks go out to a half dozen SP-CE Rotarians who joined with 25 others from around the District to load crutches etc. into a container to be shipped to Ghana (courtesy of \$6,000 provided by the Portsmouth club to cover shipping costs). They loaded 1456 crutches, 661 walkers, 686 canes and 432 other assorted devices. Helping from our club were:

- ❖ Bill Daviero
- ❖ David Lourie
- ❖ Phil Dube
- ❖ Patty Sprague
- ❖ Rich Daniels
- ❖ Tony Wagner

These pictures are from FaceBook; I think Pam Gray from Kittery (next year's District "First Lady") took them.



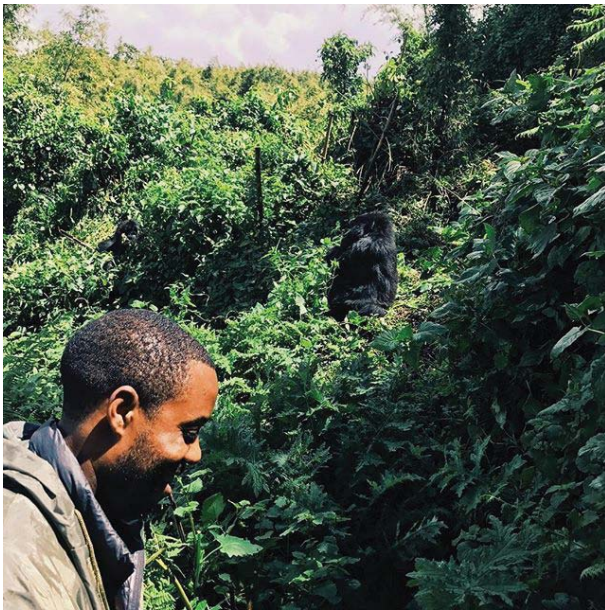
Old Business – During our hiatus at the end of September, we had a work day in which we did maintenance on the tree racks. Many club members showed up to work outdoors in the beautiful weather: Nicole Albert, Bev Altenburg, Bill Anderson, Fran Bagdasarian, Dave Bagdasarian, Jim Britt, Kathy Cotter, Dan Davidson, Phil Dube, Betty Egner, Mike Geneseo, Anamaria Gonzalez, Nancy Irving, Scott Irving, Bob Knupp, Bill Lohrman, David Lourie, Liam McCoy, Dan McDonald, Adrienne Murphy, Marc Mutty, Chuck Redman, Sybil Riemensnider, Doug Schauf, Ellie Speh, Patty Sprague, Patrick Veroneau, Tony Wagner and Bill York. Thanks also to Sybil for arranging for lunch at the picnic shelter afterwards.

A Meeting Not to be Missed – We have a whole lot of outstanding speakers at our Rotary meetings, but every once in a while we have one that knocks our socks off. Well by the end of last night's meeting, all of us were metaphorically barefoot after hearing Mike Mwendata's amazing story! Mike is a native of Rwanda and immigrated to the US (he has dual citizenship) in 2010 – coming to Boston in the winter in a t-shirt and having no clue as to what all that white

stuff on the ground was. His first apartment in Portland didn't have internet so he spent a lot of time at Coffee by Design in order to use their internet. He was astonished at how much money people paid for a cup of coffee because he knew that so little of that money (in fact just 1%) reaches the farmers in his home country where coffee is the primary crop. So he got the idea of creating a business that sells coffee, but purchases directly from a co-op of farmers from Rwanda – the result is Rwanda Bean which currently has 3 coffee shops (one is in the former Cherished Possessions) and also sells coffee wholesale.

Mike received a lot of help from friends in Rwanda after his parents and 7 older siblings were killed in the Rwandan genocide. As a result he is very determined to help the people of Rwanda, especially the coffee farmers and their family. To that end, he invests 50% of the business' profits in projects in Rwanda. So far these projects include helping to provide clean water, solar panels at the coffee washing stations, and supporting 4 students in college.

Thanks, President Fran, for calling this local business and more importantly Mike's story to our attention!



Mike in his native Rwanda, and I think based on other pictures on his website, that the black object is a gorilla!



Co-op farmers and their product



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

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