

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
June 24, 2020



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 Dates:

July 1 – Sophie Van Leeuwen, the Borgen Project (works with Congress on Global Poverty)

OPENING WORDS

This Week – Fran shared the thought with us that “those that resemble, assemble.” She encouraged us to continue the good work of the club in spite of the current challenging times.

Upcoming:

July 1 – Matt McAleney

What's New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to

🍰 Dan Davidson (June 30)

🍰 4th of July Baby Sue Sturtevant



Happy Anniversary to

🎂 Dave & Jody McKenna (June 28)

🎂 Nancy & Scott Irving (June 30)

🎂 Joan & Joe Frustaci (July 6)

🎂 Joe & Ibbey Conroy (July 7)

FAREWELL TO ROTARY 2019-20 – It would be tempting to say good riddance, given the disappointments of the past 3 months, but that would be selling ourselves short. Our entire board led a very successful year overall, in which we did a lot of Service Above Self for our local as well as international community. Their names are at the bottom of every bulletin, but I want to highlight all of them for their service this past year:

David Lourie – *President*. David led a record tree sale prior to becoming president, which he told us was his favorite part of the presidential role. David could be counted on to remind us every week to fill the polio cans, so as a thank you gift the club made a donation to PolioPlus in his name.

Mike Geneseo – *President-Elect*. Mike stepped up to put our meetings on Zoom 3 months ago and has led our meetings ever since. Mike also led a successful tree sale this past year, so that even though the remainder of our fundraising income in 2020-21 may be down, we still have enough funds to make significant donations to the community.

Dave Bagdasarian – *Vice-President*. Dave agreed to fill the role of vice-president, not knowing that it would mean he would be leading the most challenging tree sale we have ever known! (And as noted below he was also Program Chair!)

Fran Bagdasarian – *Past President*. Fran's role on the board was to serve as a mentor and offer perspective from her experience as president. She will be going off the board now, but will be taking on the role of Publicity Chair.

Kathy Cotter – *Secretary*. Just because we don't check in with her every week anymore doesn't mean she has nothing to do! Kathy also manages the internal budget, collects dues from members, reports our membership to RI, pays our dues to the district and RI, takes minutes at board meetings and numerous other little duties that the rest of us never even think about! (If you've been donating happy dollars at meetings, you can send them to Kathy.)

Nicole Albert – *Treasurer*. In the past year our club took in almost \$150,000 in receipts and had disbursements of nearly that much. This is a big responsibility and Nicole scrupulously makes sure that it is all recorded and that all the bills get paid!

Bev Altenburg – *Club Service Director*. Bev has coordinated arrangements with Purpoodock, especially when we have special events such as the WinterFest party.

Matt McAleney – *Youth Services Director*. We gave out scholarships to 10 outstanding graduating high school seniors (published previously) and we selected freshmen to attend RYLA, which unfortunately is on hold. Matt is also responsible for keeping our FaceBook page current.

Dave McKenna – *Community Services Director*. Many of our donations and projects fall under this umbrella, including food pantries and veterans services (led by **Dan Davidson**).

Chuck Redman – *International Services Director*. Chuck oversaw our international expenditures which were just over \$25,000, including donations to a project in Bulgaria, The

Rotary Foundation, ShelterBox and Partners for World Health.

Laurenz Schmidt – *Membership Director*. Laurenz fills the important role of educating potential members about Rotary and our club, and shepherding new members into the club. This year we welcomed:

- * **Sari Greene**
- * **Peter DeGennaro**
- * **Katelyn Estes**

WELCOME TO SP-CE ROTARY!

Not a board member but a big part of the past year was **Doug Schauf** who led another successful WinterFest!

Thanks also go to **Marc Mutty** (publicity) and **Jim Britt** (webmaster).

It's dangerous to start mentioning everyone who has done something for our club because where do you stop – I could/should be mentioning everyone in the club!

We have also had the pleasure of getting to know our District Governor **Andy Glazier** in the past year, and enjoying Rotary Rocks last fall!

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR ROTARY SERVICE!!

South Portland Food Cupboard Report (from Tony Wagner) –We had a great turnout this morning (last Friday) and mostly finished up by 10:30 AM. Eight Club Rotarians Peter DeGennaro, Patty Sprague, Phil Dube, Kathy Cotter, Patrick Veroneau, Michele Danois, Nancy Irving and me were assisted by Falmouth Rotary Pres Sean Joyce and a Falmouth HS student, plus Nick Langdon and his buddy Drew from Falmouth.

We processed the heavy load completely and then some.

Rotarians are now serving on a regular basis from around 8 AM to 11 AM each Friday. Please join us when you can, and either sign up on line or let me know if you can decide in advance. There is always work to be done, especially on Fridays.

Thanks to those who participated with the heavy work load these past 2 Saturdays.

Help Wanted – and like the Food Cupboard, it sounds like fun help. Since our program chair (Dave Bagdasarian) is moving into a role that will demand a lot of his attention (tree sale chair), we need someone to take over from him as Program Chair. AND the program chair, whoever it is, will need suggestions from all of us for possible speakers. Remember that Rotary Connects the World and geography is no obstacle – it doesn't necessarily need to be someone local. Put your thinking caps on, everyone!!

Exciting Polio News – RI PolioPlus chair Mike McGovern received the exciting news from the WHO that the countries of Africa have all met the requirements for the continent of Africa to be certified as polio-free! The official certification will occur later this summer. Unfortunately this came too late for this little guy, but wonderful news for all the children in Africa who will never get polio. (This is another one of Jean-Marc Giboux’s great pictures!)



Aloha from the Rotary Convention – In case you didn’t watch the convention over the weekend, I’ll fill you in on the best parts. You can google Rotary Convention 2020 and go to “General Sessions” and then “Watch.” On June 20 (Saturday) for some reason the first half hour is filler so skip to about 30 minutes in if you want to watch the whole convention. OR if you just want to see the must-see parts (based on my own objective (!) assessment), fast forward to these points in the video:

Saturday, June 20

- 1 hour in (actually half hour from the start of the convention) – the Australian singing group Aria sings The Prayer and Nessun Dorma



- 1 hour, 26 minutes – a discussion focusing on the impact of COVID-19 on polio eradication workers and vice versa.

Sunday, June 21

- 39 minutes, 34 seconds, and at 40 minutes, 7 seconds – a member of our own club (can you guess who!) joins other leading polio eradication leaders in delivering a short message about polio.

Note that there are convention breakout sessions throughout July – check out the lineup to see if any appeal to you.



Bonus picture from "our" garden at Fort Williams picnic shelter

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

Officers

President – David Lourie
President-Elect – Michael Geneseo
Secretary – Kathy Cotter
Treasurer – Nicole Albert

Directors

Club Administration – Bev Altenburg
Youth Services – Matt McAleney
Community Services – David McKenna
International Services/Foundation – Chuck Redman
Membership – Laurenz Schmidt
Director-At-Large – Fran Bagdasarian

Committee Chairs

Visibility Co-Chairs – Marc Mutty & Matt McAleney
Webmaster – Jim Britt
Bulletin Editor – Nancy Hawes
Program Chair – David Bagdasarian

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
Mark Maloney, Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama

DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR
Andy Glazier, Rotary Club of Kittery