

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

March 4, 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 PROGRAMS:

March 11 – Beth Owens, Judy’s Pantry
March 18 – Community Paul Harris Fellow Awards
March 25 – Patty Sprague – Theater Night

ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>March 11</u>	<u>March 18</u>	<u>March 25</u>
Opening Words	Desmond	Dube	Egner
Raffle Gift	Yerxa	Albert	Altenburg
Conductor	Wagner	Altenburg	Swift-Kayatta
Set Up & Breakdown #1	Knupp	McAleney	McDonald
Set Up & Breakdown #2	LoBosco	McGovern	McKenna

Our speaker Barbara Solloway won a gift certificate to Willows donated by Tony Wagner

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

March 8 – Lions Club Pancake Breakfast (7:30 – 11)

March 10 game time 7 p.m. – SP-CE Rotarians at the Mariners! Make checks out to Dave Bagdasarian if you have reserved a ticket. He will leave tickets at Will Call.

What’s New With Our Members

Happy Anniversary to Bev and Sherm Altenburg (3/12)

Happy Birthday to

- ✿ *Dan Mooers (3/11)*
- ✿ *Kathy Ray (3/12)*
- ✿ *Dan McDonald (3/16)*
- ✿ *Nancy Hawes (3/17)*
- ✿ *Mike McGovern (3/17)*

Our condolences to the family of Ellen Knight, widow of Past President "Cap'n" Lloyd Knight.

Avesta Housing – Our speaker this week was Barbara Solloway, Training Manager for Avesta Housing. Barbara has a long career in real estate development and property management, including the last 13 years with Avesta. As training manager, she says that it's important for her to dispel the misconceptions about who needs affordable housing – it could be people of a variety of backgrounds, education levels and professions. Avesta has operated as a nonprofit providing affordable housing since 1972. They have 100 properties which house over 4,000 residents. The median annual income of applicants is \$14,400 – that's \$42,000 less than what would be needed to afford a 2-bedroom apartment in Portland. From 2014-18 they experienced a 32% increase in applications – there is no question that there is an urgent need.

Barbara reviewed several of the recently built Avesta properties, as well as those currently under construction and in the planning stages. The overwhelming majority of affordable housing is built through the use of federal low income tax credits. This allows private investors to finance construction and receive a break on their own taxes for doing so. Barbara closed with a quote from Winston Churchill: "we shape our dwellings, and afterwards our dwellings shape us."

The Value of Rotary – We all know that our club has a lot of intangible value, but turns out we provide a lot of dollars and cents value as well. The 2018-19 RI Annual Report says that "A special report prepared by the Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies estimated that Rotarians volunteer nearly 47 million hours in a typical year, providing about \$850 million worth of community service. "Translated into economic terms, Rotary is annually generating a scale of social and problem-solving effort that is worth nearly nine times more than it costs the organization to produce," the researchers note." I have no idea how they calculate this, but it sure sounds good!

And that's just based on the time we donate – not even counting the actual money that clubs and the Rotary Foundation donate to our communities. For instance if you looked at the financial report that Nicole sent out recently, our club gave away nearly \$68,000 in the year 2018-19. And we're just one of nearly 36,000 clubs in the world. If you extrapolate and do the math, the numbers are staggering!!

**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