

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
May 20, 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:

May 27 - Humorist Dave Norman

June 3 – Club “Assembly” (internal club business)

June 20-26 – Rotary Connects the World – RI Virtual Convention

What's New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to Michele Danois - May 31

Happy Anniversary to Kathy & Alan Ray - June 2

Our sincere condolences to Joe & Ibbey Conroy on the recent death of Joe's brother Edward Conroy Sr.

Continued get well wishes to Tim Butterworth, who is HOME IN MAINE NOW! We hope that being home will do wonders for his recovery!

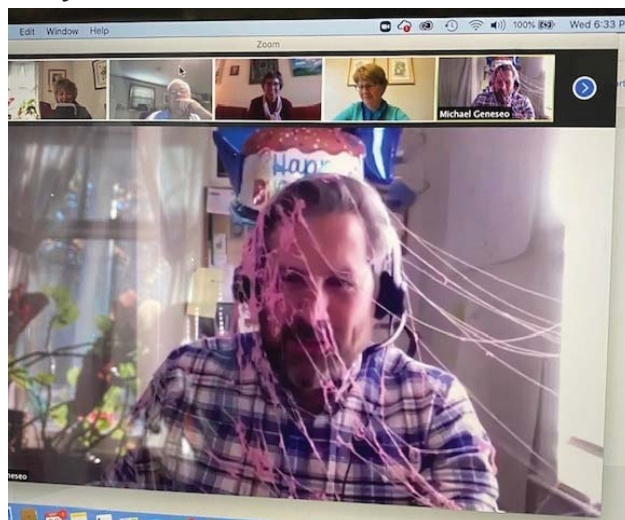
Thank you to Peter Bennett who has stepped up to coordinate the volunteer drivers for the South Portland Food Cupboard!

Congratulations to Tony Wagner whose recent Service Above Self Award was highlighted in the current issue of the Cape Courier!

Thank you to the Gardening Squad who manicured the gardens at the picnic shelter recently. And after their hard work, they were able to actually have a picnic in the picnic shelter - carefully distanced of course! Weeding, trimming, etc. were:

- ✓ *Bev Altenburg*
- ✓ *Catherine Callahan*
- ✓ *Phil Dube*
- ✓ *Peter Bennett*
- ✓ *Bob Knupp*
- ✓ *Tony Wagner (in a drive-by?)*

Kudos to Becca Ivey-Geneseo for pulling off a great birthday-bomb of President-Elect Mikey!



Help Wanted to Spend Money! – It was reported recently that our club received just over \$600 from The Rotary Foundation, to be spent on food insecurity as a result of the current pandemic. The club’s board would like to know if club members are aware of organizations that would be deserving recipients of this money (other than the usual candidates that come to mind). Please contact President David or Treasurer Nicole if you have ideas! (We have to spend the money by June 15.)

“The Usual Candidate” – When I spoke of the “usual candidate” in the paragraph above, I mainly meant the South Portland Food Cupboard. The Food Cupboard is currently receiving more food donations than they can distribute in their usual manner. Since they never turn down food donations, they have been distributing excess to the Boys & Girls Club and to more rural towns. Needless to say there’s a lot of work involved in unpacking and packing all this food and more hands are always welcomed. If you are willing and feel comfortable volunteering, you can contact Tony, sign up online, or just show up!

Cool Clear Water – Our speaker this week was Josh Bowe, Hydrogeologist and Spring Resource Manager for Poland Spring. Poland Spring is 25 years younger than our state, celebrating the 175th anniversary of their founding by the Ricker family. Poland Spring has 33 production wells at ten different spring sites spread around southern and western Maine. Josh talked about the extensive monitoring that takes place at all of these sites. He also talked about two of the concerns Mainers (and others) have about bottled water:

1. Is Poland Spring using up too much of our natural resources? Josh reported that the maximum amount that they can withdraw from the aquifer is 2-4% of the rainwater/snowmelt “recharge” of the aquifer. To put this in perspective, there is 4 times more water evaporating from Sebago Lake each July than Poland Spring extracts in an entire year.
2. What about all that plastic? Poland Spring hopes to be the first company to introduce a bio-based bottle (from cellulose). They are currently working on that but the main challenge is to create a bottle that won’t affect the taste of the water.

Poland Spring very generously donated all the water we used at our district conference last year, and Josh let us know that we can contact him anytime we have a similar need for donated water.

“Who More Than Self Their Country Loved” – Just a reminder that Sari suggested that we all stop at 3 p.m. on Monday for a moment of silence in remembrance, and then possibly sing “America the Beautiful.” People have been spreading the word about this – thank you to Mike Geneseo for creating a great graphic about it. I’ll send separately in case you want to share it with your friends and family.



And in case you want to sing at 3:00, here are the words – even if you don't sing, the words for all 4 verses are worth considering:

America the Beautiful

**Oh, beautiful for spacious skies,
For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties
Above the fruited plain!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.**

**Oh, beautiful for pilgrim feet,
Whose stern, impassioned stress
A thoroughfare of freedom beat
Across the wilderness!
America! America!
God mend thine ev'ry flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law.**

**Oh, beautiful for heroes proved
In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved,
And mercy more than life!
America! America!
May God thy gold refine,
Till all success be nobleness,
And ev'ry gain divine.**

**Oh, beautiful for patriot dream
That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam,
Undimmed by human tears!
America! America!
God shed his grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.**

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

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