

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
October 23, 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:

October 30 – Tom Groening
November 6 – Adam Shepherd, Rippleeffect
November 13 – Tom Gruber
November 20 – Club Assembly (tree sale!)

ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>October 30</u>	<u>November 6</u>	<u>November 13</u>
Opening Words	Altenburg	Anderson	D Bagdasarian
Raffle Gift	O'Shea	K. Ray	Redman
Conductor	Nadirli	O'Shea	K. Ray
Set Up #1	Sprague	Swift-Kayatta	Veroneau
Set Up #2	Sturtevant	Vachon	Wagner

Dick Yerxa won the raffle – although it was not clear to me exactly what he won. I think it included a Xander Bogarts bobblehead.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

November 7, 6 p.m. – New Member Dinner at Bagdasarians for anyone who has joined the club in 2018 or 2019.

What's New With Our Members

Happy Anniversary, Hugh & Margaret O'Shea - November 2

Congratulations - at last - to Peter Cotter! After losing the tie-breaker twice in the football pool, he finally came out on top in Week 7!

We'll Miss You! - Farewell and our very best wishes to Ellie & Chris Spoh as they re-locate to North Carolina. They are joining the Durham, NC Rotary club, which has a strong connection to the Rotary Peace Fellows at Duke University which I spoke about at last week's meeting. Ellie is a past president of the club, a leader of WinterFest, a master trivia contest creator, and the essence of kindness. It goes without saying that she will be missed tremendously! Thank you to Nancy Irving for compiling and presenting the long list of club accomplishments while Ellie was president, and to Sue Sturtevant whose photo of Bug Light was presented to Ellie and Chris as a farewell gift.



In Memory – One of our club members generously made a donation to The Rotary Foundation to honor the memory of Sally Campbell, wife of Tony Wagner. The donation moved her to the next level of Paul Harris Fellow recognition and therefore a pin was presented to Tony on Wednesday. In accepting for Sally, he described how although she was never actually a Rotarian, she personified Rotary's values. In her professional life, Sally worked for peace and understanding among communities, making The Rotary Foundation a natural match for honoring Sally.

Kakamega Orphans Care Centre (KOCC) – We were joined this week by Steve Wight of the Bethel Rotary Club, Sukie Rice and John Chisholm of Friends of Kakamega (based in Freeport), and Pastor Ida Nelson, administrator of KOCC (who just arrived in the US the day before!). Some of you may remember that our district had a cultural exchange with this region of Kenya a couple years ago and we heard an inspiring presentation about KOCC last year. Ida described the Care Centre and also the Strong Young Women and Healthy Homes programs. Our club generously donated \$2,500 to the Healthy Homes program, so the program featured many before-and-after photos of homes that were transformed to healthier and more livable habitats as the result of this program. The program is not a handout – the residents of the homes contribute a portion of the cost and provide labor. The funds from our club and others in our district mainly paid for sheets of iron for the roofs. The Freeport club is putting together a global grant application to expand the Healthy Homes program to more homes in the area.

Breaking News! – Yesterday was World Polio Day, and Rotary observed the occasion by releasing a video about polio eradication. Among other highlights of the video is Bill Nye – the Science Guy! – describing the importance and scientific basis of vaccinations. The final segment of the video contains remarks by Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO. I am printing his remarks below:

*“Over thirty years ago, more than 350,000 children globally were paralyzed every single year by one of three different types of wild poliovirus. That is when Rotary launched PolioPlus – a global effort to rid the world of polio. Wild poliovirus type 2 was declared eradicated in 2015. Today I am proud to announce that an independent commission of experts meeting here at WHO has concluded that **wild poliovirus 3 has also been eradicated globally.***

“That leaves just wild poliovirus type 1, which is only being transmitted in border areas of just two countries: Pakistan and Afghanistan.

“Our biggest enemy now is complacency. If we stopped now, the virus would resurge and could once again cause more than 200,000 new cases every year. This World Polio Day, I have two messages. The first is a simple and wholehearted “Thank You.” Everything you have done has brought us to the brink of a polio-free world.

“Second I ask you to redouble your efforts for this last push. We cannot succeed without you. We must stay the course. Together, we can make sure the children of the future only learn about polio in history books. That’s where polio should be.”

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

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