

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
October 30, 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:

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

ASSIGNMENTS

	<u>November 6</u>	<u>November 13</u>	<u>November 20</u>
Opening Words	Anderson	D Bagdasarian	
Raffle Gift	K. Ray	Redman	
Conductor	O'Shea	K. Ray	
Set Up #1	Swift-Kayatta	Veroneau	
Set Up #2	Vachon	Wagner	

Bill Anderson won the raffle again – this time a gift certificate to True Value Hardware donated by Hugh.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

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

November 8, 12-1:30 – Portland Rotary Veterans Appreciation Luncheon at Season's Event and Conference Center, 155 Riverside Street. Free to all veterans, but please RSVP on their website (Portlandrotary.org) – click on the icon in the upper right hand corner.

November 23 – Tree sale setup at Mill Creek Park???? (We haven't heard this officially but this is traditionally when it would take place.)

November 23, 9-11 a.m. – Loading the 10th container of mobility devices from our district for Crutches4Africa. At 20 Gooch Street in Saco. Wear old clothes!

What's New With Our Members

Happy Anniversary, Adrienne & Steve Murphy (Nov. 12)

Congratulations to Tom Meyers who won the football pool for Week #8 - although Bill Daviero is demanding a recount and insists that he won. Ray Healey (that's H-E-A-L-E-Y) also believes that he won, although we would all be winners if we were allowed to submit our picks after the games have taken place.



Welcome Peter! – This week we welcomed our newest member Peter DeGennaro. Peter has been visiting us for a few months so it was nice to finally officially welcome him to the club. Peter was a member and Past President (1991-92) of the Wilmington, Mass Rotary club before moving to Cape Elizabeth in 2002. Peter is a semi-retired builder/developer and met President David in walking his dog at Fort Williams. Peter is also a Paul Harris Fellow. Welcome, Peter!



We (Almost) Have a Vice-President! – Sue Sturtevant, chair of the Nominating Committee, announced that Dave Bagdasarian has been nominated to be Vice-President and will assume that role as soon as the Board approves it. Dave has been a member of this club since 1982 and can you believe that he has never been president yet? However he has served on the board, has chaired various events including the road race, and most importantly can throw down Christmas trees from the top of the truck. Congratulations (and thank you), Dave!!

Island Institute – Our speaker this week, Tom Groening, came all the way from Belfast to speak to us. Tom is the editor of the Island Institute’s newspaper “The Working Waterfront,” as well as its annual “Island Journal.” The Island Institute was founded in 1983 by Peter Ralston and Philip Conkling, with a generous donation from Betsy Wyeth. Although starting out as a way to strengthen island communities (“you mean people live there all year?”), its mission has expanded to include coastal communities as well. There are actually 4,500 year-round residents of Maine’s islands. Tom favored us with a wide assortment of facts and information about the islands, the coastline and especially our working waterfronts.



Front Street Community Center – This bulletin lists two ways of interacting with other clubs – the Portland Rotary VA Appreciation lunch, and the Crutches4Africa project coordinated by the Saco Bay Sunset Club. Now here’s another one. The Portland Sunrise Rotary Club received a district grant (your Foundation dollars at work!) to pay for supplies to fix up the Front Street Community Center in Portland, which was badly in need of some love. The labor, however, needs to come from volunteers, such as the Sunrise Club Rotarians and hopefully other Rotarians in the area. They have started work on the project and what remains sounds like it’s mostly painting. Please go to this web address to express your availability times if you’re interested in helping out: <https://doodle.com/poll/nhkzp7i88ykgn4hm> – or contact their club president Sam Heck at sam.heck@gmail.com or text 207-751-4519. The Center is a Study Center that provides young people (many of them New Mainers) with mentoring, tutoring, after-school activities and meals.

SPCE Rotary Assisting Veterans – You may recall that for several years our club worked together with the VA to provide tangible items (bedding, kitchenware, gas cards, bus passes, etc.) for veterans who were transitioning from homelessness to their own homes. For a variety of reasons we had to discontinue that program at the end of the last Rotary year. Since then our Veterans Committee has been putting their heads together and vetting (haha, really bad pun!) various programs that assist veterans. As a result of that work, our club presented a check for \$2,500 last week to the Arthur B. Huot House in Saco. The house is named for a late Navy veteran who believed that “It’s the day by day acts of kindness that change the world.” (Sounds like he would have made a good Rotarian!)

The Huot House is operated by Volunteers of America, in partnership with the VA, HUD and Maine State Housing. It offers services for veterans experiencing homelessness and helps them to transition into housing. Reading between the lines on their website, it sounds like a lot of the veterans they serve suffer from PTSD, and the Huot House is a transition between hospital care and rejoining the real world. Thank you, Dan Davidson and the rest of the committee, for finding a way for our club to continue to make a difference for veterans.

“They help coordinate my care and are always there to help. I still address my past every day...but it is getting better. I have learned a lot about myself and can see hope for the future.”
(a former Huot House resident)

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

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Secretary – Kathy Cotter
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Club Administration – Bev Altenburg
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International Services/Foundation – Chuck Redman
Membership – Laurenz Schmidt
Director-At-Large – Fran Bagdasarian

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