

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

April 1, 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.

Opening Remarks (a prayer from Xavier University read by Chuck Redman):

A Prayer for Our Uncertain Times

May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.

May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.

May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health and making their rent.

May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.

May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no safe place to go.

May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.

May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.

As fear grips our country, let us choose love.

And during this time when we may not be able to physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. Amen.

And Amen again to that – thanks for finding this and sharing it with us, Chuck.

What's New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to Mark Leasure - April 6

Happy Anniversary to

- 🏠 Matt & Becky McAleney - 15 years today! (April 2)*
- 🏠 Jack & Shari Roberts - 49 years tomorrow (April 3)*

Congratulations to the Bagdasarians whose granddaughter is scheduled to be delivered (C Section) TODAY (April 2)!!

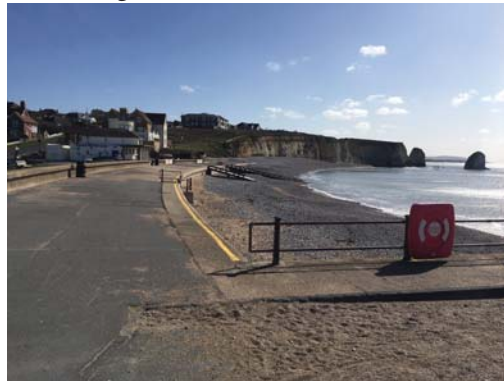
Rotary April Anniversaries:

- ❖ Phil Dube - 50 YEARS - CONGRATULATIONS!!!*
- ❖ Tom Meyers - 19 years*
- ❖ Dan McDonald - 5 years*
- ❖ Tural Nadirli - 2 years*
- ❖ Karen Vachon - 1 year*

Greetings to the Butterworths - you are always in our hearts!

Congratulations to Laurenz's 10-year-old grandson who whipped his grandfather at chess!

*Bill York shared with us this scenery which is just a 5-minute walk from his house. He'd love to hear from you:
chatwithway@gmail.com*



Zoom, Zoom! – Our club met for its second weekly Zoom meeting last night. 21 club members participated (and not the same ones as last week). For those of you who couldn't join us:

- We will be meeting regularly at 6:30 on Wednesdays by Zoom until we can meet in person again.
- Even though the “meeting” will be starting at 6:30, you can log in as early as 6:15 if you want – this is especially recommended for those joining us for the first time in case you want any help with your settings.
- Please let Mike G know if you would like to volunteer to say opening words – just like in our regular meetings, you can offer your own thoughts or just google something.
- Our program chair Dave Bagdasarian is lining up speakers to speak to us at our virtual

meetings – we tentatively have someone from ShelterBox lined up for our April 15 meeting.

- The club’s board authorized purchase of a Zoom “Pro” account of our own (so that we don’t have to borrow the district’s account). Purchase of this account will allow us to have meetings with no time limit, and will also allow us to have attendees join us over the phone rather than by computer.
- The club Zoom account will be available to all board members and committee chairs to conduct virtual board and committee meetings – during this quarantine period and also going forward.
- If you want some help using Zoom, please let Mike G. know – either he or someone else will contact you to see what your needs are.
- Over the phone, I walked my 90-year-old mother through downloading the app and clicking on the link, if that’s any indication of how easy it is to use.
- It’s not just for business meetings – many people are using it to connect with family and old friends (Sue S zoomed with some college friends she hadn’t seen in years!)
- Zoom allows us to see people who ordinarily can’t make it to meetings – for instance Marc Mutty joined the meeting!
- IT’S REALLY GREAT to see everybody, so if you haven’t joined us yet, we miss you and hope you’ll join us a future meetings!

Help Wanted – We need someone to run a pool to bet on how many people in the club – both male and female – will have ponytails by May.

SPCE Rotary to the Rescue! (by Dan Davidson) - The South Portland/Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club has had a program in place for seven years to assist the unmet needs of Maine veterans and homeless veterans. The Club has provided more than \$40,000 in assistance to veterans programs during that time.

In mid-March the club received a call to help with an emergency. Huot House in Biddeford, which provides transitional housing for qualified veterans while they look for employment, had had a fire that temporarily displaced several veterans. The affected vets were put into local hotels while repairs were being made but the Huot House director, Michael Merrill, only had a restricted funding source that did not cover all of the hotel costs. The Rotary Club, with a long history of working with veterans was called by a contact in the Maine VA to see if Rotary could help. And the club did. Money was approved the same day and provided to Merrill so the short-term hotel accommodations for the veterans could be covered.

Red Sox Revisited –As I mentioned two weeks ago, I missed Game 6 of the ALCS from 2013 because I was at my niece’s wedding reception. But I got to see it – including the Shane Victorino grand slam! – on Monday evening on NESN. They are showing the 2013 World Series games so you still have a chance to hear all of Fenway Park singing “every little thing is gonna be all right!”

And Now Some Serious Business – We all know that one of Rotary’s primary focuses for the past 30 years has been the eradication of polio. In many countries, it has been necessary to establish an infrastructure not only for providing immunization but for surveillance and testing. That infrastructure has been responsible for containing outbreaks of yellow fever and Ebola in Africa, and is now helping to limit the spread of COVID-19. For that reason Tony Wagner proposed to the Board that our club contribute an additional \$3,000 to The Rotary Foundation for PolioPlus. The Board approved that proposal Tuesday night and “the check is in the mail.” In addition to our own club, our district has stepped up to the plate by voting Sunday night to donate \$26,338 of Foundation funds allocated to our district to be designated for PolioPlus.

Other ways to help:

- ✓ Use your \$50 “discretionary voucher” to help an organization that is responding to the current economic disaster or to an individual you are aware of who is in need.
- ✓ Let our club’s board know about organizations that are responding to the crisis that our club might be able to help.
- ✓ Donate personally to The Rotary Foundation’s Disaster Response Fund. (See the email from Foundation Trustee Chair Gary Huang.) Please donate online if you can since the RI building is closed and donation processing is delayed.

How Well Do We Know Each Other? –

Answers from last week:

- ❖ Who took a 3-week trip with scouting? *Nancy Irving*
- ❖ Who taught college courses in a maximum security prison? *Catherine Callahan (we need to hear more about this!!)*

Week 3 questions:

1. Who is 100% Austrian? (this is a gimme)
 2. Who worked at Ronald Reagan’s first inauguration?
 3. Who went parapenting in Queenstown, New Zealand?
- Bonus – What the heck is parapenting?

Send your guesses to Betty Egner (bjegner@live.com).



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PORTLAND/CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE**

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