

South Portland/Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club Meeting August 19, 2020

President Mike Geneseo called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Laurenz introduced Tom Hamerski, a former club member who is thinking of rejoining and wanted to check things out. Dan Mooers gave the welcoming words with quotes from British historian Richard Evans.

We then spent time remembering Alec Livingston who died of Parkinsons Disease on Monday, August 17 after only a few days in Hospice. His wife Sharon has said that no services are planned at this time due to Covid-19 and family preferences. Tony Wagner, a close friend for many years said that Alec enjoyed his time as President of the club, helped build the food trailer we take to Family Fun Day and spent many nights on the tree lot unwrapping trees to be prepared for the next day.

Throughout the Happy Dollars phase of the meeting people stressed their sadness and memories of Alec's contributions to Rotary. Everyone agreed that he was a wonderful person who enjoyed hard work, was a man of his word and enjoyed storytelling. Bill Daviero asked if we could send something to the family and it was decided to have the Board discuss and act on the suggestion. Scott Irving is working on updating the club history and asked members to send memories of Alec to him. Dan Davidson said that Sharon Livingston would appreciate cards from us and noted that the address in the club directory needs updating: the new address is 3 Warbler Drive, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107.

Other Happy Dollars went to celebrate Betty Egner's move to Piper Shores (She thanked Phil Dube and Tony Wagner for helping move her boxes,) Fran Bagdasarian's new puppy, Katelyn's new haircut. Dan Davidson edited "Once Upon a Time in Cape Elizabeth: Trolleys" with photos of the trolley route along Shore Road. It's available for \$10 from the Cape Historical Society. David Lourie mentioned his Aunt Edna, an Irish immigrant, rode the trolley from Portland to the casino in Cape. Matt McElaney is working on a way to ship Christmas trees to Long Island in Casco Bay. Tony mentioned he still needs volunteers at the Food Cupboard for organizing shelves next Thursday am. He also thanked Anne S-K and Phil D. for donating their discretionary \$50 to the SoPo school system for two immigrant families during these hard times. Sari is working with South Portland and needs volunteers for preparing and delivering meals to seniors. John LoBosco's photo will appear in a Wall Street Journal article about Covid hair and beard styles. Look for it online or in print on Thursday.

Mike announced birthdays: Tony on August 24, Chuck joined the club 11 years ago and Sari has a one year anniversary. Patrick Veroneau has been a member for three years.

Denis Landry has sent in his resignation because of changes in his life. His business has doubled in volume, he is selling his home and moving to Brandy Pond to be closer to his five children and grandchildren. Tony called to encourage to join the Windham club when things get settled. Denis said that he and his truck will still be available for the tree sale.

Dates to put in your calendar:

September 9th: New District Governor, Peggy Belanger will attend our meeting to tell us about her plans for the coming year.

There is a Zone Meeting scheduled for August 23-25 where Mike McGovern and Brenda Cressey will both make presentations. Check District 7780 website for other calendar offerings.

Bethel Club Annual Yard Sale, August 25-31. Items will be sold on the honor system and money will be mailed in.

Next meeting, August 26th is when our newest member will be inducted: Dave Bagdasarian, Jr. Mike G. said, "This the beginning of the Bagdasarian Dynasty!"

August 28th is an In-person social at Laurenz's home from 5:30 on. An email will be sent with details and the request to RSVP.

Since last week was an Assembly because the speaker could not attend, Mike decided to introduce us to Rotary's new Action Plan for the next five years. He shared the screen with images from the Rotary International website.

"Together we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves"

Priorities: 1) Increase our Impact, 2) Expand our Reach, 3) Enhance Engagement, 4) Increase our Adaptability.

Comments came from John LoBosco that "change in ourselves" could refer to confidence in public speaking. He liked the concept of "people of actions" and reminded us of Mike G.'s hope to take advantage of the opportunity to get to know people who come into our lives. Peter Bennett asked if our district will set aspirational goals that strengthen the international ones. Tony said the District has a "Growth Team" of 15 people to support club, but they must reach out and request to show their interest.

Mike G. closed the meeting with the words, "Go forth and be excellent to each other."

Until next week...