

# TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth  
December 16, 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:

**December 23** – NO MEETING

**December 30** – NO MEETING

**December 26 (Saturday) and December 28 (Monday)** – These are times when the South Portland Food Cupboard expects to be unusually shorthanded so if you can volunteer either of these mornings they would be very appreciative.

**January 6** – Celebrate a successful tree sale! (Note - club assemblies will take place the first week of the month going forward.)

**January 13** – Past Rotary International President Mark Maloney

**January 14, 6:30 p.m.** – District Recovery Initiative Committee update for all interested Rotarians via zoom (link to be sent in January)

**January 29-30** – WinterFest!

## OPENING WORDS

This Week: Bev Altenburg shared with us a (hopefully prophetic) COVID-themed poem by Kitty O'Meara:

*And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply. Some meditated, some prayed, some danced. Some met their shadows. And the people began to think differently.*

*And the people healed. And, in the absence of people living in ignorant, dangerous, mindless, and heartless ways, the earth began to heal.*

*And when the danger passed, and the people joined together again, they grieved their losses, and made new choices, and dreamed new images, and created new ways to live and heal the earth fully, as they had been healed.*

### What's New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to:

- 🍰 Tom Meyers - December 17
- 🍰 Dave Bagdasarian - December 19
- 🍰 Ray Healey - December 23
- 🍰 Jim Britt - December 28
- 🍰 Kathy Cotter - December 28
- 🍰 Anne Swift-Kayatta - December 31

*We welcomed SPHS Coach Aaron Filieo to our meeting - Aaron and his students were invaluable help at all the heavy lifting events of the tree sale - from the setup to both tree deliveries to the lot takedown this morning - our profound gratitude!!*

*Belated condolences to the family and friends of Mike Nazemetz, a Rotary club past president and husband of Past District Governor and current president of the Portland Sunrise club Ann Lee Hussey. Our District Governor Peggy described him as "a wonderful man, dedicated to his life as a veterinarian and Rotarian. Michael's warmth, kindness, and generosity will be forever missed." Condolences may be sent to annlee001 at yahoo.com, or to 100 Boyds Corner Rd., South Berwick ME 03908.*

**Foundation Minute** - Nancy Irving discussed why she and Scott have been loyal donors to The Rotary Foundation. She listed the Areas of Focus and pointed out that there's pretty much something for everyone, not to mention that The Foundation has a consistently high 4-star Charity Navigator rating. Thank you, Nancy, for sharing, but candidly it was hard not to be distracted by the fact that Scott Irving finally got a haircut!



**To Shave or Not to Shave** – Our member and former district governor, John LoBosco, is succumbing to family pleasure and planning to shave his COVID Beard this New Year's Day. A faction of the club wants John to keep his manly chin whiskers while others are ready to see it go. We decided to have John's plight be Rotary's gain... cast your vote by donating to Rotary International <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate> to see which side can raise the most money for Rotary in the closing weeks of 2020. After donating, email [matt.mcaleney@gmail.com](mailto:matt.mcaleney@gmail.com) whether the beard should stay or go and amount pledged. In the event of a tie John's wife has the final say.



**Amazon Smile** – I probably should have reminded you about this earlier but if you still have any shopping left to do on Amazon, please consider using Amazon Smile and designating our club as your charity. (There is NO COST to ordering through Amazon Smile.) The club just received a check for \$61.26 as a result of Rotarian shopping on Amazon – thanks to all of you who were part of this.

**Local Pandemic Heroes** – On Monday the Brunswick club honored Maine CDC Director Dr. Nirav Shah as a Paul Harris Fellow in recognition of all his efforts to try to keep the people of Maine healthy during the pandemic, and for his compassion for all those impacted by it. (Side note – I didn’t actually take notes but Dr. Shah mentioned several examples of where his life has intersected with Rotary. And the meeting was all the more special since it occurred just hours after Maine received its first doses of vaccine.) He is a “local hero” to the Brunswick club since he lives there, and as you saw in Betty’s email, our club would also like to honor local pandemic heroes. “Local” means someone who either lives in South Portland or Cape Elizabeth, or whatever they did that makes them a hero was in SP or CE. Nominations for either individuals or groups should be sent to Betty Egner at: [bjegner@live.com](mailto:bjegner@live.com)



**Annual Election of Officers** – As a result of the club election and the automatic operation of the bylaws (for President and Director-at-Large), we will be governed by the following officers for the Rotary year 2020-21:

- President – Dave Bagdasarian (Sr.)
- President-Elect – Jim Britt
- Vice-President – Dan McDonald
- Treasurer – Nicole Albert
- Secretary – Kathy Cotter
- Area of Service Directors:
  - Katelyn Estes
  - Mike Tranfaglia
  - Peter Bennett
  - Laurenz Schmidt
  - Tony Wagner
- Director-at-Large – Michael Geneseo

***Congratulations*** to All and ***Thank You*** for donating your time and talents to leading our club!

**From the Board Room** – The Board met following our club meeting on Wednesday and took these actions:

- Confirmed that we will make our customary Christmas bonus of \$250 to our server Shannon, despite the fact that we have not been meeting there for a while, or actually *especially because* we haven't been meeting there for a while.
- A donation to The Rotary Foundation earmarked for the Environment in celebration of RI Past President Mark Maloney speaking to our club on January 13.
- Committed to a donation of \$1,000 to a grant that the Boothbay Harbor Club is applying for which will build a toilet block and plant fruit trees in a community in Uganda. The toilet block is especially needed due to the high incidence of cholera in that community.
- A donation of \$500 to a clean water project in Costa Rica – this was a grant that the Rotary Club of Ithaca approached us about during John LoBosco's year as District Governor and they finally received their grant funding.
- It was noted that we received a donation of \$1,000 earmarked for Bug Light, so this will increase the amount available in our budget to spend on the lighthouse.

**Dancing in the Rain** – While waiting for customers to come out in the cold rain to buy their tree on December 5, this chorus line of Catherine Callahan, Patty Sprague and Sari Greene found a way to keep warm.



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

Officers

President – Michael Geneseo  
President-Elect – Dave Bagdasarian  
Vice-President – Jim Britt  
Secretary – Kathy Cotter  
Treasurer – Nicole Albert

Directors

Club Administration – Bev Altenburg  
Youth Services – Katelyn Estes  
Community Services – Tony Wagner  
International Services/Foundation – Peter Bennett  
Membership – Laurenz Schmidt  
Director-At-Large – David Lourie

Committee Chairs

Visibility Co-Chairs – Fran Bagdasarian & Matt McAleney  
Webmaster – Jim Britt  
Bulletin Editor – Nancy Hawes  
Program Chair – David Bagdasarian

**DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR**

Peggy Belanger, Rotary Club of Kennebunk Portside

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Holger Knaack, Rotary Club of Herzogtum Lauenburg-Molln, Germany