

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
November 11, 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:

Each Friday – work detail at South Portland Food Cupboard, 8-11 (or any part thereof)

November 18 – Club Assembly??

November 18 – Board meeting, following club meeting – all are welcome.

November 21 (Saturday), 8 a.m. – Tree Lot Set-up

November 25 – Thanksgiving Eve, NO MEETING

November 27 (Friday), 8 a.m. – First tree delivery

December 5 (Saturday), 8 a.m. – 2nd tree delivery

January 29-30 – WinterFest!

OPENING WORDS

This Week: Tom Meyers saluted his fellow veterans and pointed out that while Memorial Day is for remembering the deceased, Veterans Day honors all veterans and their families, living and dead. He offered this blessing for veterans, adapted from Action Ministries:

[Today we honor our veterans, worthy men and women who gave their best when they were called upon to serve and protect their country.](#)

We pray that they will be blessed for their unselfish service in the continual struggle to preserve our freedoms, our safety, and our country's heritage for all of us.

Bless them abundantly for the hardships they faced, for the sacrifices they made for their many different contributions to America's victories over tyranny and oppression.

We respect them, we thank them, we honor them, we are proud of them. We pray that these special people will be watched over and bless them with peace and happiness.

November 18: tbd

What's New With Our Members

Welcome Joanie, who finally made it to our Zoom meetings - we've missed you! And thank you to Peter Bennett for helping her navigate!

Happy November Rotary Anniversary to:

- ❖ Mark Leasure - 5 years*
- ❖ Betty Egner = 11 years (including Ellsworth club)*
- ❖ Kathy Cotter - 15 years*
- ❖ Bill Daviero - 25 years*
- ❖ Adrienne Murphy - 28 years*
- ❖ Jeff Hobbs - 36 years (with a hiatus in between)*

Just so you know why you're not seeing Ray Healey's face at our weekly meetings, the board has granted him a leave of absence. We look forward to the time when you can join us again, Ray.

Quick Hits:

- Even though the IGA does not have post office boxes anymore, we still have a P.O. box and the number has not changed (6266)
- If you participate in Zoom meetings on a computer (vs ipad or phone) and are willing to help out with the co-hosting duties, please contact President Mike, or you can ask Sari or Nicole what is involved.
- We'd like to distribute flyers advertising WinterFest at the tree sale, so please secure sponsors by the end of next week if possible so we can print their ads.
- Please consider inviting a friend or colleague to a meeting or project sometime. Since it doesn't even involve leaving the house and costs nothing, it's not a big ask!
- The tree sale looks promising – we have over \$1,400 in sales so far even though we won't receive the trees for another two weeks! And Bags has done an interview with SP Community TV.

Rotary Foundation Presentation, Part 1 – Since November is Foundation Month, our district held a virtual Rotary Foundation Seminar last Saturday; two of the speakers were our own Brenda Cressey and Tony Wagner. Fran Bagdasarian, Mike McGovern and Nancy Hawes from our club also attended.

Brenda said that “Rotary gives me great passion – it gives me a purpose.” She said that the current virtual environment allows us to see long-time Rotarians who are far away that we wouldn’t otherwise be able to see. Of course even though she didn’t say his name, we in SP-CE Rotary knew that she was talking about Bill York!

Tony talked about the global grant that the Westbrook-Gorham club received to drill a well and install water filters in Guatemala.



Rotary Foundation Presentation, Part 2 – Former Foundation Trustee Mike McGovern introduced current Trustee Brenda Cressey. Brenda was a member of the Saco Bay Rotary Club before moving to California where she was a member of the Paso Robles club and then District Governor. Many of the Trustees are former RI Presidents or Directors of the RI Board. Brenda is neither so it was a special honor for her to be invited to become a Trustee. This is Brenda’s 4th and last year of her term as Trustee – no doubt Rotary will find another good use of her talents when her term is up!

Before talking about the Foundation, Brenda praised our president Mike Geneseo. I don’t want to omit that portion of her speech from the bulletin because every week when I go over my notes and emails about things that should go in the bulletin, I think, “wow, what a lot we have going on!” And it’s thanks to Mike’s leadership that we never missed a beat and continue to be a vibrant thriving club!

Here are some of the other notes that I made from Brenda’s presentation:

- The Rotary Foundation (TRF) is “the lifeblood of the organization.”
- LinkedIn has rated TRF as one of the Top 10 nonprofit organizations in 2020.
- TRF has maintained a 4-star (highest) rating by Charity Navigator for 12 years.
- TRF “allows us to be effective problem-solvers.”

- TRF has provided over \$21 million in global grants so far to fight the impact of COVID-19.
- Throughout its history TRF has spent \$5.3 billion on its grants and projects.
- There will be a huge need for Economic and Community Development grants to address the impact of the pandemic.
- In 2019-2020 TRF raised \$408 million for all its funds (including the \$100 million match from Gates).
- The demand for grants outstrips the funds available.
- “Rotary is a crucible for grass roots change.”

Rotary November Issue - Bob's Quiz – Bob enlightened us with the answer's to his monthly quiz:

1. Nagoya, Japan is the home of which automobile company? **TOYOTA**
2. Food insecurity is a major theme in this publication. What is the amount spent annually in the U.S. on food that is never eaten? **\$218 BILLION**
3. Next year's International Convention will be held in Taiwan. How many Rotary clubs are located on this independent island? **ABOUT 900**
4. Jennifer Jones from the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario has been nominated to be the first female RI President. There are seventeen members of the RI Nominating Committee, four of whom are from the US. Name one of those persons. **MICHAEL MCGOVERN OF COURSE!**



**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