

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

October 7, 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:

October 10, 10 am. – District Grow Rotary Zoom meeting (see email from Andy Glazier for link)

October 14 – Christmas is Coming! Update from Dave Bagdasarian & Tree Committee

October 21 – Club Assembly

October 24 – World Polio Day

October 24 – South Portland Drug Take-back Day

October 28 – Jen Packard, Plans for SP Waterfront near Bug Light Park

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

OPENING WORDS

This Week: Scott Irving shared a photo taken of Earth from Voyager in which we see our planet as a very small dot, and the words of Carl Sagan describing it:

“Look again at that dot. That's here. That's home. That's us. On it everyone you love, everyone you know, every human being who ever was, lived out their lives...every saint and sinner in the history of our species lived there--on a mote of dust suspended in a sunbeam.

The Earth is a very small stage in a vast cosmic arena. Think of the rivers of blood spilled by all those generals and emperors so that, in glory and triumph, they could become the momentary masters of a fraction of a dot. Think of the endless cruelties visited by the inhabitants of one corner of this pixel on the scarcely distinguishable inhabitants of some other corner, how frequent their misunderstandings, how eager they are to kill one another, how fervent their hatreds.

The Earth is the only world known so far to harbor life. There is nowhere else, at least in the near future, to which our species could migrate. Like it or not, for the moment the Earth is where we make our stand.

There is perhaps no better demonstration of the folly of human conceits than this distant image of our tiny world. To me, it underscores our responsibility to deal more kindly with one another, and to preserve and cherish the pale blue dot, the only home we've ever known."

Then Scott summed up: "Rotary is a ray of hope, an organization leads to peace and understanding through common purpose, fellowship, and helping others through service.

Upcoming:

October 14 – tba

What's New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to

 *Bob Danielson - October 15*

 *Dave McKenna - October 19*

Welcome Back!!! – This week we not only had the pleasure of welcoming one of our former members back, but TWO former members back!!!

- ❖ Bob Danielson re-introduced **Tom Hamerski** who is a SP resident and recently retired. Tom has two (mostly) grown sons and is infamous for searching for lost baseballs to give away.
- ❖ Tony re-introduced **Mike Tranfaglia** who is a CE resident and employed as a physician's assistant. His work schedule forced him to resign the first time around, but a change in his duties fortunately allows him to rejoin us. Mike and his wife have a daughter and a son, both of whom were recently married.

We are so happy to have both of you back – WELCOME!!!!

Saving Maine Farms – Our speakers this week were Caroline Ginsberg, Membership Director of the Maine Farmland Trust (MFT), and Chris Franklin, Farmland Protection Project Manager at MFT. Chris was already known to many in the audience as he was previously Executive Director of the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust. They explained to us that only about 700,000 acres in Maine are currently being farmed vs. about 10 times that amount a century ago. The large

number of farmers near retirement age, the high cost of going into farming from scratch, and the unstable nature of the income mean that this trend will only continue. The Maine Farmland Trust aims to protect farmland from further development. Their most expensive project to date has been the purchase of the Maxwell farm in Cape Elizabeth – the land is valued at close to \$2 million. MFT expects to close on the sale of the easement (restricting development rights) at the end of November.

Million Masks! – As reported last week, southern Maine Rotary clubs received a shipment of masks on Tuesday at Portland City Hall to be distributed to first responders and health care providers. Thank you to **Sari** who was on hand to pick up our club's share of masks, and to **Tony** who helped with the set-up at the event.



Bug Light Clean-up – The shore around Bug Light is looking a lot spiffier thanks to the Rotarians who turned out Saturday to clean up debris. Manning the rakes, shovels, etc. were:

- 🧰 Katelyn Estes and Henry
- 🧰 Sari Greene and Eric Boutiette
- 🧰 Tom Meyers
- 🧰 John LoBosco
- 🧰 Jack Roberts
- 🧰 Phil Dube
- 🧰 Bob Knupp
- 🧰 Michele Danois
- 🧰 Tony Wagner



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PORTLAND/CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE**

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