

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
September 30, 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 – see below)

October 3, Saturday, 8-11 a.m. – Cleanup at Bug Light – see Tony’s email.

October 3, 4-6 – 6th Annual BBQ to Benefit South Portland Food Cupboard. After working hard all morning cleaning up the Bug Light shore, come to the Food Cupboard at 130 Thadeus St. in SP for a hamburger or cheeseburger and hot dog (Meal A) or Ribs & Chicken (Meal B). All meals come with sides of chips, slaw, salad and blueberry cake. Drive-through pick-up only. Order when you arrive or call ahead at 874-0379 beginning at 3:30. Cost = only \$8 or more if you’re so inclined.

October 7 – Stephanie Gilbert & Bill Toomey – Agriculture in Maine

October 24 – World Polio Day

October 24 – South Portland Drug Take-back Day

OPENING WORDS

This Week: Michele Danois entertained us with the words to Jiminy Cricket's advice to Pinocchio, "When You Wish Upon a Star." This was prompted by one of the preschoolers whom she helps to cross the street asking her what she would wish for (world peace obviously!)

Upcoming:

October 7 –Scott Irving

What's New With Our Members (and others)

Happy Birthday to

 *Frank Butterworth (October 1)*

 *Betty Egner (October 7)*

Happy Anniversary to President Mike & Becca - married 15 years on October 3!

Happy October Rotary Anniversary to:

- ❖ Jim Britt - 7 years*
- ❖ Nancy Irving - 10 years*
- ❖ Sybil Riemensnider - 12 years*
- ❖ Nancy Hawes - 29 years*
- ❖ Brenda Cressey - 31 years*
- ❖ Mike McGovern - 34 years*
- ❖ Tony Wagner - 38 years*

Get well wishes to Betty Egner, who had an accident and broke her kneecap ☹

We extend our ongoing get well wishes to Tim Butterworth who is home after yet another stint in the hospital. Despite his medical challenges, he is fortunate to be nursed in such a loving home.

SMILE! – Nowadays we're all ordering a lot more on Amazon (but don't forget to Buy Local when you can!), so you can allow the club to profit from your shopping by signing up for Amazon Smile if you haven't already, and designating the South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary Charitable Fund as your designated charity. Your cost for whatever you're buying will not change at all, but the club will receive a small portion of your purchase price.

Million Masks! – On Tuesday, October 6, Portland area Rotary clubs will be receiving thousands of masks on the steps of Portland City Hall. This is part of the Rotary Million Mask Challenge Tour. In the early morning hours of Oct. 1, a cargo ship carrying 800,000 face masks is scheduled to arrive at the Port of Boston as part of a Million Mask Challenge. Over the course of the next 14 days, those masks will be delivered to first responders, health care providers and frontline workers in cities, towns and villages from Boston to Maine and from Massachusetts to Connecticut. A tractor-trailer with the Rotary Million Mask Challenge Tour story will distribute face masks to Rotary clubs throughout New England and nine major city center distribution points in six states for those in need in their communities. There have already been over 200,000 masks distributed in New England. Our club will be receiving 3,000 masks. Please contact President Mike if you have an interest in participating at the media event at City Hall, or if you have suggestions for area first responders or health care providers who would appreciate receiving masks.

Down the Street, Across the Country, Around the World – That’s where the Red Cross operates, as we learned from our speaker Ronda Ferreira, Executive Director of the Northern New England Chapter of the American Red Cross. Ronda moved to Maine to take her position with the Red Cross just a few months ago after the lockdown so as a result she has never met any of the Red Cross employees or volunteers in person. She moved here from New Jersey where she worked for the Salvation Army and was a member of the Redbank Rotary Club. Ronda shared with us some of the statistics about the huge numbers of people who are helped by the Red Cross. Many people are surprised at the wide variety of services offered by the Red Cross:

- Disaster Relief
- Blood Services
- Lifesaving Skills Training
- International Humanitarian Aid
- Support to Armed Services



This is actually a woman named Ruth, but with the mask and hat, you could mistake her for our own Michele who has been volunteering for the Red Cross for many years. The Red Cross came to her aid in the wake of a hurricane when she was serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in the West Indies in 1979, which prompted her to want to give back. She has been on disaster relief trips in response to many hurricanes including Katrina.

In the Zone – The email that sent you the link to this email also contained the links to the Zone Summit held last week. So what’s a Zone? Our club is part of Rotary District 7780 (southwestern Maine and coastal New Hampshire), which is one of roughly 535 Rotary districts in the world. The districts are grouped into 34 zones; we are in Zone 32, which consists of 22 districts in the northeast US (plus a little bit of Quebec). The RI Board of Directors has representation from the Zones, and since 34 would be an unwieldy number of directors, the zones are paired. Each of the 17 pairs selects someone from one of its zones to serve on the Board of Directors (alternating between zones in the pair). Our zone 32 is paired with Zone 28, which consists of the rest of Canada, Alaska and Michigan.

As of this past July, our Zone 28-32’s representative on the Board of Directors is Valarie Wafer, who is from north of Toronto (i.e. Zone 28). Our paired zones also boast two members of the Rotary Foundation Board of Trustees: Jennifer Jones from Windsor, Ontario (Zone 28) who also happens to be the RI President for 2022-23, and our own Brenda Cressey!

Zones 28/32 have traditionally held a Zone Institute in the fall which has been an opportunity for incoming governors to continue their preparations for their Governor year. In the past few years the Zone Institute has been morphing into an opportunity for rank and file Rotarians to also get involved in learning about what’s going on in Rotary outside their clubs. This year it was open to all Rotarians and since it was free, there were over 2,000 people who registered.

So What Was the Zone Summit All About? Good news – if you missed it live, you can watch it whenever you want with the links in the email. Here is a viewer’s guide for you (completely objective of course):

Wednesday, “Leadership in Action” – Speakers include our Director Valarie (mentioned above) and next year’s President Shekhar Mehta, but the one you won’t want to miss is Past Rotary Foundation Trustee Carolyn Jones of Alaska, describing her experience of growing up as a black girl and giving her observations of how racial (in)justice has changed during her lifetime.

Thursday, “The Rotary Foundation: Our Mechanism for Action” – this day had the big guns – SPCE Rotarians Brenda Cressey and Mike McGovern! Both of them gave their customary excellent presentations – Mike’s on polio eradication (natch) and Brenda’s on fundraising. Also featured was Jennifer Jones who will be the first female president of RI. Also at the very end there’s a great song, Wavin’ Flag, by a musician called K’Naan who is Canadian and I had never heard of but he reminded me of Michael Franti (I know, I’m rambling).

Friday, “Transformation” – This day featured another somewhat local Rotarian – Marty Helman of the Boothbay Harbor led an interesting panel discussion about membership growth. At the end each of the 2021-22 District Governors in the two Zones introduced themselves and mentioned something they’d like to address in their year as governor – this included our neighbor Dick Hall from the Portland club.

Bob's Quiz! - Congratulations to everyone who had these answers correct in their heads!

What is the name of the person featured in the R.I.'s presidential message?

Answer: Rebecca Fry (from Australia) – page 1

In what country are the Southern Alps located?

Answer: New Zealand – page 3

How many Americans lack access to high speed internet?

Answer: 42 Million – page 14

On what day of this year will Rotary celebrate World Polio Day?

Answer: October 24 – pp 8, 23, 27 & 54

What is the origin of the word "quarantine" and for what length of time, historically?

Answer: Derived from the Latin word "Quarentena," which literally means 40; hence, 40 days – page 40 (by mere coincidence)

**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