

# TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth**

**April 6, 2022**



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**

*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:

**April 20** – Club Assembly/Business Meeting

**April 26, 7 p.m.** – Club Board meeting – via Zoom, all are welcome, contact Dave if you want the link.

**April 27** – Dick Sawyer, “My Transition into Retirement – Finding a New Avocation: Photography”

**May 4** – Ken Johnson, Farms for Food Equity

**May 14 (Saturday)** – District Conference at Sable Oaks Hotel, South Portland. Events throughout the day from 9:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. – look for more info to come.

**May 18** – No Meeting

**May 21 (Saturday) – SPRINGFEST!!**

**May 25 (Wednesday), 6 p.m.** – Club 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!! Sable Oaks Sheraton, SP.

**June 18** – Family Fun Day

**July 20** - Lobsterbake

## OPENING WORDS

*April 6* –Congratulations to new grandmother Maryann McGreehan whose daughter had her baby on April 2! Since Maryann was tied up with being a new grammy, Tony filled in for the opening words with quotes from Mother Teresa about the hunger for human dignity and from H. Jackson Brown, Jr. about looking for opportunities. (Sorry, I googled but couldn't find the full quotes.)

### **Opening Words Duty:**

- April 20 – Redman
- April 27 – Roberts
- May 4 - Schauf

(If you cannot make it to the meeting, forward your opening words to Dave to read on your behalf.)



### **Raffle Gift Donor Schedule:**

- April 20 – Cotter
- April 27 – Danielson
- May 4 - Danois

### **What's New With Our Members (and Others)**

*Our heartfelt condolences to Mike, Becca & Tre Geneseo on the death of Mike's father Robert on March 31. Some of us had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Geneseo when he spoke to our club about his experience in being the recipient of a heart transplant. He was an electrician and taught his trade for many years at a vocational high school in Framingham, Mass. He was also involved with young people through his role as long-time youth hockey coach.*

*Happy Birthday to:*

-  *John LoBosco - April 21*
-  *Joan Frustaci - April 27*

*Congratulations to raffle winner Jim Britt who won a gift certificate to DiMillo's donated by Paul Butler.*

*Guests – Bill York (who reports that gas is 9.50/gallon in the UK), Dick Sawyer (our speaker next week), Julia McDonald's partner Hope and her uncle Zeke.*

**Revival of Youth Exchange** – Rotary Youth Exchange has been on hiatus for a couple years but it is returning this summer and our club will be sponsoring a Short-Term exchange student. Liam Murphy is currently a sophomore at the Baxter School and has requested Spain, Italy, France and Denmark as his exchange countries. After spending 3(?) weeks with a host family in July, he will return home along with a student from his host family who will spend time at Liam’s home. There is no commitment required from our club, but we will have the benefit of meeting Liam and his host brother or sister. Thanks to International Service Director Peter Bennett for facilitating this.

**Another Revival** – For similar reasons our district has not been able to hold RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) since 2019. RYLA is a leadership training course for high school sophomores held in a camp environment (specifically Camp Hinds). This is completely free to students, and students who have attended rave about the experience. They will be accepting applications right up until mid-June (the camp is June 22-26) so if you know of any students who might benefit, please pass the word (you can refer anyone interested to [ryla7780.org](http://ryla7780.org)).

**Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders)** – Our speaker this week was Dan McDonald’s daughter Julia who seems to embody Service Above Self. She spent two years in the Peace Corps in Morocco, which motivated her to become a doctor. She is currently a family physician at the Family Medicine Institute in Augusta. She is also on the faculty of the Maine-Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency Program and was the 2019 Maine Family Physician of the Year. She has traveled to Honduras every year to provide medical services and was finally able to realize her dream of volunteering for Doctors Without Borders for a year. She served first in Ethiopia and then later in the Democratic Republic of Congo. While there, her function wasn’t to see patients directly but to train others. She spoke about the high incidence of maternal mortality in Africa and the ways that it can be combated: sex education, access to contraception and access to abortion.

Dr. McDonald will be heading to Honduras again in May so several members of the club brought a variety of small medical items (over the counter drugs, band-aids, etc.) for her to take with her. We have been hearing through Dan of her adventures with Doctors Without Borders so it was great to have a chance to hear from her firsthand.



**Put on Your Thinking Caps!** – As noted above, we are celebrating our club’s 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary on May 25. (You should be getting your official invitation this afternoon.) We would like to compile some historical information about our club, including videos of club members (and former club members) telling stories about their experiences in Rotary – a collection of “Rotary Minutes” if you will. This is not just for the experienced Rotarians – even if you’ve only been a Rotarian a short while, we would be interested in hearing about how you became aware of Rotary, why you joined, your hopes for our club, etc. John LoBosco will be sending out a more official description in the near future but in the meantime, please be thinking about what stories you’d like to tell.

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

Officers

President – Dave Bagdasarian  
President-Elect – Jim Britt  
Vice-President – Dan McDonald  
Secretary – Kathy Cotter  
Treasurer – Nicole Albert

Directors

Club Administration – Mike Tranfaglia  
Youth Services – Katelyn Estes  
Community Services – Tony Wagner  
International Services/Foundation – Peter Bennett  
Membership – Laurenz Schmidt  
Director-At-Large – Michael Geneseo

Committee Chairs

Visibility Co-Chairs – Fran Bagdasarian & Matt McAleney  
Webmaster – Jim Britt & Scott Irving  
Bulletin Editor – Nancy Hawes  
Program Chair – John LoBosco

**DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR**  
Dick Hall, Rotary Club of Portland

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**  
Shekhar Mehta, Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, India