

TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
December 8, 2021**



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:

December 15 – Speaker from the Iris Network (services for visually impaired)

December 22 – No Meeting – Happy Holidays!

December 28 – Board meeting via Zoom – please let Dave B know if you'd like the link

December 29 – No Meeting

January 28-29 – WinterFest!

OPENING WORDS

December 8 – John LoBosco quoted Past RI President John Germ's words about women in Rotary:

"Forty years ago, the Rotary Club of Duarte, Calif., admitted three women members, in violation of the Rotary International Constitution. As a result, the club's charter was terminated by RI. Undeterred, the club's members continued to meet. They put an X over their Rotary insignia, made themselves new pins, and dubbed themselves the Ex-Rotary Club of Duarte as they continued to fight for the right of women to serve as Rotarians. Ten years later, a restored Rotary Club of Duarte sent Sylvia Whitlock, Rotary's first female club president, to a presidents-elect training seminar. Not long after that, in 1989, Rotary's Council on Legislation permanently ended Rotary's status as a men-only organization.

Today, with more than 240,000 women in our clubs, Rotary is stronger than ever. We are women and men from nearly every country of the world, serving our communities in more than 35,000 clubs. At the club level, we need men and women of all backgrounds, ages, cultures, and professions; internationally, we need clubs in every city, country, and region of the world. The better our clubs reflect their communities, the better we can serve them. Our diversity is our strength."

December 15 – Tiffanie Bentley

What's New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to

-  Tom Meyers (December 17)
-  Dave Bagdasarian (December 19)
-  Ray H-E-A-L-E-Y (December 23)
-  Chris Speh (December 26 -Boxing Day)
-  Jim Britt (December 28)
-  Kathy Cotter (December 28)
-  Anne Swift-Kayatta (December 31 - New Year's Eve!)

Happy Anniversary to

-  Laurenz & Barbara Schmidt (December 18)
-  Dan & Shirley Mooers (December 31)

Thank you to the amazing WinterFest sales team so who have raised over \$30,000 in pledges so far!

Thank you to Jim Britt and our publicity team (Fran, Matt) for the wonderful publicity for the tree sale, not least of which was Jim's article in the Maine Sunday Telegram.

Congratulations to the raffle winner ... me! After thinking I had won last week because I had the correct last 3 numbers (new roll of tickets last week - Phil and I both had the same last 3 numbers), I actually had the entire raffle number this week. I won a Sea Salt gift certificate donated by Dave Bagdasarian, Jr.

Guests this week:

- ❖ *On zoom – new visitor Cindy Walsh and return visitors Bob Hansen (guest of Dan McDonald) and Regan St.Pierre*
- ❖ *Past zoom visitor Kiley Wilkens got boosted so she joined us in person this week.*
- ❖ *Laurenz joined us in person for the first time (and Kiley was surprised that he's much taller in person than on zoom!)*
- ❖ *Former club president Jeff Gabrielson joined us for a second week – AND he unloaded Christmas trees – thanks, Jeff!*



Perennial Reminders:

- If you haven't done so, please send a copy of your vaccine card to Mike Tranfaglia.
- As you get your COVID-19 booster, please consider vaxxing it forward (i.e. making a donation to PolioPlus)
- If you plan to attend meetings in person, please consider joining the “tech” team, which does not require actually being very technical. *(Editor's note – I got there early and did part of the setup – it actually is quite easy - there are easy-to-follow written instructions.)*

Foundation Football – our speaker this week spoke about polio (see below) and of course the whole point of the football pool is to raise money for polio eradication. But it sure has some great side benefits. This week Kathy Welcome Back Cotter, Mikey T, Mikey Table Tops (aka Mike Geneseo) and Tom No-Time-to-Wallow-in-the Meyers all tied with 10 correct picks (all nicknames courtesy of Commissioner Redman). But thanks to the snow which kept the score low, Tom won the tie-breaker. He described a chance to have even temporary ownership of the York Trophy as a “life-changing experience.”



This week's winner



Winners for prior 2 weeks

The End is Near! – No, not of the world (we hope) but of polio!! This week President Dave introduced our own Mike McGovern the way he would be introduced if we didn't already know him. Among other accomplishments, Mike has been chair of the Rotary International PolioPlus Committee since October, 2014, is the global chair of RLI (Rotary Leadership Institute), a member of RI's Covid Advisory Task Force, a past member of RI's Board of Directors and past member and Vice-Chair of The Rotary Foundation.

Mike spoke of his trip in November to Geneva and Pakistan to attend meetings to plan for polio eradication. Among the people he met with were the head of the World Health Organization, Rochelle Wallensky of the CDC and Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan. He noted that the prime minister spent two hours meeting with them despite the demands on his time, indicating his commitment to eradicating polio from his country.

If you read last week's bulletin you know the numbers:

- 4 cases in Afghanistan in 2021 – all in the same village (and 2 in the same household)
- 1 case in Pakistan in 2021 – and that was back in January, almost a year ago!

This compares to 350,000 cases/year back in the late 80's when Rotary first became involved in polio eradication. Since then our (Rotary and all our partner organizations and governments) efforts have resulted in 20 million people who have escaped a crippling disability or death.

Since fundraising began roughly 30 years ago, Rotary has raised \$2.4 billion for polio eradication. Mike was quick to point out that even though the case numbers are so low, "this is not the time to give up."



Mike at our new podium behind the plexiglass screen



Mike at the Kashmir border



More Stories from the Tree Lot

Story #1 – Trademark Federal Credit Union is celebrating their 85th anniversary by performing 85 random acts of kindness. One of them was coming to the tree lot yesterday to pay for people's trees for them in the 3:00-4:00 hour. They budgeted \$600 and we got the money whether we sold enough trees to come up to that amount or not (some people appreciated the gesture but wanted them to pay it forward). Thank you Trademark for your inspirational generosity!

Story #2 - *(this is from an email from Tom Meyers)* – “A young man in a small group (relationships to each other unknown) who had just walked on to the tree lot grabbed a tree off the rack, and after holding it out for inspection said something like, “this one looks good, let's take it.” A similarly aged young woman quickly asked, “do you plan on marrying the first person you dated?” They kept looking and she eventually picked out the perfect tree.” *(Editor's note – seriously? She's comparing a dead plant that lasts 3 weeks to marriage?)*



Answers to Bob's Quiz!

1. What is the significance of this month?
 - a. Water and Sanitation
 - b. Recycled Sleighs
 - c. Disease Prevention
 - d. Dollars for Health
2. Maple Grove is a city located where?
 - a. Forty-two miles north of Detroit
 - b. Fifteen miles from Minnesota
 - c. A suburb of Green Bay
 - d. A place too far
3. Stephen Sutton is featured as an entomologist. What is that?
 - a. An internal medicine specialist
 - b. One who studies ents
 - c. A World Health person who specializes in Covid analysis
 - d. One who chases moths and butterflies
4. How many drive-in theaters are still in existence in the United States?
 - a. 17
 - b. 278
 - c. 539
 - d. 305

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 – Mike McGovern

DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR

Dick Hall, Rotary Club of Portland

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Shekhar Mehta, Rotary Club of Calcutta-Mahanagar, India