

TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
January 5, 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:

January 12 – Patty Sprague & Team, WinterFest Preview – **Zoom ONLY**

January 19 – Cassandra Varanka, District 7780's newest Peace Scholar

January 25, 7 p.m. (on Zoom) – Board meeting. Let President Dave know if you would like to attend.

January 26 – NO MEETING (See you at WinterFest!)

January 28-29 – WinterFest!

February 2 – Kerem Durdag, Thoughts on Maine's Future

OPENING WORDS

January 5 – Fran Bagdasarian read a brief story called The Waitress and the Short-Order Cook by Chellie Campbell. The point of the story is “Ask for what you want today. Then give yourself over to it, expecting the best.”

January 12 – Ellie Speh

January 19 – Chris Speh

Raffle Gift Donor Schedule:

- January 19 – Tiffanie Bentley
- February 2 – Jim Britt
- February 9 – Frank Butterworth_

What's New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to

- 🍰 Chuck Redman (January 9)
- 🍰 Jack Roberts (January 16)

Our regards to past president Rick Dobson, who had dinner with Matt McAleney recently and passed along his best wishes to the club.

January Rotaversaries (according to ClubRunner):

- 🌀 AnneMarie McCoubrey - 3 years
- 🌀 Rotary Twins Nicole Albert & Mike Geneseo - 5 years
- 🌀 Fran Bagdasarian - 7 years (and many many more as a Rotary spouse)
- 🌀 Doug Schauf - 9 years
- 🌀 Peter Bennett - 10 years (includes former club)
- 🌀 Matt McAleney - 22 years since he first joined (not continuous)
- 🌀 Joe Conroy - 37 years
- 🌀 Dan Davidson - 40 years (includes former club)
- 🌀 Peter DeGennaro - 42 years (includes former club)
- 🌀 Dick Yerxa - 60 years; CHARTER MEMBER



Matt's original induction by President Adrienne in 2000 (thanks Mike McG for the photo)

Congratulations to Jim Britt and EVERYONE involved with another very successful tree sale! We had just one wreath and 16 trees left over and it looks like we will net in the neighborhood of \$60,000!

Guests this week: New member Jeff Gabrielson (he's now a member but we are postponing induction until we're hybrid again), Jennifer Sperry (who helped us at the tree sale) and Regan St. Pierre.

SMCC Update – We learned that SMCC now requires boosters of everyone so if you submitted a copy of your vax card before you got your booster, ***please send it in again with the booster info*** on it. And this time, please ***send it to Tiffanie Bentley*** because that's where the ultimately end up anyway (we're cutting out Mike T as the middleman). That's because Tiffanie is “in charge of Covid” (so could you make it go away please, Tiffanie??).

Down to the Wire – Peter Bennett (ex-Commissioner Redman has apparently retired from creating nicknames) won the next to last week of our football pool, beating out Sari Greene who inexplicably chose the Cleveland Browns to win. “Wallow in the Meyers” is in the lead for the annual Yorkie trophy with 3 weekly wins, with Bags and Peter having a chance to catch up to him in this last week. My apologies to everyone that I wasn't alert enough to catch a screenshot of Tom doing his Antonio Brown impression at this week's meeting.

Helping Santa – Community Services Director Tony Wagner learned of an anonymous donor who wanted to brighten Christmas morning for a lot of children. Our club helped with the distribution of the toys and clothing, valued in the range of \$26,000 - \$40,000. The toys and clothes were distributed to the South Portland School system for them to in turn distribute to 180 homeless families, to St. Luke's Cathedral to distribute to the 350 children whom they serve, and to the Quality Inn in South Portland where many immigrant homeless families are living.



Halfway Through the Year – President Dave and several board members reported on the club’s accomplishments during the first half of our Rotary year. I have 4 pages of notes on all that we’ve done so I’ll just give you some bullets: *Lobsterbake *Hybrid meetings *Evening at Hadlock Field *Pints for Polio *Gardens at Bug Light *Garden at Fort Williams Picnic Shelter *Repair/maintenance work at Bug Light *Trail work at Gull Crest *Volunteering and donations at South Portland Food Cupboard *Football pool fundraiser for Polio *Financial support of MANY groups and activities *Finalize establishment of endowed scholarship at SMCC *Tree sale *Preparations for WinterFest *Art in the Park fried dough sale *Addition of some great new members *Great publicity in conventional media, website and FB *Excellent programs at club meetings. Dave reported that he has found “great satisfaction in leading the club.” There is every indication that the next six months will be just as successful!

Congratulations to these College Freshmen! – Our club announces the recipients of our scholarships for high school graduates at the time of graduation, but our club policy is that they don’t actually receive a check until they complete their first semester of college. Our treasurer Nicole recently sent checks for \$1,000 each to these students who successfully completed their first semester:

South Portland High School Graduates:

- * Connor Dobson
- * Fiona Stawarz
- * Kyle Rand

Cape Elizabeth High School Graduates:

- * Lila Gaudrault
- * Jinya Fisher-LaPlante
- * Julia Torre
- * Hannah Liess
- * Finn McQueeney
- * Swetha Palaniappan

(We also awarded a scholarship to Sasha Garland-Dore, a CE resident and graduate of Maine Connections Academy, but she has not received the money yet because she is currently doing a gap year.)

A Rotary Foundation “Moment” – Betty Egner shared a Foundation Minute about the Foundation’s focus area of Basic Education and Literacy. She read a few staggering statistics about how much poverty and health would be improved if all children – and especially girls – had at least a primary school education. She also cited some clubs in the district who have received Foundation grants to undertake projects aimed at improving literacy.

One of the Wonders of the World – And speaking of Betty, she noticed this trivia question from the Travel Channel website:

A winter trip to Portland, Maine, provides the gift of lower hotel prices and smaller crowds. We recommend visiting the historic lighthouses of Portland Head Lighthouse in Cape Elizabeth and a little lighthouse affectionately called _____.

- A. Bug Light
- B. Twilight
- C. Lighthut
- D. Flashlight

Bob's January Magazine Quiz

1. What is the “reykjanesfolkvangur?”
 - a) a phenomenon in southern Germany
 - b) a sports car
 - c) a geothermal activity
 - d) a rare dish served up in Reykjavik

2. What do clean water and polio eradication have in common?
 - a) Both are good projects
 - b) They go hand in hand
 - c) Sanitation is the goal
 - d) “It all ties together.”

Hint, hint – since more than one answer sounds good – we’re looking for the opinion of a member of our club!

3. What is “Esperanto?”
 - a) A form of new cryptocurrency
 - b) A Rotary Club in southern Spain
 - c) A new language
 - d) A new electric vehicle

4. Rotary International incoming President Jennifer Jones announced a grant for sustainable club projects. How much?
 - a) 25 million
 - b) 48 million
 - c) 97 million
 - d) 12 million

**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