

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth September 5, 2022



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:

September 7 – NO MEETING

September 7 (Wed) 4-7 - Bug Light Open House - please sign up online

September 8, 8:30 – 4:00 – Building Recovery Ready Communities – Recovery Conference at The

Regatta, 28 Levesque Drive, Eliot; \$25 includes lunch; register on District 7780 website

September 10 (Sat) 9-3 – Open Lighthouse Day! – please sign up online

September 14 – District Governor Claudia Frost (Brunswick) Official Visit

September 17, 9 a.m. - Crutches for Africa – loading container at 128 Saco Ave., Old Orchard Beach

September 21 – Andrew Knupp, Idexx

September 28 – Club Assembly

September 14 Duties

Opening Words – Yerxa Raffle Gift - Hawes Meeting Room Setup – Bentley OWL Operation – *please sign up*

September 21 Duties

Opening Words – Albert Raffle Gift - Healey Meeting Room Setup – Wagner OWL Operation – *Please sign up* <u>**Opening Words**</u> – It was August when Brent Wilson delivered these opening words but it's fitting that these words are now reported in September which is Basic Education and Literacy Month on the Rotary calendar. He read some quotes from Dolly Parton who is passionate about literacy:

"The way I see it, if you want the rainbow, you gotta put up with the rain."

"If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, then you are an excellent leader."

"The seeds of dreams are often found in books and the seeds you help plant in your community can grow across the world."

What's New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to

- Scott Irving September 9
- 🛎 Sarí Greene September 11

Happy Anniversary to

- 🕅 Rick & Diane Dobson 53 years on Sept. 6
- 🖞 Bob & Alícía Danielson 39 years on Sept. 10
- 🖞 Dan & Edie Davidson 60 years on Sept. 15!

Congratulations to Sari Greene who won a bookstore gift certificate donated by Bob Hanson at our August 24 meeting!

Congratulations to President Jim Britt aka Smokey the Bear who threw out the first pitch at a Sea Dogs game!



September Rotaversaries

- Patty Sprague 4 years
- Ellie Speh 13 years
- Ray Healey 28 years (includes former club)
- Bob Danielson also 28 years
- 🏽 Dave Bagdasarían 40 years
- Jack Roberts 47 years



<u>**Pins of Praise**</u> – At our last two meetings, Jim awarded Rotary theme pins to two of our most upbeat club cheerleaders:

- Sue Sturtevant "Make Dreams Real" (2008-09)
- DeeDee Wacksman "Peace Through Service" (2012-13)





<u>A Helping Hand</u> – Our speaker on August 17 was Bill Dunn from the Yarmouth club, a member of our district's prosthetics team. He spoke about the newly designed hand which can be fitted in just a couple hours rather than months. The district's team will be heading to the Dominican Republic in January with a goal of taking 45-50 hands, which needless to say will be life-changing for the people who receive them. (At the board meeting the week after this presentation, the board authorized a donation of \$750 from out international budget to help purchase the hands.)



<u>"Making the Perfect Even Better"</u> – According to our Christmas Lorax Dan McDonald, that is the purpose of the four subcommittees set up to help prepare for the tree sale. The subcommittees are:

- Technology Jim Britt (chair), Scott Irving, Bags
- Pricing John LoBosco (chair), Tony Wagner
- \bullet Note that the trees have been ordered and our costs have gone up 10%
- Public Relations & Marketing Fran Bagdasarian (chair)
- Customer Experience Enhancement Anne Swift-Kayatta (chair), Tom Meyers, Adrienne Murphy, Bob Knupp, both Nancys, Kathy Cotter

If you'd like to join any of these subcommittees, it's not too late. And even if you don't want to make the commitment to join a committee, please let Dan know if you have any ideas for making what's perfect even better!

<u>Are You Ready for Some Football?</u> – Our club has managed to turn a sport that may not meet the 4-Way Test into a way to benefit mankind by helping to eradicate polio. Thanks to honorary member Bill York, our club holds a Foundation Football pool, which differs from traditional pools in that 100% of the \$50 entry fee goes to The Rotary Foundation and the only thing that we win are bragging rights, which are infinitely more valuable.

Logistics:

- You can pay your entry fee online, bring a check to a Rotary meeting, or send me (Nancy H) your check. You do not have to pay before the first game we know you're good for it.
- ✓ We don't count Thursday games so the first game is this Sunday, September 11 make your picks by 11 a.m. Sunday morning.
- All picks are made online note that you can always check the box for random picks if you prefer.
- Here are Jim's instructions for getting to the right spot online:
 - Login or create an account at <u>http://www.poolhost.com</u>.
 - Go to the 'Pool Tools' menu and choose 'Join a Private Pool.'
 - To Join the pool, you need to enter the Pool ID and Password.
 - For the Pool ID # type: 84139 For the Pool Password type: SPCE2022
 - o 'Confirm' to join the pool 'SP-CE 2022 Pick'Em Pool '

Back to School Rotary Meeting – After a break to mark the end of summer ⁽²⁾ and Labor Day, we will be meeting again on September 14. Some notes about that meeting:

- ✓ If you'll be zooming, look for the passcode that Jim will send in his meeting reminder.
- ✓ If you're coming in person, be aware that school is in session at SMCC and there will be more students in the dining hall.
- ✓ We need more people to volunteer to set up our meeting room (a very easy task!) and someone to operate the Owl. After some back and forth with the SMCC IT folks, the computer in our meeting room is working much better so please don't be afraid to volunteer for this task. For anyone interested in helping out, Scott will walk you through it step by step (it's not that hard!)

<u>Alphabet Soup</u> – Next week, our program is the official visit to our club by our "DG." Rotary has a lot of initials, so for those who don't yet know the code, here's a dictionary for a few Rotary acronyms:

DG – stands for district governor. Our district is composed of 38 clubs in southern Maine and coastal New Hampshire. Each year there is a new district governor who oversees the operations of the district and motivates Rotarians in the district. Our DG this year is Claudia Frost from the Brunswick club. Claudia is a retired teacher with degrees in choral conducting. She has been a

frequent visitor to our club, often in the company of global grant scholar Lonnie Hackett, whose program to improve the health of schoolchildren in Zambia has been supported by our club.



AG – stands for Assistant Governor. There are 9 AGs and they are each assigned to be a liaison between the district and 4 or 5 clubs. Our AG is our own Fran Bagdasarian, who also covers the Portland and Falmouth clubs.

PDG – stands for Past District Governor. Our club has had several PDGs:

- I977-78 Harold Fralich
- I1985-86
 Sarando (Sam) Giftos
- 1990-91 Daniel Mooers
- 1999-00 Michael McGovern
- 2016-17 Marge Barker (now in a different club but in our club when she was DG)
- 2018-19 John LoBosco

DGE – stands for District Governor-Elect (i.e. next year's DG) – our current DGE is Marion Cheney from the Dover club.

DGN – stands for District Governor Nominee – (DG in 2 years) – our current DGN is Chief Bob MacKenzie from the Kennebunk club.

A few other commonly heard acronyms:

- ◆ **PETS** President Elect Training Seminar held in March for incoming club presidents.
- ✤ TRF The Rotary Foundation
- PHF Paul Harris Fellow; a designation by TRF to recognize someone who has donated \$1,000 or for whom someone has donated \$1,000 in their name
- RYLA Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (but nobody ever says that; it's always just RYLA) – a leadership camp for high school students held at the end of June at Camp Hinds
- RLI Rotary Leadership Institute an organization affiliated with Rotary which holds training seminars about all things Rotary – look for opportunities to participate either online or in person.
- RAG Rotary Action Group groups of Rotarians from around the world who are passionate about a particular cause – Hunger, Water & Sanitation, Fighting AIDS and Malaria, Population Growth, etc.

Bug Light Quiz Answers

- 1) The real name of Bug Light is:
 - a. South Portland Lighthouse
 - b. Portland Harbor Lighthouse
 - c. Portland Breakwater Lighthouse
 - d. Casco Bay Lighthouse
- 2) The breakwater was built following a vicious storm in
 - a. 1836
 - b. 1855
 - c. 1875
 - d. 1889
- 3) The first lighthouse was
 - a. A cylindrical concrete tower
 - b. An octagonal wooden tower
 - c. A square stone tower
 - d. A pole with a light on top
- 4) The current lighthouse is unique because
 - a. It is the shortest lighthouse in the world
 - b. It has never been lit
 - c. It doesn't have a keeper's quarters
 - d. It is modeled after the Greek Choragic Monument at Lysicrates, Greece near the Acropolis
- 5) The keeper's quarters were removed in 1935 because
 - a. The light was turned off in 1934
 - b. The light was automated in 1934
 - c. The breakwater was paved in 1934 so the keeper could drive out to the light
 - d. A cable was laid to Spring Point Light so that the Spring Point Lighthouse keeper could tend both lights.
- 6) Why was the land behind the breakwater filled in?
 - a. To form a shipyard to build Liberty Ships
 - b. To form a park for the City of South Portland
 - c. Because they dredged the harbor and needed a place to put the dirt
 - d. Because ships were confusing that area for Portland Harbor and were sailing in there by mistake
- 7) After being turned off in 1942, the light was re-lit in 2002 and runs on
 - a. Tidal power
 - b. Solar power
 - c. Wind power
 - d. A large battery
- 8) Bug Light is maintained by
 - a. South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary
 - b. South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary
 - c. South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary
 - d. South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary

<u>As If This Bulletin Weren't Already Too Long</u> – This past month was the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Casco Bay Bridge. Here is a newspaper story about the car raffle that accompanied the opening festivities, which fittingly was a collaboration between our club and the Portland club.

CAPE WOMAN WINS FIRST DRIVE ACROSS "THAT BEAUTIFUL BRIDGE" GIANNA FLOYD'S RAFFLE PRIZE: A NEW CAR AND A HISTORY-MAKING TRIP. By Joshua L. Weinstein Staff Writer **August 26, 1997** Publication: **Portland Press Herald (ME) Page: 1A**

The Portland Bridge was Gianna Floyd's final exam. She was 47 years old when she learned to drive, and Floyd figured that once she navigated the curvy old bridge, she'd be comfortable driving just about any road. Now - 25 years later - she will be the first person to drive across the new Casco Bay Bridge, marking the beginning of a two-day bridge-opening ceremony.

Floyd won that right - and a new Ford Taurus - in a raffle drawing Monday.

"That bridge means a lot to me," an ebullient Floyd said, an hour after learning she'd won. "This is exciting! It's wonderful! And the bridge is beautiful."

The Cape Elizabeth woman explained that she and her husband, a lobsterman, have been watching the new bridge take shape. "We come in from the boat and we see that bridge," she said.

At first, she didn't believe she'd won the raffle.

When Tom Talbott of the Rotary Club of Portland - a sponsor of the raffle - called Floyd, he did not let on that she had won. He gave that job to another sponsor, radio station WBLM.

Instead, Talbott asked her if she had a valid driver's license and if she was available for the ceremony. But he called from the office of Consumer Credit Counseling Service, where Rick Dobson, of the South Portland-Cape Elizabeth Rotary Club, works.

Floyd has caller ID, and was skeptical of some character calling from what she thought was a collection agency claiming to represent the Rotary Club.

She pegged him for a bill collector.

"I said, 'Did I pay my bill?"" she recalled.

"Yes," Talbott answered, "I'm sure your credit is perfect."

Even when the radio station called, Floyd couldn't quite believe it.

"I said, 'Please don't lie to me, please don't lie to me," she said. It wasn't until her son, who heard the news on the radio, telephoned and told her about it that Floyd believed she had won.

Then she called her husband on his boat.

"I said: 'I win! I win! I win!' He said, 'Don't call me,'" she said, laughing.

"That car, I need it because this" - she waved toward her 5-year-old car – "is beginning to fall down."

About 5,300 people entered the raffle at \$5 an entry. Half the proceeds will go to the Rotary clubs, the other half to the Casco Bay Bridge Celebration Steering Committee. In addition to WBLM and the Portland Rotary, the raffle was sponsored by the Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth; WCSH-Channel 6; Rowe Ford Westbrook and Auburn; Shop 'n Save; and, Seltzer & Rhydholm, a Pepsi Cola bottling company.

The Rest of the Story – Gianna's husband passed away in 2008 and she had a hard time making ends meet after that. She was eventually forced to sell her home and move out of Cape Elizabeth. A few folks who learned of her plight helped out and one of the people helping with the move was Tom Meyers, who at the time had no idea that she had any connection to the car raffle or our club. "During the move, I came across the magnetic sign that was attached to the car that she won as she drove it across the bridge. Gianna had the actual newspaper from that day, and the article included a photograph of her in the car. She kept the newspaper and gave me the sign."

The sign is in Tom's basement – if anyone has any ideas about how to permanently archive it, please get in touch with him.



ART in the PARK! Congratulations and thank you to everyone who helped out at Art in the Park!









ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH PORTLAND/CAPE ELIZABETH, MAINE

Officers

President – Jim Britt President-Elect – Dan McDonald Vice-President – Nancy Irving Secretary – Kathy Cotter Treasurer – Tom Hamerski

Directors

Club Administration – Mike Tranfaglia Youth Services – Tiffanie Bentley & Sarah Fisher Community Services – Kiley Wilkens-O'Brien International Services/Foundation – Peter Bennett Membership – Matt McAleney Director-At-Large – Dave Bagdasarian

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

> **DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR** Claudia Frost, Rotary Club of Brunswick

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Jennifer Jones, Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada