

TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
December 13, 2023**



*I slept and dreamt that life was joy.
I awoke and saw that life was service.
I acted and behold, service was joy!
Rabindranath Tagore*

Upcoming Dates:

Note that our next meeting is on January 3

December 20, 7 p.m. – Maine Pops Band concert at St. Luke’s Cathedral, \$10 donation. (DeeDee’s husband is in the band!)

January 3 – Club Assembly & Election of 2024-25 Board – Mid-year check-in and looking to the future.

(Note that the SMCC Dining Hall will be closed for our January 3 & 10 meetings – you will receive an email if there are alternate dining plans.)

January 3 Duties

Opening Words – Sturtevant
Raffle Gift – Dorrington

January 10 Duties

Opening Words – Swift-Kayatta
Raffle Gift – Dube

Meeting Setup Reminder: Locker Combination is **11-21-11**

Opening Words – Patty Sprague shared some words from one of her heroes, Jane Goodall:

“You cannot get through a single day without making an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”

What's New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to

-  *Tom Meyers (Dec 17)*
-  *Dave Bagdasarian (Dec 19)*
-  *Ray H-E-A-L-E-Y (Dec. 23)*
-  *Rick Dobson (Dec 23)*
-  *Chris Speh (Dec 26)*
-  *Kathy Cotter (Dec 28)*
-  *Jim Britt (Dec 28)*
-  *Anne Swift-Kayatta (NYE! Dec 31)*
-  *Paul Smith (January 6)*
-  *Chuck Redman (January 9)*

Happy Anniversary to

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

Congratulations to President Dan who won a gift certificate to Red's (the ice cream place, not the lobster rolls), but then I believe he donated it back to the "Raffle Reserve."

Happy Holidays to our Honorary Members:

-  *Bob Carson**
-  *Dan Davidson**
-  *Rick Dobson**
-  *Dr. David Langdon*
-  *Marc Mutty**
-  *Sybil Riemensnider**
-  *Tom Simpson*
-  *Bill York**

**former member*

Guests:

- ❖ *Rich Petrie from SMCC for the second week in a row*
- ❖ *Pamela Fox, wife of our newest member*
- ❖ *Ravi Koil, a guest of John LoBosco (they both hosted Beach 2 Beacon runners)*

Tree Reminders:

1. If you open: When you unlock the padlock on the door, please replace the key immediately.
2. If you close: Please make sure the ipads and card readers are plugged in and placed in the insulated bag which has a heating pad in it.

Welcome Kevin! – We inducted Kevin Williams of Williams Accounting & Tax in South Portland as our newest member this week. Kevin visited our club last summer and was approved for membership but had hip surgery in the meantime. Kevin credited his wife Pamela Fox (who was also at our meeting this week and last week) with the success of his business. Welcome, Kevin!



The Election is Coming! – Not the presidential one, the one that's much more important – SPCE Rotary officers for 2024-25! Thank you to the Nominating Committee, led by Jim Britt and his deputy John LoBosco for coming up with the following outstanding slate:

- ⊗ President* – Nancy Irving
- ⊗ President-Elect – Peter Bennett
- ⊗ Vice-President – Chuck Redman
- ⊗ Treasurer – Marge Dugan
- ⊗ Secretary – Kathy Cotter
- ⊗ Community Service – Sari Greene
- ⊗ Youth Service – Kiley Wilkens-O'Brien
- ⊗ International Service – Hannah Olshansky
- ⊗ Membership – Brent Wilson
- ⊗ Club Administration – Bev Altenburg
- ⊗ Director at Large* - Dan McDonald

We will be voting on all of these positions at our January 3 meeting, except for the starred ones (President & Director at Large), which are automatic positions. Thank you to all of these Rotarians for their willingness to serve our club!!

Foundation Football (from the Commissioner) – Tommy Cutlets did it again for the Giants on Monday, so Bar the Dorr ended up with 10 correct picks and in the lead. However, our normally infallible predictive algorithm failed to anticipate a Miami loss. As a result, by picking both TEN and NYG, Hannah O O O Olshansky ended up with 10 correct picks as well. Both Catherine and Hannah were within four points of the Monday night total. Under FF rules, both will be credited with a weekly win! (And note that half of the winners so far this season have been female.)

End of Year Reminder – As a tax accountant, I'm in the habit of reminding people about year-end tax deductions. Some of you will benefit tax-wise from making charitable donations this year and others will not. A tax deduction is just the side benefit though – the purpose of making charitable contributions is to benefit the charity. I printed this from one of our members two years ago (so the reference to December 8 is dated) but the underlying sentiments still hold true:

“Over the last few years I have made a conscious decision to make all of my charitable donations, except for one, to **LOCAL** organizations that have substantive and meaningful impact on issues in the community that are important to me. The sole exception has been The Rotary Foundation. Mike McGovern's heartfelt, passionate presentation on December 8 about his work on behalf of the Foundation to eradicate polio reinforced the notion that this international effort - as well as other Foundation causes - has an overwhelmingly positive effect on the **LOCAL** communities in those countries. In addition to polio eradication, Mike and others have shared their observations about the terrible living conditions and other situations that use both Foundation funds and Rotarians-at-work to improve the health and lives of those in need. The breadth and scope of Rotary causes check all the right boxes for me, both locally and internationally. I am happy to know that my small contribution, along with everyone else's, is helpful in trying to meet the basic human needs and economic opportunities we often take for granted. I encourage others in the club to make whatever contribution you can - within your own means - to the Foundation.”

What Santa's Been Up To:

1. Santa donated some toys for boys and girls in the South Portland -Cape Elizabeth area. They were distributed to South Portland Schools, Cape Elizabeth Methodist Church, St. Luke's Cathedral, South Portland Food Cupboard and Greater Portland Family Promise. Helping to distribute were Tony Wagner, Peter Bennett, John LoBosco, Kathy Cotter, Jim Dorrington and MaryAnn McGreehan. Partially filled SPFC van:



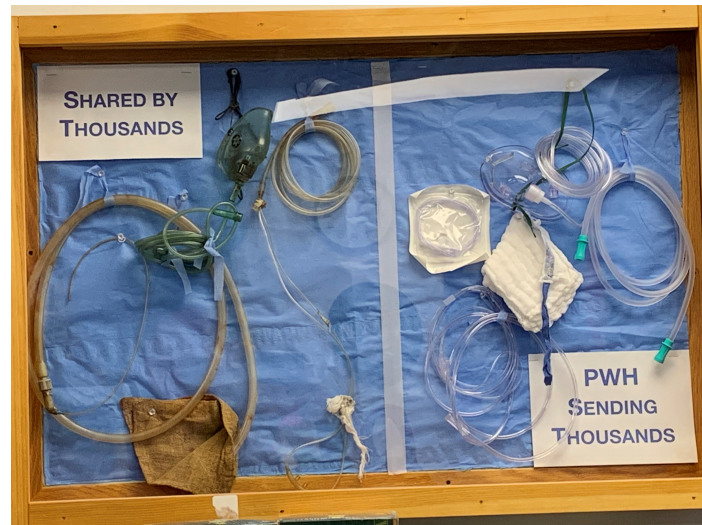
2. Santa has been visiting the SPCE Rotary tree lot, both selling trees and as a customer:



Why Does Healthcare Cost So Much? – This was the topic of our speaker, Trevor Putnoky, CEO of Healthcare Purchaser Alliance. Trevor joined the Alliance in 2010 and was named CEO this year. He volunteers with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine and is a member of the Portland Rotary Club. Trevor shared some very sobering statistics about the cost of healthcare and why the cost is so high. For instance out of every healthcare dollar, only 25 cents goes to actual services from your provider. While the number of physicians has about doubled from 1970 – 2009, the number of people in healthcare administration has seen a growth of about 3200%! The impact of rapidly growing healthcare costs is that the money has to come from somewhere – and the rise in healthcare spending results in decreases in spending on other essential services – food, housing, mental health, infrastructure, etc. In order to effect change, consumer awareness is vital – Trevor recommends using the website CompareMaine.org to compare the costs and quality of healthcare procedures in Maine.



And Finally – In the discussion about healthcare following Trevor’s talk, John LoBosco mentioned Partners for World Health and he gave an example of medical supplies that are used only once in our country but have to be used over and over in many less fortunate countries. Here’s an example of what he was talking about;



Answers to Bob’s December Rotary Magazine Quiz

1. Who is Daniel C. Himelspach?
 - a. President of the Herzogham club in Germany
 - b. Rotary District Governor in Deutschland
 - c. Director of RI**
 - d. Well-known rock singer from Berlin
2. On page 26, there is a report about cheese production in Peru (36,849 tons). How much milk does it take to make one pound of cheese?
 - a. 5 quarts
 - b. 10 quarts**
 - c. 20 quarts
 - d. 25 quarts
3. The Rotary Foundation has some interesting gift suggestions. How much does a water filter cost?
 - a. \$15
 - b. \$35**
 - c. \$50
 - d. \$100
4. What is a coquette?
 - a. A lively latino dance step
 - b. Mexico’s version of Uber
 - c. A little coconut**
 - d. A spy organization in Venezuela

Bonus Question: Once again Victor Fleming of the Little Rock Club has published a crossword puzzle. 17-across is a “salad for members” (15 letters). What is the answer? [Rotary Romaine](#)

And Just for Fun, DeeDee shared these Christmas Cookie Rules from Michigan:

1. If you eat a Christmas cookie fresh out of the oven, it has no calories because everyone knows that the first cookie is the test and thus calorie-free.
2. If you drink a diet soda after eating your second cookie, it also has no calories because the diet soda cancels out the cookie calories.
3. Any cookie calories consumed while walking around will fall to your feet and eventually fall off as you move. This is due to gravity and the density of the caloric mass.
4. Any calories consumed during the frosting of the Christmas cookies will be used up because it takes many calories to lick excess frosting from a knife without cutting your tongue.
5. Cookies colored red or green have very few calories. Red ones have three and green ones have five – one calorie for each letter. Make more red ones!
6. Cookies eaten while watching “Miracle on 34th Street” have no calories because they are part of the entertainment package and not part of one’s personal fuel.
7. As always, cookie pieces contain no calories because the process of breaking causes calorie leakage.
8. Any cookies consumed from someone else’s plate have no calories since the calories rightfully belong to the other person and will client to the plate. We all know how calories like to CLING!
9. Any cookies consumed while feeling stressed have no calories because cookies used for medicinal purposes NEVER have calories – it’s a rule!

**ROTARY CLUB OF
SOUTH PORTLAND-CAPE ELIZABETH**

Officers

President – Dan McDonald
President-Elect – Nancy Irving
Vice-President – *in transition*
Secretary – Kathy Cotter
Treasurer – *position open*

Directors

Club Administration – Mike Tranfaglia
Youth Services – Kiley Wilkens-O’Brien
Community Services – Sari Greene
International Services/Foundation – Hannah Olshansky
Membership – Matt McAleney
Director-At-Large – Jim Britt

Committee Chairs

Visibility Co-Chairs – Fran Bagdasarian & Matt McAleney

Webmaster – Jim Britt & Scott Irving

Bulletin Editor – Nancy Hawes

Program Chair – Chris Speh

Club Protection Officer – Bob Knupp

DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR

Marion Cheney, Rotary Club of Dover, NH

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Gordon McNally, Rotary Club of South Queensferry, Scotland

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