

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

February 14, 2024



*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:

February 17, 2 p.m. – A Concert for Peace at Noble High School. This is a benefit for the Rotary Peace Scholars program. Registration is \$25 at <https://our.show/concertforpeace2024> (link is also on the District 7780 website)

February 21 – No Meeting BUT

February 21, 5-8 - South Portland Business Awards at the new SP Middle School at 120 Wescott Road. One of the award recipients is the Lyric Theater where we have held Theater Night in the past and are doing so again this spring (see below, April 6) – Congratulations to Lyric Theater!!

February 22, 5:30 - 7 - Food processing at South Portland Food Cupboard

February 24 – Lions Club Spaghetti Dinner, Lions Clubhouse, 1 Wheeler Road, Cape Elizabeth

February 28 – Bill Lohrman, Owl's Head Transportation Museum

March 2, 6:00 – Fireworks!! (at Fort Williams Park). Parking assistance needed from 4:45 – 7-ish – see signup from Scott.

March 5 – Presidential Primary Election

March 6 – Stefanie Manning, Maine Trust for Local News

March 8 – Opening of Partners for World Health exhibit at Portland Public Library entitled “Kandapara Brothel: Invited In” (exhibit runs through September 16 – see below for more on PWH as well as another exhibit at the Library!)

March 23 – Lions Club Spaghetti Dinner, Lions Clubhouse, 1 Wheeler Road, Cape Elizabeth

Also on March 23 at 9:30 a.m. – The Rotary Indigenous Partnership Committee, of which Patty Sprague is a member, is hosting a virtual program exploring the movie “Bounty.” *(Sorry, I’m a little fuzzy on the details but we should have more by the time the event rolls around.)*

April 6 – Theater Night at Lyric Theater; Young Frankenstein

April 20 – District Assembly, Westbrook High School

May 17-18 – SPRINGFEST!!

June 29 – District Conference, Isle of Shoals

February 28 Duties

Opening Words – Wilson

Raffle Gift – Greene

March 6 Duties

Opening Words – Albert

Raffle Gift – Hamerski

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

Opening Words – Kiley shared a wonderful quote from her idol, Margaret Mead:

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

What’s New With Our Members

Happy Birthday to

 *Laurenz Schmidt - Feb. 18*

 *David Lourie - Feb. 21*

 *Dick Yerxa - March 5*

Congratulations to Tom Meyers - or really Marti Meyers - on winning yet another gift certificate to Nonesuch Books, this time courtesy of Mike Geneseo. This is the THIRD time recently that he has won the raffle - and each time the prize was Nonesuch!

Thank you to Marge Dugan for passing out homemade valentines at this week's meeting!

Thank you, Bev, for filling in for Kathy Cotter this week (feel better, Kathy!)

Bon voyage to Nancy & Scott Irving as they head west for a couple months (although Nancy will be flying back in 3 weeks just to attend PETS!)

And as I write the bulletin, I just received news that Jeff & Linda Gabrielson's son Gregg passed away following emergency surgery. We are heartbroken along with Jeff and Linda.

Spring Expression Fest! – SpringFest co-chair Jim Britt gave us an update on the evolving plans for the Saturday portion of SpringFest. We have invited a graffiti artist to come and paint a mural on canvas on that day, and Jim is working with Mike Geneseo and the city on how to creatively involve students as well. Sounds exciting!! He also reported that sponsorship sales are over \$40,000 so far!

And Speaking of Jim Britt... - President Dan announced that The Rotary Foundation has recognized Jim as a Benefactor of the Foundation. What does that mean? A “benefactor” is anyone who either donates outright or pledges to donate (through estate plans) at least \$1,000 to the Endowment Fund of The Rotary Foundation. The Endowment Fund is different from the “Annual Giving” that we usually do in that the principal is held permanently but each year’s earnings are used to support the many programs of The Rotary Foundation. So your support for the Foundation just goes on and on. And if you want you can specify which area of focus you’d like to have the funds benefit (Water and Sanitation, the Environment, Maternal & Child Health), etc. Thank you, Jim, for your generosity!

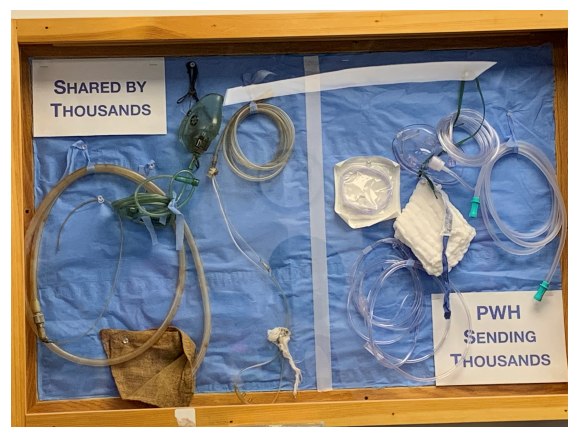




Figure..It..Out! – These words from her father have guided Elizabeth McLellan to transform a bunch of medical supplies she brought home from work in 2007 and collected in her dining room into a non-profit with 12 employees and hundreds of volunteers (including herself) that collects from over 100 hospitals in New England. Our International Service Director Hannah introduced Elizabeth and described her educational background and numerous awards. One of those awards (which surprisingly is not in her bio on the Partners for World Health website) is that the Rotary Club of South Portland-Cape Elizabeth made her a Paul Harris Fellow in 2012. (Unfortunately I couldn't find a photo of the event.) Many of us in the club were already familiar with PWH as a result of work parties in which we loaded containers at their first warehouse about 15 years ago. And Marge Dugan is especially familiar with them since she went on one of their medical mission trips. But it was great to get an update and let newer members know about the organization. Here are a few of the facts that she shared with us:

- PWH kept nearly a million pounds of medical equipment and supplies out of landfills last year.
- By doing so, they saved hospitals tens of thousands of dollars in disposal fees.
- The 2024 goal is to send 30 containers of supplies/equipment to a variety of countries.
- The recipient has to pay for the transportation (but often Elizabeth helps them to “figure out” how to pay for it) but each container's contents are worth \$300,000-350,000.
- Since the Russian invasion, several containers have been shipped to Ukraine (often by way of donated transportation services). At the onset they needed emergency supplies but lately they are in need of rehab supplies/equipment for Ukrainians who have had traumatic amputations.
- PWH also has several medical mission trips each year – this year they're scheduled for Bangladesh, Senegal, Kenya and Nepal.

I put this photo in the December 13 bulletin (the program was on waste in the healthcare industry and PWH was mentioned) and it describes better than words what PWH does:



Coming Soon to Portland Public Library! – Consider checking out this photography exhibit curated by our own Sue Sturtevant during the month of March!

125 Years of the Portland Camera Club: Seeking the Magic Light
March 1-31, 2024

The photographic images in this exhibit represent various Portland Camera Club



Monday Morning (1977) Eddie Richardson, Jr. (1921-2016)

members' styles and techniques over the past twelve decades since the founding of the club in 1899. On one wall are historic images and across from them are five images made by current members of the club, along with a brief history of the PCC. Also included are four lantern slide images that were donated to the club after their submission to lantern slide competitions in the early twentieth century.

Bob's February Rotary Magazine Quiz –

1. Gordon McNally, our current RI President, is a man of many talents. What is his latest accomplishment?
 - a. He invented a new tartan pattern.
 - b. He wrote a letter to himself.**
 - c. He is concerned about everyone's mental health.
 - d. He is overly busy tasting single malts.

(Note – Bob intended the answer to be the letter on page 19, which was quite humorous – but I believe other responses could also be correct.)

2. Who is Robert Chatfield?
 - a. It is a mystery.
 - b. A climate denier.
 - c. A Cape Elizabeth letter writer.
 - d. The next statewide appointee to the wildlife board.
3. What and where is Rancho Cielo?
 - a. Ronald Reagan's getaway in CA.
 - b. A vocational school in Monterey, CA.
 - c. A place where old cars go to die near Salinas, CA.
 - d. A grocery store in Carmel, CA.
(Bob notes that this was a very interesting article on pages 30-41.)
4. What is RI's theme for February?
 - a. Wake up and die right!
 - b. Get out of the left lane and be kind.
 - c. Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention
 - d. Show the way and grow membership

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTH PORTLAND-CAPE ELIZABETH

Officers

President – Dan McDonald
President-Elect – Nancy Irving
Vice-President – Peter Bennett
Secretary – Kathy Cotter
Treasurer – Nancy Irving

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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