

# TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth  
January 10, 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:

**January 17** – No Meeting

**January 21, 11-2** – District 7780 Midyear Luncheon at Hilton Garden Inn, Freeport – see below.

**January 24** – Matthew Sturgis, Cape Elizabeth Town Manager

**January 24** – Stand-up Board meeting following regular meeting

**January 25** – Work party at South Portland Food Cupboard

**January 31** – Paul Johnson, Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife (ret) – Discovering the Allagash Wilderness Waterway

**February 7** – Paul Fenton, Cape Elizabeth Chief of Police

**February 14** – Elizabeth McLellan, Founder/CEO, Partners for World Health

**April 6** – Theater Night at Lyric Theater; Young Frankenstein

**January 24 Duties**

Opening Words – Tranfaglia  
Raffle Gift – Dugan

**January 31 Duties**

Opening Words – Wacksman  
Raffle Gift – Filieo

**Meeting Room Setup and Owl Operation signups for 2024 have been created – sign up please!**

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

**Opening Words** – Anne Swift-Kayatta shared a quote from Mahatma Gandhi as well as some thoughts on that quote:

**“It is the action, not the fruit of the action, that is important. We have to do the right thing. It may not be in our power and it may not be in our [life]time, that there will be any fruit. But that doesn’t mean we stop doing the right thing. We may never know what results come from our actions. But if we do nothing, there will be no result.”**

As Gandhi said, doing justice can be easy. Doing right is often terribly difficult especially when we find that we must take a stand that makes us unpopular or when we realize that we owe an apology. May we leave this room tonight motivated to right another wrong in our world, no matter how large or small that action may be.

**What’s New With Our Members**






*Happy Birthday to*

-  *Jack Roberts (January 16)*
-  *Hannah Olshansky (January 17)*

*Happy Anniversary to*

-  *Doug & Dana Schauf (January 21)*
-  *Bob & Judy Knupp (January 30)*

*January Rotaversaries:*

-  *Maryann McGreehan - 2 years*
-  *Kiley Wilkens-O’Brien - 2 years*
-  *Anne Marie McCoubrey - 5 years*
-  *Doug Schauf - 11 years*
-  *Dan Davidson - 42 years*
-  *Dick Yerxa - **62 YEARS!!!!***

*Thank you to Scott Irving for fixing our podium!*

*Congratulations to Phil Dube for winning a gift certificate to Scratch Baking courtesy of...Phil Dube!*

**District Midyear Brunch** – Consider attending the district’s midyear brunch this Sunday at 11 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Freeport. Keynote speaker is our own Kiley, who is chair of the district’s brand new chapter of the Rotary Action Group Mental Health Initiative. We learned from Emma Bodwell’s email this week that although billed as taking place from 11-2, the last hour will just be meetings for presidents and presidents-elect, so for the rest of us it’s only a 2-hour commitment. You can register on the District 7780 website (look under “Events and Registration”) and you can request reimbursement for the \$35 from Kathy Cotter.

**Speaking of Kathy Cotter!** – Congratulations to this year’s winner of the Yorkie! Kathy had the most correct picks 3 times this season which means that she gets to have her name added to the trophy, AND she will be able to don the gold jacket when the Commissioner returns from the Southwest. Congratulations also to Bob Knupp who was the weekly winner for the last week of the season, and to “Cowboy Jim” (i.e. Jim Britt) for having the most overall correct picks for the season! Note that this will be the first time that a woman’s name is added to the trophy!!



**Gimme Shelter** – Brent Wilson gave us a “classification talk,” describing his 17-year experience working in the fields of homeless services and affordable housing. Brent started out as an Americorps Vista volunteer coordinator for Family Promise of Gallatin Valley in Bozeman, Montana. From there he moved to Dundalk, Ireland where he volunteered at a homeless shelter. Then back to Helena, Montana where he was an outreach worker for Family Promise. While there he got to know many hobos. Next he went Greensboro, NC and then finally to Maine where he was a property manager for Westbrook Housing. His current position is asset manager for Evernorth, a low income housing tax credit syndicator; Brent’s territory is mainly New Hampshire. In addition to his day job, Brent is also

the Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors for Greater Portland Family Promise. GPFM helps homeless families (primarily immigrants) and helped 65 families in 2023. Brent explained that families are the “hidden homeless” – they make up a significant portion of the homeless population but when we think of the homeless, families don’t come to mind. Brent described the affordable housing crisis and said that by 2030, Maine will need 76,400 homes, and South Portland will need 9,011 homes! Brent shared his insights into homelessness – it involves a lot of complex issues and a lot of trauma. In his experience about half of the homeless who are placed into apartments don’t last there. Extensive case management is key to success!



**Bug Light Still Stands!** – Many of us were concerned about the status of “our” lighthouse after the record high tide on Saturday. Tony went to check out the situation today and said that “there was not a single drop of water on any of the 3 floors. I removed a plank covering the well on the first floor and that was bone dry. Solar panel was in place and light working. No damage to the outside, nor the Names Sign, and granite commemorative block. We dodge a bullet, thanks to good upkeep.”



Photo was taken by photographer Jimmy Davis- thank you to Dan Davidson for sending the link

## **Bob's January Rotary Magazine Quiz**

1. Carmel, Indiana made this publication – why?
  - a. Traffic problems
  - b. Covid-19 outbreaks
  - c. Record roundabouts
  - d. Flooding problems
2. January 27<sup>th</sup> is “Remembrance Day” of what?
  - a. The coldest day of the year
  - b. Basketball events
  - c. Ski resorts
  - d. The Holocaust
3. What was the annual value of used cooking oil in 2022?
  - a. 468 Million
  - b. Two Billion
  - c. Six Billion
  - d. Eight Billion
4. The Rotary Club of Fairhope, Alabama has the shortest marathon event of just ½ kilometer. What do all participants get?
  - a. Hushpuppies
  - b. Pancakes
  - c. Sausage-topped donuts
  - d. Fried dough

## **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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