

# TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth  
December 11, 2024**



## Upcoming Dates:

**Pickleball** – dates may vary - contact Dave Bagdasarian Sr. if you're interested in participating.

**December 18** – NO Meeting – we will party on the next day instead!

**December 19, 5:30 – 7:30** – Party at Purpoodock! Heavy hors d'oeuvres and cash bar. \$25/person. Please respond to Bev by Sunday if at all possible as she needs to give them a headcount next week.

**December 25** – NO Meeting – Happy Holidays!

**January 1** – NO Meeting – Happy New Year!!

**January 2** – Food Processing at South Portland Food Cupboard

**January 8** – RYLA Alumni Audrey LeBleu (Catherine Callahan's daughter) and Xavier McCarthy.  
*Note – dining room will be closed this week (but will be open for our January 15 meeting)*

**January 15** – Club Internal Business Meeting

**January 19, 11 a.m.** – District 7780 Midyear Lunch at Hilton Garden Inn, Freeport – all Rotarians welcome!

**January 27** – “Fireside Chat” about the ShareForever campaign – meeting with Celeste Herbert from RI. Let Tony or Nicole know if you're interested in attending (invitations will go out in January).

### January 8 Duties

Opening Words – Lohrman  
Raffle Gift – Wilson  
Meeting Room Setup – *please sign up\**  
Owl – *please sign up*

### January 15 Duties

Opening Words – McAleney  
Raffle Gift – Albert  
Meeting Room Setup – *please sign up\**  
Owl – *please sign up*

Meeting Setup Reminder: Locker Combination is **11-21-11**  
*\*And a tip about the meeting setup – if you sign up, you won't be doing it alone – there are always people there to help!*

### **President Nancy's Questions of the Week**

**Is there something you need to change, and what is the first step?**

**Opening Words** – John LoBosco offered the Rotary theme from the year that he was District Governor: “Be the Inspiration,” as well as a quote from Atlanta mayor Andrew Young:

“Rotary is the glue that holds civil society together.”

### What's New With Our Members (& Friends)

Happy Birthday to

-  Tom Meyers - Dec. 17
-  Dave Bagdasarjian - Dec. 19
-  Ray Healey - Dec. 23
-  Chris Speh - Dec. 26
-  Kathy Cotter - Dec. 28
-  Jim Britt - also Dec. 28
-  Anne Swift-Kayatta - a New Year's Eve baby
-  Paul Smith - Jan. 6

Happy Anniversary to

-  Laurenz & Barbara Schmidt - Dec. 18
-  Dan & Shirley Mooers - Dec. 31

### **A Note About Upcoming Events** –

- ❖ If you usually eat at the SMCC Dining Hall before our meetings, notice that the dining hall will be closed for our January 8 meeting but will be open the following week (January 15).
- ❖ The Maine Mariners are interested in having a Rotary Night on January 26 – stay tuned for more information!
- ❖ We will back in our old room at the end of January – you'll get a heads up when the time comes.
- ❖ Our program at our next regular meeting (not counting the party on December 19) will be two RYLA alumni, one of whom is Catherine Callahan's daughter Audrey. Editorial note – after being the District Treasurer for 4 years, I concluded that RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards – an outdoor leadership training experience) is the best thing we do as a district. Covid created a big hiccup in this program and reduced the number of students our club has been able to sponsor, so I'm excited that we get a chance to hear from participants again!

**Welcome, JD!!** – This week we welcomed not one, but TWO new members to the club. Well, one is not exactly new, but returning after a hiatus caused by an employment change. Justin (J.D.) Dobson originally joined our club in 2003, inducted by Matt McAleney who inducted him again this week! (And fittingly, JD's father Rick inducted Matt into the club!) JD lives in South Portland and is the Director of Buildings and Grounds for the Catholic Diocese. Even before he was a member of the club, JD was helping out and drove up to the Bangor area to help pick up the wreaths. Welcome back, JD!!!

**And Welcome, Jill!** – Like JD, Jill has also been helping out already, working at the Food Cupboard and doing several tree shifts! Jill is originally from California and recently moved to Maine from New York state where she was an early childhood educator. Jill is now studying nursing and her husband Mike (who is a teacher) will be moving to join her in Maine at the end of the current school year. Welcome, Jill!!!

**What is His Secret???** – John LoBosco, Marge Dugan and Dick Yerxa were all tied with 9 correct picks last week, and Dick won the tiebreaker by guessing the EXACT number of points in the Monday night game. This is Dicks' FOURTH weekly win, which presumably means that the trophy will be back on display at Yerxa's Power Equipment on Warren Avenue. Dick has the most weekly wins and is just one pick behind Bob Danielson in the total pick count.

**IntWork** – Our speaker this week was Stefanie Trice Gill, founder and principal recruiter for IntWork, a boutique recruiting firm that helps employers find and hire qualified diverse professionals. Stefanie used to be the Director of Interpreter Services at Maine Medical Center and she told the story of an asylum seeker and father of 3 who was cleaning floors in the hospital. He had been a geophysicist with over 10 years working in that field for oil & gas companies, and was fluent in English. Stefanie described him as the tip of the iceberg of hidden talent in Maine. Why does this matter? Maine's low birth rate and aging population make it difficult for Maine employers to find qualified employees. Immigrants in Maine are three times more likely to have a STEM profession than native Mainers and 53% more likely to hold a graduate degree. Far from taking jobs from

Americans, every immigrant STEM worker with an advanced degree who is hired leads to 2.62 new jobs. IntWork specializes in placing new Mainers in tech and executive level placements, keeping jobs in Maine and allowing these placed employees to have an impact on our economy.



*At the Tree Lot... thank you to Catherine Callahan for the photo of the trees in snow, and to whoever took the Mill Creek Park photo for our FaceBook page (Matt?)*



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

Officers

President – Nancy Irving  
President-Elect – Peter Bennett  
Vice-President – Chuck Redman  
Secretary – Kathy Cotter  
Treasurer – Marge Dugan

Directors

Club Administration – Bev Altenburg  
Youth Services – Ray Healey  
Community Services – Sari Greene  
International Services/Foundation – Hannah Olshansky  
Membership – Brent Wilson  
Director-At-Large – Dan McDonald

Committee Chairs

Tree Sale – Matt McAleney  
SpringFest – Jim Britt  
Program Chair – Chris Speh  
Foundation Chair – Nicole Albert  
Social Media - Matt McAleney  
Publicity – Jim Britt  
Web Administrator – Scott Irving  
Bulletin Editor – Nancy Hawes  
Club Protection Officer – Bob Knupp

**DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR**

Bob MacKenzie, Rotary Club of Kennebunk

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Stephanie Urchick, Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania

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