

# TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth**

**May 28, 2025**



## Upcoming Dates:

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

**May 31** – District Celebration at Colony Hotel in Kennebunkport – registration link available on District 7780 website

**June 4** – Dee Dee Wacksman & Tom Meyers, Cape Elizabeth Historical Society – see details below

**June 7** – Family Fun Day at Fort Williams Park; we will be selling popcorn (with our new machine!) and whoopie pies (Maine's official state treat)

**June 11** – Club Internal Business; Strategic Planning Update; year-end review

**June 14, 8 a.m.** – Gardening at Bug Light

**June 18** – NO CLUB MEETING. However the District's Changeover will take place on that evening – see details in invitation email from Emma Bodwell

**June 19** – SPCE Rotary at the Sea Dogs! Price of admission = \$40 (or more!) donation to PolioPlus – give your check to Nicole, or let her know that you're sending it in yourself. (And remember all donations are matched 2:1 by the Gates Foundation!) Like last year, in addition to your ticket to the game, your donation also buys you hot dogs, pizza, fruit & cheese platter and Sea Dogs biscuits (you're on your own for beverages and any other food items).

**June 21 – 25** – Rotary International Convention, Calgary, Alberta

**June 22, 7:30 a.m.** – Registration for campers at RYLA, Camp Hinds

**June 24, 5:30** – Dinner with RYLA campers at Camp Hinds

**June 25** – Year End Change-over Celebration at Port Harbor Boathouse. Signup coming out soon. The Foundation Football Yorkie Trophy will also be presented at this event.

**July 2** – NO MEETING

**July 7** – Sounds by the Sea at Fort Williams: Maine Marimba Ensemble

**July 9** – Club Internal Business – Planning for the new Rotary year!

**July 13** – Parking at Paint for Preservation (Cape Elizabeth Land Trust)

**July 14** - Sounds by the Sea at Fort Williams: Ocean House Road Band

**July 23** – Lobsterbake!

**July 26** – Bug Light 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration!

**June 11 Duties**

Opening Words – Sturtevant

Raffle Gift – Dorrington

Meeting Room Setup – *please sign up\**

Owl – *please sign up*

**June 25 Duties**

Opening Words – Tranfaglia

Raffle Gift – Dugan

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

**President Nancy's Question of the Week:**  
**What's most important to you right now?**

**Opening Words** – Patty Sprague could not attend but she sent Jane Fonda's SAG Award acceptance speech for President Nancy to read:

"We actors, we don't manufacture anything tangible. What we create is empathy. Our job is to understand another human so profoundly, that we can touch their souls. Why know why they do what they do, we feel their joys and their pain. We have to drill deep, don't we. Make no mistake, empathy is not weak or woke.

We must not isolate, we must stay in community, we must help the vulnerable. We must find ways to project an inspiring vision of the future, one that is beckoning, that is welcoming...Let's make it so."

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

Happy Birthday to

🍰 Tiffanie Bentley (June 7)

🍰 Bill Anderson (June 10)

Congratulations to Laurenz, winner of a gift certificate to Tacos & Tequila donated by Peter deGennaro!

Thank you, Chuck & Dave Bagdasarian for chairing Cape Family Fun Day - and Chuck reports that our new popcorn machine works!

Thank you Chris Speh & Patty Sprague for agreeing to be International Service co-directors for the upcoming Rotary year.

June Rotaversaries (not all at SP-CE):

- 🌸 Paul Smith - 8 years
- 🌸 DeeDee Wacksman - 14 years
- 🌸 Scott Irving - 15 years
- 🌸 Bill Anderson - 20 years

Guests: We were delighted to have Sybil Riemensnider join us this week! (See below for Food Cupboard news.) Also Jim Huebener and his wife Liz (a member of the Lions club) – see below for why they were there. And welcome back Chuck in person!

**Our Meeting this coming week (June 4)** – Our meeting Wednesday, June 4 will be an exclusive, behind-the-scenes tour of the Fort Williams Museum and Cape Elizabeth History Center. Family and friends are welcome!

- **5:15 pm** "Brown Bag Dinner" at the Picnic shelter; bring whatever you want to eat and drink in a brown bag or lovely picnic basket.
- **6:00 pm** Whether you brown bag it or just coming for the tour, meet in front of the building (**see map for location**)
- **6:10 - 6:30** Small groups briefly visit all the rooms, including many not open to the general public.
- **6:30 - 7:30** Explore it all at your leisure

**The Secret Location Revealed!!** – At its fundraising concert on May 17, the South Portland Food Cupboard's new location was announced: the back half of the former Burlington Coat Factory at the Jetport Plaza on Western Avenue in South Portland.

**HOMETOWN HEROES!!** – We expressed our appreciation at SpringFest to the following by awarding them Paul Harris Fellow recognition:

- ❖ Cape Elizabeth Fire Chief **Steve Young**
- ❖ Cape Elizabeth Police Chief **Paul Fenton**
- ❖ Former South Portland City Clerk and Mayor **Linda Cohen**
- ❖ South Portland Fire Chief **Phil Selberg**
- ❖ South Portland Police Chief **Daniel Ahern** (Deputy Chief Kevin Gerrish accepting on his behalf)

The police and fire chiefs of each municipality were accepting recognition for their entire departments.



He could not be present at SpringFest so at our meeting this week we awarded Paul Harris Fellow recognition to Cape Elizabeth resident **Jim Huebener**. There is a long list of the ways that Jim serves his community, the most recent being in his role as long-time coordinator of the CE Memorial Day parade.



Congratulations to all who received these well-deserved honors!!!!



**An Independent Judiciary** – Our speaker this week is well-known to us – Federal Judge Bill Kayatta, who happens to be Anne’s husband. Chris introduced Bill by recounting his long list of accomplishments, which led to his being selected (and approved!) as a federal judge. Bill is one of six judges in the 1<sup>st</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals – that circuit consists of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Puerto Rico. Bill explained the roles and interplay of the District Courts, Circuit Courts and Supreme Court and then he went on to explain the history and importance of an independent judiciary.

In 1761 and 1772 King George III issued two edicts which made the judiciary in the colonies subject to the king – i.e. he could fire them if he didn’t like their decisions. In response to that one of the 27 complaints in the Declaration of Independence objects to that, and the Constitution makes it clear that the judiciary is not beholden to any other branch. It does that by providing lifetime tenure for judges, and by providing that the President or Congress cannot reduce a judge’s salary if they disagree with a decision.

Bill explained that since the judiciary has no military or spending power, its ongoing independence is dependent on the will of the American people; a recent poll indicated that 79% of Americans believe that decisions of the courts should be binding. Bill observed that this is necessary in order to provide “liberty and justice for all.”

*Thank you Bill for this very timely and insightful presentation!*

**Thanks for Plowing, Mowing Grass, etc....** – Our club expressed its appreciation to the Cape Elizabeth Public Works Department last Monday (5/19) with our annual lunch for them. Thank you to Jeff Gabrielson, everyone who helped set up, serve and clean up, and to Dan Davidson for taking photos.



### **Board Tidbits**

- See mention above that Chris & Patty have agreed to serve as International Service directors. We are still looking for someone (or a pair of people) to serve as Community Service director starting this summer.
- Treasurer Marge reported that the net profit from SpringFest is expected to be about \$30,000 – well done!
- Peter reported that the Board approved his budget. Furthermore the board discussed the SpringFest finances and decided to treat it similar to the tree sale – i.e. the current year's profit will be spent in the following year; that way the board will know how much money they have available to spend each year.

## **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 – Scott Irving  
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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