

# TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth  
February 4, 2026**

***VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH!***



## **Upcoming Dates:**

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

**February 9, 6 p.m.** – Foundation Grant Qualification Training (via Zoom)

**February 11, 5:45 – 7:30** – Potluck dinner at United Methodist Church on Route 77; Entertainment by Pejepsco Station. See sign-up email that Bev sent.

**February 12, 6 p.m.** – SpringFest meeting (via Zoom)

**February 18** – Emma Tiedemann, Voice of the Sea Dogs

**February 21** - Lions Club Spaghetti Dinner, Lions Clubhouse, 1 Wheeler Road, Cape Elizabeth

**February 25** – No Meeting

**February 25 (Wednesday)** – Special Olympics Maine. Cross country skiing and snowshoeing take place at Quarry Road Trails in Waterville on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Look for more information to come shortly from Tom Meyers – including potential carpooling.

**February 27 (Friday), 5-7:30 (arrive anytime in that window)** – Empty Bowls at SMCC Culinary Arts Center, \$25/adult gets you a soup meal and a handmade bowl! Event information and to purchase tickets: <https://www.smccme.edu/student-life/empty-bowls/>

**February 28, 6 p.m. – FIREWORKS!** at Fort Williams Park (rain/snow date = March 7)

**March 4** – Kristen Crean, Boys & Girls Club of South Portland

**March 11** – Club Business, including Yorkie Presentation!!!

**March 31** - Lions Club Spaghetti Dinner, Lions Clubhouse, 1 Wheeler Road, Cape Elizabeth

**May 15-16, 2026 – SPRINGFEST!**

**February 18 Duties**

Opening Words – Hawes

Raffle Gift – Schauf

**March 4 Duties**

Opening Words – N. Irving

Raffle Gift – Schmidt


Meeting Setup Reminder: Locker Combination is **26-8-30**  
*(This is the new combination)*

**Opening Words** – Youth Services Director Ray Healey summarized the remarks he made to the sophomore class at CEHS, and would be giving to the sophomores at SPHS the next day. In sum, he encouraged them not only to be a go-getter, but to be a “go-giver!”

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

*Happy Birthday to*

 *Nancy Irving - Feb. 13*

 *Laurenz Schmidt - Feb. 18*

 *David Lourie - Feb. 21*

*Happy Anniversary to Chuck & Melissa Redman on Feb. 12*

*Congratulations to Assistant Governor Julie Forbes from the Westbrook Club who won a gift certificate to Shoppers Hardware!*

*Congratulations to Sari Greene who was recently inducted into the SWFL Rotary Club in Babcock Ranch, Florida!*

*Congratulations to Bill York, who received his trophy (mailed to him overseas by the Commissioner) for the most correct picks in this year's Foundation Football pool! He's seen here with Cara (short for Caramel).*



*February Rotaversaries (some not continuous):*

- *JD Dobson - 23 years*
- *Marc Mutty - 27 years*
- *Laurenz Schmidt - 35 years*
- *Paul Butler - 52 years*
- *And at the risk of Phil Dube's head exploding because he maintains he's been in the club longer than Dan, ClubRunner says that Dan Mooers joined on February 25, 1970 - 56 years ago!*

Guests: *We were joined by:*

- *AG Julie Forbes, as mentioned above,*
- *Roger Berube of the Falmouth club – and Patty's husband!*
- *Andy Souza of Mill Creek Barber Shop for a return visit*
- *Also Paul Smith played hooky from his Wednesday evening class to join us*

**SPHS RYLA Alumni** – Patty Sprague, our liaison with the South Portland Interact Club, introduced two juniors at South Portland High School who attended RYLA last summer: Oliver Jenkins and George Jenkins. And as you might have guessed from their last names and from the fact that they’re in the same year in school – they’re twins! Both of them are on the track & field team and they both serve in leadership roles – Oliver with the track team and George as secretary of the junior class. Both are active in Interact and expressed their appreciation to the club for the opportunity to attend RYLA. They referred to Ray’s opening words (above) in wanting to be “go-givers.” I have never heard RYLA alumni speak so much about RYLA inspiring them to give back to their community, and how fired up they were to come back to their school and find ways to give back. They cited activities of the Interact club such as trick or treat for canned goods at Halloween, a very successful clothing drive and plans in the works for a monthly food cupboard. Thank you, Patty, for bringing these outstanding young men to our attention!



**Rotary’s Super Bowl!** Our Assistant Governor Julie Forbes was a member of the Bridgton – Lakes Region Rotary Club until she moved to Westbrook and joined that club last year. Julie explained that “polio is personal to me” and told her own polio story. She contracted polio just before her 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday – even though she was vaccinated, which illustrates the necessity of herd immunity. She spent years in and out of hospitals, sometimes necessitating months away from her family. When she moved to Bridgton and opened her naturopathic practice, she was invited to join Rotary. When she discovered that it was Rotary’s mission to eradicate polio, she “became a lifer.” She wove cheerleading into her story since she had wanted to become a cheerleader before being afflicted with polio. But she became a cheerleader anyway- cheering on her patients and now cheering the Rotary clubs in our area, especially those that are struggling. See the handout being sent with this bulletin for more information about her “Rotary Cheer Team.”



**South Portland Food Cupboard Help Wanted** – Now that the Food Cupboard has moved to its new location (behind Staples), it takes a lot longer to pick up the deliveries from Hannaford at Mill Creek, causing delays in processing the food. So it would greatly help to speed things along if the driver had an assistant to meet them at Hannaford and help to load the van (just loading – no driving involved). So if you are available and willing for a half hour on one Wednesday per month at 6:45 a.m., please contact Peter or the Food Cupboard directly.

**Thank You Letters** – Peter passed around some thank you letters that the club had received recently, including a very touching one from Marc Mutty, expressing his appreciation for all the folks who reached out to him after his and Pam’s health challenges. We’re still thinking of you, Marc!

*Here are a couple excerpts (omitting the mandatory IRS language) thanking us for donations we made:*

**Big Brothers Big Sisters of Southern Maine**: “Your contribution of \$2,000 directly fuels our mission to ignite the power and promise of youth through life-changing mentoring relationships. Your generosity helps us recruit, screen, train, and support dedicated mentors who empower youth to see new possibilities and achieve brighter outcomes – in school, at home and in our community. On behalf of the entire BBBSSM team, thank you for believing in our mission and helping us ensure that every child in Southern Maine has the opportunity to thrive.”

**Cape Elizabeth Robotics Boosters**: “Your donation of \$1,000 will help to support Cape Robotics teams in the 2025-26 season as they design and build their robots to compete against teams throughout Maine. Robotics combines hands-on application of engineering, technology, math and science with leadership, creativity and sportsmanship to help develop our next generation of engineers. Again, we thank you for your generous support.”

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Southern Maine** *(we gave them a generous donation last June so they sent us a holiday card with this handwritten message; our speaker on March 4 will be from Boys & Girls Clubs)*: “As the year comes to a close, we want to express our sincere gratitude for your partnership and generous support. Your commitment has helped advance our mission and create meaningful impact throughout the year. We are deeply thankful for your collaboration and belief in our work, and we look forward to continuing our partnership in the year ahead.”

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

**Officers**

President – Peter Bennett  
President-Elect – Laurenz Schmidt  
Vice-President – Chuck Redman  
Secretary – Kathy Cotter  
Treasurer – Marge Dugan

Directors

Club Administration – Bev Altenburg  
Youth Services – Ray Healey  
Community Services – Nancy Hawes  
International – Patty Sprague & Chris Speh  
Membership – Scott Irving  
Director-At-Large – Nancy Irving

Committee Chairs

Tree Sale – Kathy Cotter & Mike Tranfaglia  
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 – Nicole Albert

**DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR**

Emma Bodwell, Rotary Club of Bridgton-Lake Region

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Francesco Arezzo, Rotary Club of Ragusa, Italy

**PMB 239, 50 MARKET ST STE 1A, SOUTH PORTLAND 04106**