

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

March 4, 2026



Upcoming Dates:

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

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

March 18 – Maine League of Women Voters

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

March 24, 5:30 – Club Board meeting on Zoom (change of date)

March 25 – No Meeting

April 11 –Opportunity Workshop (f/k/a District Assembly)

April 7 – Opening Day at the Sea Dogs; first pitch at 4:00

May 15-16, 2026 – SPRINGFEST!

March 11 Duties

Opening Words – Knupp

Raffle Gift – Smith

March 18 Duties

Opening Words – Leasure

Raffle Gift – C. Speh

Meeting Setup Reminder: Locker Combination is **26-8-30**

Opening Words – Nancy Irving shared these thoughts:

Rivers do not drink their own water, trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is. Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you. *Pope Francis*

Be that one. That one who forgives when deep offense has been committed.
That one who loves when no one else does.
That one who gives kindness to those who are mean.
Be that one who looks past the insult, instead seeing the pain that motivated it.
That one who shines light upon those who sit in utter darkness.
Because the impact of being that one runs far and wide. It brings healing to the wounded, joy to the sad, and hope to those in despair.
Be that one. *Author unknown.*

What's New With Our Members (& Friends)

Happy Birthday to

- ♣ Dan Mooers - March 11*
- ♣ Dan McDonald - March 16*
- ♣ Nancy Hawes - St. Patrick's Day*
- ♣ Michael McGovern - also St. Patrick's Day*

Happy Anniversary to

- 🏠 Tom & Marti Meyers - March 9*
- 🏠 Jill & Mike Nadeau - March 14*

Congratulations to President Peter who got to play Laurenz's dice game - roll a 6, you get \$60 and the club gets nothing; roll a 5, you get \$50 and the club gets \$10 - etc. Peter rolled a 4 and got \$40 and the rest of us (i.e. the club) got \$20.

Get well wishes to Shirley Mooers as she recovers from surgery.

Congratulations to Michael Dickel, who just became a U.S. citizen!!!

For anyone who remembers (or otherwise knows) former member and SpringFest sponsor Wayne Schaab, the recent winter Olympics reminds us that he skated for the Maine Mariners and they even played (and lost) an exhibition game against the Miracle on Ice 1980 Olympic hockey team!

March Rotaversaries

- ❁ *Catherine Dorrinton - 3 years*
- ❁ *Aaron Filieo - 5 years*
- ❁ *Sue Sturtevant - 13 years*
- ❁ *Anne Swift-Kayatta - 22 years*
- ❁ *Jeff Gabrielson - 31 years*
- ❁ *David Lourie - 31 years*

Guests: *We were joined by:*

- ❖ *Adrian Kurre, a guest of Bob Danielson;*
- ❖ *Parents of the RYLA speakers: Michael Hankes (Grace's dad) and Catherine Miller (Addie's mom).*
- ❖ *Garrett Doody, Advancement Coordinator for the Boys & Girls Clubs, who accompanied our guest speaker..*

More Outstanding Alums! - RYLA alumni from Cape Elizabeth High School Addison Miller and Grace Hankes thanked the club and spoke about how RYLA had impacted them. Addison mentioned that she had heard that RYLA would be life-changing but she didn't realize that was the case until after she got home and found that she was applying the things she learned at RYLA. Grace learned that being a leader doesn't necessarily mean that you need to have the floor all the time. She found that she could apply the leadership skills she learned at RYLA to her basketball team (which was 0-40 before this year but this year broke even). The club was impressed at how poised these two young women were – great example of the success of the RYLA program.



Better, Bigger, Bolder – Chris introduced our speaker Colleen Cooper, CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Southern Maine. Colleen moved to Maine just four months ago, coming from a Boys & Girls Club south of Boston. She explained the Better Bigger Bolder future vision for the Boys & Girls clubs:

- Better – stronger programming
- Bigger – opening more doors to/for more kids
- Bolder – bridging gaps for success

As an example of efforts toward these goals, the South Portland club has a new clubhouse director and is expanding middle school programming. The Portland club has added a food pantry and plans are in the works to expand the clubhouse to build a teen center. The bottom line: America needs more club kids!

(In checking Colleen's and Garrett's titles on the website, I learned that past president Laura Young of the Portland club is the chair of their Board of Directors. Laura is currently leading the district's outreach trip to India.)



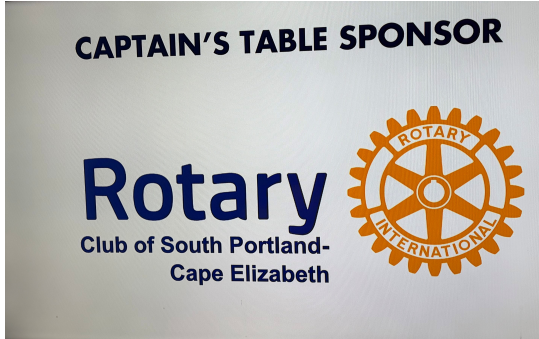
LAST WEEK'S TRIFECTA OF SERVICE/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

There were lots of happy dollars this week for the three events we participated in last week.

Fireworks – I already shared with you the compliments from Emma Tiedmann about the event itself as well as the expert traffic management. Thank you to everyone who made that possible.



Empty Bowls – Unfortunately I didn't think to take a photo of the view, but along with the tasty supper, the beautiful bowls and the great camaraderie, one of the other assets of this event was the spectacular view of Casco Bay from up on the hill – an even better view than from our dining hall! As one of two major sponsors, our club was highlighted on the TV screen in the dining hall. And of course it was all for a wonderful cause – feeding hungry college students!



Winter Special Olympics – The photos I sent last week did not include Tom Meyers (since he took them) who coordinated our club's volunteer opportunity. Tom expressed that it's regrettable that the competition happens on weekdays which precludes many members from participating, but we know you were there in spirit! Here are a couple more photos taken by Tom & John LoBosco– plus some that accompanied a thank you letter we received. The letter itself is copied below the photos.



Tom captioned this "An Athlete who gave it her all!"



Dear Volunteers,

On behalf of everyone involved in this year's State Winter Games, thank you for the incredible time, energy, and heart you gave to make this event so special.

Because of you, 300 athletes had the opportunity to compete, celebrate, and shine in alpine skiing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and speed skating. And alongside them, 200 dedicated volunteers showed up in every role imaginable — from course workers and timers to awards presenters, registration helpers, and warm, encouraging faces at the finish line.

Winter conditions can be unpredictable, schedules can be busy, and events of this size take tremendous coordination. Yet you showed up ready to serve, ready to cheer, and ready to ensure that every athlete had a safe, competitive, and unforgettable experience. Your enthusiasm fueled the energy of the Games, and your commitment made every start line and every finish line meaningful.

Most importantly, you helped create an environment where athletes felt supported, celebrated, and empowered. That is something far bigger than competition results — it is the spirit of inclusion and community in action.

We are deeply grateful for your generosity and dedication. The success of the State Winter Games belongs to you as much as anyone. Thank you for being the heart behind the Games and for making a difference in the lives of so many athletes and families.

We hope to see you again at another Special Olympics Maine state competition soon!

All the best,

Mike

Mike Littlefield

Director of Sports

Special Olympics Maine – www.somaine.org

**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
SpringFest – Marge Dugan
Program Chair – Chris Speh
Foundation Chair – Nicole Albert
Social Media - Matt McAleney
Publicity – Jim Britt
Web Administrator – Scott Irving
Bulletin Editor – Nancy Hawes
Veterans – Jeff Gabrielson
Bug Light – Sam Wilkens-O'Brien & Jill Nadeau
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

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