

TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
July 22, 2026



Upcoming Dates:

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

July 27, 6 – 7:30 – “Sounds by the Sea” – The Stem Brothers, Fort Williams Picnic Shelter

July 29, 4:30 – 5:30 – Portland Rotary Club “Flags for Heroes” at Pedro Little League Field (off Baxter Boulevard in Portland; all are invited to come carry one of the 250 flags! Since we have no regular meeting that day, feel free to join the Portland Club for a social hour at Bayside Bowl afterwards.



August 3, 6 – 7:30 – “Sounds by the Sea” – Bluehill, Fort Williams Picnic Shelter

August 5 – Club Discussion

August 6, 2 p.m. – Weatherization kit assembly at Hamlin School in South Portland

August 8 – Art in the Park, Mill Creek Park. See online signup.

August 10, 6 – 7:30 – “Sounds by the Sea” – Portland Symphony Orchestra Ensemble, Fort Williams Picnic Shelter

August 12 – Chris Payne, Dirigo Science Connection

August 19 – Rotary at the Sea Dogs. Admission of \$50 donation to PolioPlus gets you a skybox ticket, pizza, hot dogs & Sea Dogs biscuits - let Nicole know if you plan to attend.

August 5 Duties

Opening Words – Ellie Speh
Raffle Gift – Dave Bagdasarian, Jr.

August 12 Duties

Opening Words – Sprague
Raffle Gift – Bentley

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

What's New With Our Members (& Friends)

Happy Birthday to Catherine Callahan - July 30

Happy Anniversary to:

- 🏠 Dave & Fran Bagdasarian - July 31 (50 years!)*
- 🏠 Renee & Jeffrey Burch - also July 31*
- 🏠 Paul & Jan Butler - August 11 (70 years!)*

July & August Rotaversaries:

- 🌀 Dave Bagdasarian, Jr. - 6 years*
- 🌀 Bill Lohrman - 8 years*
- 🌀 Michele Danois - 14 years*
- 🌀 Maggie Williams - 17 years*
- 🌀 Chuck Redman - 17 years*
- 🌀 John LoBosco - 21 years*
- 🌀 Bill York - 53 years!*

Congratulations to raffle winners:

- ❖ *Anne Swift-Kayatta won a gift certificate to Terra Cotta on July 15*
- ❖ *Fran Bagdasarian won a Nonesuch Books gift certificate at the lobsterbake*

Guests on July 8: *Asst Governor Julianne Forbes and District Governor Nominee Tom Talbott*

Guests at the Lobsterbake:

District Governor Emma Bodwell & her husband Peter

Assistant Governor Julianne Forbes

Not technically guests but Chris & Ellie Speh were visiting from North Carolina!

From our hosts, the town of Cape Elizabeth:

- ❖ *Patrick Fox, town manager*
- ❖ *Kathy Raftice, community services director & Fort Williams park director*
- ❖ *Paul Fenton, police chief*
- ❖ *Steve Young (fire chief) and his wife Leslie*

New member Bob Flynn and his wife Michelle

Rose Kennealy, wife of late member Jack Kennealy

Many spouses, children and grandchildren of club members – we were delighted to have everyone join us!

CELT Parking – Our Community Service got off to a start already this Rotary year with parking detail for the Cape Elizabeth Land Trust on July 19. We parked 296 cars despite space limitations. Thank you to

- Phil Dube
- Mike McGovern
- Nicole Albert
- Kathy Cotter
- Nancy Hawes

And especially **Tom Meyers** who coordinated the event and worked out the logistics. (I think there were others helping to lay out the “parking lot” the day before – thank you to you also, whoever you are!). The Paint for Preservation auction is the largest fundraiser for the land trust and they were very appreciative of our help.

July 8 Program – New President Laurenz shared the results of the survey he sent out in May, as well as his thoughts on the direction the club should take. See the email he sent that explains the survey results and his thoughts.

July 15 Program – Anne introduced our speaker Kathy Raftice, Director of Cape Elizabeth Community Services, Fort Williams Park and Portland Head Light. Kathy is a native of Cape Elizabeth and began working for CE Community Services 15 years ago, following a career in insurance.

Kathy gave a presentation about the projects at Ft. Williams in the past year.

- ✓ Pond pavilion was drained and a new cistern installed in hopes of making it a year-round amenity.

- ✓ Goddard Mansion was cleared of brush, a stone dust pathway with four informational signs was installed through the carriage house and a stairway leading to the back was built. There are QR codes on signs that lead to an Augmented Reality experience with the mansion.
- ✓ Battery Blair was starting to crumble; fencing was redone and a railing installed.
- ✓ A new playground was moved to the grassy area near the Children's Garden.
- ✓ Powers Road has a new crosswalk, milling and filling and curbs painted.
- ✓ Results of a community survey: don't over-commercialize, need better bathrooms, move graduations to the green for ADA compliance, continue community events, make the park self-sufficient, manage growth with no additional parking, prioritize deferred maintenance, stick to Mission Statement and Master Plan.

Still to do: pond retaining wall, remove pavement in front of Goddard Mansion, replace split rail fence on Powers Road, ADA walkway and new floor for Battery Blair, pave Powers Road and picnic shelter parking lot. They are also looking at various cell tower solutions to improve connectivity.

Financial impact - Parking fees (\$900,000) go to the town, not to Ft. Williams' budget. Trolleys, vans and buses bring in \$300,000, Beach to Beacon \$45,000, site rentals \$43,000 (250 group reservations), weddings \$16,000, four food vendors this year.

The club has supported many projects at Fort Williams over the years, and we have held or participated in many events there, including...our annual lobsterbake!

SPCE Rotary Grandmaster of All Lobsterfests! – That's the title President Laurenz bestowed on Anne Swift-Kayatta, recognizing her masterful coordination of successful lobsterbakes for many years, including this past Wednesday. Anne has a crew that handled tasks such as:

- ✓ shopping,
- ✓ cooking,
- ✓ serving,
- ✓ picking up and moving equipment and supplies,
- ✓ lending their gas grill or truck, opening and closing the fire barn,
- ✓ getting ice,
- ✓ inviting the widows group,
- ✓ guaranteeing a backup venue in case of rain,
- ✓ helping get the trash out,
- ✓ keeping track of the money,
- ✓ and a whole lot more.

The entire club pitched in with setting up and cleaning up. Like Anne, several of the people doing these tasks have been doing them for many years, and it's time for new faces to do most of them. If someone asks you to take their place on the team next year, keep in mind that the reason that they've been doing it for so long is that it's fun to be part of the team!



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

Officers

President – Laurenz Schmidt
President-Elect – Michael Tranfaglia
Vice-President – Chuck Redman
Secretary – Kathy Cotter
Treasurer – Marge Dugan

Directors

Club Administration – *vacant*
Youth Services – Ray Healey & John LoBosco
Community Services – Nancy Hawes & Tom Meyers
International – Patty Sprague & Chris Speh
Membership – Bob Danielson
Director-At-Large – Peter Bennett

DISTRICT 7780 GOVERNOR

Michele Bois-Gilbody, Rotary Club of Freeport

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Olayinka Hakeem Babalola, Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeria

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