

TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
October 21, 2026**



Upcoming Dates:

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

October 27, 5:30 – Club Board Meeting (originally scheduled for October 20)

October 28 – NO MEETING

October 29-30, 5:30, Hannaford Hall at USM – Sports Diplomacy and the Power of Game; World Affairs Council of Maine 2026 Fall Foreign Policy Forum – mentioned by our speaker on September 9. See WACMaine website for more information and to register (free).

November 4 – Internal Business: Tree Sale Preparations

November 6, 5:30 - 8 – A Light on the Point, SMCC Celebration

November 7, 7:30 – You Can't Take it With You at Lyric Theater – let Patty Sprague know if you want her to reserve seats for you!

November 11 – tbd

November 18 – Official Visit from our District Governor Michele Bois-Gilbody

November 21 – Tree Lot Set-up

November 25 – NO MEETING – Happy Thanksgiving!

November 27 – First Tree Delivery

December 5 – 2nd Tree Delivery

December 14, 4-6 – Presentation by Columbia University students summarizing their study of Bug Light & other Maine lighthouses

November 4 Duties

Opening Words – Wilson

Raffle Gift – Danielson

November 11 Duties

Opening Words – Yerxa

Raffle Gift – Danois

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

What's New With Our Members (& Friends)

Happy Birthday to

 *JD Dobson - October 24*

 *Phil Dube - October 28*

 *Matt McAleney - November 8*

Congratulations to Dave Bagdasarian (Sr.) who won a gift certificate to Nonesuch Books donated by Rin Cox.

Thank you to Peter Bennett who filled in for both President Laurenz and Commissioner Chuck this week!

Does he know a football isn't round? – I'm repeating myself from last week, because our football pool winner was Michael Dickel again!! We look forward to the day when he gets a break from his Wednesday work commitment in Massachusetts so that he can come collect his TWO trophies!

(And on a personal note, the Commissioner kicked me out of the PoolHost pool for being delinquent but when I promised to actually try to make some picks he let me back in – thanks, Chuck!)

An Aptly Named Organization – Our speaker this week was Henry Frank, the Director of Communications & Public Affairs for LifeFlight of Maine. And they truly are saving many lives in Maine through the flights they make from rural areas to the hospitals where critically ill patients can receive the care they need. I had a conflict with a district meeting and could not log into our meeting in time for their presentation but they sent their slides and a link to their video, which I encourage you to take a look at if you were not at the meeting.

This Saturday... – is a very important day on the Rotary calendar – **World Polio Day**. Our club does not have specific events per se on that day, but that's because we have already been celebrating World Polio Day for at least 5 months with not just one but TWO fundraisers specifically dedicated to eradicating polio – the baseball game and Foundation Football. Mike McGovern informed us this week that our Rotary PolioPlus dollars are funding 76% of the immunizations in Afghanistan and 49% of the immunizations in Pakistan.

I mentioned last week that Laurenz and I spoke to some 3rd & 4th grade Cub Scouts about Rotary and what we do, including our efforts to eradicate polio. One boy asked why two countries still have polio when the rest of the world was able to eradicate it. That's a really good question and it's hard to give the honest answer – so *let's get this disease eradicated once and for all*, so we don't have to explain to our kids why children in other parts of the world are suffering needlessly.

District Celebration – A few of us (Mike McG, Tony, Nicole, Nancy H) attended the District Celebration in Portsmouth on Saturday. The celebration was 3-fold:

- An observance of World Polio Day, with Polio Oversight Board chair Mike McGovern as featured speaker
- Honoring veterans –
 - by raising funds to present 5 trained service dogs to veterans (mostly to help alleviate PTSD);
 - presenting Paul Harris Fellow recognition to distinguished veterans – as Nicole mentioned in her happy dollar, their sacrifices for our country were truly admirable
 - (Mike Merrill of Volunteers of America was scheduled to speak but was ill so Tony spoke briefly in his place.)
- 250th Birthday of the United States – we all held the 250 flags owned by the Portland club and posed for a photo – it will no doubt be showing up on the district website someday soon.



**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

Committee Chairs

Tree Sale – Nicole Albert & Maggie Williams
SpringFest – Marge Dugan
Program Chairs – Marge Dugan (1st half) & Bob Flynn (2nd half)
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

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