TWO LIGHTS

Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth

October 7, 2026



Upcoming Dates:

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

October 14 – Renee Brouse, ShelterBox

October 14 (after club meeting) – Review of Community Service Grant Applications

October 17, 1:30 (program starts at 2) – District Foundation Celebration at Port City Air, Portsmouth (sign-up on district website)

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

October 21 – Henry Frank, LifeFlight of Maine

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

November 21 – Tree Lot Set-up

November 27 – First Tree Delivery

December 5 – 2nd Tree Delivery

October 14 Duties
Opening Words – Wilkens-O'Brien
Raffle Gift – Cotter

October 21 Duties
Opening Words – Williams
Raffle Gift – Cox

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

Opening Words – Tony and Jaymie are in Scotland so Laurenz read the opening words Tony submitted about winners and losers (and I think he wrote this himself):

Winners - Are always a part of the answer (solution)
Losers - Are always a part of the problem
Winners - Always have a program (plan)
Losers - Always have an excuse
Winners - Say "Let me do this for you"
Losers - Say "That's not my job"
Winners - See an answer for every problem
Losers - See a problem in every answer
Winners - See a green near every sand trap
Losers - See two or three sand traps near every green
Winners - Say "It is difficult, but possible"
Losers - Say "It may be possible, but it is too difficult"

President Laurenz followed up by stressing the importance of turning losing attitudes into winning attitudes.

What's New With Our Members (& Friends)

Happy Birthday to
- Jeff Gabrielson - October 9
- Brent Wilson - also October 9
- Bob Danielson - October 15

Happy Anniversary to Sam & Kiley Wilkens-O'Brien (Oct. 10)!!

Get well wishes to Paul & Jan Butler (both of them 🙁)!
Congratulations to Maggie on winning a gift certificate to Ace Hardware courtesy of Catherine Callahan

October Rotaversaries:

- *Renee Burch - 1 year*
- *Nancy Irving - 16 years*
- *Mike Tranfaglia - 17 years*
- *Sybil Riemensnider (honorary) - 18 years*
- *Nancy Hawes - 35 years*
- *Mike McGovern - 40 years*
- *Tony Wagner - 44 years*

Clean-up: - Club members would have already received an email with a link to see the photo album from Saturday's cleanup at Bug Light. So if you already read about it you can skip to the next story! We had a good crew working alongside a few volunteers from Dirigo Science Connection (DSC):

- Jeff Gabrielson
- Tony Wagner
- Laurenz Schmidt
- Tom Meyers
- Nancy Hawes
- Catherine Dorrington
- Maggie Williams
- Ray Healey





It was a beautiful day and we cleaned up a tree and some other logs, as well as some nips bottles and other trash. Recent speaker Chris Payne and his wife Katie from DSC did all the organizing for the event so it was an easy lift for the club, and a great day to be outdoors beautifying our lighthouse.



SEVERAL UPDATES

Update- Foundation Football – Charter member Dick Yerxa tied with Tom Meyers for the most correct picks in week 4. Tom won the tiebreaker however, and scurred off after collecting his trophy before we could get a photo. In the trivia portion of Commissioner Chuck's presentation, our speaker Adam had the dubious thrill of winning a candy bar with Mike McGovern's face on the wrapper.

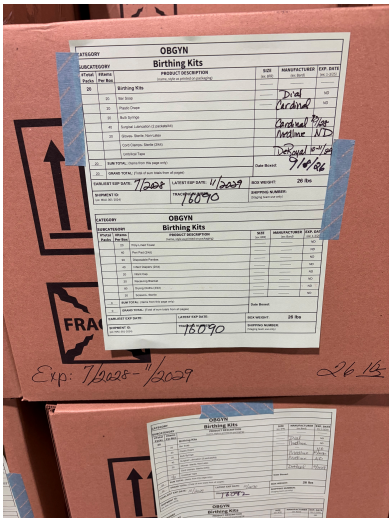
Update – Tree Sale – Following up on the suggestions made in the brainstorming session last month, Nicole announced that the two Interact clubs are in the process of designing posters advertising the tree sale to be displayed in local businesses. Nicole provided them with excerpts from some of the thank you letters the club has received. Note that I will try to send links to thank you letters as we receive them (such as the two we just received) but if you ever want to go back and look at prior thank you letters, you can access them by going to the Newsletters folder under the "Members Menu" dropdown (even though it says "Members Menu" it's indicated as being available to everyone without logging in).

Update – Lyric Theater – Patty announced that our club is sponsoring the show You Can't Take it With You at Lyric Theater from November 6-17. She suggested that members of the club attend on Saturday, November 7 – let her know if you're interested and she'll reserve seats for us. (She says it's very funny!)

Update – District Event on October 17 – The District 7780 Foundation Celebration on October 17 at Port City Air in Portsmouth was originally advertised as having doors open at 1:00 and the program beginning at 2:00. The program is still starting at 2 but the doors won't open until 1:30 due to a Port City Air scheduling issue that just arose. If interested in attending this event that celebrates the twin issues of veterans and polio eradication (with our own Mike McGovern as speaker) head to the district 7780 website and click on EVENTBRITE in the article about the celebration.

Update - Community Service Grants – We have received a half dozen community service grant applications as of this writing. Anyone who is interested is invited to stay after the meeting on October 14 to assess the applications and recommend awards. I (Nancy H) will bring hard copies of the applications to the meeting but let me know if you want me to email you the applications ahead of time.

Update – Maranatha Global Grant – In addition to sending medical equipment to the Maranatha Maternity Hospital in Uganda, Partners for World Health will be sending 480 birthing kits in the next couple months. (This is not part of the global grant.) Birthing kits contain items that we would take for granted that a hospital would provide to a woman giving birth but they are not standard in many parts of the world. It's so exciting that a place for women to safely give birth is starting to get real!





<u>Unified Sports</u> – Our speakers this week were Kim & Adam Perron, who are the Unified Basketball coaches at South Portland High School (but their main claim to fame is growing up with Matt McAleney and Aaron Filieo – a big thank you to Aaron for putting us in touch with them!). Adam had experience coaching unified sports at Deering High School and in 2020 he started the unified sports program in South Portland. There are now 80 unified basketball teams in Maine.

A unified basketball team has 11 players who are athletes with disabilities – the other 11 members do not have disabilities and are termed "partners." There are always 2 partners and 3 athletes on the court. Games consist of two 20-minute halves and occur right after school (3-ish). There are two and only two events per week – 2 practices, 2 games or 1 practice and 1 game. Kim, who is an occupational therapist in the SP schools, finds it very rewarding to see the students that she worked with put the skills they worked on put into play – for example, how to react when someone steals the ball away from you!

Kim and Adam pointed out that probably the biggest advantage of the program is that it makes the athletes feel connected to the student body. They recommend attending a game because they're so much fun to watch, so let's get a group together sometime this winter to go watch a game (maybe in CEHS also)!





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

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