

TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
September 30, 2026**



Upcoming Dates:

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

October 7 – Adam & Kim Perron, Unified Sports in South Portland Schools

October 14 – Renee Brouse, ShelterBox

October 17, 1:00 (program starts at 2) – District Foundation Celebration at Port City Air, Portsmouth (see Tom Talbott email)

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 21 – Tree Lot Set-up

November 27 – First Tree Delivery

December 5 – 2nd Tree Delivery

October 7 Duties

Opening Words – Wagner

Raffle Gift – Callahan

October 14 Duties

Opening Words – Wilkens-O'Brien

Raffle Gift – Cotter

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

Opening Words – DeeDee shared these words:

May the sun bring you new energy by day.

May the moon softly restore you by night.

May the rain wash away your worries.

May the breeze blow new strength into your being.

May you walk gently through the world and know its beauty all the days of your life.

What's New With Our Members (& Friends)

Happy Birthday to

 *Jeff Gabrielson - October 9*

 *Brent Wilson - also October 9*

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

Congratulations to Laurenz who won a gift certificate to Willows courtesy of Frank Butterworth!

Thank you to the hikers from Oregon in Grafton Notch State Park who rescued Bill Anderson!!!

REMINDER

Meetings are starting at 6:15 for the time being due to the class in our room that meets until 5:45

Tidbits:

- The tree sale co-chairs Nicole and Maggie announced the relevant dates for the tree sale – see calendar above. They are looking for a few people willing to serve on the tree publicity committee.
- The Interact club in Cape Elizabeth High School is going gangbusters, with 48 students signed up!
- The club made a \$1,000 donation to ShelterBox, in light of the devastating flooding in Nepal.

Girls Rule Again – Last week Adrienne and Ellie shared the honors and this week the winner was DeeDee, with Mike McGovern close on her heels. Commissioner Chuck of course embellished the announcements with trivia questions and Ray had the good fortune of winning a candy bar with the face of the Polio Oversight Board chair on the wrapper. As Ray said when he put it in his pocket, “I’m happy to have Mike McGovern next to my heart.” As mentioned previously, the Commissioner has sprung for trophies to be presented to the weekly winners and Week One winner, the Prince of Wales Bill York was thrilled to receive his in the mail.



Global Grant Recognition – At its fundraiser on October 1, Partners for World Health CEO John Kuehnle mentioned our club’s global grant application and thanked Nancy Irving for her role in leading the effort. And then later in the evening, we saw a video all about the project and emcee Tory Ryden again thanked Nancy and Rotary, particularly SP-CE Rotary. (Tory is a former local newscaster and has a connection to our club because Dan Mooers is her uncle!) Joining them in this photo is Sam Lowry, a member of the Huntsville, Alabama Rotary club; he and his club have already been very generous to the Maranatha Maternity Ward.



Stealing the Show – As noted above, we cannot get into our classroom at SMCC until the class that typically ends at 5:45 gets out, but this week they were having a test and we waited outside for a while. So we got to see our “speaker” Archie in action – nearly every student that walked by stopped to give him love. Once inside, Nicole introduced his handler Les Smith of Cape Elizabeth whose current position with the Portland Police Department is in the Community Policing Unit and as he says, to be “Archie’s Driver.”

Archie is a 1 ½ year old English Labrador who was acquired by the PPD when he was a 1 ½ month old puppy as the first police comfort dog in Portland (and maybe in Maine?). Les trains him every day and he associates his harness with work. In addition to comforting victims of crises, they go to schools, hospitals, libraries, daycares... and Rotary clubs! When there is nothing on their schedule they go to the jetport, which tends to be a stressful place in general, and having a comfort dog around has been demonstrated to bring down the level of stress hormones. Les has been very impressed that when there is a group debrief about a tragic event, Archie instinctively gravitates toward the people who have been the most traumatized. Archie’s training has taught him to sit in a chair, as you see in one of these photos, because when they go to hospitals, sitting in a chair allows Archie to be on the same level as someone in a hospital bed.



**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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