

TWO LIGHTS

**Rotary Club of South Portland – Cape Elizabeth
September 9, 2026**



Upcoming Dates:

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

September 16 – Pathways to a Successful Tree Sale

September 23 – NO MEETING

September 26, 9-10:30 – Coastal Cleanup at Bug Light Park (see flyer)

September 30 – Archie, the Portland Police Department "Comfort" Dog

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 20, 5:30 – Club Board Meeting

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).

September 16 Duties

Opening Words – Tranfaglia
Raffle Gift – Burch

September 30 Duties

Opening Words – Wacksman
Raffle Gift – Butterworth

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

Opening Words – Anne couldn't be at the meeting but she sent these opening words from
Martin Luther King, Jr., the wisdom and power and truth of which will be recognizable by all
Rotarians focused on "Service Above Self."

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable
network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly,
affects all indirectly."

From his April 1963 "Letter from a Birmingham Jail."

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

From his 1957 speech in Montgomery, Alabama.

"Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college
degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only
need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

From his 1968 "The Drum Major Instinct" sermon

"The time is always right to do what is right."

From his 1965 Commencement Address at Oberlin College.

What's New With Our Members (& Friends)

Happy Birthday to

 *Renee Burch - September 26*

 *Rin Cox - also on September 26!*

Happy Anniversary to:

 *Dan & Edie Davidson - September 15*

*Congratulations to Marge on winning a gift certificate to Rivalries
from Kathy's spare raffle gifts.*

Showing Off Bug Light! – We had two opportunities this past week to show off Bug Light to the public – and at least 350 people took advantage of that opportunity. Thank you to everyone who participated! I don't have the names of the Car Show volunteers but these people were tour guides on a splendid Saturday for Open Lighthouse Day:

- Tom Meyers
- Jeff Gabrielson
- Peter Bennett
- Tony Wagner
- Mike Tranfaglia
- Mike McGovern
- Nancy Irving
- Scott Irving
- Chuck Redman
- Sue Sturtevant
- Phil Dube
- Kiley Wilkens-O'Brien
- And of course our Bug Light keepers Jill Nadeau and Sam Wilkens-O'Brien!



And I don't know the story behind them but new this year are storyboards for kids about Bug Light!



And Speaking of Bug Light... – Our speaker on August 12, Chris Payne from Dirigo Science Connection, mentioned that he's been organizing cleanups around South Portland – he has invited us to join him in the next one on Saturday morning, September 26 at Bug Light. See the flyer accompanying this bulletin if you're interested in participating.

Three (or more?) Dog Day – Those of you reading this who are in our club (or another district club) received an email from future District Governor Tom Talbott of the Portland club about a District Foundation celebration at Port City Air in Portsmouth on the afternoon of October 17. The event will be the culmination of a fundraising effort to provide trained companion dogs to veterans. They will be presenting three (or more) veterans with dogs to help them cope with injuries sustained in service to our country. Since World Polio Day falls on the heels of October 17, there will also be an observance of Rotary's monumental efforts to eradicate polio, featuring RI's PolioPlus Chair Mike McGovern (hey, we know that guy!).

Connecting Maine with the World Since 1977 – Our speaker this week was Allison Hodgkins, Executive Director of the World Affairs Council of Maine. Allison has a very impressive resume which includes a Ph.D. in International Affairs and extensive experience working in and studying the Middle East. The mission of WAC207 is to welcome the world to Maine and to connect Maine to the world, primarily via citizen diplomacy. They offer over 40 programs throughout the year and host more than ten delegations of emerging global leaders each year. One of the things they're proudest of is their involvement with the State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) – “the coolest international diplomacy effort that you've never heard of.” The international leaders visit three cities while they're in the US and if Maine happens to be one of their destinations, WAC207 coordinates their visit. Currently there are 500 heads of state who are alumni of this program – dollar for dollar it's the best investment our country makes in diplomacy.

And Allison deserves a huge thank you from us for helping with our technical issues on Wednesday – it was a perfect storm of IT snafus – the zoom link disappeared, the whiteboard wouldn't turn on and the Owl camera wasn't working. Allison had the magic touch with the whiteboard, while Nicole created a new zoom meeting with her phone so that Bill and Bill could join the meeting (apologies to anyone who gave up on us!).



Continuing the International Theme – Marge’s son sent her this photo of a Rotary sign that says “Sapporo North West Rotary Club.”



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