

December 24, 2009

Make-up Opportunities:

Biddeford-Saco-Wed 12:15 pm, Captain's Galley, OOB – **Breakwater Daybreak**-Wed., 7:15 am, Betsey Ross House, 99 Preble St., So Portland - **Kennebunk**-Thurs-12:15 pm, Holy Cross Lutheran Church – **Kennebunk Portside**- Tues. 7:15 am, Community House, Temple St., K'port – **Ogunquit**-Wed. 12:00 pm, Jonathan's Rest, Bourne Lane, **Portland**- Fri. 12:15 pm, The Portland Club, State St. – **Sanford-Springvale**- Thurs. 7:30 am, Knights of Columbus Hall, High St. – **Scarborough**- Tues.6:50 am, Scarborough Downs, **South Portland-Cape Eliz.**,-Wed. 6:15 pm, Purpoodock Club, 300 Spurwink Ave., C.E. – **Wells**, Mon. 7:30 am, The Bull n' Claw, Rt. 1

PROGRAMS

December 31 Happy New Year's Eve!
January 7 Auction Kick-Off
January 14 Suzan Austin, Institute for Civic Leadership
January 21 PDG Liz Cullen, Rotary Foundation Invitation
January 28 Selma Botman, President of USM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ★ Dru L. – Rotary Minute – “Reflect on who we are”.
- ★ Dennis R. – Thanking those who helped at the Salvation Army for Toys for Tots. Also a thank you letter from Coastal Health Coalition for our recent donation.
- ★ John A. – Ted G. & his wife were involved in an auto accident. They are ok. Our thoughts are with Ted and his wife for a speedy recovery.
- ★ David W. – Our club has a new fundraiser for 2010. It is an Auto Donation Program. Anybody can donate a car or truck they do not want, and Rotary would receive the proceeds after expenses. More details on this exciting fundraiser to follow.

**Deceased Charter Member
Doug Rennie**

Our thoughts & prayers go out to the family of charter member Doug Rennie.

50/50 RAFFLE UPDATE

Our guest, Debbie Davis, did not pick the lucky card! This month's funds benefit the Saco Food Pantry.

We are still looking for the 3 of spades

**SERGEANT AT ARMS
CURT SCAMMON**

In the spirit of Christmas and the Holiday Season, everyone was given a Christmas “Pass” by Curt. Curt encouraged all to be “thankful”.....

Happy Dollars

- \$ Lucy H. – Lucy's dad was featured on the front page of the paper
- \$ Nancy K. – Thanked Greg C. for CD's.
- \$ Dru L. – A great time was had at the Christmas party at the Curt's home & that Rotary is a life changing experience.
- \$ Al H. – Finally, a newspaper entitled “Old News”!
- \$ David G. – Many reasons to be thankful, but can't think of one now!
- \$ Doug H. – Thankful for the Christmas season & shopping.
- \$ John A. – A special Christmas story from Notre Dame nursing home was shared with the group.
- \$ Al C. – Wishing all a Merry Christmas.
- \$ Steve U. – To Lucy H. for “Burber Balls” & Nancy K. as well.
- \$ Debbie Davis was delighted to win 50-50 and gave back her winnings!

- \$ JoAnne L. – Was slightly late this morning, but happy to be here!
- \$ Debbie C. – Happy to be with family and had a similar nursing home story like John A's.
- \$ Doug W. – Started his Christmas shopping late, but seeing Dennis R. & the old Buick made it all worthwhile!
- \$ Greg C. – Thanked Doc H. for his Christmas Bill (dues) and the Table Of Elders who provide wisdom and inspiration.
- \$ Santa Claus (Jake M.) – Happy for the Christmas Season. Santa was in fine shape this year!
- \$ Dennis R. – So far the year has had no scandals to speak of, but what do I do with my gift can of Poppycock?
- \$ Dan Colby – Happy for memories with his family and the Rotary family. Dan has accepted the position of Asst. District Governor for our district. Congratulations Dan!
- \$ Leo M. – Thanking all who assisted in this year's effort for Toys for Tots!

Today's Program
Saco F.D. Central Fire
Station Construction Project



Saco Fire Chief Alden Murphy and Deputy Chief John Duross discussed the upcoming special referendum on February 9th in Saco to vote on construction of a new Central Fire Station.

Chief Murphy pointed out over a dozen structural and mechanical defects that now exist at the 138 year old station making day to day activity and operations difficult, dangerous and unsafe.

Areas of concern include structural weakening of the building with crumbling mortar, support beam footings crumbling, staircase and window sills collapsing, along with unhealthy air circulation and an antiquated and dangerous electrical and HVAC system. Hazardous materials are stored in unsecured areas. Despite the many repairs and the pleasant outward appearance of the Central Station, it has now outlived its useful life many times over, and replacement is now a necessity and not an option. Now is the best time to build because of low construction and finance costs. The estimated \$5,999,000 "design-build" project cost would be repaid using revenue from the Ambulance Billing Account and debt retirement. There would be no impact on the mill rate or bond rating for the city.

In order for the project to move forward, 1,303 votes are needed for the special election referendum on Tuesday February 9, 2009. Chief Murphy encouraged all Saco residents to vote. Further information on the project can be found at: sacome.org/news/0910grant.shtml



President's Closing Thoughts
 "Merry Christmas and God Bless You" – D. Robillard