



Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes



P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081

November 7, 2019

Mark Daniel Maloney
RI President 2019-20
Peter A Mardinly
District 7450 Governor

Swarthmore Rotary Leaders

Maria Michael Zissimos
President
Youth Services Chair
Craig Fava
iPast President
William Clinton Hale
President-Elect
Brian N. Casey
Club Executive Secretary
Sonya Pappas
Treasurer
George C. Whitfield Jr.
Secretary
Barbara Whitaker-Shimko
Rotary Foundation Chair
Perri Ann Evanson
Membership Chair
Betty Ann A. Flynn
Club Director
Anne C. Hansen
Club Director
Lori Markusfeld
Service Projects Chair
Penelope Reed
Public Relations Chair
Barbara Amstutz
Grants Committee Chair
Kathryn Jones
President-Nominee
Sean Murphy
Assistant Governor

Service Quotation

"I'm starting to think this world is just a place for us to learn that we need each other more than we want to admit."
Richelle E. Goodrich

Rotary Celebrations!

Birthdays



Richard Shimko
November 8th

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Meetings and Events

November

7th - Meeting

Speaker: John Billheimer

Subject: Author presentation, Hitchcock and the Censors

14th - Meeting

Speaker: David McKeighan, MSW, Executive Director Delaware County Medical Society

Subject: Delaware County Medical Society:Public Health Initiatives in Delco.

21st - Meeting

Speaker: Beth Koniers Brown, Director Delaware River Watershed Program, Audubon PA

Subject: Protecting the Delaware River Watershed for Birds and People

Table Grace

By Frederick E. Christian

Lord God, we thank you for home, family, friends, and for tasks that are worthy of doing in your name. Help us to weave into every day the ideals that Rotary holds aloft, and may we embody that spirit which puts others ahead of self, as we serve our community and our time, in the strength you give us. We ask it in your name with grateful hearts. Amen.

4 Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Last Meeting Summary

Maria Zissimos conducted a club assembly at this meeting. She provided some information about the club and had some committee chairs give reports. Maria distributed club membership statistics. The total club membership, including R85 members, is 40, which is down somewhat from recent years. The membership is almost evenly split between male and female. 21 of the 40 members have ten or more years' service. Joe Lesniak reported that he had just received approval from the Borough for a May 17, 2020 Fun Fair date. New this year at the Fun Fair is a zip line (Joe promised that the line would not extend over the highway) and possibly a beer garden at the Inn. He said Kathryn Jones did such a great job raising ad money in 2019 that he increased the ad goal from \$15,000 to \$25,000 for this year. Heather Saunders said the grant committee had awarded three grants since July: \$1,000 to Foundation for Delaware County for Healthy Start and WIK; \$800 to Brigette Scott for books for South African schools; and \$1,000 to Pennsylvania Horticulture Society for tree planting in Chester. Maria listed some of the service projects that Swarthmore Rotary performed last year. It was stated that we should all be aware of all that we do because it may be useful in trying to describe Rotary to potential new members. After a discussion about the best way to provide food to Chester, it was decided to form a Task Force to address the issue.

Ann Seidman interview

By Barbara Whitaker-Shimko

Years of Service



Penelope Reed
11-09-2003
16 Years

Happy Dollars

\$1346

2019-20 Happy Dollars
for Polio Plus Fund
(\$3 to fully protect one child)

2018-19 total: \$3,845

2017-18 total: \$4,515

2016-17 total: \$3,756

Guests Last Meeting

No Guests

Mark Your Calendars:

Ed Jones Memorial Service
Sat., Nov. 9

Ann Seidman has been a member of Swarthmore Rotary for 23 years. Her father, grandfather, and brothers were all Rotarians. Ann's civic responsibility was evident early, when she was selected by her high school to attend Rotarian Sponsored Girls' State.

In 1996 civic-minded Ann was a member of the town council, when she was recruited by Ruth Rahn, the president at that time of Swarthmore Rotary. Ann felt very welcomed and liked the atmosphere when she joined Rotary. She was enthusiastic when she described her many service projects she has been involved with over the years and the friends she has made. Working with the Rotary Exchange program, recruiting host families and developing relationships with inbound and outbound students rewarded Ann with lasting affiliations.

Ann has an impressive compilation of Service accomplishments in her 23 years of Rotary membership: During her Presidency in 2005-2006 she worked with Gudmund to provide relief to Tsunami victims in India; Before Email was available, Ann wrote letters to every president of every Rotary Club throughout the United State and internationally to sell Swarthmore Rotarian Fred Christianson's Rotary Prayers and Meditations. This booklet, now digitized, is the source of our club's weekly prayers; Ann participated in two tours to India to administer polio vaccine—one to New Delhi and one to Tamil Nadu; For the Fun Fair every year Ann recruited and registered charities; She has provided many great speakers for weekly meetings, first as speaker coordinator and later as the individual provider of speakers; In addition Ann has been an active participant in local service projects such as the World of Work. Ann's face lit up the most when she commented on her enjoyment of getting together with Rotarians for conversation and friendship at weekly luncheon meetings.

Ann was born in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, where she grew up with two brothers and a sister. It was during this time that Ann feels she developed her strong value system regarding service: A family slogan was "make yourself useful". In addition, be aware of the needs of the community where you live, the larger community surrounding your town (such as the county), and the global community as a whole. Ann feels that in her life here in Swarthmore, she continues to adhere to this philosophy.

Ann graduated from the University of Kansas. She went on to UC San Francisco for her law degree. Ann arrived in Swarthmore after marrying Larry Seidman, a newly minted PhD from Berkeley, whose first academic post was at UPenn. They enjoyed a pleasant house-sitting gig in Swarthmore, and decided it was a good community for them to make their home.

Ann and Larry have two grown children and three grandsons (ages almost 7, almost 4, almost 1 year) and a granddaughter, who is 7 months old. Ann has recently started physical training to keep up with her especially strong, almost 4, grandson. Speaking of family, Ann assured me that her dog Flora was way cuter than Betty-Ann's Biscuit!

A personally fulfilling part of Ann's life is her singing with the Media Chamber Chorale. She recalls that when her children were well along toward independence, she truly found her voice. At that time Ann began singing with a free, no-pressure feeling. Previously Ann had been content to be part of the chorale, harmonizing in a somewhat diligent way. With the new, very free, feeling, Ann began a new way of listening to herself. She realized that she had gone from being an alto to a soprano. She and others in the chorale found a lovely soprano soloist voice. What fun to take lessons and enjoy the new role of soloist! Ann has certainly "made herself useful" in leadership roles in community, county, and globally. This added dimension gives Ann a personally fulfilling way to contribute to our community.