



Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081



August 27, 2020

Holger Knaack
RI President 2020-21
Kevin M. Katarynick
District 7450 Governor

Swarthmore Rotary
Leaders

- William Clinton Hale
President
- Kathryn Jones
President-Elect
- Brian N. Casey
Club Executive Secretary
Webmaster
- Craig Fava
Past President
Secretary
- Sonya Pappas
Treasurer
- Barbara Whitaker-Shimko
Rotary Foundation Chair
- Betty Ann A. Flynn
Club Director
- Anne C. Hansen
Club Director
- Lori Markusfeld
Service Projects Chair
- Penelope Reed
Public Relations Chair
- Ann K. Seidman
Membership Chair
- Barbara Amstutz
Grants Committee Chair
- Maria Michael Zissimos
Past President
- Francy Cross
Assistant Governor

Service Quotation

And the people stayed home. And read books, and listened, and rested, and exercised, and made art, and played games, and learned new ways of being, and were still. And listened more deeply.

Kitty O'Meara

Rotary Celebrations!

Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

Wedding Anniversaries

Anne C. Hansen
August 27th
Heather Saunders
August 31st

Meetings and Events

August

27th - [Meeting](#)
Speaker: Brian Craig, Police Chief, retired, Club Member
Subject: The Magic Of The Photograph

September

3rd - [Meeting](#)
Speaker: Police Chief Stufflet, Swarthmore Police Department
Subject: Meet and Greet Police Chief Stufflet
10th - [Meeting](#)
Speaker: Jeannine Osayande & Dunya Performing Arts Company
Subject: Making A Homeplace: Stories From The Historically Black Neighborhood of Swarthmore

Table Grace

By Frederick E. Christian

Grant us, Lord, the strength to pass this day in gladness and peace, without stumbling or stain. May we reach its close with something added of our devotion to Rotary ideals that shall have strengthened and encouraged another on a difficult road. 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

Victoria Clement's talk demonstrated the problems that sometimes arise when authorities try to "improve" a society. Victoria told us about the ever-changing official languages of the "Stans", central Asian countries whose names end in "stan". Victoria has lived in and visited one of them, Turkmenistan, over the years. She said the Turkmens changed from an Arabic to a Latin-base alphabet in the 1920's to become more modern. Stalin imposed the Russian language and alphabet in the 1930's to promote unity within the Soviet Union. At the fall of the Soviet Union, Turkmenistan became an independent nation. The country decided to adopt the Turkmen language to promote national-identity. Victoria said different generations within the same family are not able to understand each other because they speak different languages.

I can sympathize with the Turkmens because I could not talk to my Grandmother when I was a child. She immigrated to this country as an adult and never could manage the English language. It was only when I became an adult and she had died that I understood what I missed.

Victoria has written a book about Turkmenistan "Learning to become Turkmen". It is described below.

[Book by Speaker \(from publisher\)](#)

Maria Michael Zissimos
August 31st
Sonya Pappas
September 1st
Brian N. Casey
September 1st

Years of Service

No Years Of Service Found

Happy Dollars

pledge \$459

2020-21 Happy Dollars
for Polio Plus Fund
(\$3 to fully protect one child)

2019-20 total: \$3355
2018-19 total: \$3,845
2017-18 total: \$4,515

Guests Last Meeting

Brian Polling, (Hillard's guest)

Mark Your Calendars:

Sept. 19, 9 am, Adopt-A-Highway

Learning to Become Turkmen examines the ways in which the iconography of everyday life—in dramatically different alphabets, multiple languages, and shifting education policies—reflects the evolution of Turkmen society in Central Asia over the past century. As Victoria Clement shows, the formal structures of the Russian imperial state did not affect Turkmen cultural formations nearly as much as Russian language and Cyrillic script.

Complemented by extensive fieldwork, *Learning to Become Turkmen* is the first book in a Western language to draw on Turkmen archives, as it explores how Eurasia has been shaped historically. Revealing particular ways that Central Asians relate to the rest of the world, this study traces how Turkmen consciously used language and pedagogy to position themselves within global communities such as the Russian/Soviet Empire, the Turkic cultural continuum, and the greater Muslim world.

Chester Housing Authority Book Project

Swarthmore Rotary will be having several service project meetings to prepare books for the Chester Housing Authority. Here is a description of the book project.

From District Grant Application:

The Swarthmore Rotary Club seeks a grant to provide books to the children of the Chester Housing Authority (CHA) ages 2 to 13 who participate in its low income housing programs.

Anticipated Outcome of Project: The initiative promotes reading as an important life skill for both knowledge building as well as enjoyment which leads to innovation, creativity, economic gain and global awareness and understanding.

The CHA has a unique opportunity to reach more than 1500 children during the annual review process for continued housing assistance. In addition, as new families become part of its programs, CHA would like to begin its relationship with the gift of reading. We anticipate that this outreach and the books themselves will encourage the children to attend other programming in our community centers throughout the year. We anticipate many great outcomes of the project including attaining higher reading levels at an earlier age, increased community program participation, community building, and the rewards of setting and achieving goals.

Total Project Cost: \$7,000 to obtain age appropriate new books relevant to today's youth and experiences. Titles will be selected through the guidance of the Swarthmore Public Library librarian.

Project Approach: CHA has 1500 children in its housing programs ages 2 to 13. Getting books into the hands of our youngest participants will assist in improving the literacy goals of our families. Having those children participate in a community Book Club where they are able to get books to read and circle back to the community centers to discuss their books, do projects around the themes and keep them engaged in subjects that may be quite outside their everyday experiences. Although these books will be bought so that the children can have their very own bookshelf, they will also be encouraged to trade titles with their friends, thereby building community while expanding their reading list.