



Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081



August 11, 2022

Jennifer Jones
RI President 2022-23
David Houtz
District 7450 Governor

Swarthmore Rotary
Leaders

- Heather Saunders
President
- Greg Brown
President-Elect
- Brian Casey
Club Executive Secretary
- Patrick Gunnin
Treasurer
- George C. Whitfield Jr.
Secretary
- Jane C Billings
Youth Services Chair
- Perri Ann Evanson
Public Relations Chair
- Carr Everbach
Membership Chair
- David Firn
Service Projects Chair
- Betty Ann A. Flynn
Club Director
- William Clinton Hale
Past President
Sergeant-at-Arms
- Anne C. Hansen
International Service Chair
- Kathryn Jones
iPast President
- Jeannine Osayande
Youth Services Chair
- Hillard Pouncy
Club Programs Chair
- Joshua Twersky
Club Director
- Barbara Whitaker-Shimko
Rotary Foundation Chair
- Kenneth J. Wright
Club Director
- Cathleen Darrell
Attendance Secretary
- Richard Shimko
Bulletin Editor
- Karen Aleta Mazzarella
Assistant Governor

Happy Dollars

pledge \$308

Rotary Celebrations!

Birthdays

Elizabeth Church
August 17th

Wedding Anniversaries

Meetings and Events

August 11th
Swarthmore Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Charles Hurst, DELCORA's Director of Engineering
Subject: The Delco Sewer Tunnel

August 25th
Swarthmore Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Past Rotary Club President, William Hale
Subject: Planetary Management and the Haliens

August 18th
Swarthmore Weekly Club Meeting
Speaker: Melissa Murdoff, Chief, Environmental Crimes Unit, DeCo
Subject: Environmental Crimes

Service Quotation

Contributed by Patrick Gunnin:

**People are often unreasonable and self-centered
FORGIVE THEM ANYWAY**

**If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives.
BE KIND ANYWAY**

**If you are honest, people may cheat you.
BE HONEST ANYWAY**

**If you find happiness, people may be jealous
BE HAPPY ANYWAY**

**The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow,
DO GOOD ANYWAY**

**Give the world the best you have, at it may never be enough.
GIVE YOUR BEST ANYWAY**

**For you see, in the end, it is between you and God.
IT WAS NEVER BETWEEN YOU AND THEM ANYWAY**

Mother Theresa

Club News

For the first time in at least 8 years (when I joined the club), Swarthmore Rotary had a joint meeting with another club. Media Rotary hosted the joint meeting at Fellini's Restaurant in Media. As described below, State Senator Tim Kearney was the speaker.

Last Meeting Summary

Pennsylvania State Senator Tim Kearney stated, and then restated, in answer to several questions, what he considers a basic fact to remember when drawing up a state budget. The state can't commit to a long-term expenditure just because it temporarily has some extra money. Senator Kearney said the state has a \$9 billion budget surplus. This happy fact was the result of the federal stimulus package in 2021, which went primarily to low and middle-income individuals. Because they needed the money, these individuals promptly

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Years of Service

No Years Of Service Found

Guests Last Meeting

Joint meeting with Media Rotary

spent, bringing in more state sales tax revenue than usual. Senator Kearney explained that the state should not start new programs or reduce taxes because these are long-term commitments and are difficult to change once they are started. Rather, the legislature made one-time expenditures. He said extra money was spent on education, housing, and infrastructure such as bridges and roads. A large chunk went towards what he called the “rainy-day fund”, which was money set aside for emergencies. This is the same policy as “Momma’s bank account” (let’s see how many club members remember that allusion).

Senator Kearney discussed several other legislative topics. He criticized the proposed constitutional amendments promulgated by Senate Bill 106. He described this as a way for the Republican legislature to get around the Democratic Governor’s veto. The amendment would, among other things, enable abortion restrictions. He advocated more state funding to school districts to reduce school funding inequality. The Senator also thinks infrastructure is underfunded. He quoted a PENNDOT report stating that state infrastructure spending such as roads and sewers needs to increase by \$8 billion a year.

Senator Kearney offered two suggestions for increasing revenue to pay for these additional expenditures. One is to close an income tax loop-hole on corporations that are head-quartered out-of-state. The other is to charge a \$1 a box tax on Amazon deliveries. Noting the number of Amazon vans seen driving around town, perhaps Swarthmore by itself could pay for a new bridge if the Amazon tax is implemented.

Below is photo of James Meinel, President, Media Rotary, State Senator Tim Kearney, and President-Elect Greg Brown.



Update on Viktoriia

The Swarthmore Bulletin, Spring 2022, contained an article about Viktoriia, who spoke at Swarthmore Rotary in the Spring of 2021 after she received a Rotary grant to help her travel to the U.S.. I will print the excerpted article in two parts - part 1 is below:

VIKTORIYA ZAKHAROVA '24 and her family live in Kryvyi Rih, a central Ukrainian city that is also the hometown of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

Since the onset of the war in Ukraine in February, air-raid sirens were a part of residents’ daily lives.

“At least every night, the biggest cities of Ukraine and some villages get five to 10 air-raid sirens,” says Zakharova. “So people have to go and hide in a bunker or a corridor or hallway or something, so that way they can be protected. My parents are like that.”

In response, Zakharova began raising funds in March for humanitarian aid at home. With the support of College community members, she had raised more than \$4,000 by April.

“The day the bombing started, it was really shocking,” says Zakharova, a computer science and political science double major. “The Interfaith Office reached out to me asking if I wanted to do a vigil, so we did a one on [February 25], which was pretty cool.”

Close to 30 people attended that peace vigil and a second one held on March 15.

“I feel like all Ukrainians right now, especially those in safety and abroad, share a common feeling of survivor’s guilt, and a really, really strong desire to help,” Zakharova says.

“I’ve heard so many friends of mine who are in American colleges and from Ukraine expressing how guilty they feel to be in safety. So we are trying to help as much as we can without the opportunity of being there in the front line or volunteering there physically.”



www.SwarthmoreRotary.org ----- www.Facebook.com/SwarthmoreRotary ----- www.SwarthmoreFair.org