



Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081



August 13, 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

I have no wealth of gold to give away, But I can pledge to worthy causes these:

I'll give my strength, my days and hours of ease,
Edgar Guest

Rotary Celebrations!

Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Years of Service

Meetings and Events

August

13th - [Meeting](#)

Speaker: Dr. Todd C. Jenkins, Senior Diversity & Innovation Lead, J. B. Hunt, Transport
Subject: "Moving from Diversity to Inclusion"

20th - [Meeting](#)

Speaker: Victoria Clement, PhD, Analyst, Marine Corps University, Quantico
Subject: Language Politics in Central Asia: Why Now and What It Means for the US

27th - [Meeting](#)

Speaker: Brian Craig, Police Chief, retired, Club Member
Subject: The Magic Of The Photograph

Table Grace

By Frederick E. Christian

Lord, as we glance to the left or right or look across the computer screen, we see another human being who bears the imprint of your hand. May we never give up hope or treat indifferently or unfairly any person we meet. Give us a fresh vision of what Rotary calls us to be that we may move our world a step closer to what you would have it be. 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

Thanks to the magic of Zoom, Jared Reed gave us a backstage tour of Hedgerow Theater. Jared is the Artistic Director at Hedgerow, a job he took over from his Mother, fellow Rotarian Penn Reed, three years ago. In fact, Jared is the third generation in his family to lead Hedgerow.

Like everyone else, Hedgerow is trying to figure out how to survive Covid-19. Their answer is to produce original plays online for subscriptions. For \$15 a month, one can view original material every week. In addition, Hedgerow also has recorded audio books.

Six Hedgerow residents live in the Hedgerow house near the Theater. By necessity, they do everything needed to produce a play. For example, Jared said he does electrical work, marketing, website development, playwriting, directing, and acting. The group designs productions based on the talent of the residents.

Hedgerow Theater started in 1923. So far it has survived a fire and appears to be surviving a pandemic. It looks as though we will be able to celebrate a 100 year anniversary with the residents in a few years.

Josh Twersky interview

When asked about his hobbies, Josh Twersky immediately replied "politics". Josh said he spends at least an hour every morning looking at news websites such as Politico, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, and others. Josh is not just an armchair politician. He has run for public office a number of times. He was elected to serve a two year term on the

Happy Dollars

pledge \$344

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

Dave Firm (guest of Bill Hale)

Concord Township Council. In spite of his love for politics, Josh found his two years on the Council to be "extremely challenging". When asked if he would run again, he said he would, because he thought he could make a difference in Township governance. Ever since he was a child, Josh said he wanted people to talk about all sides of an issue. The argument "this is the way we have always done things" doesn't work with him. His goal is to "stir things up".

Josh also said he loves doing tax returns. He enjoys reading tax laws and regulations. It is good there are people like Josh in this world to help the rest of us.

Accounting is in Josh's genetic makeup. Both his Father and Grandfather were accountants. His Father got Josh a job in the mail room at an accounting company while he was still in high school. He liked the working environment. After graduating from West Chester University, Josh briefly considered going to work for the FBI in their white collar crimes division. Josh was told he should get some experience as a policeman first. He entered the Delaware County Police Academy. Although he stuck out the 16 week training program, he realized police work was not for him. Instead he went to work for various accounting firms. After eight years working for others, Josh decided he was ready to go out on his own. He started his own practice in 2000. Josh quoted his wife Vicki as saying it took eight years for Josh to figure out he couldn't work for others. Josh said his clients are 60% individual and 40% corporate. He said his clients tell him intimate facts about their lives as if he were a therapist. Josh will never disclose a confidentiality, even the names of his clients. Although people are saying Josh does President Trump's tax returns, we will never know.

Josh was born and raised in Havertown. He went to Haverford High School. He met Vicki through best friends on his first and only blind date. They were married in December 2000. They have two children: Lily, age 15, and Julia, age 12. He said they have lots of relatives in the area. Before the pandemic, they had big family gatherings.

When Josh was 21 he partnered with his father and bought the building at 12 Park Ave. in Swarthmore. This consisted of the laundromat and an apartment. He owned and managed the building for seven years, all the while either going to college or working full-time. He sold the building to raise money to start his accounting firm. In 2012, he moved his family to Glen Mills.

Josh joined Rotary in 2003 through the efforts of Putty Willets. He said before he talked to Putty, he didn't realize polio was still a problem in many parts of the world. He admired Rotary's work to eradicate polio. At the time he joined he was the youngest member of the club. Josh was President of Swarthmore Rotary in 2008-09. His project for his presidential year was to raise \$10,000 to fight polio. He organized a silent auction. With a lot of help from Betty Ann Flynn and others, he was able to exceed his financial goal.

Josh has served as club secretary, club treasurer and chair of several committees. According to Josh, he is no longer the youngest member of Swarthmore Rotary. He doesn't seem to have lost any of his youthful enthusiasm.

Meaningful Photos

Please send meaningful photos and a brief description of why they are meaningful to Brian Craig. Brian will compile the photos for his presentation on August 27. Brian's email address is bhc166@aol.com.