



Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081



November 5, 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 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

"In a democracy, someone who fails to get elected to office can always console himself with the thought that there was something not quite fair about it."
Thucydides

Rotary Celebrations!

Birthdays

Richard Shimko
November 8th

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries
Found

Meetings and Events

November

5th - [Meeting](#)

Speaker: Liv Elicker, Adult Group Tours Coordinator
Subject: Brandywine River Museum of Art: What We're Doing Virtually

12th - [Meeting](#)

Speaker: Deborah Bronk, PhD, President and CEO, Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences
Subject: Climate Change Research in Antarctica

19th - [Meeting](#)

Speaker: John Caskey, Professor, Economics, Swarthmore College
Subject: Why is Chester, PA so Poor - New Publication and Research

Table Grace

By Frederick E. Christian

Lord, we are here because we would not be neutral or negative toward life's loftiest goals. Among them are the measuring sticks of our Four Way Test. Show us how we may respond to them affirmatively, helpfully, and hopefully. 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

Joy Huertas discussed a City of Philadelphia program whose goal seems almost inconceivable: zero traffic fatalities by 2030. Joy did not seem to think it was impossible. Joy is a City of Philadelphia employee. The program goes beyond merely exhorting people to drive more carefully. It also focuses on road conditions and vehicle safety. For example, there are roads that have much higher fatality rates than normal. Joy said 80% of accidents occur on 12% of streets. She mentioned Washington Avenue as a high fatality street. At one intersection, the team is considering placing art, moving the bus stop, changing lighting, planting trees, and relocating outdoor furniture such as benches. These changes are designed to reduce clutter that may distract drivers. Although pedestrians are involved in a small percentage of accidents (7%), they account for almost half of deaths (42%). Vision Zero is starting a program to train children and teachers to be safe pedestrians.

According to Wikipedia, VisionZero is a program that is being used in many countries and U.S. cities. The program started in Norway, where traffic fatalities have been cut in half in two decades.

Cathy Darrel interview

Years of Service

No Years Of Service Found

Happy Dollars

pledge \$1307

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

No Guests

Cathy Darrell started woodworking as a hobby. She had the good fortune of being able to work with some talented professionals along the way. Cathy now teaches pre-school children woodworking at a local nursery school. Decades ago, boys took woodworking and girls took homemaking in school. Cathy obviously didn't want to fit into that mold.

Initially refinishing antiques as a side business while Cathy and her husband, Chris, were living in New Jersey in the mid-70's, she would buy used furniture, refurbish it, then sell it. She said she learned a lot about what to buy by going to auctions. When they moved to Pennsylvania, Cathy was able to get a job with a renowned cabinet maker. She said he taught her how to look at an antique and determine how to refurbish it. One of her projects was a Queen Anne (circa 1700) cabinet. Cathy said she loved the work. She had to quit her job when Chris was transferred to Anchorage, Alaska. While in Alaska, Cathy worked for an ivory dealer who had a license to buy carved walrus ivory items from indigenous people. Cathy's job was to wire the separate pieces together to form a more stable whole. When Chris and Cathy returned to the "Lower 48", as Alaskans refer to the contiguous portion of the United States, they eventually wound up in Vermont for three years. They continued buying and selling antiques.

Cathy and Chris moved to Swarthmore and bought their current house in 1994. They took 10 years to refurbish the house. For the past 16 years they have operated a B & B. Running the B & B has been Cathy's job primarily. Cathy said she has met many interesting guests over the years including a visiting professor who helped Cathy connect with her Native American heritage. Cathy described this in her caption to the photo she submitted to Brian Craig's talk about photographs. Unfortunately, the B & B business has declined the past few years and they are no longer taking guests.

Twenty-one years ago Cathy answered an ad in the Swarthmorean for a wood working teacher at the Swarthmore Presbyterian Church Nursery Day School. Cathy thought this was perfect for someone with her background. She teaches 3-6 year olds how to use hammers, hand drills, sandpaper, and glue to construct wood objects. Cathy said she tells the parents to use their diplomatic skills and ask "tell me about it" rather than "what is it".

Cathy was born in Poughkeepsie, NY. She married Chris in 1980. Cathy said Chris has been a computer guy his whole career. They have two children: Collin, who lives in Hawaii, and Alex, who lives in Dallas-Ft. Worth. Collin is an entrepreneur in the food industry and Alex teaches high school algebra. Collin has three children: twins Harper and Paxton (age 11) and Skyllaia (age 4).

Cathy loves children and has kept her sense of play. In addition to her work at the nursery school, she has a small number of honorary grandchildren in the community. She and Chris do gardening together. Although she says she's currently watching "way too much news" on TV, Cathy's favorite TV show was the series "Outlander". Her taste in books runs towards historical novels, especially Ken Follet and Geraldine Brooks. Cathy was introduced to Rotary by Jim Combs. She joined Swarthmore Rotary in 2006. She loves talking to Rotarians and enjoys the speakers. Cathy has filled many roles in Rotary. Currently, she does Happy Dollars, attendance, and Sunshine. Over the years, Cathy has been a steady contributor to Rotary, her family, and to children.