



Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081



April 1, 2021

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
iPast President
- Heather Saunders
President-Nominee
- Francy Cross
Assistant Governor

Service Quotation

Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree. Martin Luther

Rotary Celebrations!

Birthdays

Kenneth J. Wright
April 5th

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries
Found

Years of Service

Meetings and Events

April

1st - [Club Meeting](#)

Speaker: Brian Corson, Founder/Executive Director, MVP Recovery
Subject: Addiction, Incarceration, Recidivism and Reforms at George Hill Correctional Facility

8th - [Club Meeting](#)

Speaker: Kim Edwards, Executive Director of Japan-America Society
Subject: Promoting Arts, Business, Public Education and Cultural Exchange between Japan and Philadelphia.

15th - [Club Meeting](#)

Speaker: Reggie Shuford, Executive Director ACLU of PA
Subject: Priorities for 2021

Table Grace

By Frederick E. Christian

Lord God, thank you for this day set in a month marked by the stirring of new life. Send us back to our tasks ready to live out more diligently and enthusiastically that which Rotary envisions, that our community and world might be drawn closer in caring concern. 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?

Club News

Shouting “stop the steal”, an angry mob of Swarthmore Rotarians from Rose Valley attempted to take over the Swarthmore Rotary March 25 Zoom meeting. The mob was apparently inflamed by a statement by current President William Clinton Hale at a Zoom meeting earlier that day that the election of incoming president Katherine Jones was “an enormous fraud, and everyone knows it”.

President Hale asked the Rose Valley contingent to stop the certification of Katherine Jones at the regularly scheduled meeting and said “I will be with you”. Although the Rose Valley mob was able to delay the start of the regular Zoom meeting for 15 minutes, the Swarthmore contingent was able to regain control. Curiously, President Hale was absent at the beginning of the meeting and did not show up until the mob was repulsed. He denies that he instigated the attempted coup and called for healing.

Many Rotarians are criticizing the Sergeant-at-Arms, Cathy Darrell, for not being better prepared to counter the mob. Ms. Darrell offered her resignation. She remains on the job because nobody stepped up to replace her.

Longtime Rotarian Dennis Hoffman said this was the worst violence he has seen in years at a Swarthmore Rotary meeting. He said “this is a sad day for Swarthmore Rotary”.

Happy Dollars

pledge \$3,008

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

Jeannine Mackey

Last Meeting Summary

Danette Reid returned to Swarthmore Rotary to give us an update on her efforts to alleviate food insecurity in college students. Danette is the founder of Reid Cares Foundation (RCF). She talked to Swarthmore Rotary on April 2019. At that time, we were the first organization to give money to her cause. We provided a \$500 grant. Danette stated that food insecurity is the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable nutritious food. She referenced estimates that up to half of the nation's college students go without a meal at some point in their college career. As we know, attending college is becoming more expensive. There are many more non-traditional students including students with children. These students have to provide for child care. After tuition and child care costs, there is frequently not enough money to buy food.

When Danette talked to us in 2019, RCF provided support to food pantries at two colleges: Temple and West Chester. In addition to these two, it now supports Arcadia, Cabrini, Cheyney, and Manor.

RCF has expanded to helping in other ways. It now provides feminine hygiene products. The RCF website, reidcaresfoundation.org, has become a clearinghouse for information on scholarships, grants, and internship opportunities.

RCF primarily relies on monetary, non-perishable, and personal care item donations from individuals.

Information on how to donate money or items is on RCF's website.

Food Insecurity

From reidcaresfoundation.org:

Colleges are enrolling more low-income students than ever before. And on one hand, that's a great thing. Higher education is becoming more widely available. Opportunities are becoming readily more achievable. Futures are being made most assuredly brighter.

But that's not so for nontraditional students like [Freedom Allison](#). The 48-year-old grandmother enrolled to study at Sacramento State this fall semester. Once she had paid her tuition, set aside money for rent, furnished her new apartment, and purchased books for class, she found herself without food and two weeks away from her next food assistance benefit. Though she worked to improve her circumstances through education, she was already struggling to feed herself by the first day of class. Circumstances like Allison's not only dispel the myth that on-campus hunger is merely a character-building part of post-adolescence, but they also reveal the diversifying nature of the college population.

Indeed, for those students who have overcome disadvantage to earn their passage into college, for those who are of the first generation in their family to attend a university, for those who have defied expectation and expense, enrollment is a tremendous accomplishment.

Actually, that's an understatement. The fact that so many more low-income students are pursuing a college education today is nothing short of miraculous when one considers the acceleration of cost over just a few decades.

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According to an article in the [Washington Post](#), economic distress is the number one reason that low-income students fail to finish college. The article notes that impoverished students who scored between 1200 and 1600 on their SATs are half as likely to graduate as their high-achieving peers in the top 25% of income distribution.

Increasingly, American universities are populated by students who juggle full course loads, families, and jobs. When you stack them against one another, and heap on the pressure of paying rent, keeping the electricity on, and buying books, something has to give. So says the evidence above, a damning indication that even if we welcome low-income students with open arms, we're giving them poor odds for survival. It also says that money, more than ability, might be a better indicator of academic success.