



# Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes



P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081

July 8, 2021

Shekhar Mehta  
RI President 2021-22  
Roger Taylor  
District 7450 Governor

Swarthmore Rotary  
Leaders

Kathryn Jones  
President

Heather Saunders  
President-Elect  
Fundraising

Brian Casey  
Club Executive Secretary  
Webmaster

Brian H. Craig  
Secretary

Theresa O'Malley  
Treasurer

Perri Ann Evanson  
Public Relations Chair

Erich C Everbach  
Membership Chair

Betty Ann A. Flynn  
Grants

Charitable Trust

William Clinton Hale  
iPast President

Anne C. Hansen  
International  
Gundaker

Lori Markusfeld  
Service Projects Chair

Hillard Pouncy  
Club Programs Chair

Barbara Whitaker-Shimko  
Rotary Foundation Chair

Cathleen Darrell  
Attendance Secretary

Richard Shimko  
Bulletin Editor

Ken Wright  
CTEP

## Service Quotation

Among its other  
benefits, giving liberates  
the soul of the giver. ~  
Maya Angelou

## Rotary Celebrations!

### Birthdays



Heather Saunders  
July 13th

### Wedding Anniversaries

## Meetings and Events

### July

8th - [Club Meeting](#)

Speaker: Dr. Kathryn Jones, Club President  
Subject: The Chester Trades Education Project

15th - [Club Meeting](#)

Speaker: Susan O'Reilly, Owner, Susan O'Reilly Studio, Media  
Subject: A Live Studio Tour, Media PA

22nd - [Club Meeting](#)

Speaker: Ray Didinger, author and Sports Talk Show Host  
Subject: Finished Business, reflections from Philadelphia's Sports Journalism Leader

## Table Grace

By Frederick E. Christian

**Lord of this nation and of the nations of the world, we thank you that our lives have fallen in this pleasant place. Yet keep us from pride of mind or boastful tongue; save us from narrow loyalty and our flag from selfish shame. Help us through Rotary to see all humanity as one family. 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

**The Swarthmore Rotary club welcomed Kathryn Jones to her first meeting as President. Kathryn led a discussion of planning for the Independence Day lemonade stand and parade on July 5.**

**Kathryn said Perri Evanson will submit a short summary of each meeting's speaker to the Swarthmorean which will be called the "Rotary Minute" in the newspaper.**

**Kathryn is starting Rotary Moment, a 1-2 minute discussion discussion during the Club business meeting which will be a short segment on Rotary history or newsworthy activities from other US or international Clubs. The purpose of the "Rotary Moment" is to bring us back to our organization's founding principles and to also broaden our horizons on what Rotarians are doing outside of Swarthmore. Kathryn announced that the Club will start hybrid in-person/Zoom meetings starting September 9th at the Inn in Swarthmore. Members will have the option of attending a lunch meeting at the Inn or continue to attend via Zoom. Lunch will be "pay-as-you-go" and members and guests will need \$20 in cash to pay at the door when they arrive for the weekly meeting. There will be one hybrid meeting in August for the Club Assembly meeting on August 12th when we will discuss the Club's 2021-2022 goals and members will have a chance to sign up for committees to join.**

## Last Meeting Summary

**Ben Yagoda would have liked to entitle his new anthology of O. Henry short**

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

## Years of Service



Maria Michael Zissimos  
07-14-2011  
10 Years

## Happy Dollars

pledge \$162

2021-22 Happy Dollars  
for Polio Plus Fund  
(\$3 to fully protect one child)

2020-21 total: \$3,892  
2019-20 total: \$3,355  
2018-19 total: \$3,845

## Guests Last Meeting

Chris Gradel, Lisa Lee  
Christopher Hanlon  
Marv Gelb, Larry Seidman  
Nanette Tobin



stories “Twist at the End” but that title was already taken. Ben said “Twist at the end” is a good description of many of O. Henry’s short stories. It certainly describes the three that Ben asked Swarthmore Rotarians to read for the meeting.

Ben started his talk with a short biography of O. Henry, whose real name was William Sidney Porter. Porter had a short life, full of unhappy events. His Mother died when he was three and he was raised by an aunt. After brief stints at many different jobs, Porter was sent to prison for embezzling from a bank. Ben said Porter started writing seriously while in prison. After release from prison, Porter went to New York City, where he quickly gained a name as a short-story writer. Ben said Porter wrote about 300 short-stories in the period 1901 to his death in 1910. Unfortunately, Porter became an alcoholic, which led to his early death at the age of 47.

Most of us probably read O. Henry’s most famous story, *The Gift of the Magi*, in high school. Ben asked us to read three other stories. I thought *After 20 Year* had the ending with the biggest surprise. *The Last Leaf* was a very tender-hearted story with a bitter-sweet ending. “The Kidnapping of Red Chief” was more humorous. Reading this was the only time that I felt sympathy for a child-kidnapper.

If you want to read more O. Henry, Ben’s new anthology of O. Henry’s stories, *O. Henry, 101 Stories*, has just been published.

## Ben Yagoda's Blog

If you are interested in reading more my Ben Yagoda, an easy way to do so is to go to his blog at [benyagoda.com](http://benyagoda.com).

Here is an excerpt from an article on his project to watch 15 Alfred Hitchcock movies and rate them. Here is his discussion of the movie he thought was the best:

### 1. *The Birds*

Reader, I watched it—though admittedly, when things got too intense I had to parcel it out in twenty-minute segments. An amazing film, and Hitchcock’s last masterpiece; Evan Hunter’s screenplay makes a major contribution and is probably underrated. To me, it’s much better than *Jaws* in depicting malevolent nature in a horror-movie format. It was actually Hedren’s first role after being discovered by Hitchcock in a TV commercial, and her performance as Melanie Daniels holds us all the way through. She’s got a similar beehive hairdo as in *Marnie*, though both she and it eventually get undone by the terrible events that ensue. Books can be and have been written about *The Birds*, and I can’t do it justice in a couple of paragraphs *The Birds* takes us on a truly horrifying ride. I only felt the spell breaking a couple of times, when the characters seemed to be under-reacting to that they and we just witnessed. Maybe oddly, the thing I found moving about it was Hitchcock and screenwriter Hunter’s rigorous insistence not to try to cogently explain, for lack of a better word, evil.