

# Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes

SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081

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# August 12, 2021

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

# Swarthmore Rotary Leaders

Kathryn Jones
President
Heather Saunders
President-Elect
Brian Casey

Club Executive Secretary Webmaster

Brian H. Craig Secretary

Theresa O'Malley
Treasurer

Perri Ann Evanson Public Relations Chair

Carr Everbach
Membership Chair

Betty Ann A. Flynn Club Director

William Clinton Hale

iPast President

Anne C. Hansen Club Director

Lori Markusfeld Service Projects

Chair

Hillard Pouncy
Club Programs Chair

Barbara Whitaker-

<u>Shimko</u>

Rotary Foundation Chair

**Meetings and Events** 

#### **August**

12th - Club Meeting

Speaker: Meghan Lockman, Executive Director, CRC Watershed

**Association** 

**Subject: Local Watershed Challenges** 

19th - Club Meeting

Speaker: Lori Knauer and Jill Gaiesk, Owners, Village Vine

Subject: Be Our Guest 26th - Club Meeting

Speaker: Professor Nathalie F. Anderson, SC, Cummins Professor

of English Literature

Subject: Title to be determined

### **Table Grace**

#### By Frederick E. Christian

Amid the summer's heat and the suffocating humidity, we sweat and complain. Remind us. O God, as we pause here in your presence, of the miracle of the changing seasons that enriches and blesses our part of the world. Refresh us here, that we may return to our tasks renewed to fulfill the work of this day in gratitude of heart. 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**

Rotary Moment – Barbara Whitaker-Shimko gave us examples of

Cathleen Darrell
Attendance
Secretary
Richard Shimko
Bulletin Editor
Karen Aleta
Mazzarella-Russo
Assistant Governor

# Service Quotation

Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and start with the person nearest you. ~ Mother Teresa

### Rotary Celebrations!

### **Birthdays**



Elizabeth Churche August 17th

### Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

**Years of Service** 

No Years Of Service Found

# **Happy Dollars**

pledge \$637

2020-21: \$3,892

2019-20: \$3,344

how Rotary clubs responded creatively to the Covid pandemic in their service projects. See below for her examples.

The spread of the Delta variant is causing President Kathryn Jones to reconsider in-person meetings. She said she is consulting with other physicians about whether to meet in person.

Ken Wright, CTEP Project Manager, said 20 prospective students attended the introductory meeting on July 27. Volunteers are working with some individuals to complete their applications.

Kathryn said volunteers are needed for the fundraising block party in Swarthmore on September 25. Contact Joe Lesniak to volunteer.

# **Last Meeting Summary**

U.S. Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon started her talk by saying it has been a very busy legislative session. That might be considered an understatement. The year started with an attack on the Capitol, followed by an impeachment of the former President. After that, there were the stimulus bill, voting rights bill, and the infrastructure bill to consider.

She made the interesting comment that the House is bringing back "earmarks". An earmark is a provision inserted into a larger bill specifying funding for a specific project in a specific location.

Another word for earmarks is "pork". In spite of its bad

reputation, some commentators have argued that earmarks are

2018-2019: \$3,845

# **Guests Last Meeting**

Christopher
Hanlon
Marta Green,
Judy Penney
Olivia Thorne, Jim
Snively

necessary. They argue that earmarks can be part of the negotiation process needed to get legislation passed.

Congresswoman Scanlon said the proposed infrastructure bill allows earmarks. She got 60 proposals for projects from groups within our District.

The Congresswoman said she had heard about CTEP and she commended Swarthmore Rotary for its role in the project.

Club members had questions and comments concerning a number of topics including passports, gun control, vaccination rates, and misinformation.

# **Rotary Clubs' response to Covid**

Barbara Whitaker-Shimko provided us with some examples of how U.S. Rotary clubs are continuing to provide service to others during the pandemic.

The Rotary club of Bethesda, Maryland, is contacting neighbors who live alone and are quarantined. Volunteers are asked to contact at least five of those people each week to ask how they are and if they need anything. Members are also leaving flowers on their doorsteps.

Rotary club of Dallas, Texas. You know the old saying "if you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. If you teach a man to fish, you feed him for a lifetime." This project follows a similar philosophy by teaching 50 families in the Bonton neighborhood, one of Dallas' poorest, how to save money and eat healthier. "We are trying to help them learn to cook nutritiously from scratch as opposed to whatever canned food is on sale". Dallas Rotary supplies a half-dozen volunteers weekly to research recipes, sort and pack the necessary ingredients, and deliver them to those who can't pick up their bags of food. COVID-19 immunized volunteers deliver to homebound recipients. Kroger Foods funded the 15 week project. Recipients will know 15 new recipes, have a spice collection and know how to use the spices.

Rotary club of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. "We purchase dictionaries and provide them to the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students at all Oak Ridge Elementary schools. With COVID protocols in place we are not allowed to have our Service committee enter the schools and offer a short program, like we normally do. We are creating a video to send to each principal that will

touch on points about literacy, Rotary in the community and a short exercise of how to use the dictionaries."

Rotary club of Naperville, Illinois. Rotarians in Chicago area finished delivering 264 iPads with Bumper Guards in time for Thanksgiving to 47 nursing homes, 21 acute care and safety net hospitals, 2 pediatric hospitals, 1 VA hospital, 2 hospice centers, 1 behavioral health hospital, 1 long term care hospital, and 4 emergency units in hospitals. Most hospitals are restricting visitors and nursing home residents have been on lockdown 258 days so iPads meet a need of patients, residents, families, and healthcare providers. iPads are used for: communication among patients and nursing home residents with and their loved ones while in isolation.

Rotary club of New London, Connecticut. "With municipal library and school closings this year we had an opportunity to inspire literacy in young readers by directing them away from their computer screens to community outdoor parks with two Little Libraries dedicated this winter. Our library stewards have been replenishing the supply of books in English and Spanish for young children up to adult caregivers. It has been successful, with children playing in our New London Rotary club playground and choosing a book to read on the park benches or to take home. Community members have been helping by donating books for us to distribute also. One eight year old boy said "you get to take a book and you don't need a card. I love it!""

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