



# Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

September  
16, 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-Shimko  
Rotary Foundation  
Chair

## Meetings and Events

September

16th - [Club Meeting](#)

Speaker: Dean Karen Kozachyn, Delaware County Community College

Subject: TBD

23rd - [Club Meeting](#)

Speaker: Club Assembly

Subject: Club Topics

30th - [Club Meeting](#)

Speaker: Sonya Pappas and Carr Everbach, Club Members

Subject: Classification Talks

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## Table Grace

By Frederick E. Christian

**Lord of the changing seasons, we thank you for your unchanging care for all your children. Forgive us for any share we may have in the need of neighbors when you have provided such abundance. Lord, receive our boundless gratitude for these gifts of food and friendship for we receive them from your good hand. Amen.**

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## 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?

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## Club News

**Elizabeth Churché's Rotary Moment highlighted Rotary's efforts to foster adult literacy education. Elizabeth reported that 36 million adults**

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

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## Service Quotation

You cannot do a kindness too soon. ~Ralph Waldo Emerson

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## Rotary Celebrations!

### Birthdays

No Birthdays Found

### Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

### Years of Service

No Years Of Service Found

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## Happy Dollars

pledge \$1,043

2020-21 : \$3,892

2019-20: \$3,344

2018-2019: \$3,845

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## Guests Last Meeting

in the U.S. read at less than the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade level. In Detroit, half of adults are functionally illiterate. A Detroit Rotary club started a program that helped 500 adults increase their reading levels by at least three grade levels.

President Kathryn Jones asked club members to contact their contractors and service providers to donate \$40 to the CTEP Block Party fundraiser. Their names will appear in the Swarthmorean. Details are contained in Perri Evanson's 9/7/21 email.

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## Last Meeting Summary

Rachel Pastan and Barbara McClintock would not seem to have much in common. Rachel is the former Swarthmorean editor and author of novels; Barbara is a Nobel-prize winning scientist in the study of genetics. Nonetheless, when Rachel saw Barbara's obituary in the New York Times, Rachel believed that she could make Barbara's life into a story. Rachel wrote a novel based on the life of Barbara McClintock, *In the Field*.

Rachel was inspired by Barbara becoming a scientist in the 1920's, when there were very few women scientists. The women who tried to become scientists had to overcome many obstacles. For example Rachel believes there were men who acted friendly to Barbara. However, they, perhaps unconsciously, held her back in her career.

While Rachel was inspired by Barbara's scientific achievements, Rachel acknowledged that Barbara was not a social person. Barbara worked by herself in a lab 12 hours a day, 7 days a week. She never married and had no family.

Rachel's preparation for writing this novel included reading a 1926 genetics textbook so she would be able to understand genetics to the

same extent that Barbara did early in her career. She also walked through a cornfield because Barbara did all of her research on corn.

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## Rachel Pastan's Novels

Rachel Pastan has written four novels. Here are reviews of her books taken from her website: [www.rachelpasta.com](http://www.rachelpasta.com).

### Alena

In an inspired restaging of Daphne du Maurier's classic *Rebecca*, a young curator finds herself haunted by the legacy of her predecessor.

It's been two years since the tragic death of Alena, curator at the Nauk, a cutting-edge art museum on Cape Cod. At the Venice Biennale, Bernard Augustin, the Nauk's wealthy, enigmatic founder—to whom Alena had been childhood friend and muse—offers the position to an aspiring young curator from the Midwest. It's the job of her dreams, and she dives at the chance.

Just as quickly, she finds herself well out of her depth. The Nauk echoes with phantoms of the past—a past obsessively preserved by the museum's staff—and the newcomer's every move mires her more deeply in artistic, erotic, and emotional entanglements.

When new evidence calls into question the circumstances of Alena's death, shattering secrets surface, putting to the test the loyalty, integrity, and courage of our heroine—who remains nameless, like the heroine of Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*, the inspiration for this provocative and spellbinding tale.

### Lady of the Snake

Both a clever academic novel and a cunning literary detective story, *Lady of the Snakes* is perhaps most remarkable in its unflinching and compassionate portrait of its heroine, a young woman struggling to manage the competing demands of marriage, motherhood and career. This is a marvelous, fearless book.


### This Side of Married

Jane Austen's honey-and-vinegar spirit is alive and well in Rachel Pastan's delightful novel. She has grasped, with style and authority, the Austen paradox: that women's independence can be laced with the need for love, both given and received; and that wit and a critical eye can — must — serve a moral and, finally, forgiving vision.

### In the Field

In 1923, having persuaded her resistant mother to send her to college, Kate Croft falls in love with science. Painfully rebuffed by a girl she longs for, and in flight from her own confusing sexuality, Kate finds refuge in the calm rationality of biology: its vision of a deeply interconnected world, and the promise that the new field of genetics can explain the way people are.

But science, too, turns out to be marred by human weakness. Despite her hard work and



extraordinary gifts, Kate struggles, facing discrimination, competition, and scientific theft. At the same time, a love affair is threatened by Kate's obsession with figuring out the meaning of the puzzling changes she sees in her experiments. The novel explores what it takes to triumph in the ruthless world of mid-20th-century genetics, following Kate as she decides what she is—and is not—willing to sacrifice to succeed.

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[www.SwarthmoreRotary.org](http://www.SwarthmoreRotary.org)

[www.Facebook.com/SwarthmoreRotary](https://www.Facebook.com/SwarthmoreRotary)

[www.SwarthmoreFair.org](http://www.SwarthmoreFair.org)