



Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081



December 8, 2022

Jennifer Jones
RI President 2022-23
David Houtz
District 7450 Governor

Swarthmore Rotary
Leaders

- [Heather Saunders](#)
President
- [Greg Brown](#)
President-Elect
- [Brian Casey](#)
Club Executive Secretary
- [Patrick Gunnin](#)
Treasurer
- [George C. Whitfield Jr.](#)
Secretary
- [Jane C Billings](#)
Youth Services Chair
- [Perri Ann Evanson](#)
Public Relations Chair
- [Carr Everbach](#)
Membership Chair
- [David Firn](#)
Service Projects Chair
- [Betty Ann A. Flynn](#)
Club Director
- [William Clinton Hale](#)
Past President
Sergeant-at-Arms
- [Anne C. Hansen](#)
International Service Chair
- [Kathryn Jones](#)
iPast President
- [Jeannine Osayande](#)
Youth Services Chair
- [Hillard Pouncy](#)
Club Programs Chair
- [Joshua Twersky](#)
Club Director
- [Barbara Whitaker-Shimko](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair
- [Kenneth J. Wright](#)
Club Director
- [Cathleen Darrell](#)
Attendance Secretary
- [Richard Shimko](#)
Bulletin Editor
- [Karen Aleta Mazzarella](#)
Assistant Governor

Meetings and Events

December 8th
[Swarthmore Weekly Club Meeting](#) (Inn)
 Speaker: State Representative Jennifer O'Mara
 Subject: A Joint Meeting with the Media Rotary Club

December 22nd
[Swarthmore Weekly Club Meeting](#)
 Speaker: Holidays
 Subject: No Meeting

December 15th
[Swarthmore Weekly Club Meeting](#) (Inn)
 Speaker: SHHS Silvertones
 Subject: A Holiday Celebration

Service Quotation

"I have one life and one chance to make it count for something... My faith demands that I do whatever I can, wherever I am, whenever I can, for as long as I can with whatever I have to try to make a difference."

Jimmy Carter

Club News

Ken Wright gave us the background of the Rotary Arts Program, or RAP. Ken has been working with the PACC, talked to the Board, and developed a 5 month trial to hone the program as needed. Ken has coined the name RAP-PAC for marketing purposes.

Heather Saunders provided the following writeup:

Ken Wright and Penelope Reed presented the Rotary Arts Program (RAP), an initiative that will benefit our Club, the PAC Center, and local professional artists, by giving artists a chance to talk about their work with the public. RAP extends the wonderful experience we've had at club meetings with speakers like Natalie Anderson and Ernestine Louise to a broader audience - our Swarthmore community. RAP will begin with a 5-month trial period. Here are the dates:

Friday, January 20th, 2023

Friday, February 17th

Friday, March 17th

Friday, April 21st

Friday, May 19th

Each program begins at 7:30PM and lasts approximately one to one-and-a-half hours. The artists will be announced ahead of time. Admission is \$10 per person, free for children and students. Mark your calendars and tell your friends!

Heather announced that Lori Markusfeld will be the 2024-25 President Nominee.

Sonia Pappas told us that she and Maria Zizzimos are organizing the Giving Tree again this year.

Heather provided the following:

The Giving Tree - now with a holiday happy hour!

For 23 years(!), our club members Sonya Pappas and Maria Zissimos have gathered donations of holiday gifts for children living in the Chester Housing Authority's residential complexes. If you would like to participate, you can (1) buy random, unwrapped gifts for children, OR (2) contact Sonya for the ages and genders of

Happy Dollars

pledge \$1,653
2021-2022 \$4,476

Rotary Celebrations!

Birthdays

Lori Markusfeld
December 10th

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Years of Service

No Years Of Service Found

Guests Last Meeting

Penn Reed
Dottie Lee

specific kids and buy and wrap accordingly, OR (3) write a personal check to Sonya, which she will use to shop and wrap on your behalf. This year, the deal is sweeter than ever, as Sonya is organizing a holiday happy hour at Ship Bottom Brewing in Swarthmore on Thursday, December 15th, 5:00-7:00PM. The happy hour serves as a festive opportunity to drop off your contributions to the Giving Tree effort and celebrate the season. Please follow this link for more information and to RSVP for the event: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holiday-social-toy-drive-tickets-472277273037>

Last Meeting Summary



Rick Lee told us that when he joined the Swarthmore fire department in 1975, it was fully staffed by volunteers. There were about 60 to 70 volunteers then. Now there are about 10. Currently, most of the staff is part-time paid workers. Rick has experienced the transition in many positions of responsibility. He is currently the President of Swarthmore Fire and Protection Association and Assistant Fire Chief. Rick said the decline in the number of volunteers is not unique to Swarthmore. Nationwide, there has been an 85% drop in volunteers at community fire departments. He said the situation in Swarthmore is aggravated by the town becoming a white-collar community. Potential volunteers leave town during the day to work. Teens who volunteer in the junior fire-fighters program leave town to go to college. The extra cost of hiring part-time fire fighters is compounded by the need for more expensive equipment. Rick explained that modern building materials emit more toxic fumes when they burn. This requires that fire fighters wear more expensive protective gear. As is the case with cars, modern fire trucks are more complicated and expensive. Unlike in the past, they cannot be maintained by the department staff. This has all resulted in a much bigger budget than when Rick first joined the department. The department got a financial boost when it established an ambulance service in 1997. Unfortunately, the increased income from the ambulance service has been more than offset by increased costs in general. While the financial status of the fire department has been greatly helped by various federal and state grants over the years, the upkeep of the department mostly relies on contributions from townspeople and financial support from the Borough. Rick mentioned a couple of interesting trends. One is that he expects that many of the smaller fire departments will merge together. The other is the increase in women fire fighters. He said almost half of the department are women. Good news for young girls dreaming of becoming fire persons when they grow up.

SFPA fire trucks

For those of us who like fire trucks, here is SFPA's equipment, from the departments website.

Apparatus

Swarthmore's Company 14 is proud to present to you information on our apparatus.



Engine 14-1

This 2008 Pierce pumper is one of our newer pieces of equipment.



Tower 14

This is a 2001 Pierce aerial apparatus whose pre-piped ladder can extend up to 100 ft and has a 2250 gpm pump; it can carry up to 500 gallons of water and can also deliver Class A foam. It carries 1000 feet of 5-inch supply line as well as 2 preconnects of 1 3/4 in. (200 ft long), a 2 1/2 in. blitz line and a 100-ft trash line in front. It has 40 ft. of 1 3/4 in. in the bucket.



Engine 14-2

This 1992 Marion/Spartan Pumper boasts a 1500 gpm pump and can contain 750 gallons of water, 40 gallons of foam. It has preconnects of 1 3/4 in. 150 ft long, and 500 ft of 2 1/2 in. attack lines. It also has 1200 ft of 5 in. supply line.



Ambulance 14-7

Our newest ambulance is a 2008 PL Custom on a Ford Chassis and offers Basic Life Support and patient transport



Ambulance 14-7a

Our 2nd ambulance is a 1998 Ford and offers Basic Life support and patient transport.



Utility Vehicle 14-8

Our 1998 Ford van is used to transport our members to training venues, traffic control and assist the public calls, such as cellar pump outs.