

Swarthmore Rotary CogNotes

SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, P.4 19081

December 2, 2021

Meetings and Events

December

2nd - <u>Club Meeting</u>
Speaker: Don Delson and Bill Cumby
Subject: Commercial Projects in Town Center
9th - <u>Club Meeting</u>
Speaker: Linton Stables and Rosemary Fox, President and Vice
President, SCC Board
Subject: A New Center for the Community
16th - <u>Club Meeting</u>
Speaker: Silvertones
Subject: CADES concert

Table Grace

By Frederick E. Christian

We begin a month marked by shortened days and lengthened nights. Lord, make us mindful of the meaning of the festivals of this season that tell us that light shines in the darkness and that hope transcends despair. Quicken within us this confidence and accept our gratitude for all your gifts that never fail. 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 Assembly

Carr Everbach installed four new members: Helena Adams, Dorothy and

Marv Gelb, and Jeannine Osayande.

Theresa O'Malley gave a financial report. The Club has a \$16,000 cash

balance. Dave Houtz from the District is conducting a financial review.

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

Swarthmore Rotary Leaders

<u>Kathryn Jones</u> President <u>Heather Saunders</u>

President-Elect Brian Casey

Club Executive Secretary Webmaster

<u>Brian H. Craig</u> Secretary

<u>Theresa O'Malley</u> Treasurer

<u>Perri Ann Evanson</u> Public Relations Chair

Carr Everbach Membership Chair

David Firn Club Director

Betty Ann A. Flynn Club Director

William Clinton Hale

Anne C. Hansen Club Director

<u>Lori Markusfeld</u> Service Projects Chair

Hillard Pouncy Club Programs Chair Barbara Whitaker-Shimko Rotary Foundation Chair Kenneth J. Wright Club Director <u>Greg Brown</u> President-Nominee <u>Cathleen Darrell</u> Attendance Secretary <u>Richard Shimko</u> Bulletin Editor Karen Aleta <u>Mazzarella-Russo</u> Assistant Governor

Service Quotation

It only seems impossible until it's done. ~ Nelson Mandela

Rotary Celebrations!

Birthdays



Brian Casey December 6th

Wedding Anniversaries



<u>Joshua</u> <u>Twersky</u> December 2nd

Years of Service



Happy Dollars

pledge \$1,789

Ken Wright told us that 13 students are enrolled in the Carpentry Cohort I at CTEP. They are receiving classroom training at the Ruth L. Benntt Hub in Chester and learning technical skills at DCCC. They are also taking a "student success" class taught by John Linder of Riverside Futures.

ANNUAL GOALS

President Kathryn Jones presented Annual Goals. Highlights are listed below:

Membership and Engagement

- Develop a sponsor/mentoring program for new members.
- Complete change in By-Laws for less expensive membership fee option.

Service

- Re-launch the Fun Fair in May 2022. The goal is to raise \$40,000.
- Integrate service activity during regularly scheduled Club meetings.
- Re-engage with SRS World of Work and CADES Putt Putt Palooza.

Young Leaders

- Establish Youth Committee. A volunteer is needed to chair Committee.
- Revisit International Student Exchange program.

Public Image

• Increase public relations activities in print, internet, and signage.

Club Processes

Continue on-going activities to increase size of Board, support
 Gundaker Foundation, strengthen ties to other community groups,

2020-21: \$3,892

2019-20: \$3,344

2018-2019: \$3,845

Guests Last Meeting

No guests

and other initiatives.

• Complete five-year Strategic Plan.

CLUB SURVEY

President-Elect Heather Saunders presented the results of the member survey. 66% of members participated in the survey.

In general, we, the members of Swarthmore Rotary, were satisfied with the Club. Responses on specific issues are below.

Membership

- The three main reasons we joined Swarthmore Rotary were service, community, and because we were recruited by an existing member.
- We tend to think the Club is too small rather than too large.
- Although we think the Club is appropriately diverse as far as profession and gender, we think it is not racially diverse enough.

Governance

- We are generally satisfied with the Club's level of transparency and we trust our Board. We had a few specific suggestions for improving governance, mostly of a fairly technical nature.
- We overwhelmingly prefer weekly lunch meetings, although some of us suggested mixtures such as lunch/evening or in-person/Zoom.
- Although about half of us want in-person meetings only, the other half like either some or all Zoom meetings.
- We are very positive about our speaker program.

Activities

 The top three activities that we enjoyed the most are meetings, local service projects, and fundraisers.

- Most Club members feel we are doing the right amount of service projects and fundraising events, but about half of us believe we should do more recruitment events.
- Most feel we are contributing enough to community grants and scholarships.
- About half of us think we should engage in more international and youth-oriented activities, including international student exchange.

Mission and Vision

- We believe our greatest strength is our members.
- We tended to think that our weaknesses included an aging membership and lack of engagement by some members.
- We mentioned a few external threats such as difficulty attracting more young members and our perception that the image that Rotary is a club for white Protestant man.

Xmas Giving

Requests for Christmas Giving from Non-Rotarian Organizations.

From Sonya Pappas:

This is the 22nd year that Maria and I have teamed up to ensure that children living in public housing in Chester have a more joyful holiday season. I work with a range of groups (churches, friends, clients, neighbors, professional groups and Rotary) to allow people the chance to shop for children's gifts. In total we collect around 700 each year.

Maria and her team pick up the gifts and coordinate with the resident leaders so that the gifts are most helpful to the community, ie. some communities host a party, others allow the parents to pick up gifts and use as needed and others offer a place to receive toys (the unwrapped ones!). It is a very wonderful grass roots collaborative that has grown closer to my heart each year. I am a firm believer in anonymous giving – our collective acts of kindness do make the world a better place.

To participate as a Rotarian -

Email me at sonya@gsm.biz or call 610-574-4949

Send a check to the made out to the Rotary Club of Swarthmore to Post Office Box 4, Swarthmore 19081, and I will gladly be a personal shopper for anyone

The Basics -

A \$15-20 price range per gift Wrap and place the gender and age on the package Don't want to wrap – simply provide the gifts with a note of the gender and age you selected Drop off at 11 Park Avenue or my back porch at 528 Cedar Lane Need a pick up – just call 610-574-4949

www.SwarthmoreRotary.org ------- www.Facebook.com/SwarthmoreRotary ------- www.SwarthmoreFair.org