



## Yes, We are Still in Business

All of us have stories to tell about incidences during major events in our lives. Every one remembers where he or she was on 9/11. We seniors recall President Kennedy's assassination in detail. Now, it's the coronavirus pandemic and we're concerned about our health and the economy. And here too there will be stories to tell. Some will be about toilet paper hoarding and some about random acts of kindness and courage. Despite these disturbing times, we Rotarians continue doing what we can for our communities. We're sequestered in our homes; not buried in them. This newsletter is simply a reminder that Rotarians are busily at work and will come through this episode better than we went in. Our character shows in what we do. Character matters.



Wash your hands,  
*The Editor*  
*P.S. Count your blessings.*

## The \$10,000 Club Challenge

Governor Peter Mardinly is announcing a community aid challenge to all clubs. The District will provide a \$200 grant to every club and the challenge to match or better it by initiating a community service project or donation. There are food banks, shelters and individuals in need of support during this trying time. Extend a helping hand where you can.



The \$10,000 fund from which these grants are made available was raised at last year's District Conference by Sean Murphy (*Upper Darby Lansdown RC*), Stacey Ballard (*Upper Main Line RC*) and Renee DeCoskey (*Conshohocken-Plymouth-Whitemarsh RC*). Their idea is to do good, and to do good with fellow Rotarians.

### Newsroom Staff

Paul Quintavalla

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# Zoom From Your Living Room

It seems everyone has discovered Zoom. Brian Casey, (*Swathmore RC*) heads up the district's IT efforts including our website, DAC/db and district information and communication. He has thoroughly tested Zoom on every possible platform and internationally. He describes it as simple to use and recommends it to all. Anyone can register for free and book 40-minute sessions with up to 100 people at a time. If you move up to their Pro level or higher for a fee, you can get a 20% Rotary discount. Just enter "zoomrotary" where it asks for promotion programs.



## Continuing New Membership



The programs provided by Karen Mazzarella (*Glenn Mills-Thornbury RC*) and PDG David Haradon (*Longwood RC*) have been put on hold because of restrictions on gatherings. However, they continue to call every club president to forward membership leads, plan future actions and just stay in touch. The Membership Committee is providing a document titled **Best Practices for Holding On-Line Meetings**. (See Below)

Also, please see this website for a series of videos on promoting and retaining membership. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC-dJHVuTrjFNZAbw3lgzaAyPtJ88hH3Q>

## EVENTS: Yes, No, Maybe?

- **District Training Assembly** – April 25 – Canceled. Virtual opportunities are being explored.
- **District Conference** – May 16<sup>th</sup> – Other options are being considered. *Stay tuned.*
- **Rotary International Assembly** June 6, Canceled. Aloha.
- **Installation of Officers**— June 25<sup>th</sup>. Yes! At the Workhorse Brewing Company, King of Prussia. *Cool!*
- **Night at the Phillies** – July 22<sup>nd</sup> Yes! Absolutely yes. With a free hotdogs & beer tailgate party. Expect a lot of fun.
- **All committee meetings** – Active and conducted in Zoom.



## New Members

**Nichelle Artwell**  
Rotary Club of Chester  
Sponsored by Evette Houston

**Louis Beccaria**  
Rotary Club of Phoenixville  
Philanthropy

**James Castaldi**  
Rotary Club of Broomall  
Excavation Contractor  
Sponsored by James Bradley

**Tawney Cowen-Zanders**  
Rotary Club of Philadelphia  
Social Service  
Sponsored by Joan Batory

**Tammy Elfort**  
Rotary Club of Bensalem

**Jenna Fiorillo**  
Rotary Club of West Chester  
Business Owner  
Sponsored by Dan Zajac

**George Jones**  
Rotary Club of Media

**John Kopcha**  
Rotary Club of Wayne  
Sponsored by Doug Blazey

**Jill Laufenberg**  
Rotary Club of Longwood  
Executive Director of Non Profit  
Sponsored by Jackie Crego

**Danielle McNellis**  
Rotary Club of Broomall  
Boutique Owner

**Geoffrey Meyer**  
Rotary Club of Phoenixville  
Sponsored by Fred Hubler and  
Kris Keller

**Lilian Nabiryo**  
Rotary Club of King of Prussia  
Sponsored by Pat LaRoche

**Jim Nelson**  
Rotary Club of West Chester  
Wealth Advisor  
Sponsored by Carol Hanson

**Kimberly Praria Boice**  
Rotary Club of Levittown-  
Fairless Hills  
Sponsored by Milton Moser

## New Members

### Linda Riondet

Rotary Club of Longwood  
Marketing (Retired)

### Meredith Sadoulet

Rotary Club of Upper Main Line  
(Berwyn Paoli)  
HR Executive  
Sponsored by Brian Winter

### Ryan Sharp

Rotary Club of Longwood  
Insurance  
Sponsored by Robert Listerman

### Nipa Thakkar

Rotary Club of Westtown-  
Goshen  
Dentist  
Sponsored by Alyssa Harnish

### Christine Thompson

Rotary Club of Greater West  
Chester Sunrise  
Senior Living Administration  
Sponsored by David Sweet

### Mike Weber

Rotary Club of Conshohocken-  
Plymouth-Whitemarsh  
Financial Planner

### David Wierz

Rotary Club of West Chester  
Passport  
Sponsored by Diane Fran  
Slater

### Kimberly Wilkinson

Rotary Club of Phoenixville  
Sponsored by Anthony  
O'Dorisio

### Kimya Williams

Rotary Club of Bala-Cynwyd-  
Narberth  
Financial Planning  
Sponsored by Kenneth Podel

We will list new Rotarians  
taking information from  
DAC/db.



## The Four Way Test Contest

Regrettably, the 4 Way Test Contest among high school students in the district has been canceled. The committee is headed by DGN Roger Taylor (*Coatesville RC*), AG Renee DeCoskey (*CPW RC*) and AG Chris Potter (*Levittown-Fairless Hills RC*). They have been in touch with the schools and are actively working on scheduling start-up arrangements in the fall. The initial contests among students will begin in January 2021.



## Support Your Local Restaurant

Because the restaurant where you meet is currently closed, the owner is losing money every day. There is no income but overhead must be paid. One club asked its members to order take-out meals on the day they usually meet. Make that a family size take-out. Your gesture will be greatly appreciated.

Here are other things you can do:

- Purchase gift cards now while his/her cash flow is low. You can redeem them later in the year or give them as gifts.
- Book your club's Holiday Party now. It won't give the restaurant any money, but it will show the owner your club appreciates and cares about him/her.

*Chinese restaurants have been especially hard hit due to misconceptions. Our fellow Rotarian, Margaret Kuo, has excellent restaurants in Wayne, Media and Malvern. Do try their wonderful take-out.*



# Peace and Development

Now is the season to encourage qualified candidates who have work experience in peace and development to apply for Rotary Peace Fellowships. Peace Chair Joy Charlton (*Swarthmore RC*) reminds us that the deadline for submission is May 31st. The scholarships are for either a Masters degree or a Professional Development Certificate; more information is available at: <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/peace-fellowships>. In other exciting news, a new Rotary Peace Center will open this year, in Kampala, Uganda.



## District Nominating Committee



The District Nominating Committee, chaired by PDG Bob Lankin (*Northeast Sunrisers RC, Philadelphia*), is nearing completion of its work for the year. David Houtz (*Chichester RC*) was selected as District Governor for RY 2022-2023.

Yet to be nominated is our representative to the District Council on Legislation, a three-year term. A decision is due soon.

Lastly, a member of the District Board of Directors must be chosen. That person will replace Brian Casey (*Swarthmore RC*) to represent Areas 7,8,9 and 10. It is also for a three-year term. All clubs within those areas have received the appropriate forms and directions from DG Peter Mardinly. A selection will be announced in April.

## Youth Exchange

YE currently has two outbound students from our district studying in France and Chile who are pondering whether it is wiser to stay there or come home. And, there are four YE students studying here who may be returning to their homes early. Because of quarantines and travel uncertainties, there are some difficult decisions to be made.

Youth Exchange chair Donna Henry (*Southwest Philadelphia- Eastwick RC*) has her hands full with today's circumstances but is making plans for the coming year. She has seven students from our district slated to go overseas in August. Now, she needs to find families and clubs to host incoming students. *Please contact families you know who might take in a student. It is a great experience for everyone.*

rotary  
youth  
exchange





The District 7450 Rotaplast Committee's mission to Nepal in March was canceled due to travel uncertainties. It's a tragedy because so many children and families were hoping to receive corrective surgery for children with cleft lip and cleft palate. Nepal will be rescheduled for next year. Meanwhile, the committee is gearing up for an alternate mission in November to Luxor, Egypt.



Rotaplast missions are conducted at the request of Rotary clubs in 26 underdeveloped countries from Guatemala to Tanzania. District 7450 has conducted a mission every year for 21 years. Missions are funded by contributions from 90% of our clubs and personal donations. Each mission includes 10 Rotarians from District 7450 who accompany 20 volunteer medical personnel from as near as Philadelphia to as far as New Zealand.

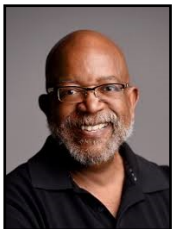
The annual fundraiser at the Media Theatre for April 22<sup>nd</sup> has been postponed. A rain date will likely be in September/October when Mama Mia is available.

## Our Future Leaders

DGE Kevin Katarynick, RY 2020-2021, (*King of Prussia RC*) is preparing to be our District Governor next year. He has recruited several people for positions as AGs and serving on committees. Anyone interested in taking a role at the district level should contact him directly: [distgov2021@gmail.com](mailto:distgov2021@gmail.com).



Kevin has completed the official RI training after attending the International Assembly in San Diego in January. He participated along with 530 incoming District Governors from around the world. In February, Kevin conducted training seminars for next year's club presidents. The Pre-Pets Training Seminar (Reportedly the best in memory) and MAPETS (Mid-Atlantic President-Elect Training Seminar) were well attended by incoming presidents from five districts. The educational seminars were good ..... the hospitality suites better.



Meanwhile, DGN Roger Taylor, RY 2021-2022, (*Coatesville RC*) has also been attending RI training seminars. In November he goes to Alaska and in January to Bermuda for Zone Conferences. In February, 2021 he will attend the International Assembly in Orlando, FL; as Kevin did this year. Roger and DGE Kevin Katarynick talk regularly giving Roger a day-to-day picture of the job at hand. Their professional relationship ensures a smooth transition of administrations in the district.

Newly nominated DGND David Houtz, RY 2022-2023, (*Chichester RC*), has been talking with current and previous governors to establish relationships and benefit from their experience. He is now a member of the Board of Directors and all committees.



## In Memoriam



*We'd like to honor the following Rotarian  
for her dedicated service:*

**Dana T. Lerch**

The Rotary Club of Bryn Mawr  
PHF - Paul Harris Fellow

# Welcome Kennett Square Light!

At a well-attended ceremony on February 2<sup>nd</sup> Gary Pawliczek accepted Rotary International's charter for the Kennett Square Light Club. Club number 999703868 is the newest club in District 7450 and well worth the effort in creating it. President Pawliczek led a team of committed Rotarians that recruited and organized the new club for over a year. The members meet after work twice every month. One meeting is a traditional meeting and one is a social gathering. The club also conducts at least one community service project every month.



**Side Bar** – *Thinking about things that happen during major events, I just had to tell this story.....*

Did you ever hear of the Great New York City Blackout? Well, at the time my wife worked for Playtex on the 65<sup>th</sup> floor of the Empire State Building. She was just leaving work and waiting for the elevator when the lights went out. Good timing.

The building has only one stairwell from the ground to the 102<sup>nd</sup> floor. People could look down an open shaft with stairs winding around a 650-foot dead drop. The builders hadn't planned on a blackout and the stairwell had no safety lights. Total darkness.

At the time, Playtex was introducing several new products and had plenty of samples in the office. This was 1969 when most people smoked, and many kept cigarette lighter fluid in their desks. (Getting the picture?) The execs made small torches and led a cheerful parade all the way to the street. As the torches burned down they would toss them into the void and watch the flaming embers spiral hundreds of feet to the floor below. That's how they knew how far they had to go. Later, the execs handed out certificates entitled, "Order of the Golden Staircase."

*Now that's a good story.*

## Gundaker Foundation



Gundaker chair Deena Jones (*Kennett-Square Light*) has suspended bi-monthly meetings for the time being. However, the Gundaker executive committee continues to accept grant applications and communicates with the directors without interruption. Virtual meetings are anticipated. Directors will soon receive Vocational Grant Applications and instructions.

Vocational Grants are a new concept that have been well received by Rotarians.

## An Exciting Weekend for Young Leaders!

The annual RYLA weekend was held in early February at the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge. The 85 students from across the district participated in a hands-on service project, as well as working seminars on problem solving, leadership skills and styles and public speaking. Visiting exchange students talked about their American experience and two local students signed up with Youth Exchange. All in all, a very successful RYLA experience.



# Best Practices for Holding Online Meetings

1. Familiarize yourself with a preferred online meeting platform ([Zoom](#), [GotoMeeting](#)) and host a test call prior to your first meeting
2. Provide one-on-one tutorials with less tech-savvy Rotarians on how to use the online meeting format
3. Provide an agenda prior to the meeting
4. Set up a communication/etiquette plan for holding online meetings
5. Requesting all attendees mute themselves when not speaking
6. “Raising hands” to avoid multiple people speaking at once
7. Pausing for questions
8. Using the chatbox feature
9. Recording your meeting for those unable to attend
10. Utilize [TED Talks](#), [Rotary’s VIMEO](#), and other pre-recorded speakers to watch online together and follow with a group discussion
11. Take the online courses at <https://learn.rotary.org/learn>
12. Select an article or short film to read/watch prior to meeting and discuss together
13. Determine the current needs of your community and promote an online service project/fundraiser



14. Review District 6690’s helpful guide to maintaining engagement with your club’s members through virtual meetings and other strategies at <https://rotary6690.org/maintaining-engagement/>
15. Get in contact with another club that is used to utilizing online technology such as an ‘e-club’ in order to discuss. Use the ‘E-Club’ section of the [‘Club Finder’](#) on [rotary.org](#) or My Rotary. Alternatively contact your RMO for contact details.

# The Rotary Foundation

## Doing Good In The World



We're glad to report that the submission date for District Grants is extended to May 30<sup>th</sup>. Global Grants may be submitted at any time. Committee Chair PDG Dawn deFuria (*Greater West Chester Sunrise RC*) advises that grant applications are available on the district website under Foundation. Also, if the club submitting a grant request has not

been qualified by training, the Foundation Committee will reach out to the club and ensure it is qualified.

Keep in mind that applicants who received grants for this year must submit the report on the use of those funds. It too is on the district website under Foundation. Submit it by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you have questions, contact the following committee members:

PDG Dawn deFuria - DG1718@ocomfort.com

Martha Bowman - mbebowman@aol.com



## Setting a Good Example

The Longwood Rotary Club took virtual meetings to new heights last week. President Bob Curran and PDG Dave Haradon teamed up and created a 24-minute virtual meeting and put it on YouTube. The speakers were prerecorded, edited, spliced together and posted on YouTube. Members could watch at their convenience. More meeting videos will follow.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DhcIVXw2e-8&feature=youtu.be>

