Rotary Opens Opportunities

THE ROTARY FELLOE

Rotary Club of Easton, Pa., District 7430
Founded in 1915 Charter # 149
President: BJ Metz
President Elect: ????
Secretary: Ron Gano
Treasurer: Sue Worobec
Assistant Governor: Jean McGill

Holger Knaack	**Janet Kolepp**	**Bob Hobaugh**
Rotary International President Herzogtum Lauenburg-Mölln Germany	District Governor Bethlehem Morning Star Pennsylvania, U.S.A.	District Governor Elect Kutztown Pennsylvania, U.S.A.
1915 - CELEBRATING 105 YEARS OF SERVICE - 2020		

Special Edition

Rotary Club of Easton
July – December 2020

OK, so the year 2020 has been just a little bit different. Sometimes it has been frustrating as if there is nothing to do; nothing that can be done. That has not been the case for the Rotary Club of Easton. Here is a quick review of just some of the good things that happened in the last 6 months:

July 2020

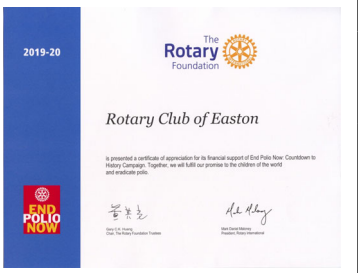
Rotary International welcomed Holger Knaack from Germany as our new President. Holger has chosen Rotary Opens Opportunities as our theme for the year. The yellow and blue doors represent the traditional colors of Rotary. The raspberry door represents the color of Rotaract, the version of Rotary designed for people aged 18-30.

Janet Kolepp from the Rotary Club of Bethlehem Morning Star is our new District Governor.

Easton Rotary also has a new President as Paul Braden ended his 1½ year term. PDG BJ Metz is installed as President on June 25.

Easton Rotary was recognized at the District Changeover event. The Club received a Silver Citation and recognition for our support of ShelterBox and the polio eradication campaign.

A new District 7430 Public Image campaign showcased local Rotarians including a terrific segment on our own Terry Pundiak.



Former Exchange Student José Garcia made an electronic appearance at our Club meeting. He is currently staying with his family in Ecuador but hopes to be back working soon. He is actively involved in Rotaract and is a Past President of his Club.

The Ritchey J. Ricci Teacher of the Year Award was presented to Cristen Charnley from the Easton Area School District. For 16 years she has been teaching various levels of math including algebra and advanced calculus.

District 7430 received $25,000 in COVID grant money from Rotary International. The money will be spent to buy food for local pantries, purchase grocery store gift cards for needy families, and to provide PPE for nursing home workers.

The $50 million world-wide goal for the polio campaign was successful. The Gates Foundation will match this with $100 million.

Club meetings featured programs on popular Rotary causes. Saucon Rotarian Linda Mayger presented ShelterBox. Bethlehem Morning Star Rotarian Sue Burnett told about the District Rotaplast mission to Guatemala. The Guatemala trip inspired a volcano speaker gift.

August 2020

DG Janet Kolepp brought her theme of "Together We Grow Rotary" along with a highly positive report on the state of Rotary in District 7430. She noted that Easton Rotary was one of 33 local Clubs to receive the Presidential Citation in 2019-20.

City Hall

Easton Mayor Sal Panto was our guest. Terry Pundiak produced a 3D model of City Hall as a gift.

The African region is certified polio-free. This is the culmination of a 24-year program to Kick Polio Out of Africa. This leaves Pakistan and Afghanistan as the only polio-endemic countries.

Delaware Rotarian John Nanni brought a very personal message regarding the polio campaign. His "I Saved 200" pins proved popular as many Easton Rotarians opted to donate to the campaign.

The Kellyn Foundation Mobile Farmer's Market has been having a banner year.

Terry Pundiak's informal Saturn on the Square produced several hundred dollars and an invitation to a wedding.

September 2020

Easton Rotary held long overdo elections with the following results: Immediate Past President Paul Braden; President BJ Metz; Secretary Ron Gano; Treasurer Sue Worobec; Directors: Kathleen Trimble, Mark Haldaman, Mike Dowd, Marnie Barefoot, Janet Mease, Lori Metz. The newest member of the Easton Rotary Service Foundation Board is Anita Paukovits.

Saturn On The Square

Zoom technology allowed us to welcome Johnstown Rotarian Dr. Mary Berge for a program on COVID stress relief techniques.

Marnie Barefoot, Lori Metz, Tom Walton and others kicked off our food bank project. The first beneficiary was ProJeCt of Easton which received 80 pounds of food and $135. Easton Rotary unveiled our new magnetic car signs.

Doylestown Rotarian Carol Ferguson told us about her struggles with post-polio syndrome. Carol was recently featured in the Rotary Magazine.

October 2020

Easton Rotary held our first in-person meeting since the March shutdown. Approximately 15 people gathered at the Pomfret Club for dinner and cocktails. Reviews were overwhelmingly positive.

Zoom technology allowed us to welcome Natalie Barefoot from Arizona. Natalie is an expert on, and advocate for cetaceans. Terry Pundiak crafted a candy dish speaker gift featuring a breaching whale.

The Salvation Army received 107 pounds of food and $200.

The Easton Area Neighborhood Center received 90 pounds of food and $135.

The St. Vincent Depaul/St. Jane's food bank received 80 pounds of food and $150.

Team Easton Rotary put on an impressive display in the Phillipsburg Rotary Golf Outing.

Easton Rotary sponsored two cars at the Miracle League Trunk-or-Treat Halloween event.

The District 7430 Purple Pinkie Race to Zero 5K raised over $40,000 for the polio campaign.

District 7430 held a fundraiser for ShelterBox and raised $41,737.

October 24 was World Polio Day. Over $900,000 was raised worldwide.

Team Easton Rotary excelled on the links for a second time; this time at the outing for the Children's Home of Easton.

Team Easton Rotary

November 2020

The second in-person meeting was held at the Pomfret Club. This time we had the entire dining room at our disposal.

Easton Rotary handed out awards to Students of the Month from four local schools.

The Thanksgiving Day football game between Easton and Phillipsburg was abruptly cancelled just a few days before it was scheduled to be played. ADs Jim Pokrivsak and Tom Fisher joined us anyway to give us an update on the state of school sports. Terry Pundiak unveiled an incredible Football Trophy.

Lehigh Valley Drycleaning allowed us to distribute 220 coats and 16 bags of clothing to a variety of needy organizations.

The Greater Shiloh Baptist Church Food Bank received 275 pounds of food and $150.

District 7430 held a Giving Tuesday on November 24 which raised over $11,000 for the Rotary Foundation.

The LINCS Family Food Center received 85 pounds of food plus monetary donations.

December 2020

Easton Rotary continued in a series of successful in-person meetings. The spacious dining room at the Pomfret Club allows us every opportunity to practice physical distancing.

The Easton and Phillipsburg ADs visited again. This time with more bad news. All winter sports are postponed and may eventually be cancelled. There will be no opportunity for any Easton vs. Philipsburg matches in any sport.

The Rotary Foundation has received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for the 13th straight year.

Rabbi Melody Davis joined us to present an historical perspective on Hanukkah.

Terry Pundiak constructed a 55' Star which not only glows, it spells out Merry Christmas in code!

Easton Rotary handed out books at the Peace and Light Festival in the West Ward.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church food bank received 81 pounds of pasta and 60 cans of tuna.

Easton Rotarians staffed the phones for the Children's Home WAEB Radio-thon.

Our District 7430 candidate has been selected to be part of the next class of Rotary Peace Scholars. Nick Millward of New Tripoli will spend the next two years at the University of Queensland, Australia pursuing a master's degree in Conflict Resolution and Peacetime Studies.

The year 2020 will be long remembered for many things, not all of which are pleasant. There is still a long road ahead to climb out of the darkness. One thing however, is clear: When the world shut down, Rotarians stepped up and took action. And so, it is time for a new beginning.

On to 2021!

The Staff at the Felloe