

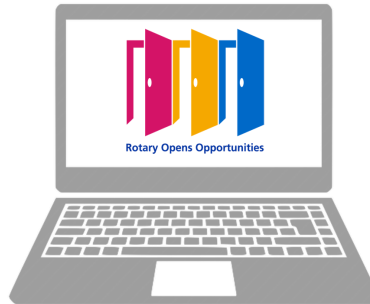
Rotary District 7450

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST/
SEPTEMBER
2020

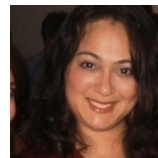
DISTRICT TRAINING ASSEMBLY

This year's District Training Assembly was conducted virtually on Zoom and was an unqualified success. Because it was so convenient for Rotarians to tune-in, it attracted 86 viewers. And, because it was accessible for speakers from far distant places, it attracted major personalities that included Cecily Smith in New York City and John Hewko, General Secretary and CEO of Rotary International from Evanston, Illinois. The future use of virtual media was made clear in our Rotary world by this demonstration. We look forward to more positive experiences in the future.



Attendees can review the slides shown during the Training Assembly by clicking [here](#).

- Among the topics presented were DGE Kevin Katarynick's open forum on Leveraging Technology to better communicate with fellow Rotarians. Lots of ideas came from the viewers and each seemed to generate more.
- Cecily Smith, District Coordinator, addressed *Leading Rotary in Rapidly Changing Times*. She talked about the possibilities available by innovating and adapting to different methods of doing things. She focused on Membership, Foundation, and Public Image. Cecily gave examples of clubs that took different approaches and how they succeeded.
- John Hewko provided a wide range of information about Rotary International and how the Board of Directors is addressing its future. Although membership in Rotary continues to grow internationally, especially in Asia, it continues to decrease in North America. Today, North America represents only 29 percent of all Rotarians world-wide. He informed us that a task force was formed eighteen months ago to study an overhaul of the entire organization. All ideas were considered, including doing away with the structure of districts as they exist now. He expects a pilot project in two years and decisions in six.



A few days after the District Training Assembly, the District conducted one-hour seminars for incoming club secretaries and treasurers. Speakers outlined their roles and described ways to do their jobs efficiently. Many questions were asked and answered in an open and relaxed atmosphere.

The quality and popularity of these on-line one hour training seminars cannot be overstated.



Newsroom Staff

Paul Quintavalla

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INSTALLATION OF DISTRICT OFFICERS 2020-2021

This year's installation of District Governor Kevin Katarynick and ten Assistant Governors broke new ground as it was broadcast via Zoom to everyone in the district. The event was held at the Locus Lane Brewing Company, Berwyn. In keeping with Covid-19 state regulations, only 20 people participated, and all wore masks while staying six feet apart.



In keeping with a long-standing tradition, iPDG Peter Mardinly's Media club transferred a banner reading, "Home of the District Governor" to DG Kevin Katarynick's club, King of Prussia. The parties wore masks and bumped fists afterwards. A sign of the times.

Kevin spoke of his plans and theme of "Keeping Our Ducks in a Row." His primary focus was to seize and use opportunities at hand. He commented, "We are at a critical time in our district. We need to recognize that now is the time for change. We need to seize the opportunity that is in front of us to adapt and grow. We are provided with the tools and resources to grow Rotary. Seize that opportunity."

Additionally, Kevin asked us to involve Rotary into the lives of our towns. "Extend our reach to people who are not in our organization. Make it appealing, inviting and inclusive." Kevin's final point was to utilize the technology available to reconnect our clubs with the community. He encouraged us to, "Think outside the box and provide speakers and participants the technology provided to you. Engage your current members, connect your past members and invite new members. Seize the opportunity! Rotary opens opportunities and those opportunities for growth, and those are here now.



The day's proceedings had a touching moment when Linda Katarynick addressed the audience to introduce her husband. She began by saying, "Some of you know I hate public speaking. The rest of you will soon know why." She spoke of his long career of public service in their community and Rotary. Linda carefully described his personal attributes, particularly his intelligence and good character. When concluding his remarks, Kevin acknowledged Linda's invaluable support of his work in Rotary. In recognition of her encouragement, he presented her with a Paul Harris Fellow membership and pin.

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New Members

Bolding, Cassandra
Rotary Club of Philadelphia

Copti, Roger
Rotary Club of Feasterville

D'Agostino, Mindy
Rotary Club of Feasterville

Engelen, Gwendolyn Virginia Jose
Rotary Club of Philadelphia

Etim, John J.
Rotary Club of Philadelphia

Fadaka, Olusola
Rotary Club of Philadelphia

Fine, Donna
Rotary Club of Shady Brook (Langhorne)

Fortney, Tim
Rotary Club of Phoenixville

Frazier, Jeffrey
Rotary Club of Glenside

Gay, Jimmy
Rotary Club of Shady Brook (Langhorne)

Niebold, Frank
Rotary Club of Chestnut Hill (Philadelphia)

Ott, Paula F.
Rotary Club of West Chester

Sears, Andy
Rotary Club of Chestnut Hill (Philadelphia)

Toy, Dan
Rotary Club of Haverford Township

Wybar, Barbara
Rotary Club of Chestnut Hill (Philadelphia)

Zachwieja, Nancy
Rotary Club of Feasterville

Zeiter, Fran
Rotary Club of Shady Brook (Langhorne)



REDUCTION IN DISTRICT FEES

DG Kevin Katarynick received approval from the District Board of Directors to eliminate the annual \$400 per club training fee for this year.

In addition, the semi-annual \$7.00 per member fee will be forgiven for the first half of 2020-2021. The fee will be charged for the second half of 2020-2021 and will be billed in January, 2021. "We continue to economize," Said Kevin. "The fun part is providing better training for less money."



NEW TO THE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS



- **Director Karen Mazzarella representing Super Area # 3**

Karen joined the Glen Mills – Thornbury Rotary Club in 2009 and became club president. She served as Assistant Governor from 2012 to 2015, has been Chair of RYLA since 2011, was District Membership Chair from 2015 to 2020, voted Rotarian of the Year for 2015-2016, and Recruiter of the Year for 2018-2019. She is president of Gundaker for 2020-2021.

Karen is a retired teacher and holds a Masters degree in education

- **Dave Adams, Parliamentarian**

Dave has been a member and past president of the Bryn Mawr Rotary Club since 2014. He served on the By-Laws Committee in fiscal year 2019 as parliamentarian. Dave is a lawyer and is a partner in Fromhold, Jaffe & Adams.

The parliamentarian is a non-voting member of the board who serves as an expert in matters of rules and procedure.



THE ROTARY FOUNDATION TRUSTEES

The Rotary Foundation Trustees met via video conference from June 15-18, 2020, reviewed nine committee reports, and recorded 41 decisions. Below are four that may have a direct impact on our members. A major decision is the addition of *The Environment* to the current six areas of focus. This addition opens unlimited opportunities to do good projects in our communities and the world.

- Subject to approval by the RI Board, the Rotary Foundation unanimously agreed to add The Environment as a seventh area of focus, effective 1 July 2021. It revised Rotary Foundation's mission statement to read: The Rotary Foundation helps Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty.
- The Foundation agreed to allow Rotaract clubs to be either the international or host sponsor of a global grant, beginning 1 July 2022, provided that the Rotaract club has previously partnered with a Rotary club on a global grant.
- The Foundation agreed that Rotaract members will be eligible recipients for Rotary Foundation awards. Please read, "Supporting the Environment Becomes Rotary's Newest Area of Focus," below.



PROFILES

Each Newsletter carries a story about a Rotarian whose career has been unique and distinguished. Rotarians are encouraged to recommend fellow Rotarians for inclusion. Contact: Rotarian.Paul@outlook.com

MARGARET KUO

You might not know an accomplished and successful restaurateur who holds a degree in chemical engineering from the University of Connecticut as well as a Master of Public Administration from Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She is Margaret Kuo, a member of the Wayne Rotary Club since 1982.

As an entrepreneur in a high-risk industry, her successes have been based on the simple principle of providing high quality food while paying attention to every detail in all aspects of her restaurants. Today, she and her husband Warren own four: Margaret Kuo's in Wayne, Mandarin in Malvern and Margaret Kuos's and Margaret Kuo's Kitchen in Media.

They opened their first restaurant, Peking, in the Granite Run Mall in 1975. Margaret was intent on serving the finest possible authentic Chinese dishes and knew her customers would appreciate it. To ensure her standards of quality were maintained, she recruited top chefs from China, including the former personal chef of Chairman Chiang Kai-shek. Peking received great reviews from restaurant reviewers and the public alike.



In 2003, Margaret took a major step by opening Margaret Kuos' in Wayne. The building is a landmark two-story restaurant with elegant décor, fixtures and furnishings. It includes several unique private dining and banquet rooms for meetings and special occasions. Always the innovator, Margaret introduced the first sushi bar in the region and charming Japanese-style private dining with low tables for floor seating.

Born in Manchuria and raised in Taiwan, Margaret arrived in America to study chemical engineering at the University of Connecticut where she met her future husband, Warren, who was studying law. She did research for Woman's Medical College, E.F. Hutton and Allied Chemical before events brought her and Warren to the restaurant industry. It was a combination of business and a passion for the cuisine they both loved. The couple have two sons who have joined them in the restaurant business. Mark and Paul learned the profession in childhood and are entrepreneurs in their own right. Great traditions always live on.

DISTRICT 7450 ROTARY FOUNDATION



The year 2019-2020 finished with spectacular results for our district's contributions to The Rotary Foundation. Under the leadership of PDG Dawn DeFuria, we contributed over \$60,000 for Polio and had a good time doing it. "The art of fund-raising calls for having a great cause and giving donors a good time," said Dawn. "Rotarians love getting together for an event among fellow Rotarians. There is an energy in celebrating together, and that's what we did."

Last July's Night at the Phillies was very well attended, and we provided guests an evening that exceeded their expectations. It included auction prizes that included throwing out the first pitch, VIP Seating, \$10 for every ticket purchased, and really cool custom T-Shirts. We raised \$8,000 to our Polio effort.

On November 3, 2019 we hosted *Dare to Dream* at the Uptown Knauer Performing Art Center in West Chester. The 59-minute long documentary featured Rotary leaders who had the courage and vision to believe that Rotary could eradicate polio virus from the entire world. The film is meant to educate, motivate, and inspire Rotary members to continue their polio eradication efforts. Over 175 Rotarians and their families attended, and executive movie producer Ken Solow and PRVP Mike McGovern were there. Following the viewing, Ken and Mike said a few words about Polio and started a Paddle Auction that raised over \$30,000 that evening.

A DISCUSSION ON RACISM

The speaker at the Upper Main Line Rotary Club weekly meeting was Gerry Davis, an African American who spoke on racism in America. He told of his life as a young scholar, US Marine Corps officer, corporate executive, and his personal life. The speaking engagement was made by Assistant Governor Stacey Ballard who invited six clubs in Area # 6 to participate. There was a very frank and probing question and answer period by the almost all white audience following Gerry's address. It was a rewarding and stimulating start of the day.

Gerry shared stories of being insulted by strangers, maltreated by authorities and superiors and belittled in lesser ways. As an example, when selling his house, the realtor had him remove photographs that indicated a black family lived there. "Painfully, it included a picture of my mother had to be taken down." One can only imagine the pain of having to do so.

He also told of the many times white people reached out and stood-up for him. "At school, nuns had me come to the convent after classes where they tutored me and leading to receiving a scholarship." "On one occasion while in the service, he and three white friends were in a diner for lunch. When the server refused serving Gerry because he is black, they all left the diner..... after one fellow threw over the table.

When asked what is meant by systemic racism, Gerry explained that it is being considered as a lesser class of people. "I was in tuxedo at a dinner when a white man took me for a waiter and gruffly asked where the men's room was." "After a while, you get sick and tired of being sick and tired.", he said. When asked he did say that he felt that racism has improved through his lifetime but the work is not done. "Black people are always thinking about race." Gerry said. "But white people never think about it." Part of "White Privilege" is understanding that historically being white has had inherent advantages in a society characterized by racial inequality and injustice.

Gerry offered that there knows of no sweeping solution to the problems of racism. He believes that curing the problem is by taking personal responsibility. Small steps can make a difference – Talking with friends, family and other Rotarians. The 4-Way Test directs us to be better. It's our responsibility to be sure we do our part.



"Let me just check my e-mail, my texts, my missed calls, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, my credit score, my horoscope, the results of this latest personality test, the S. & P., the Dow, the news, this article about cute dogs, and the weather, and then we can go."



Supporting the Environment Becomes Rotary's Newest Area of Focus



The Rotary Foundation Trustees and RI Board of Directors both unanimously **approved adding a new area of focus: supporting the environment**. Creating a distinct area of focus for the environment will give Rotary members even more ways to bring about positive change in the world and increase our impact. More details will be announced soon.

More than \$18 million in Foundation global grant funding has been allocated to environment related projects over the past five years. Creating a distinct area of focus to support the environment gives Rotary members even more ways to bring about positive change in the world and increase our impact.

Supporting the environment becomes Rotary's seventh area of focus, categories of service activities supported by global grants. It joins peace building and conflict prevention, disease prevention and treatment, water, sanitation, and hygiene, maternal and child health, basic education and literacy, and community economic development.

Grant applications for projects will be accepted beginning on July 1, 2021. Gifts and commitments from Rotarians and others will be sought to provide global grant support for the new area of focus.

More information about this new cause will be announced soon.

THE DISTRICT 7450 LITERACY AWARDS FOR 2019-2020

Francy Cross, Chair of the District Literacy Committee, announced the recipients of the 2019-2020 Literacy Awards. This is the most popular project in the district and is recommended for clubs large and small. The Literacy Committee recommends the following booklet, *Basic Education and Literacy Project Strategies from the Rotary.org website* ([CLICK HERE](#)). *The committee is updating the District Literacy Award and its requirements. More information will follow in the next edition of the District Newsletter.*

Literacy Awards presented to the following clubs for the completion of three projects:

Concordville-Chadds Ford Rotary Club
Swarthmore Rotary Club
Thorndale-Downingtown Rotary Club
West Chester Rotary Club



Literacy Awards with Distinction presented for the completion of five projects:

Bryn Mawr Rotary Club
Chester Rotary Club
Chestnut Hill Rotary Club
Feasterville Rotary Club
Frankford-Northeast Philadelphia Rotary Club
Glen Mills-Thornbury Rotary Club
Langhorne Rotary Club
Media Rotary Club

In Memoriam

We'd like to honor the following Rotarians for their dedicated service:

John G. Liadis

The Rotary Club of Broomall

Ulrich A. Rimrott

The Rotary Club of King of Prussia

BEST PRACTICES FOR ZOOM MEETINGS

- Provide the Zoom call-in data three times. Announce the call/speaker/agenda a week prior, repeat it a couple days in advance, and again an hour or two in advance. Each time provide the call-in info. Consider a (slight) change in meeting time. There's no point in having a Rotary meeting at mealtime if Rotary is not providing a meal - it just keeps the Rotarian away from his/her family meal. So consider running your breakfast meeting at 8:30; your lunch meeting either at 11:00 or 1:00, and a dinner meeting at 5:00 pm or so.
- Send the agenda to members. Keep all electronic meetings to one hour or less.
- Some of your members use Zoom and other conferencing platforms in their work life. For others, its brand-new technology. Offer a primer session during which a seasoned Zoom user can help newbies through the basics – logging on, finding the video, finding the audio, screen sharing, hand raised, et cetera. Explain that there is a first time for every-thing.
- If problems persist, "pair" a member having technology issues with another Rotarian who can guide them through the process. This makes the people for whom technology is an issue feel valued, and it doesn't overload a few members with everyone asking them for help.
- Urge members to log in on the computer with video so they are not disembodied voices. That said, members who are having trouble logging on – or who do not have a speaker or camera on their computers – should be made to feel that the phone-in option is a welcome choice.
- Security. Zoom has its issues, as recent headlines have indicated. Consider using a security code for your meetings. Record meetings and post them on your website. This will keep involved the members who miss the meeting.



VIRTUAL CHARITY WALK



"We are living in a virtual world nowadays," said Dick Newbert of the Shady Brook Rotary Club, Langhorne. "So, planning a virtual event as a fundraiser made a lot of sense." The club created a 14-mile walk to support its two major charities, *A Woman's Place* and *Leukemia & Lymphoma Society*. Scheduling a 14 mile walk acknowledged the club's 14th anniversary. Participants were presented with a signed certificate.

Each supporter donated \$25 and pledged to walk a full 14 miles at any time and place they wished. Most people walked the distance over several days, on the honor system.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Each Newsletter will post upcoming club events (VIRTUAL EVENTS AND ONLINE EVENTS WELCOME). Submit your Club's event [here](#) or send to rotary7450office@gmail.com

Be sure to attend the events of other clubs to make new friends and discover new ideas!

