

Rotary District 7450

NEW YEAR'S SPECIAL EDITION

2021

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Rotary Opens Opportunities

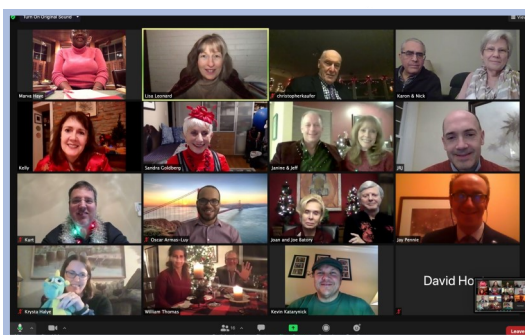
New Year's Resolution: Make it Fun!

Chinese Proverb. When the winds of change blow, some build walls. Others build windmills.

If you haven't noticed, we are now entering the doldrums of winter. The holidays are past, the days are short and it's getting cold outside. To make matters worse, the COVID 19 restrictions are keeping us apart. Attendance at some Rotary club meetings is up but down at others. The ones that are up are those that expanded their activities. I hate to say it, but the virtual meetings can be really boring after a while. What can a club do about it? Well, some creative Rotarians are doing a lot. We've called clubs across the district and found some very creative, positive and successful ways to make the most of the situation. It's a pleasure to tell of their accomplishments and share ideas with others.



- Several clubs have increased the number of service projects they do. Glenside Rotary Club is a good example of rising above obstacles. The club increased the number of service projects to two and three per month. Best of all, they call upon other Rotary clubs in the area to work with them. Recently, they prepared and delivered 2,400 meals for Caring for Friends. And, weather permitting, they meet outdoors to keep fellowship alive.



- The annual Philadelphia Club's *Holiday Entertainment Extravaganza* fundraiser is a combination live TV cooking show and neighborhood potluck party. All attendees dress up for the occasion to show and tell their favorite recipes for a holiday drink, appetizer, or dessert. The show begins with the traditional Danish holiday beverage, gløgg (Pronounced glook). See <https://thedrinkblog.com/glogg>. It ends with a lively trivia contest and prizes. Afterwards, guests receive an e-mail cookbook. Funds go to the Lutheran Settlement House Pantry.
- Joint virtual club meetings are a good idea and a way to share an exceptional speaker. Any club can reach out to clubs in the district to find something in common. (*They're all in DAC/db*) Or a club can expand its horizons to meet with clubs across the country and overseas. (*Google any city in the world ... Well, virtually, any city.*) All you need is an agenda to share Q&A such as: How many members in your club? How many are men and women? Where and when do you meet? How's the food? What are your fundraisers? What service projects do you do?

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- A number of clubs like to meet outdoors from time to time. Some meet under tents at their favorite restaurant and others meet on the deck or patio of a member. Chester Rotary Club held one meeting in a parking lot by forming a wheel with their cars and sitting in front. (*The picture was Photoshopped.*)



- Langhorne and Broomall Rotary Club members receive a full write-up of the previous day's meeting. It gives club business and details of the speaker's address. This is a great benefit to those who could not attend.
- Virtual Bingo has become popular in clubs. Some raise money for the general fund and some for specific service projects. The Phoenixville Club is working with the school district to buy hotspot devices for students whose families do not have Internet. This kind of project gets more Rotarians involved and shows measurable results.
- Having difficulty in finding speakers? Call other Rotary clubs and ask for referrals. Be sure to share yours too.
- **52 Questions** The Media club president starts meetings by asking the **Question of the Day** and everyone answers it at the close of the meeting. Subjects might include, "What's your favorite vacation? Do you have a hobby? What is your middle name and why do you have it?" Occasionally, a meeting runs overtime because people enjoy it so much.
- Asking questions is always a good ice-breaker. Here are a few to consider:
 - What is the secret of a successful marriage?
 - Describe an interesting past job.
 - My most embarrassing moment.
 - With whom would you most like to spend a day? Historic figure. Present figure.
 - Do you have a historic hero and why?
 - What was the worst gift you ever received?
 - Tell something about yourself that no one would know.
 - Who has been watching The Crown? What do you think of it? Is Prince Phillip a dip, or what?
 - Three people tell jokes and members vote on the best one. The winner comes back next week to defend the title.
 - Trivia questions are always fun.
 - Movie Quiz: Give a line from a movie and ask the name of the movie and who spoke the line.
 - 60s, 70s and 80s Song Quiz: Give the first line of a song and ask the name of the song and who sang it. Sing a verse.
 - Rotary quiz: What was the first Rotary community service project? Who wrote the first 4Way Test? Which was the first Rotary club in our district?

Editor's Note

It was fun researching material for this letter. There are so many imaginative and resourceful Rotarians around us and talking with just a few generated lots of good stories. If your club is scratching for new ideas, do what I did. Call (Don't e-mail) clubs in your area and ask what they are doing. I promise you will not be disappointed.

Have a wonderful New Year.

PDG Paul Quintavalla

