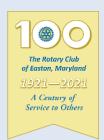
## Chartered September 1, 1921

The Monthly Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Easton



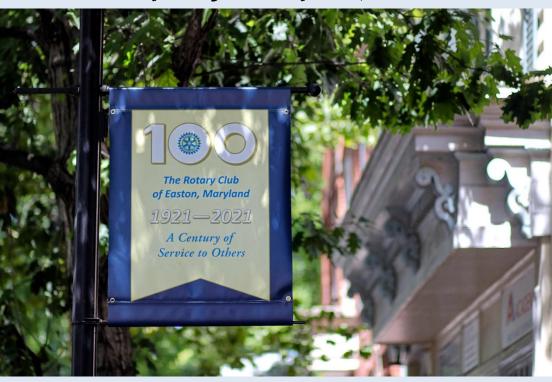




September 2021

The Rotary Club of Easton was the first Rotary Club in the world in a town of less than 10,000

# We are 100!



Well, we made it! The centennial of our founding is finally here. Many thanks to the Centennial Committee for its incredible work and to the club and our community for such terrific support. Did you know that we will undoubtedly endow our Centennial Trades Scholarship to the tune of half a million dollars? Wow! And the Flags for Heroes Centennial Flag Court along with the Easton Rotary Pavilion are the gems of Idlewild Park. But most important of all, for 35,600 days, we have thought of nothing but helping our fellow man. In those 100 years of days, the world has seen more death and suffering than at any other time in history, but our club has never wavered in its mission of "Service above Self." Congratulations! YOU did it. You served others and made a difference, and there is no doubt you will continue this selfless mission. As Winston Churchill said, "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give," and what a life it has been thanks to YOU.

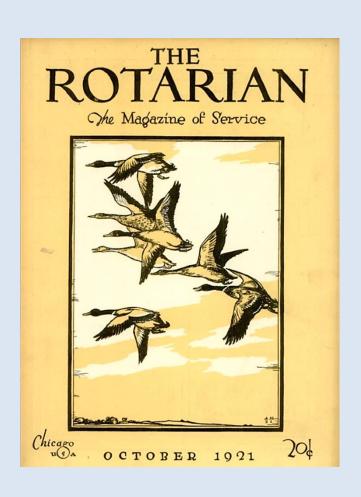
## Editor's Note

This is a special issue of The Spark to commemorate our Centennial. We have been tracing our 100 years of history over the last couple of years, and that will continue beyond this issue.

There is good news, too. Your editor took a really deep dive into the archives and found the original documents concerning our founding and early time as a club, a few of which are presented here. Later, in subsequent issues of *The Spark*, you will see more documents and a history of the club from 1921-1946 that the Rotary Club of Easton published on our 25th anniversary.

Jack Anthony has penned a special article for this issue, and you'll learn about our first President, Charles F. Brougham. It's not all history, either so enjoy and be inspired by our unparalleled track-record of service.

Happy birthday to the Rotary Club of Easton. May it have many, many more!



## New Rotary Clubs

By CECIL B. HARRIS

THE following is a list of the Rotary clubs which have become affiliated with International Rotary since the list published in the August issue of THE ROTA-RIAN:

Indiana, Pennsylvania. Club No. 977 Special Representative, Jack H. Leppert, of Johnstown; president, John A. H. Keith; secretary, J. A. Whiteman.

SAVANNA, Illinois. Club No. 978 Special Representative Otto Korn of Clinton, Iowa; president, Bruce Machen; secretary, Hans P. Greison.

Owosso, Michigan. Club No. 979
Special Representative Elwyn
Pond of Flint; president, Byron P.
Hicks; secretary, John E. Campbell.
Metropolis, Illinois. Club No. 980

Special Representative Edwin J. Paxton of Paducah, Kentucky; president, Henry J. Humma; servtary, Roy R. Heim.

BRIDGETON, New Jersey. Club No. 981 Special Representative Harry F. Ewan of Atlantic City; president, II. H. Bithian; secretary, F. E. Esibill.

Easton, Maryland. Club No. 982 Special Representative George W. Bahlke of Baltimore; president, Charles F. Broughman; secretary, Samuel E. Shannahan.







FROM THE CREEK
with President Reza

Happy Birthday to the Rotary Club of Easton!

September 1st, 1921 - September 1st, 2021

September 1<sup>st</sup> is our official Centennial birthday. During the past few years, our fellow Rotarian and Historian of our Club, George Hatcher, has shared many stories about the journey of the past 100 years. We have heard about the first letter notifying the granting of a charter to our Club. We have learned that our Rotary Club is a membership organization with a purpose. Our members are the primary source of energy, creativity, and major contributions with an enormous passion for making a difference with "Service Above Self." We have evolved from being members of the Rotary Club to being Rotarians. We share the same values and guiding principles that have been adhered to by those who have been here before us.

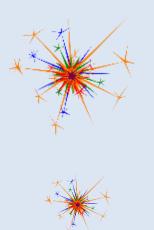
We celebrate 100 years of Service to Others on September 16, 2021, with a tremendous Centennial Gala at the Tidewater Inn!

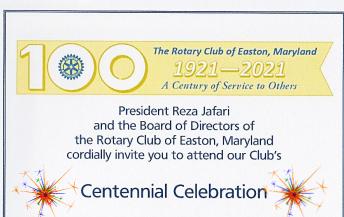
The Centennial Committee began their work under the leadership of John Hurt, and it was passed on to Ron Flohr. Ron took the baton and continued the planning and execution of the road map with the same team. I have the pleasure of being a member of the Centennial Committee along with Bruce Armistead, Charlie Fitzgerald, George Corey, George Hatcher, Graham Lee, Tom Hill, Hugh Dawkins, Jack Anthony, Jackie Wilson, John Flohr, John Hurt, Megan Miller, Mike Hiner, Patrick Fitzgerald, Patti Willis, Richie Wheatley, Steve Ochse, Stuart Bounds, Tim Kagan, Tom Lane, and Tracey Johns.

The manifestation of our commitment to each other and to our community is the expression of our GRATITUDE. We do not expect to get it in return; however, we always express our gratitude to those who offer us a helping hand in any shape or form. That creates the essence of our stronger fellowship and propels our continued belief in "Service Above Self." One special attribute of Gratitude is that the more we offer it the more it regenerates itself.

On my side, I would like to express my utmost gratitude to all our Rotarians who have been working very hard during the past two years and setting up the platform of service to others for the next 100 years.







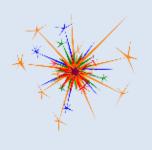
Thursday, September 16, 2021

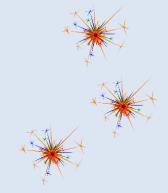
The Tidewater Inn 101 East Dover Street Easton, Maryland 21601

6:00 PM Cocktail Reception 7:00 PM Dinner and Program

Spouses welcome and encouraged Members, complimentary Guests, \$75/person Cash Bar

RSVP by 9/1/21 Business Attire You may reserve overnight accommodations at The Tidewater until 9/1 for a special rate by calling 410.822.1300.









Richie Wheatley & Jackie Wilson, Centennial Celebration Co-Chairs say, "Be there or be square!" Please sign up today – you'll be glad you did!



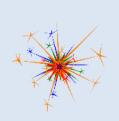
## A Centennial Essay



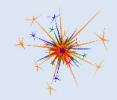
Your editor gave a great deal of thought to who should offer Rotary memories for the centennial issue of The Spark. As you no doubt have seen in previous issues, there is no shortage of wonderful, accomplished Easton Rotarians from which to choose.

Jack Anthony stands out for two reasons—his incredible service ethic and his family history in our club. That history spans 76% of our existence, and that's quite a perspective! But then again, Jack is quite a guy and a true friend. He also celebrates his Golden Anniversary in our club this year!

So, with apologies to Casey at the Bat's author, Ernest Thayer, please read on to see Past President John H. Anthony's thoughts on the Rotary Club of Easton.







June 15, 1968 – Nancy & Jack Anthony on their wedding day.



Jack & Nancy with "sweet" David in Idlewild Park not far from where the Flags for Heroes Flag Court is now!





#### Rotary

When Easton Rotarians held their annual children's luncheon in the Gold Room of Tidewater Inn yesterday, four generations of one family and three generations of Rotarians were represented at one table. Christopher Marvel, second from left, and David Anthony are great-grandsons of Ed Matthews while J. Howard Anthony and Jack Anthony are father and son. From left are Matthews, Chris, Howard Anthony, David and Jack Anthony, who was in charge of the club's program. (Staff photo by Norman Harrington)



## Easton at the Bat



By Jack Anthony (who else?)

The outlook wasn't brilliant for The Rotary Club of Easton that day. The powers that be felt that our town was too small to contribute in a very big way.

But Shannahan kept talking as did Sheehan and Palmer and Brougham, and they convinced them all that this small town of Easton would make Rotary a very fine home.

The idea of a Rotary Club in a small town of less than 10,000 citizens was conceived at the end of 1920 and beginning of 1921. The idea grew and grew, and finally on September 1, 1921, our club was chartered. The world's first in a town with a population of less than 10,000 residents.

The world has changed so much these past 100 years. In 1921, women had just voted for the first time, prohibition was in effect (so no alcohol), baseball was exclusively a white man's sport, and yes, at that time, the New York Yankees had not won a single World Series.

Continued next Page

But some things have remained the same, even after 100 years. The Rotary motto of "Service Above Self" remains a core tenant for all of us. The 4-Way Test of things we think, say, or do stands as strong today as it did in 1921.

- 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?



I am proud to be an Easton Rotarian. My father, J. Howard Anthony, became a member of this club in November 1945. I joined in 1971, my son Jed in 2006 and my son David in 2020. As our club celebrates 100 years of service to this community, my family celebrates 76 years of continuous membership in The Rotary Club of Easton.

Rotary has been a part of me my entire life. Each decade is etched with different and unique Rotary memories. During the 1950's, I was a proud member of the Rotary Little League baseball team. Every child in Easton was familiar with Rotary as one of the original four sponsors of Little League. During the 1960's—my high school years—Rotary was synonymous with the foreign student exchange program. Every student at Easton High School was familiar with the Rotary Club through this very successful program. The 1970's was a great Rotary decade for me. When I first became a Rotarian in 1971, I was an intimidated 25-year-old "kid" who was in awe of his fellow members. I was much more comfortable calling someone "Mr." than using their first name. By the time decade ended, I was a Past President of this club and fully aware of the great role that community service and the Rotary Club of Easton had in my life. The decades keep rolling by, but our Rotary Club remains constant and evolving at the same time. Golf tournaments, Waterfowl parking, Dictionaries, Group Study Exchange, Meals on Wheels, Flags for Heroes, and many, many more.

Continued next page







April 5, 2018. Jack Anthony (center) with his son, Jed (left) and grandson, Ryan. Ryan is now serving proudly in the Marine Corps, defending our great nation.

But really—after all these years—what is my greatest takeaway from being a Rotarian—an Easton Rotarian? There is no doubt it is the friendships that I have formed. MY ROTARY FAMILY! I will always miss Don Osburn, and Bill Miller, and Will Lockwood, and Al Gipe and Gene Guthrie, and Dave Haslup, and so many others. I am so fortunate to have formed bonds with so many great Rotarians—like George Hatcher, and Jackie Wilson, and Tim Kagan, and Patti Willis, and Jack Baker, and Mike Hiner, and Hugh Dawkins—as well as so many others.

"The gifts that we receive are the gifts we leave behind." I have received many gifts from being a member of The Rotary Club of Easton. My hope is that we as Rotarians continue in the next 100 years to gift our community a legacy of "Service Above Self".

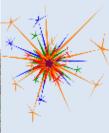
Oh, somewhere in this favored land, the sun is shining bright The band is playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts are light And somewhere there is laughter, and somewhere children shout And that somewhere is in Easton Maryland Where 100 years of service to our community Is what The Rotary Club of Easton is all about.

Jack
John H. Anthony
President 1978-1979







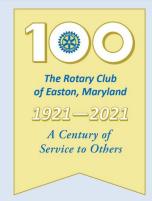


May 2021 – the Jack Anthony family (missing grandson, Ryan) on Jack's 75th birthday

## Samuel E. Shannahan Founder & Father of the Rotary Club of Easton







Samuel Shannahan in 1942 and his grave at Spring Hill Cemetery on December 11, 2019

The front page of *The Easton Star Democrat* from Friday, December 11, 1942, was devoted almost entirely to the death of Samuel E. Shannahan. Now Sam was a great many things to our community, and the outpouring of love for him was quite remarkable. First and foremost, he was the owner and editor of *The Easton Star Democrat*, but he was also involved in nearly every civic activity in Easton and Talbot County. All of this is significant, but most significant for Easton Rotarians is that he was the "founder and father" of our club. Here's what his contemporaries and fellow Rotarians said of him in part in a resolution that appeared on that front page (and which follows here on the next page):

It is as a Rotarian and as the founder of the Rotary Club of Easton that we, his fellow members, would especially stress the exemplary character and accomplishments of our distinguished fellow member whom we all (of whatever age) felt privileged to call familiarly and with affection, "Sam."

More than twenty-one years ago, our fellow member, Sam, conceived the idea that the community of Easton would be materially benefitted if a Rotary Club might be organized here to comprise a cross section of the business and professional activities of the town.

Not only did he conceive this idea, but he also inspired others who were stimulated into the concerted action that culminated in the organization of this Rotary Club in Easton, whose purpose is best explained in its motto of "Service above Self."

And the idea of improving local communities by improving standards of business and professional practices as fostered by Rotary Clubs which moved Sam to see to it that such a Club with such a salutary influence should be established here in Easton, resulted also in the creation, under his leadership, of several other Rotary Clubs in the towns of the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

Sam Shannahan is, therefore, not only the founder and father of the Easton Rotary Club but has also been given the well-deserved recognition of having promoted the ideal of service as a worthy motive in the several other communities on the Eastern Shore which have Rotary Clubs because of his interest and aggressive action.

He was the Secretary-Treasurer of the Easton Rotary Club for several years and is the only person to have been elected to serve as its president for two successive years.

Ever since the Rotary Club was organized, he has been a constant inspiration and guide in its growth and in its activities for community betterment.

Sam Shannahan died while working at his desk at *The Easton Star Democrat* on December 7, 1942, at the age of 69. That was exactly one year after Pearl Harbor and nearly 79 years ago today. We will always remember.

## Attendance Matters!!!

From the July 1967 issue of The Spark, read what Past President J. Howard Anthony said about attendance.

CLUB NO. 982

Rotary Club of Easton, Md.

Organized in 1920

The world's first Rotary Club in a town with population of less than 10,000

President — Rev. Conrad H. Goodwin, Jr. Vice - President — Harry J. Hubbard Meets Wednesday 12:15 Tidewater Inn Secretary — Henry H. Purdy Treasurer — Arthur E. Southard

Meeting at 6 P.M. on the 26th

CRAB FEAST

Pier Street Marina, Oxford
Wives and Guests are invited.

Arthur Southard Box 120 EAston, Md.

#### A PAST PRESIDENT SPEAKS OUT

I am quite disturbed about our Club's attendance. There are 55 clubs in this District and we usually finish between 50th an 54th. This may seem like a small matter to some, but to me it is a disgrace to as fine a Club as ours. I wonder if some members are making a maximum effort to attend?

Don't feel that it comes before anything else but try to make Rotary instead of just going to lunch some place else. Please arrange your schedule so you can be with us on Wednesday. Some of the members who are older might think of changing their classification to Senior A<sup>C</sup>tive. Maybe our Attendance Committee should contact our worst offenders and tell them about the four meetings 60% rule.

Let's start with the new Rotary year and make a substantial improvement. See if we can't at least rank somewhere in the middle. -- J. Howard Anthony (1953-54)

Still think attendance doesn't matter? Read this October 13, 1946, letter from our District Governor, Tony Anthony, to our Secretary, Frank Gunther.

You see, attendance matters for so many reasons. It's a sign of your commitment to the club, and it's honestly how we all get to know and appreciate one another – and know and appreciate what we do as a club. We become friends, and in so doing, we are able to serve others much more effectively.

Members who achieved perfect attendance for the 2020-2021 Rotary year follow. Congratulations! Special congratulations to Jacques Baker for 43 years! Wow-43!



SERVICE ABOVE SELF . HE PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST

October 13, 1946

180th DISTRICT • WM. ANTHONY, District Governor • 2651 PURNELL DRIVE, BALTIMORE 7, MD.

Mr. Frank B. Gunther Secy. Rotary Club Easton, Maryland

Dear Frank:

Your indifference to your responsibility for getting the Attendance Report of the Easton Olub to me on the designated time of the 7th of the month for the past month of September has handicapped

Even though I did manage to wangle something out of your President Lou, I do not have your official report on the official card as yet, and I cannot complete my records for Rotary International until I get it.

These are not matters of little moment at all. They constitute a very fundamental part of the whole program, and I am sure your being away on vacation overcame your usually dependable fidelity to this trust.

Will you send along your September report at once, please?

I do hope you got a good rest on your time away. I am sure you deserved it.

Most cordially, and Rotarily,



Lib 9388

2 . . 3



## Perfect Attendance – 2020-2021

1.	Brett Whitehead	1 Year
2.	Steve Shearer	1
3.	Tom Lane	1
4.	Jonathan West	1
5.	Greg Haddaway	1
6.	Casey Baynard	1
7.	Ron Flohr	1
8.	Tracey Johns	1
9.	Jed Anthony	1
10.	David Anthony	1
11.	Mike Henry	2
12.	Bob Grill	2 (27 prior)
13.	Richie Wheatley	4
14.	John Flohr	6
15.	Reza Jafari	6
16.	Mike Kopen	7
17.	Hugh Dawkins	8
18.	Jackie Wilson	8
19.	Jack Anthony	9
20.	George Hatcher	17
21.	Claude Maechling	24
22.	Peter Dietz	28
23.	Susan Coulston	30
24.	Bruce Armistead	32
25.	Jacques Baker	43 Years







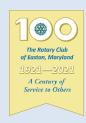












John Flohr (right) with his wife, Gail, (center), and daughter-in-law, Elissa, on Change of Officers Night on June 23, 2021.

## President John

2020-2021 could have been a disastrous year for the Rotary Club of Easton because of COVID-19. It destroyed all sorts of organizations around the world, but not the Rotary Club of Easton. Why? While it's true that our club is strong and has highly motivated members, it is only as strong as its leader. John Flohr would not let our club fail, would not take "no" for an answer, and would not let our important work for others take a pause. He forged ahead with humor and insight and prodded all of us to do our best. And we did.

We can't celebrate our Centennial without celebrating John's leadership. We would not be where we are right now without him. You know, our club was a fully functional Rotary club as early as March of 1921– long before we received word of our approval or our charter as a Rotary Club. Our founders would not take "no" for an answer either, and they brushed aside Rotary International's "no" to a club in a community of our size. They forged ahead, too, and that's been a hallmark of the Rotary Club of Easton. So, these are President John's final thoughts on his year from Change of Officers Night. Especially to the youngest members of our club– never take "no" for an answer. Our business is serving others, and that business can never stop because the need never stops...

#### Good evening, Rotarians and guests.

One year ago, we could not get together for Change of Officers Night. A year ago, you could not imagine what would happen to you as an individual and how this pandemic would affect us as a club. But here we are as a family — stronger than ever and at the threshold of our 100-year anniversary.

Continued next page.

I wonder what Sam Shannahan, the architect of our club, would say at this point about our club. Most likely he would smile and keep working. Before I get into my speech, let me first take a minute and thank my bride for supporting me throughout this year. Can you imagine 24/7 with me, COVID, and Rotary? Well, after tonight, we will start a new chapter, and it will be more fun. I love you!

I also want to thank my Board of Directors for staying strong and adapting throughout this year. This is your Board and all of us should be very proud at how they have managed the club this year. I have been your President, but they manage the business of the club. Rosemary Fasolo is retiring from the board, so I want to thank her for all that she has done. Whether it has been a board item, director responsibility, golf tournament requirements, or Flags for Heroes, she has always been available and willing to help. I will miss our not being board members together.

I have had several tough acts to follow as the old guy. The young "Trio of Presidents" (Ron Flohr, Richie Wheatley, and Pat Fitzgerald) did outstanding jobs as Presidents. I had to follow them. Throw in a pandemic, and it seemed impossible.

But do you remember the Angel number of 99 and what it meant? Well, I have been your 99th President. This year I have had a lot of angels looking over me. and I think you will agree, "What a year!"

Bruce Summer (a former President and friend) back in June of 2020, told me to lay out a course and then only steer the ship, and let the crew handle the rest. Well, I tried my best, so I set the course on 2020-2021, left safe harbor and knew we were going to face gale force winds, and rough seas.

COVID, social distancing, no contact except Zoom, unrest in our country. What were we going to do? We needed to adapt and move forward.









Therefore, I asked you a year ago for several things up front.

1. Find your footing which gives you balance.

Simply let's deal with the cards that we are dealt and move forward. We are Rotarians and people of action. When we have our balance, we always make the seemly impossible possible.

- 2. Let's embrace creativity. Let's recap that.
  - 1. You embraced Zoom meetings and then Hybrid meetings. We did not fold up shop to wait this one out. It is not in our DNA.
  - 2. We partnered with the YMCA and renewed our Food Drive which helped thousands in our County. This allowed us to reach more people and help them. We also continued the legacy of Lord Sheldon Scott, a local hero, and a man before his time.
  - 3. Meals on Wheels continued as one of our longest weekly events. The need has been great, but you stepped up and provided the service to those who needed it.
  - 4. Flags for Heroes just crossed the 10-year anniversary, and since its inception, we have raised just short of \$400,000. A big thanks to all. 1000 American flags is a beautiful thing, and if you have noticed throughout the Shore, there is a new awareness of what Memorial Day is all about.
  - 5. The new Golf Committee just had an extremely successful golf tournament. Many thanks to each and every one of you.
  - 6. We recapped 100 years of history weekly at our meetings and showed why our Club has always been out front taking the lead.
  - 7. *The Spark* continues monthly and is a District jewel publication.
  - 8. Our future is dependent on showing the community what we are involved in and therefore social media and news releases were critical. Megan Miller and George Hatcher did an excellent job in making sure our name and projects were out front.

9. Our Centennial Committee followed its mission and through all its hard work, our club has now two outstanding projects which will impact our community forever: the Easton Rotary Centennial Flags for Heroes Flag Court and the Easton Rotary Centennial Trades Scholarship. My thanks to John Hurt and Ron Flohr for managing this committee.

Nothing is impossible when you are a Rotarian in our club.

3. Let's reach out and attract new members.

The battle cry was 100 for the 100 anniversary. I have no idea how you have done this, but this year we have inducted 13 new members. We are now over 100 members. They have not only been inducted, but because of their sponsors, they are involved.

Finally, I asked you to rededicate your and find your joy.

If it's not joyful, why do it?

We have been tested as our club has been in the past and we have not failed.

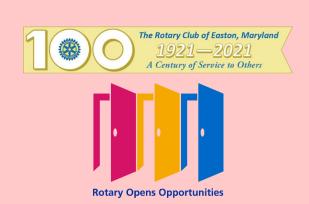
I leave you with one last saying:

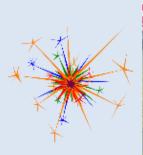
Every day is a new beginning.

Thank you

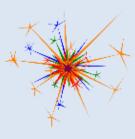
John

June 23, 2021











#### CRAWFORD C. MCCULLOUGH

ESTES SNEDECOR PORTLAND, ORE.

RALPH W. CUMMINGS

WM.COPPOCK COUNCIL BLUFFS: IOWA THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT H.J.LUTCHER STARK

#### FIFTH DISTRICT

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA (THAT PORTION EAST OF THE 78TH MERIDIAN), SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY, EASTERN MARYLAND (THAT PORTION EAST OF THE 78TH MERIDIAN), DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ROTARY CLUBS

HEADQUARTERS 910 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, CHICAGO, U.S.A.

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR OF FIFTH DISTRICT
ED. L. STOCK

1220 NEW YORK AVE., N. W., WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SECRETARY-GENERAL CHESLEY R. PERRY CHICAGO TREASURER RUFUS F. CHAPIN CHICAGO SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

REGISTERED CABLE ADDRESS
"INTEROTARY CHICAGO"

March 15, 1921.

Mr. Charles F. Brougham, President, Easton, Md., Rotary Club, 34-38 Dover Street, Easton, Md.

Dear Charlie:

I am going to ask you to do me a favor--easy for you to grant and of the greatest importance to me.

On Tuesday night, March 21st, send me a night lettergram stating approximate number of people who will come from your community to attend our District Conference. Please note carefully that the lettergram should state number of men, women and children and time of arrival in Washington. Kindly be as explicit as possible.

If you will give a little of your valuable time during the next few days in assisting your On-to-Washington Chairman swell the crowd at this important Conference, it will be very helpful. Without a doubt this will be the greatest District Conference ever held in any District.

I cannot begin to tell you how helpful your cooperation will be at this particular time; therefore,
please do not lay aside this letter to be taken up later,
but kindly attend to it at once, and make memorandum so
there will be no danger of your neglecting to send me the
night lettergram on the 21st inst.

Assuring you in advance of my appreciation for your assistance, I am with kindest regards,

Rotarily yours,

Governor, Fifth District.

If there is any doubt about exactly when we were a functioning Rotary Club, this letter should dispel that. Written on March 15, 1921, it's from Ed Stock, the Governor of our District, asking us to be a part of the "On-to Washington" District Conference. MARCH 1921! This is the earliest club document extant.

## LAW OFFICES G. ELBERT MARSHALL EASTON, MARYLAND

January 4, 1955

TO: Mr. Oren Harrison, Historian Rotary Club

There are not many Charter Members now in the Rotary Club.

After 34 years, one's recollection is a bit dimmed, but I distinctly remember the ride down from Easton to Salisbury, for a St. Patrick's Day Rotary Dinner in March, 1921, going with Sam Shannahan, Norman Jefferson and Jim Spence, the purpose being to learn about Rotary--what it is--and what it does for a community.

It was an inspirational meeting and the eleven Eastonians who went came back with the unanimous resolve to go ahead with plans to organize a Rotary Club for Easton.

It was done .

There were fifteen original members, and nine were added before the installation meeting, so we started with 24 members.

During the depression after1929, we were reduced to 21 members, (later losing two or three more), and some one wanted to give up the Charter.

I led the opposition to the movement to give up the Charter for Easton, believing it was an obligation we assumed, and that it gave Easton some advantage to have a Rotary Club.

The Charter was retained, and the developments have shown how advisedly the decision was made.

If the Committee desires to see me personally, I am available.

G. Elbert Marshall

GEM; nsm

A January 4, 1955, letter from Charter Member, Elbert Marshall, to Club Historian, Oren Harrison, about the founding of our club. We hit the ground running, but almost gave up on the idea of a Rotary Club during the Depression. Rotarian Elbert led the effort to stay "in business."

Now just exactly when did we receive our charter? We have seen from *The Wilmington Morning News* from May 16, 1921, and *The Denton Journal* five days later (below), that our President, Charles E. Brougham, received word of the charter and that we had to fight to get it. Now, your editor, using his best Sherlock Holmes' technique, has discovered the answer-read on!

## Wilmington Morning News - May 16, 1921

Easton, Md., to Have Rotary Club EASTON, Md., May 15-Application for a Rotary Club charter was made about six weeks ago by the recently formed organization here, and a favorable answer has just been received. The charter itself has not yet arrived, but Charles E. Brougham, president, received a telegram stating that one had been granted. Considerable objection was raised against Easton on the ground that it was deemed inadvisable to grant charters to towns with less than 10,-000 population, but the Eastonians called for assistance from Salisbury, Wilmington, Annapolis, Baltimore and other places, and the international board yielded.

## The Denton Journal May 21, 1921

Easton's Rotary Club has been chartered. The Star-Democrat thinks that no one organization can do so much for a community as a Rotary Club and/is therefore exultant.



# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ROTARY CLUBS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT GRAIN EXCHANGE BUILDING FORT WILLIAM, ONTARIO, CANADA

14 September, 1921

Charles F. Broughman, Rotarian President, The Rotary Club Easton, Maryland

My dear Rotarian Broughtant

I bid you and the members of the Easton Rotary Club a most cordial welcome into the fellowship of International Rotary.

Your club has now become a working unit in a great movement which is wielding a tremendous influence for good throughout the world.

Rotary is trying to link up business with life and to bring home to the ordinary business or professional man the inspiring truth that his business or profession is his greatest opportunity to serve society. Rotary challenges him to give expression to his highest and best self through the ordinary channels of his business or professional enterprise.

Rotary believes that the true basis of all successful modern business is in the quality and quantity of service rendered and that to acquire and retain the friendship of one's competitors is not incompatible with business success.

In seeking membership in this organization your club has assumed the responsibility of upholding the principles and ideals of Rotary.

We want to assure you of our pleasure in having your club as a part of our organization and to offer you and our fellow Rotarians of Easton our best wishes and hearty cooperation.

With cordial greetings, believe me

Yours sincerely and Rotarily.

r

ccm-mmp-mwm

PRESIDENT C. C. McCULLOUGH FORT WILLIAM, ONT.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT ESTES SNEDECOR

> FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT RALPH W. CUMMINGS LANCASTER, PENNA.

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT WM.COPPOCK COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT

FIFTH DISTRICT

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA (THAT PORTION EAST OF THE 78TH MERIDIAN), SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY, EASTERN MARYLAND (THAT PORTION EAST OF THE 78TH MERIDIAN), DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

## INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF .....

ROTARY CLUBS

HEADQUARTERS 910 SOUTH MICHIGAN AVENUE, CHICAGO, U.S.A.

OFFICE OF GOVERNOR OF FIFTH DISTRICT ED. L. STOCK

1220 NEW YORK AVE., N. W., WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CHESLEY R. PERRY CHICAGO

TREASURER RUFUS F. CHAPIN

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

REGISTERED CABLE ADDRESS "INTEROTARY CHICAGO"

October 3rd, 1921.

Mr. Chas. F. Broughman, Pres., Easton, Md. Rotary Club, 34-38 Dover St., Easton, Md.

My dear Charlie: -

If agreeable to you, I should like to have a charter presentation meeting of your club called for Thursday, October 13th, at say 6:30 P.M. If this is agreeable to you, please advise me at once, so I can make definite arrangements about having delegates from Washington, Baltimore, Annapolis and Salisbury, and perhaps Hagerstown, Frederick and Wilmington, present.

It is my plan to attend the Rotary club luncheon of the Annapolis club on Thursday, the 13th inst. at noon, leave on the 3:15 boat and arrive in Easton as quickly as we can thereafter. I shall motor to Annapolis, and if possible bring my car along to Easton and then motor down to Salisbury and attend a noon day luncheon on Friday, the 14th inst., with the Salisbury club. In this way I can visit the three clubs in two days.

Trusting you can make this arrangement, and that you will advise me promptly by wire if necessary, I am, with assurances of my highest regard,

Rotarily yours

Governor, Fifth District.

ELS'F

# ROTARIANS ON EASTERN SHORE

Wilmingtonians Take Part in Welcome to Easton Brethren

# ORGANIZATION GETS CHARTER

EASTON, Md., Oct. 14.—Probably the largest gathering of Rotarians ever assembled on the Eastern Shore met here last night to welcome the club recently formed here. Members of the organization from Baltimore, Washington, Wilmington, Annapolis and Salisbury were present, filling the dining room of Hotel Norris.

The dinner began at 8 o'clock, following which the business of the evening was started by Charles Brougham, president of the Easton Rotary Club, calling the gathering to order.

Edward Stock, of Washington, presented the charter to the Easton club. This was to have been done several weeks ago, but owing to the officers attending the international meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, it had to be postponed.

Each club represented was called on. Martin Evans, of Salisbury, who did much to assist Easton in organizing a Rotary Club, spoke in behalf of his organization. The Rev. R. W. Trapnell, of Wilmington, Del.

spoke in behalf of Wilmington. George Bahlke, of Baltimore, headed a large delegation from his city and gave some encouraging advice to the Easton members. Easton's reply was given by John S. McDaniel, who has scored 100 per cent. in attendance during the 18 weeks the local club has been in existence.

The reception committee, headed by Samuel E. Shannahan, was kept busy meeting the visitors at the trains. Those from Sallsbury, numbering nearly 50, came by automobiles, and some from Wilmington came the same way.

Those from Annapolis, numbering about 45, came over to Claiborne on the ferry and by special arrangements a return trip was made to Annapolis after the meeting.

Rotary songs played a prominent part in the entertainment.

The local club has a large number of prospective members in view, but on account of not receiving the charter no new members have been admitted. Twenty-five charter members will be added in the near future.

#### SHIPYARD AIDING TS IDLE.

CHESTER, Pa., Oct. 14—The Sun Shipbuilding Company has established what virtually is a clearing house for placing its outgoing help with other industries. The plan has been inaugurated by the personnel department, which, in the past few days, has placed some 200 laborers and skilled artisans in other employment.

#### KILLS MOTH.

You can remove moths from the carpets by wringing a coarse towel out of water, spreading smoothly on the carpet and then ironing over it with a hot iron. Steam kills moths.

Here it is in great detail! Our charter was presented by Fifth District Governor Ed Stock from the Rotary Club of Washington, DC, on October 13, 1921. Martin Evans of the Rotary Club of Salisbury did a lot to help us become a Rotary club.

PRESIDENT C. C. MCCULLOUGH

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT ESTES SNEDECOR PORTLAND, ORE.

> RALPH W. CUMMINGS LANCASTER, PENNA.

WM.COPPOCK COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA

H.J.LUTCHER STARK

#### FIFTH DISTRICT

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA (THAT PORTION EAST OF THE 78TH MERIDIAN), SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY, EASTERN MARYLAND (THAT PORTION EAST OF THE 78TH MERIDIAN), DELAWARE, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

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TREASURER RUFUS F. CHAPIN CHICAGO

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS GEO. W. HARRIS WASHINGTON, D. C.

REGISTERED CABLE ADDRESS "INTEROTARY CHICAGO"

october 19,1921.

Mr.Charles F.Broughdam, Pres., Easton, Md.Rotary Club, 34-38 Dover St., Easton, Md.

Dear Charlie:-

I take this, the first opportunity I have had, to tell you how much I enjoyed the Charter Presentation Meeting on last Thursday night, the 13th inst.

I think it was an eventful occasion in the Easton Club, and I am sure your Club will be found in the front ranks of Rotary in the Fifth District. If I can be of any assistance to you please do not hesitate to command me.

With best wishes, I am

Rotarily yours

rod ho

Governor, Fifth District.

HKSF

Please return with the photostat of roster of the original Eastonmembers of the original of them



## Who was our first President?

Sure, we know his name - Charles F. Brougham - but, until now, we really haven't known anything about him. Information was hard to come by, but your editor did discover a 1917 letter from the Internal Association of Rotary Clubs welcoming him into the organization, a letter from him in 1955 offering some historical items for the club, a few newspaper articles about him or related to him and an essay he wrote about his life in 1952 and that was published in July of 2000 in his great-nephew, Allen Brougham's, publication, The Bull Sheet. Your editor also reached out to Allen Brougham by telephone. It was a wonderful conversation and may very well lead to getting to know our first President better. Your editor learned that President Charles' granddaughter is still living and has not yet buried her grandfather's ashes, even though he died some time ago. Her thought was to bury them here in Easton at Spring Hill Cemetery with his late wife, and our club may help to facilitate that. Your editor never ceases to be amazed at what you can find if you just try.

President Charles helped to found the Boy Scouts of the Eastern Shore, along with fellow Rotarian and Ford Dealer, John Noble, and that was a significant accomplishment. He certainly was instrumental in helping Sam Shannahan found the Rotary Club of Easton, so we owe him a huge debt of gratitude. This story is not yet over, so stay tuned...



Charles F. Brougham's family on November 15, 1890, on his 18th birthday. He is the boy leftmost in the photo

## Charles F Brougham 1st President of the Rotary Club of Easton







Journal-Every Evening, Wilmington, Delaware, Monday. August 2, 1948

Publishes His Essays

Charles F. Brougham, of this city, is being congratulated upon the occasion of his distribution of a limited number of booklets of his own essays which he had published for his friends and relatives last week. The booklet, entitled "Purposely Healthy," is a series of reminiscences, thoughts and ideas of the author, dealing with his ideas of a sane and full life.

A native of Humbolt, Iowa, the author moved with his parents, both teachers, to Oswego, N. Y., when a year old and in 1918 moved to Easton, Md. In 1942 he came to Seaford to live. He is now detail manager and accountant at the Hotel Sussex.

THE EASTON STAR-DEMOCRAT

FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1947

#### DEATH OF MRS. CHARLES BROUGHAM

Mrs. Charles Brougham, aged seventy-four, died at Memorial Hospital last Sunday afternoon and was buried from Newnam & Son Funeral Parlor on Tuesday afternoon, Rev. Durrie Hardin officiating. Interment in Spring Hill Cemetery.

Mrs. Brougham, wife of Charles F. Brougham, will be remembered for her gentle disposition, having lived in Easton for a number of years. Besides her husband, who resides in Seaford, Del., she is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Henry P. Turner, of Easton, and Mrs. Jane Fortner, of Seaford.

CHARLES FRANCIS BROUGHAM

SEAFORD, DELAWARE

Jan. 4, 1955

Dran Orem. I am glad be of service at 82 years of age (Nov. 15, 1954) you will find all the letters from Ed Stock who was District Governor at the time of the formation of our Easton Club membership. (Sam Shanaham was named V. Pres.) When you are through with them (Take your time - Regards to all \_ Get the package from CFB-Mr. Leon F. Jones at Flukartya Store (my somin law) 39 S. anola St. - Easler, md.

Did you ever wonder whether there were really "archives" of the Rotary Club of Easton in the early years? Well, your editor sure did, and there weren't. As will be mentioned later in this issue of *The Spark*, our club was trying to sort out its early history in the mid 1950s and reached out to living Charter Members. This letter is from our first President, and obviously HE had any original documents that survived. He graciously sent them to us, and your editor found the originals on August 30, 2021. It was like striking GOLD!

PRESIDENT E. LESLIE PIDGEON WINNIPEG

ARCH C. KLUMPH CLEVELAND

FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
ROBINSON A. MCDOWELL,
LOUISVILLE

SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
H. J. BRUNNIER
SAN FRANCISCO

REGISTERED CABLE ADDRESS



"HE PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST".

THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT
SAMUEL, B. BOTSFORD

TREASURER
RUFUS F. CHAPIN
CHICAGO

SECRETARY
CHESLEY R. PERRY
CHICAGO

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
J. CLIFF MILLER
CINCINNATI

## EXHEREYAYHONATE ASSOCIATHON

ROTATRY GLOBS

HEADQUARTERS 910 MICHIGAN AVENUE, CHICAGO, U. S. A.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY CHESLEY R PERRY

21st December, 1917.

C. F. Brougham, Rotarian, Binghamton, N. Y.

#### A FEW WORDS OF WELCOME

Dear Mr. Brougham, this letter may surprise you but it is an indication that we have had the pleasure of learning that you have recently accepted membership in the Rotary club of Binghamton.

Perhaps you have not realized it but by becoming a Rotarian you placed yourself in fellowship with 34,500 of the leading business and professional men in 355 cities of the United States, Canada, Great Britain and Ireland, and Cuba. This fellowship when properly used must be a valuable asset to you. As you find the cheeriness of goodfellowship and the spirit of service in your own Rotary club, so will you find it wherever there are Rotarians.

We are enclosing "A Talking Knowledge of Rotary." A perusal of this booklet will make clear to you many things you ought to know about Rotary. Also we are mailing under separate cover several pamphlets which were originally printed in THE ROTARIAN but which at the request of many Rotarians have been reprinted for general distribution, also a copy of the Official Directory of the officers of the Association and the President and Secretary of each Rotary club. Perhaps you will be interested enough to put these pamphlets in your pocket and give one or more of them your attention each day for the next several days. We believe that they will help you to understand what Rotary is and why it is.

As it is a condition of membership in each Rotary club that the applicant for membership thereby agrees to become a subscriber to the official publication of the Association you will henceforth receive THE ROTARIAN each month. The subscription price is collected by your club as part of your annual dues. We have started your subscription with the October 1917 issue.

On page 321 of the October issue you will find an article headed "War Service Work by Rotary Clubs", on page 476 of the November and on page 546 of the December issues articles on "What the Clubs are Doing." Here you will find interesting Rotary news items from various cities of various countries. Read them over and you will get an idea as to how Rotary is working all around the big circle. Perhaps you will learn that there is a Rotary club in the city which was formerly your home and it will interest you to see what kind of a club they have and the good work they are doing.

In our little Official Directory you may find the names of men whom you know but have not thought of for a long time. It is really surprising how many old friendships have been renewed through International Rotary.

In this same Official Directory you will find the place and hour of each Rotary Club's meeting. When traveling arrange your appointments so as to be able to attend the meeting of a Rotary club in any city where you may be. The visiting Rotarian is always welcome. He is even permitted to pay for his own meal, just as he would do if he were at home. Do not fail to break bread with the Rotarians of any city where you may be visiting.

On page 343 of the October issue, also on pages 441 and 443 of the November issue and on pages 528 and 536 of the December issue which we are sending you, you will find articles which we believe will be particularly interesting to you as a "young" Rotarian. We hope you will also acquire the habit of reading THE ROTARIAN each month and you will find it good reading for your family. We would appreciate having your first impression as to "your" magazine.

I intended making this a short letter — merely a word or two of welcome but there are many things connected with Rotary which I feel you will like to know about. I will mention only two more:

First, the I. A. of R. C. last June held a wonderful convention in Atlanta, a complete report of the Proceedings of which is now in book form and a copy has been mailed the Secretary of your club for the use of its members. The 1918 Rotary Convention will be held in Kansas City during next June and you should begin planning now to attend it.

Another thing I want to mention and will just mention now, is that you have automatically become a member also of the CREAMERY & DAIRY Section in Rotary.

The chairman of your section is Lester R. Burton, 145 Suffolk St, Providence, R. I. Write him a Rotarian "hello." and ask him to put your name upon his list.

This means that all Rotarians of this vocation constitute a section. There is a new chairman each year and at the Rotary convention a meeting is held of those present. The Rotary <u>club</u> is cooperation among men of different lines. The Rotary <u>section</u> is cooperation among those in the same line.

We want you to take your Rotary membership seriously and be with us heart and soul, first in your local club work, second in the International and intercity work of which you will learn more as you read your magazine each month and third in the Vocational Section work which you will find to be a very important feature of Rotary.

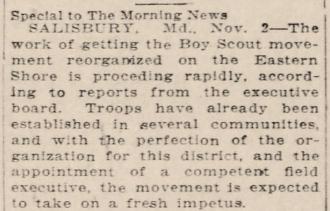
Here at Headquarters we shall be most pleased to render any service we can for you at any time whether it be in connection with Rotary or on some purely personal matter. Likewise, you will find that the club secretaries and your fellow Rotarians generally throughout International Rotary will be pleased to be of service to you at any time and in any way that is within their power and within reason. (Always communicate with other Rotary clubs through your own club secretary.)

Again extending you a hearty welcome on behalf of your International Officers and 34,500 fellow Rotarians, we are

Yours Rotarily,

P-M Enclosure INTERNATIONAL SSOCIATION OF ROTARY CLUBS Chesley R. Perry, Secretary.

# TROOPS REORGANIZED



The members of the executive board are: John W. Noble, Preston, president; Dr. A. A. Parker, Pocomoke, vice-president; Charles F. Brougham, Easton, second vice-president; L. Atwood Bennett, third vice-president; F. W. C. Webb, Salisbury, treasurer; Harry L. Harcum, Salisbury, chairman financial committee

Graham Watson, Centreville

chairman of troop organization; Howard Hirst, Cambridge, chairman of camping; Calvert L. Estill, Salis-B. Cropper, Chestertown, chairman of civic service; E. C. Fontaine, Pocomoke, chairman of scout training; Judge Robert F. Duer, Princess Anne, chairman of scout honor.

These officials, together with the chairman from the various countles constitute the governing body of the Eastern Shore organization. A charter has been applied for and it

is expected that a scout executive will be appointed in a few days.





## My First 21 Years

Father, Mother, Four Brothers, Three Sisters By *Charles Francis Brougham*, Seaford, Delaware, May 15, 1952



Early this morning, before breakfast time, I became 79 years and six months old.

I am thinking of the 21 years that I spent living and learning at home with father, mother, four brothers and three sisters before my 21st birthday - the day that I was married.

During that 21 years, parental influence was paramount in my life, as I now remember it - with a deep feeling of gratitude.

"On a very cold morning, before breakfast time," I was born November 15, 1872, at Humboldt, Humboldt County, Iowa (the Hawk-eye State), in the 4-room log cabin home of my grandfather, Liba Granger Spring, age 52; my grandmother, Irene Elizabeth (Wade), age 42; my aunt, Louise O. Spring, age 9; my father, Robert Francis Brougham, age 25; and my mother, Alice Cecilia (Spring), age 21. They named me "Charles Francis."

My parents were married March 22, 1871, in Tioga County, New York. They were teaching school in two neighborhood districts near Owego, New York, and when their schools were closed for the customary summer vacation, they decided to leave at once for a visit with mother's parents at Humboldt, Iowa.

There was at that time a scarcity of teachers in the western states. Thousands of immigrants had been admitted under provisions of the "Homestead Act," enacted by Congress in 1862.

Many children of these immigrants had difficulty in expressing themselves excepting in their mother tongue, and talked what was called broken English, which certainly needed mending by schoolteachers.

Father and mother were assigned to schools so near together outside the village of Humboldt that they could easily walk to their schools, carrying their lunches in tin dinner pails.

On their way home from school, along the shady tree-lined pathways and before coming in sight of each other, father would whistle the "bob-white" of the male quail, and mother would answer the "bob-bob-white" of the female.

On their way home from school, along the shady tree-lined pathways and before coming in sight of each other, father would whistle the "bob-white" of the male quail, and mother would answer the "bob-bob-white" of the female.

Humboldt County paid its district school teachers nine dollars a week, while Tioga County, N.Y., paid its county school teachers only four dollars a week - quite a difference in calculating the possible savings for future family expenses!

In those days, school children did not patronize barber shops and beauty parlors. School teachers trimmed unruly locks and applied ointment to scalps to destroy lice and larvae, taught the rules for personal cleanliness, oral hygiene and first aid methods - as well as "Readin,' Ritin, and Rithmetic."

Mother had a "Homeopathic Doctor Book" and studied it in order to be able to recognize incipient contagious disease symptoms, but she "never prescribed any remedies or treatments that were not commonly concocted or brewed at home or obtainable at stores 'ready-for-use' as described on the package label." The local doctor was seldom available except in emergency cases.

At the ending of father's next term of school after I was born, I "persuaded" my parents to go back to Tioga County, N.Y., and introduce me to my relatives.

On arrival in Owego, N.Y., we were met and driven nine miles to grandfather Brougham's farm, where we were expected by the family and neighbors.

Some years later, father told me that on my first visit "East," I passed a thorough examination by learned persons, male and female, who granted me a perfect physical and mental score, "cum laude," attested by all the women present at the farm on that visit.

Father soon was hired by the owners of a general store in Richford, Tioga County, N.Y., as clerk and bookkeeper, and in Richford we began housekeeping. My first brother, Archie Lee, was born in Richford on the 8th of June, 1876.

Soon after I became four years old, grandpa Brougham died, at age 68, from an attack of Acute Gastritis. I remember that on several occasions I went with him to the back-kitchen at the farm and saw him fill a white cup with water, take down a package of baking soda from the shelf of a large cupboard and stir in two heaping spoonfuls and "drink it for his stomach's sake."

At grandpa's funeral I was lifted high and told to see him through the pane of glass in the lid of his coffin which rested on two crossbars. All I remember seeing was my own reflection in that pane of glass. However, I was to ride in a beautiful carriage with the family to see my dear grandpa buried in the family plot in the cemetery at Newark Valley, New York.

Father was then needed to manage the farm work for grandma Brougham and his maiden sister, Lydia.

We moved from Richford to the farm and when the estate came up for final settlement, father arranged with the other heirs to buy the farm with all the livestock and equipment, and to have grandma and aunt Lydia live with us as members of our household.

I was sent to school at once with the teacher who came to board at our house. We usually went the half-mile down the road to the schoolhouse hand-in-hand. Entering the school, the pupils and teacher hung their wraps and tin dinner pails on pegs in the entrance hall.

During winter weather the food became frozen, but we thawed it at the red-hot sheet-iron stove in the center of the schoolroom. How well do I remember! Nothing so good for us ever tasted so good!

We children enjoyed the spirited games we played at recess time on the school grounds. It was there that I fell in love with a lively 5-year-old playmate named Clara Briggs. (I wonder who's kissing her now.)

During the winter, father taught school in a district about six miles from home. One fine day he took me in our sleigh with him. It was an exciting day for us both - father had trouble preserving order. His pupils were successful in giving me the time of my life. Whatever was slyly done, "Who-dunit?" was the question. On the way home, my dear father told me that I had acted "like a monkey." He never again offered to take me with him to school.

My second brother, Herbert Bruce, was born at the farm when I was about six years old. He was a very welcome addition to our family, and grandma Brougham called him her "Little Robin Redbreast" - Archie whimpered pitifully "But I'se orr Schicken Jool" - just a little jealous, but he, too, loved his beautiful little brother.

A little before my 8th birthday, father rented the farm to an industrious young farmer and then moved us to the thriving village of Owego, the county seat of Tioga County, N.Y. He had secured a job as clerk and bookkeeper in a hardware store. He settled us in a large house near the beautiful Susquehanna River. There were a number of boys living on our street, and being about my own age, we formed a perfect group for fun and frolic. We played duck-on-a-rock, leap-frog, follow-the-leader, pitched horseshoes, baseball, and indulged in a little noisy mischief occasionally, not bad, but noisy enough to upset the temper of a certain reputable gentleman whom we named "Old Grouch."

I was entered in the 5th grade of the "brick" school, where there were many boys and girls with whom to get acquainted and to compete with for good marks. I have a photograph of 60 of us 5th grade pupils grouped on the entrance steps with Miss Chitry, our teacher.

The following year, my third brother, Louis Wilbur, was born in Owego on Bell Street, and early in the summer before my 9th birthday, as soon as school vacation was nearly due, mother began planning to take a trip "West" to visit our relatives and other acquaintances of her girlhood school days, taking Archie, Herbert, Louis and myself with her.

After letters were written, invitations received, trunk and satchel packed, tickets secured, train arrived and father kissed all 'round, we climbed aboard and were on our way to Humboldt, Iowa - the village where I was born!

After letters were written, invitations received, trunk and satchel packed, tickets secured, train arrived and father kissed all 'round, we climbed aboard and were on our way to Humboldt, Iowa - the village where I was born!

Traveling was very slow in 1881, with long waits at all connection points. Louis, the baby, was constantly in mother's care and I was the constant restraining influence on the antics and surprising variety of interests shown by Archie and Herbert, who thought nothing wrong in playing get-lost and actually running away from me in separate directions - no matter how pleasantly I tried to interest them in interesting sights and sounds.

Finally, after Archie had been jolted off his seat in the caboose, killing a fly on the floor with a swat with the palm of his right hand and wavering between an impulse to cry loudly or to laugh gleefully on account of his victory, we actually arrived, at long last, at our destination - riding in the caboose of a tardy freight train!

As soon as we had been joyfully received at the home of grandpa Spring, we three older boys acted as though we were getting well-acquainted and began to feel "at home" with "big" grandpa, "little" grandma, and "middle-sized" aunt Lu, and after eating some of grandma's goodies, Archie, Herbert and I left with our big grandpa to visit with his friends at the store, the barber shop, the blacksmith shop, and persons we met on the street. Grandpa seemed to be very proud to introduce each of us to his acquaintances.

We boys were very happy to be visitin' so far away from our usual haunts, and I looked forward to the time when the story of our travels "Way Out West" would be exciting enough to relate to our home playmates, and even to older persons in Owego who had not seen the western country.

We boys were allowed to roam the nearby flower-covered fields and hunt for gopher holes, catching little frogs for fish bait, and to go with grandpa to catch black bass at the wide dam in the Des Moines River.

One day I overheard grandpa telling some neighbors that "the oldest boy" had landed a fighting black-bass that weighed "three pounds dressed." Then I had a time of feeling very proud of my prowess and thankful for grandpa's boasting.

The village children looked us over; we became acquainted easily and much running, jumping and other show-off sports were had by all - and while men were pitching horseshoes down beside the blacksmith shop and our grandpa won, we cheered lustily for "our side."

Taking all the good times together, we boys and our dear mother had a visit in Humboldt - the place where I was born - long to be remembered and never to be forgotten!

Our next destination was to visit the family of one of mother's girlhood school friends who had married a gentleman named Ketcham, who was settled on a large prairie farm in Kansas. So, goodbye to Humboldt and our dear ones who bade us Godspeed.

We children eagerly began exploration of that splendidly arranged farm that was stocked with horses, mules, cows, hogs, sheep, poultry of all kinds, a billy-goat (to be avoided) and a frisky dog that chased cats and kittens to the cat-hole under the barn!

We were much interested also in whatever was to be seen in the large barn and the other buildings near it the horse stalls, the cow stanchions where cows are fastened at milking time, the harness room, the feed bins, the hay loft, the carriage floor, the shed for wagons and farm implements, the pig-pens, the corn cribs, and the poultry houses.

We were cautioned to keep away from the animals and out of the way of the help, and to never strew things around out of place. We were allowed to help feed the poultry and to help gather eggs at the proper time, and always under adult supervision.

One day a storm threatened and drove us all indoors. It soon became a tornado, and we were excitedly ordered to run for the "Cyclone Cellar" - about a hundred feet from the house. Noses were counted down there - I was missing! They rescued me from a post of the barbed wire fence where I was hanging on for dear life and yelling for help. When we came up from the safety shelter, we saw the havoc wrought by the tornado. The house had been moved a foot or more off its foundation, windows cracked or shattered, small buildings wrecked, and contents blown here and there out of place!

The next morning, we learned that a neighbor's baby had been rescued, safe in its cradle, which was right-side-up and wedged in the limbs of a tall tree a half-mile or more away from its wrecked home.

That's when I learned what is meant when persons exclaim, "It's a miracle!"

Our next destination was Quincy, Illinois - to visit mother's sister Minnie, aged 20, and recently married to Will Folsom who owned a job-printing business. Our aunt Minnie was beautiful, told us stories, and sang songs with us. Mr. Folsom did not seem to like boys, and he acted nervous when we visited his shop with mother, and he scowled at me when I asked him to please show me how he set type and made rubber stamps. (He did not offer to demonstrate the secret processes of his trade.)

From Quincy we went to Hannibal, Missouri - to visit mother's sister Carrie, aged 24, and married to Eugene Gleason, who worked in a local railroad office. "A fine gentleman," said mother. We had a good visit with uncle Gene and Aunt Carrie, and while in Hannibal we heard the Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn and Injun Joe stories as told by persons who claimed to have been personally acquainted with the originals of those famous Mark Twain characters.

Our next destination was down the Mississippi River from Hannibal to St. Louis, Missouri. The river was then "at flood" - about 10 miles wide at Hannibal. The man we hired to take us and our baggage in his rowboat to the sternwheel steamboat that was just then dropping anchor far out from the shallows near shore, had trouble getting us loaded on time. The warning whistle kept blowing, and when the captain saw us coming and waving frantically, he waited for us and our baggage to be put aboard.

We enjoyed the scenery, the luxurious furnishings, the delicious food, the interesting conversations with passengers and the novel experience of riding downstream on "The Father of Waters." However, the next morning in St. Louis, a newspaper reported that the very next boat after ours to leave Hannibal for St. Louis was wrecked by a boiler explosion - "with great loss of life."

In St. Louis, we visited a relative named Spring, whose mansion was large, richly furnished and staffed with servants, but there were no children for us to play with. The pleasant servants were asked to entertain us children, and they did a good job while mother visited with Mr. and Mrs. Spring about "old times back East," or something.

When we were on our homebound train and crossing the river on the long steel bridge, the genial conductor patted me on the back and told me what a famous bridge it is, erected under the supervision of a famous engineer named Eads in seven years (1867-1874), "cost a mint of money and built entirely of genuine Swedish razor steel," I remarked: "This bridge is black as tar and my father's genuine Swedish razor-steel razor is bright and shiny." Mother smiled indulgently and the nice conductor patted me on the back and said: "Mr. Eads knows how to protect high-priced metal against the ravages of the elements. The workmen simply covered the precious steel with a protective coating that can be renewed from time to time." I felt somewhat abashed and then and there decided that it's better to ask questions than to jump at conclusions, and I said just that in thanking the conductor for his pleasant reply.

Back home with our dear father, we found that he had changed jobs. He was now working in a bookstore, a business much more to his liking. We children were glad to mix again with our Owego playmates, and Archie and I looked forward to seeing our schoolmates as soon as the fall term would begin.

I found myself to be a ready speaker, enthusiastic story-teller and 9-year-old lecturer to girls and boys about my own age who had never been "Way Out West," and were ready and eager to listen wide-eyed to my thrilling "Wild West" stories of travel and adventure. Told over and over were my memorized versions of stories that I had read at home before our trip: Mark Twain stories, Custer's Last Stand, Colonel Miles Adventures, Buffalo Bill's Champion Buffalo Hunts and Indian Fights, Indian Savagery, Train Robberies, Stagecoach Holdups, Mining Camp Desperadoes, Terrifying Cyclones, Miraculous Escapes from Disaster - all told realistically - with some whopper exaggerations, no doubt, but very interesting, even to myself, while my active imagination was running riot.

My fourth brother, Frederick Irving, was born on Franklin Street in Owego about a year after we returned from our visits Out West.

Father finally traded the farm property for a valuable residence property in Owego - a substantial six-room house on a quarter-acre lot with room for a small lawn, a large garden for vegetables and berries, two tall apple trees, two pear trees, lilac bushes, pansy beds, a large closed shed for wood and coal, a deep-driven well with pitcher-spout pump - a step from the kitchen door, a hen house with home-made incubator and brooder, and a privy at the end of the backyard path.

It became my job to dress promptly at six o'clock every morning, build the kitchen fire with pine kindling and hardwood stocks, and when they were burning well, add chestnut coal, refill the coal hod, sift the ashes, fill the iron teakettle, the reservoir and the drinking water pail - then set the table for breakfast. Father had to open the store at 7:30 A.M., and, after helping mother do the breakfast dishes, I usually had to run a half-mile to get to school on time at 8:30.

While we lived on the farm, I had been trained for routine chores and punctuality - to keep the wood boxes filled without being reminded, to drive cows from the pasture to be milked at the right time and to help at various odd-jobs for my training in "careful work." But now in town, a little older and stronger, there was no end to necessary chores for me to tackle. I spaded the large garden and fitted the soil for planting a full variety of vegetables, trimmed the lawn with a hand sickle, kept the garden and strawberry bed properly weeded and rye straw mulch under the berry plants, tied full-grown tomato plants to wooden stakes, trimmed dead branches from raspberry, gooseberry and currant bushes, hoed the potato patch, destroyed the potato bugs by burning all that I picked, kept the hen house clean, fed and watered the chickens, gathered the eggs and regularly supervised the activities of my brothers, showing them how much fun and satisfaction can come from doing the home-garden chores as carefully as any lessons to be recited in school.

I demonstrated that theory by being cheerful and engagingly pleasant company for them while I "accepted" the help (like Tom Sawyer) of my energetic and fun-loving brothers.

We boys played ball with other good boys on a grassy lot across the street from our house. We pitched horseshoes, played duck-on-a-rock, went swimming in the canal near our home, we fished in the Owego Creek at the foot of our street, we roasted green corn on the bank of the swimming hole, we went nutting for chestnuts, hickory nuts and butternuts, and in spring we picked tender green wintergreens in the woods back of the cemetery on the hill and often sold small bunches of these to persons who worked in offices and stores for as much as three cents a bunch!

We boys enjoyed our home with father, mother, neighbors and others who came calling. After the supper work was over in the kitchen, we would all gather in the parlor with mother playing our "cottage organ" and we all joining her in singing the good old hymns and other well-known songs. On Sunday we all attended the Baptist Church and Sunday School. I have a photograph of 65 of my class in the 8th grade, all posed on the entrance porch and steps with Mr. Jack Ryan, the principal. With the exception of a few, I do not know in what work in life those good-lookers engaged their talents.

Our first sister, Leonora Alice, was born in our 67 West Avenue house in Owego when I was in my 12th year. Our second sister, Irene Elizabeth (named for grandma Spring) was born about two years after Leonora, in the same house. Father called her his "Betsy." Now, then, there were five sons and two daughters in our family - all in the best of health!

While I was in my 15th year, father got a good job in Ithaca, N.Y. - the seat of Cornell University, Sage College for Women, and State of New York Agricultural College.

Father rented our property in Owego to a suitable tenant and rented a roomy brick house for us on South Hill in Ithaca.

I entered school at Ithaca High, joined the YMCA and the First Baptist Church, and while getting acquainted at school, at the YMCA and the various activities in church, I became an enthusiastic team worker.

I enjoyed home life with father, mother, my four brothers, my two sisters and grandma Spring who had come to live with us after grandpa Spring died and was buried in the family plot in the cemetery in Owego.

Mother frequently called us children together for an inspirational talk about "very important matters." Her topic might be The Golden Rule, Confidence, Enthusiasm, Discipline, Self-Respect, Good-Will to Others, Truthfulness, Inspirational Effect of Love, Business Service to Others as an Effectual Way to Earn Money (father's credo), or any one of Benjamin Franklin's "12 Virtues."

"The very first opportunity that comes, to do what has been carefully planned, is the only best time to do it." Mother never failed to say, after discussing any one or two such topics: "I love each one of you and want to instruct you all in ways to live honorably, usefully and happily."

On my 16th birthday celebration, mother embraced the first opportunity to talk with me privately and she made a priceless suggestion for my future guidance. After voicing pleasure on receiving reports of my victories in the fall contests of our high school track meet, she went on to say: "You now have a foundation of good health and strength, but I feel that I must remind you that the matter of mental and physical health and vigor is a day by day program - you walk or run to a destination one step at a time - just so continual mental and physical stamina must be your own concern, one day at a time, every single day, so long as you may live!" That loving admonition, together with the emotional inflection in her voice, thrilled and inspired me - with lasting effect.

Since I was a very young child, I have had no illness to confine me to a day in bed. Mother's early care, her frequent directions and suggestions that kept me aware of my personal responsibilities, together with that loving admonition on my 16th birthday, confirmed my resolution to maintain superb health and manly vigor day after day, every single day, so long as I may live!

My third sister, Lucile, was born in Ithaca August 21, 1889. Her advent completed our happy family of father, mother, five sons and three daughters.

I finished high school in June 1890 and went to work at once for the grocery firm who sold us our family supplies. We owed this firm a balance of 86 dollars at that time and I had asked for work to enable me to help pay that debt. My seven dollars a week and father's contribution of ten dollars a week enabled us to get out of debt and stay out of debt.

On my 18th birthday - November 15, 1890, we had a family picture taken, a copy of which I treasure and have always kept it hanging in my bedroom, day after day, every single day.

I was married to Miss Eva Van Alstyne, age 20, on my 21st birthday, November 15, 1893, by Robert T. Jones, the pastor of our Baptist Church.

On my 68th birthday, November 15, 1940, I wrote: "Eva and I have lived together comfortably for 47 years and now, at the beginning of my 69th year, it seems to us that the heart-warming experiences of satisfaction that continue to add up to happiness, can be maintained only through personal usefulness to others. We desire to radiate health, calm courage, cheerfulness and good-will. We desire to always be natural and unaffected in all our relations with others and to always meet others on a basis of absolute equality. We desire to live without hate, whim, envy, jealousy or fear. We will not meddle, interfere, offer advice that is not asked for, nor assistance that is not needed. We realize that the reward that life holds out for good work is not idleness nor immunity from work, but improved ability, increased capacity for usefulness, greater responsibilities, more good work!

Eva was buried in Spring Hill Cemetery in Easton, Maryland, in May 1947, aged 74.

Her death was caused by complications following an accidental fall in our Seaford, Delaware, home with head injury, two pelvis bones broken and delirious fever following an operation at the Emergency Hospital in Easton, Maryland.

During the ups and downs of my active business life, my work has been in several occupations: groceries, 12 years; hardware, 15 years; construction management during World War I, 1 year; automobiles and farm equipment, 19 years; life insurance, 2 years; hotel work, 8 years - 57 years of interesting work.

Since my retirement at age 75, November 15, 1947, I have been living happily as a paying roomer and boarder in the home of my daughter, Jane, and her two children, Harold and Susan.

"With habitual attention to proper diet, proper exercise, proper relaxation, good health and mental alertness, we can add many eventful years to our useful lives" - so said my exemplary mother - many years ago! And now, I say: "Whoever you are, wherever you are, may you and yours live long and usefully - with vigorous health, sufficient wealth, and equanimity!"





## Four New Members Inducted in August 2021!

In the photo to the left, the Rotary Club of Easton welcomes its newest member, Kendrick Daly. Following in his father, Derick's, footsteps, Kendrick hopes to be even more motivated to serve others through Rotary's example of "Service above Self." A man of many talents, Kendrick is now the Athletic Center Director of BAAM (Building African American Minds) in Easton. Kendrick (center) is pictured with Easton Rotary Past President John Flohr (left) and President Reza Jafari the day he was inducted into the club at Scossa Restaurant in Easton on August 19, 2021. In the photo to the right, we are proud to welcome three new members to the club—Dina Daly, Elmer Davis, Jr., and Andre Gibson. With amazing backgrounds, each no doubt will take "Service above Self" to a new level. They are pictured here with their proposers after they were inducted at the club's August 26, 2021, meeting at Scossa Restaurant in Easton. Front Row (l-r): Elmer Davis, Jr., Dina Daly, Andre Gibson. Lonnelle Green, & President Reza Jafari. Back Row (l-r): Al Silverstein and Past President John Flohr.

# S What Did Things Cost in the 1920's\*? (Provides a little "context" for our early years)

OPENING THE HIGHWAYS TO ALL MANKIND Ford Motor Company

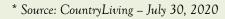


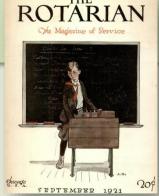
This is your editor's 1925 Model T Touring Car and an ad from the same time. Most cars in the world were Model T's. It cost

\$290!

## 1920'5

Average Household In	ncome	\$3269.40
Home Cost		\$6296.00
Apartment in NYC		\$60/Month
Eggs		47¢/Dozen
Round Steak		40¢/Pound
Macaroni (3 Pounds)		25¢
Manicure		25¢
"Bob" Ladies' Haircut	t	\$5.00
Wedding		\$400.00
Radio (1920/1929)		\$200/\$35
Movie Ticket		15¢
Record		85¢
Washing Machine		\$81.50
Vacuum Cleaner		\$39.00
Meal at a Diner	POTADIAN	70¢
Gasoline	The Magazine of Service	30¢/Gallon
Milk	Marie In America	66¢/Gallon





1921 annual dues to the International Association of Rotary Clubs



The 2021-2022 Mustang raffle will soon begin! Stay tuned for how you can win this beautiful 1965 Mustang convertible!











The Rotary Club of St. Michaels (our sister club) will begin raffling this gorgeous 1965 Mustang this month. PLEASE support this major fundraiser by buying as many tickets as possible. Go to <a href="http://www.rotarystm.org/">http://www.rotarystm.org/</a>.

Thank You!!!





Having looked through thousands of documents, books, and photos over the last two years, if your editor had to pick one that symbolizes the heart and soul of the Rotary Club of Easton, it would be this one. It's of Past President Jed Anthony and was taken in May of 2019, during Flags for Heroes setup at Hog Neck. Everything about it says, "Love of country, love of community, love of service..." And THAT'S what Rotary is all about!





### Rotary District 7630 Rotary Clubs of Area 40 & Area 41

Georgetown-Millsboro • Harrington-Greenwood-Felton Centennial Lewes-Rehoboth Beach • Long Neck Sunrise • Milford Nanticoke/Seaford • Rehoboth Beach Sunrise • Southern Sussex

October 16, 2021 from 10am to 2pm – Rotary Day of Service

at The American Legion Post 28 - Millsboro

Help us raise \$14,000 to provide 50,000 meals for our area!

District Goal 250,000 meals across the Eastern Shore during this 1-day event



Choose how you want to help

#### **MEAL SPONSOR**

☐ \$60 provides 200-meal

Seeking 100 Supporters

□ \$100 provides an individual

3-meals a day for 4-months

Seeking 30 Supporters

☐ \$500 provides a family of 4

3-meals a day for 4-months

Seeking 6 Supporters

#### **EVENT SPONSOR**

☐ \$1,000 event sponsor

Seeking 2 Sponsors

Facility Sponsor – American Legion Post 28

#### VOLINTEER - Ages 14 & up

- ☐ Thurs, Oct 14 Help unpack delivery truck
- ☐ Fri, Oct 15 Help setup the event
- ☐ Sat, Oct 16 Help day of event

Seeking 125 Day of Event Helpers

Mon, Oct 18 – Help load return supplies

For more information contact



Types of meals planned to be packaged and distributed from this event

#### FORTIFIED BEANS AND RICE CASSEROLE

includes rice, pre-cooked dried beans, soy protein, 6 dried vegetables, and 21 vitamins and minerals

#### FORTIFIED MACARONI AND CHEESE

includes macaroni, soy protein, 21 vitamins and minerals, and a packet of cheese sauce

#### FORTIFIED CINNAMON SUGAR, DICED APPLES OATMEAL

includes whole grain rolled oats, dried apples, vitamins and minerals, and cinnamon sugar

## FORTIFIED PASTA WITH TOMATO SAUCE

includes pasta, soy protein, 21 vitamins and minerals, and a packet of tomato sauce

## FORTIFIED CHICKEN FLAVORED RICE AND VEGETABLE SOUP

includes rice, soy flour corn, peas, carrot, onion, tomato, celery, cabbage and bell pepper, and 21 vitamins and minerals

Your Name	
Phone Number	2.5 55
Email	



# A Final Thought





September 8, 1996 – Dedication of the Easton Rotary Pavilion – Idlewild Park – Easton, Maryland – Bruce Armistead and his daughter, Corrie

It hardly seems possible that your editor took this photo of Bruce Armistead and his daughter, Corrie, 25 years ago during Easton Rotary's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Corrie is all grown up and the GIS Advisor at Earth Economics in Tacoma, Washington, and we are already celebrating our Centennial. Where did the time go? Let this photo be a reminder of how fast time goes by and how important it is to serve others TODAY because tomorrow may be too late. This year's Rotary theme is "Serve to Change Lives." As we enter into our second century, let us keep that thought in mind always. When he was President during Rotary's Centennial in 2004-2005, your editor wrote, "Serve-reach out-you'll be amazed how far you can reach, how much your touch means." Do it because it's true. Ask the man in the photo- the only one to serve two terms as President of our club. He has seen a lot in his 38 years in this phenomenal Rotary Club. He epitomizes the qualities of every good leader of our club over the last 100 years. Each might not have realized at first how much this club can do for others, but history shows that each one sure did later on. It's all up to you. You are our present and our future- serve to change lives.



#### September Meetings

- 02 Ernst Selig US Army Veteran
- 09 Al Sikes Former Chair of the FCC
- 16 Centennial Celebration Tidewater Inn - 6:00 PM
- 23 Julia Foxwell Blue Point Hospitality
- 30 Sarah Jesse Academy Art Museum

#### **Invocation Leaders**

- 02 Fran Jenkins
- 09 Connie Loveland
- 16 Steve Shearer
- 23 Curry Wilford
- 30 Al Silverstein

## September Birthdays

- 07 Kelly Griffith
- 16 Megan Miller
- 22 Blenda Armistead
- 22 Brenda Forbes-Butler
- 24 Greg Haddaway
- 29 Lisa Felts

#### Partner Birthdays

03 Kathy Dawkins 12 Shari Ochse



## MEALS WHEELS AMERICA September

- 01 Peter Dietz/Bob Grill
- 02 Richie Wheatley/Liz Connelly
- 03 Mike Henry/David Reel
- 06 Closed
- 08 Bill Skelton/Megan Miller
- 09 Andrew Walsworth/Frank Divilio
- 10 Curry Wilford/Marc Alderfer
- 13 Steve Shearer/Anne Farwell
- 15 Connie Loveland/Bob Grill
- 16 Mia Cranford/David Fike
- 17 David Lee/Derek White
- 20 Dana Newman/Albert Pritchett
- 22 Megan Cook/Marvin Foster
- 23 Lonnie Green/Brad Watts
- 24 John Flohr/Abby Graves/Fran Jenkins
- 27 Mike Henry/Brett Whitehead
- 29 Mike Kopen/Barc Upchurch
- 30 Buck Duncan/David Anthony







Spark Editor George A. Hatcher, Jr.



#### September **Anniversaries**

Tom Hill - 53 - 09-01-68 Ken Sadler - 37 - 09-01-84 Connie Loveland - 16 - 09-28-05 Susan Schauer John - 2 - 09-05-19 Derek White - 2 - 08-26-15 JB Spear - 5 - 09-05-19 Abby Graves - 1 - 09-21-20

#### Wedding Anniversaries

#### 14 Richie & Martha Wheatley



Each issue of The Spark is in honor of Past-President Richie Wheatley for his vision as President and for resuming this significant publication when it seemed as if it were lost forever.

> THE ROTARY CLUB of Easton, MD P.O. Box 1444, Easton, MD 21601 District No 7630 - Chartered 1921 Meets Thursday at 12:15 P.M.

Scossa Restaurant 8 N. Washington Street, Easton, MD 2020-2021 Cub Officers

President	Reza Jafari				
President-Elect	Kelly Griffith				
President-Elect Nominee	Derick White				
Immediate Past President	John Flohr				
Secretary	George Hatcher				
Assistant Secretary					
Treasurer	Andrew Walsworth				
Directors					

Directors				
Club Service	Megan Miller			
Personnel Service	Terri Charest			
Community Service	Lonnie Green			
International Service	Patti Campen			
Vocational Service	Casey Baynard			
Youth & Community Fund	Steve Shearer			