

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

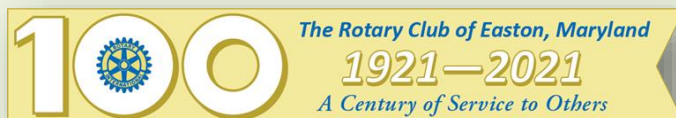
MEET OUR CENTENNIAL PRESIDENTS



The Rotary Club of Easton, Maryland
1921—2021
A Century of Service to Others

John F. Flohr

- Born in Washington, DC, on July 23, 1949, and attended schools until 1968.
- Served from 1968-1971 in the U.S. Army.
- After the Army, attended college and graduated with Chemistry and Business degrees from the University of Maryland and University of Maryland University College.
- Married in 1975 to Gail (45 years) and worked from 1975-1983 in pharmaceuticals at Burton and Parsons and Alcon Laboratories.
- Relocated to Easton Maryland in 1983 and worked as the General Manager of Operations at Konsyl Pharmaceuticals. Promoted to VP of Operations and was trained in Marketing and Sales. Retired from Konsyl in 2018.
- Two sons Braden (wife Elissa) and Ronald (wife Meagan).
- Two beautiful granddaughters, Spencer and Quinn. Two grand dogs, Snowy and Cooper.
- Involved with Talbot County sports and the Waterfowl Festival (WFF) for years. Was on the Waterfowl Festival board for 10 years and became a member of the WFF Hall of Fame 2018.
- For 30 years, a member of the Board of Directors of YMCA of the Chesapeake.
- Joined Rotary in 2009.
- Member of the Talbot Country Club since 2017.



Reza Jafari

Reza is the Chairman and CEO and Founder of e-Development International. Based in Easton, Maryland, e-Development International is an executive advisory group that promotes, facilitates and participates in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) initiatives for Transformational Leadership and Turnarounds, Mergers and Acquisitions, Social Entrepreneurships and Change, Strategic Alliances and Eco-systems Development, Social Media, Connected Healthcare, e-Education, Smart Cities and Connected Communities, e-Government, Public Safety and Security, Cyber Security, Customer Relations Management, Big Data and Cloud Computing and Public-Private Partnerships worldwide.

On the non-profit side, Reza was appointed by the Governor of Maryland and currently serves a Trustee Board member of Chesapeake College. Also, he is currently the Vice Chairman of Talbot County Economic Development Commission; the Chairman of Workforce Development Taskforce and the Secretary of the Board for the Talbot County Chamber of Commerce; a Board member of the Channel Marker Foundation; the President Elect of the Rotary Club of Easton; the Co-Chairman of Connected City Advisory Board of Wireless Broadband Alliance and Senior Executive Advisor to the Board of WBA.; and a Board member of the India, China and America Institute.

Reza has served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of ITU TELECOM (a UN Agency, 2007-2015); a Commissioner of the UN Broadband Commission for Digital Development (2010-2015); a board member of GSMA Ltd (2008-2013); a Commissioner of Maryland Economic Development Commission and the Chairman of its Innovation and Entrepreneurship Committee (2013-2014); Maryland; the Chairman of Annapolis Economic Development Corporation (2010-2014); and a Founding Board member of the UN Digital Health Initiative.

Reza has been a leading authority in the transformation of ICT and services into Cloud and Unified Communications for the entire industry as well as Healthcare, Financial Services, Cyber Security, Education, Public Health and Safety industries through his extensive thought leadership, contributions and work in the private sector (EDS, HP, NeuStar, Omega Partners and e-Development International) and at the ITU, the UN Broadband Commission, Wireless Broadband Alliance and the GSMA Ltd.

Reza has spent 35 years in the IT services and broadband, competitive telecoms and mobile, media and entertainment, education and Health-IT industries. His portfolio of business relationships and interests include advising senior executives of established and startup companies and organizations in wireless, e-Health and mobile health, public safety and cyber security, Broadband, Social Media, knowledge economy, e-Education, digital innovations, Big Data, Internet of Things (IoT), business transformation and business process outsourcing services. He has served as an independent Director on the Board of Directors of two public companies: TeleCommunications Systems, Inc. (TSYS); and Cartesian (TMNG).

Reza received his MBA (Master of Business Administration) in International Business and Organizational Development in 1976, (Ed. S, Specialist Degree in Education) Postgraduate in 1980 and his ABD (PhD) in Instructional Systems Technology and Innovation in 1981 from Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA.

Do we just say we have two Centennial Presidents, or do we really have them? We REALLY have them because even though our charter date is September 1, 1921, we were organized and had our first official meeting on May 2, 1921. The May 2, 2021, 100th anniversary is during John's year, and the September 1, 2021, 100th anniversary is during Reza's year. So, yes! We have two Centennial Presidents! See this official RI confirmation from 1944.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL



SERVICE ABOVE SELF · HE PROFITS MOST WHO SERVES BEST

CENTRAL OFFICE, 35 EAST WACKER DRIVE, CHICAGO, U.S.A.

7 November, 1944

Mr. Calvin L. Skinner
Secretary, The Rotary Club
Easton, Maryland

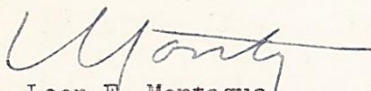
Dear Cal:

Upon receipt of your letter of November 3rd, we checked your club's historical binder and found that your club's organization date is May 2, 1921, and that it was actually admitted to membership in R.I. on September 1, 1921. In other words, the actual date of your charter is September 1, 1921. However, all preliminary steps were taken in 1920.

Now about your question No. 2 as to whether or not Marlin Zimmerman should be considered as a past president of your club -- gosh, about the only thing we can say is that this is something which you fellows in Easton can best decide. The fact that you tell us that the full membership of your club considered that he was actually promoted to the job of president, would seem to justify your classifying him as a past president, but again -- this is something to be determined within your club. Wish we could give you a definite "yes", or "no" on this, Cal, but it really isn't for us to say.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,


Leon F. Montague
Executive Assistant



FROM THE PORCH

With President John

Hello Rotarians,

It's hard to believe that July has come and gone, and 1/12th of my term as President is over. I said it at Change of Officers and will say it again—this would be so much easier if we could do it in person. I miss Thursday's lunch at Scossa and being able to talk to everyone. But as the song goes—that was yesterday, and yesterday is gone. I will make every effort to resume meetings but not until I believe it is safe for all of us. Meetings in the park may have to wait for temperatures to drop.

We are as a club embracing social distancing and Zoom meetings, and I want to thank everyone for your effort and support.

The Flags for Heroes Flag Court at Idlewild Park is coming along, and the groundbreaking photo will be August 27, 2020.

I am convinced that we will be a stronger club because of how we are handling this difficult time. I say it at every meeting, and I would like everyone to hear it again, "Weekly—reach out and touch a fellow Rotarian. It means a lot."

That's all from the porch this month. I will now go take a nap!

Easton Rotary Past President **Patti Willis** Retires from Shore Health



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
SHORE REGIONAL HEALTH



On July 3, 2020, after a long and distinguished career at Easton Memorial Hospital (now University of Maryland Shore Regional Health), **Easton Rotary Past President Patti Willis** retired, and people lined up all around the hospital to bid her a big COVID-era farewell. She now advances in her Rotary career to the District level, and we are proud to support her in any way we can!



What kinds of projects were we doing in the early years of our club? Here's one from 1923, and it was a pretty big deal.

THE SUN, BALTIMORE, SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 16, 1923.

Many Cripples On Eastern Shore Are Given Aid By Dr. W. S. Baer

Hopkins Physician Prescribes Treatment For Those In
Need As Part Of Work Conducted By Rotary
Clubs—To Visit Other Towns.

On the Eastern Shore, where hospitals are few and great surgeons rare, a "good angel" has been working for the hopelessly sick and crippled.

Recently he was in Easton. Before that he was in Salisbury. Soon he will go to other Eastern Shore towns, and the lame and the halt are waiting for him. He is Dr. W. S. Baer, of Johns Hopkins Hospital.

In Easton early this week 16 crippled boys and girls were examined by him. They were gathered together by the Easton Rotary Club, which makes its mission the effort to make the world happier for those who cannot move about and work like others.

Bought By Parents.

Bronzed farmers, with tears in their eyes, brought in their arms little sons and daughters with helpless legs, crooked backs and twisted arms—children who had been crippled since birth. Red Cross nurses carried some. Some came in wheel chairs or in the arms of their mothers.

Most of them made the trip to Emergency Hospital, in Easton, in the flivvers or in buggies of the farms—a trip most of them had never dared hope they would take.

Doctors and surgeons from all the country round about were gathered there to see Dr. Baer examine the children and to hear him diagnose the cases. He did not perform any operations, but

he mapped out the roads to health and strength for each boy and girl. Most of them, he said, could be made strong, active men and women, capable of working and supporting themselves and families.

Outlines Treatment.

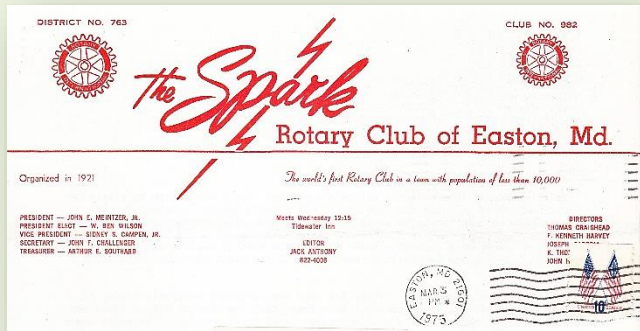
To the end that the work might begin, Dr. Baer outlined courses of treatment for each child, assigned them to hospitals or gave orders for proper care at home; prescribed the proper braces, pointed out the need of operations and arranged to have the operations performed. The Rotary Club will pay for it all.

Some will go to hospitals on the Eastern Shore, where facilities are adequate. Some will be brought to Baltimore hospitals. They ranged in age from 2 to 14 years at Easton, although three or four were men and women of 26 or 28. Most of them long ago had given up hope that they could be normal or their parents had given up hope for them.

Work At Salisbury.

Obstacles of the same sort—remoteness on little farms, lack of convenient transportation, lack of expert advice and lack of money—were overcome in another part of the Eastern Shore when Dr. Baer visited Salisbury.

There 95 crippled children and adults were brought to him through the efforts of the Rotary Club. They, too, were taken away already well started on the road to normal health and activity.



Spark Flashback!

We turn the clock back to March of 1975 and *Spark* Editor, Jack Anthony. Who would have thought he would pick a quote from *Sports Illustrated*??? We would! AND we know who the squirrels (and nuts) are!!!

ROWING POTARIANS:

Don Abbott	1-23-75	at St. Michaels
Walter Barnes	1-28-75	at Dover
Harry Turner	1-23-75 and 2-6-75	at Cambridge
Jim Lethem	2-5-75 and 2-20-75	at Naples, Fla.
Ray Goodwin	2-7, 2-14, 2-21	at Pompano Beach
Tom Goodfellow	four times	various Florida Clubs

"NUTS"!

In this time of Income Taxes, inflation, and red tape I would like to relate to you a story that recently appeared in, of all places, *Sports Illustrated*. It was especially interesting to me as it concerns my alma mater Washington and Lee University. In filling out an application for assistance for a new library, the preparer was temporarily stumped when he came to the section dealing with the environmental impact the new building would have on the existing animal population of the site.

The answer was as follows: "There are some ten to twenty squirrels living in the site proposed for the new library. Some trees that now provide either homes or exercise areas for the squirrels will be removed, but there appears to be ample other trees to serve these purposes. No major food source for the squirrels will be affected. It is likely that the squirrels will find no difficulty in adjusting to this intrusion. They have had no difficulty in adjusting to relocations brought on by non-federally supported projects. However, it will be difficult to tell if they're unhappy about having to find new trees to live in and sport about. Otherwise, no change in their behavior patterns is anticipated".

Needless to say, the site was approved.

SPRING: Please hurry back. . . we sure have missed you.

WHY NOT?

Membership growth is everybody's business. Do you know someone who would make a good Rotarian.

PROGRAMS FOR MARCH:

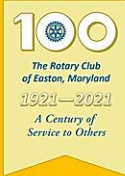
- 5th - Mr. James Fineran from Delmarva Power & Light will be our speaker today. He will talk and give us a slide presentation entitled "Power on the Peninsula". Buddy Hubbard, of course, arranged this program.
- 12th - Don't miss today's meeting, as our own Howard Eley will be today's speaker. Those who haven't heard Mr. Eley speak are in for a rare treat.
- 19th - Ms. Mary Frampton will be today's speaker and her topic will be "Why a Women's College?" She is a graduate of Easton High School and currently is Assistant Director of Admissions for Rivier College in Nashua, New Hampshire.
- 26th - Morris Vickers is today's program chairman, and he will present his own First Baptist Church Youth Group, who will perform excerpts from their own folk musical. A most enjoyable program.

BIRTHDAYS DURING MARCH:

5th - Roy Cowdrey	19th - Howard Anthony
9th - Sid Campen	20th - Ed Matthews
9th - Hoppy Stafford	20th - Tom Kern
14th - Tates Matthews	23rd - Norman Moore



GET YOUR **JACK STRONG** MASK!



Jack Wheatley

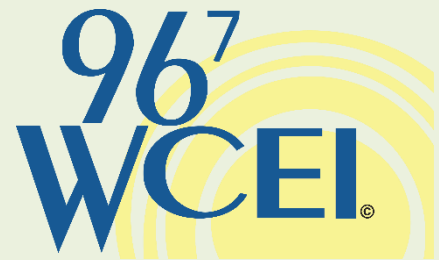
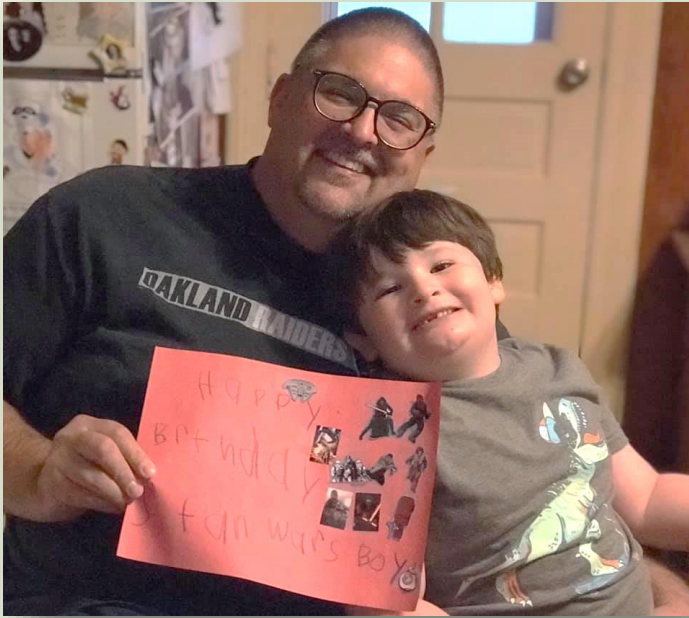


As Jack Wheatley fights Acute Myeloid Leukemia for the second time, show him your support by getting a **Jack Strong** mask! Through the incredible generosity of **Hugh & Kathy Dawkins**, all you have to do is contact Hugh, and you'll have one! And all he and Kathy ask is that you consider contributing to The Rotary Club of Easton's Centennial Fund in Jack's honor. Contact Hugh for yours!

As Jack Wheatley fights Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML) for the second time, show him your support by getting a "Jack Strong" mask! Through the incredible generosity of Hugh & Kathy Dawkins, all you have to do is contact Hugh, and you'll have one! And all he and Kathy ask is that you please consider contributing to The Rotary Club of Easton's Centennial Fund in Jack's honor. Contact Hugh at dawkins.hh@gmail.com.



Your Editor's daughter, Lynn Hatcher, was in Lewes, Delaware, recently and posed for this photo with the Lewes Rotary Pavilion & Barbeque Pit at Otis Smith Park. She is always happy to see the Rotary logo and proud of helping The Rotary Club of Easton over the years.



Matt Spence and his son, Dixon – July 2020

WCEI'S MATT SPENCE SPEAKS TO ROTARY

WCEI's Matt Spence spoke to The Rotary Club of Easton on July 16, 2020. Matt is WCEI Program Director and morning personality. He described how radio has changed during the COVID-19 pandemic and how many people have turned to local radio as their first source of information. Working closely with Talbot County EMS and all local governmental agencies, Matt keeps his listeners informed and up to date. It's not all serious, though! With a great sense of humor and the music hits of yesterday and today, Matt makes WCEI a happy and interesting part of your day. He's also been a big supporter of Flags for Heroes, so we owe him a real debt of gratitude! Thanks, Matt, for always being there for our community!



August Zoom Meetings

06 - **Megan Cook** Easton Town Council
 13 - **Michah Risher** Easton Airport
 20 - **Casandra Van Hooser** Talbot Tourism
 27 - **Flag Court Groundbreaking**

August Birthdays

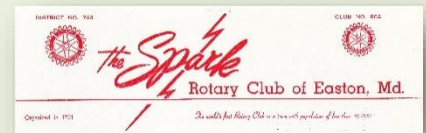
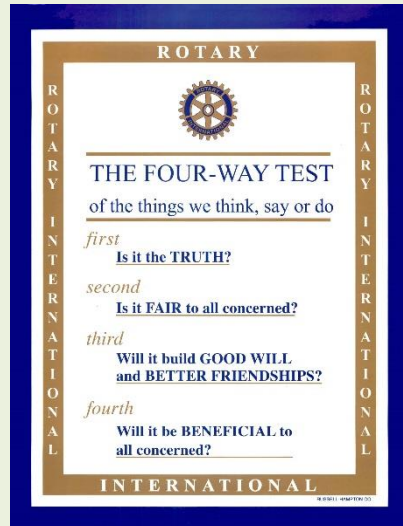
02 George Hatcher
 11 Fran Jenkins
 20 Bruce Armistead
 21 Don Goodliffe
 31 Pat Fitzgerald

Anniversaries

01 - Stuart Bounds - 34
 01 - George Corey - 30
 09 - Ted Bautz - 14
 01 - Jed Anthony - 13
 26 - Derek White - 5
 01 - Andrew Walsworth - 4
 01 - Michael Wheatley - 4
 10- Terri Charest - 3

Invocation Leaders

06 - Jackie Wilson
 13 - Brad Watts
 20 - Connie Loveland
 27 - Lisa Felts



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.



August

03 Tracey Johns/Liz Connely
 05 Andrew Walsworth/Deena Kilmon
 07 Buck Duncan/Josh Deutsch
 10 David Anthony/Mike Kopen
 12 Brad Watts/Derek White
 14 David Lee/Richie Wheatley
 17 Barc Upchurch/Josh Deutsch
 19 Peter Dietz/Bill Skelton
 21 Albert Pritchett/Marc Alderfer
 24 Dana Newman/Steve Shearer
 26 David Anthony/Jed Anthony
 28 Derek White/Connie Loveland
 31 David Fike/Curry Wilford



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 John Flohr
 President-Elect Reza Jafari
 President-Elect Nominee Kelly Griffith
 Immediate Past President.....Pat Fitzgerald
 Secretary George Hatcher
 Assistant Secretary Mike Jacobs
 Treasurer Andrew Walsworth

Directors

Club Service Megan Miller
 Personnel Service Terri Charest
 Community Service Rosemary Fasolo
 International Service Patti Campen
 Vocational Service Casey Baynard
 Youth & Community Fund ...Steve Shearer

