

July 2020

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



John F. Flohr – 99th President of The Rotary Club of Easton Change of Officers Night Speech

June 25, 2020

Good evening everyone!

I would have loved to be at the Milestone doing this speech. It would have been easier. Also, most of you could not have walked out. Now you just click, and I am gone. Well I will try to be brief tonight.

To say the least, ten years ago I would have never thought that I would be here as your President. It just wasn't in my plans. Ten years ago, I was your typical Rotarian who came to lunch weekly, met some nice people, and then went back to work. Sound familiar? Four months ago, I almost called it quits. Health issues caused me to question whether I could do this. But many past Presidents and board members came to me and said, "We've got your back." Thanks to all of you—it meant a lot. So tonight, we have the first reverse legacy. Son first, now father.

Let me first take this opportunity to thank Ron for being my Master of Ceremony and George Hatcher for all his hard work. Like I said, it would have been easier on all of us.

To my beautiful bride for all the support you have given me over all the years. The last year has not been especially easy, but you have hung in there. Love you.

The President of our club has a tremendous responsibility not only to himself but to every member of this club, so I **do** take this position very seriously. But, did anyone really understand what you have done? The number 99 is a very special number. It is the **Angel number** that also represents universal harmony, destiny, and karma. I going to will let you think about that.

Social distancing will continue to challenge our club. I believe we all need to be together and we will start investigating our options (meetings in the park, Scossa) starting now.

But this club has faced challenges before:

In the last 99 years, our club has weathered the Great Depression, WWII, the Vietnam War, civil unrest, 9/11, the Great Recession, COVID-19 and today's unsettling times. Yet, our club and individual strengths allow us to continue with our mission of Service above Self.

Our club separates itself from other clubs in our district and maybe the world because of our structure, organization, and our ability to attract unique businesspeople. **Such a small club, in a small area, to have so much talent.**

People have said "John—you lead with your heart and passion." That's true, so my goal this year is to rekindle your passion through our outstanding activities as Rotarians.

We all became Rotarians for a reason. Maybe it was because our friends were, maybe you came to lunch and just enjoyed the meeting. But each one of you today decided to stay a Rotarian for a reason. I would like you to rededicate yourself to that reason. **It's in your power.**

And what about our newer members? How do we inspire them? Sponsors, I call out to you to talk to our newer members and ask them how they are doing. It's easy to join Rotary, but it's very hard to become a Rotarian. Be the mentor, inspire them, and let's build our next decade of leaders.

It's in your power

Reach out weekly to several Rotarians and have a chat. It means a lot and it binds us together. That's what Family does.

But for now—

Let's find our footing.

I heard that phrase a few weeks ago and it is very powerful. With all the changes over the last few months, we must plant ourselves on firm ground. It gives us balance, and from there we can move forward.

Let's use our creativity.

Meetings will continue to be videoed and posted on our home page and Facebook throughout the year. I want every member to be able to be part of each weeks meeting. The world has changed, your workplace has changed, and so we will change. Never should a member or a perspective member say, "I could not make the meeting this week." It will be out there for all to be part of.

We must continue to attract diverse new members.

So, invite people to lunch, or a video meeting. Not just friends, but new business associates. Our club needs to think outside the box.

Explain our entire package we have to offer:

1. Unique businesspeople
2. Lunch gathering with exciting speakers weekly
3. Outstanding community activities
4. Commitment to help others

Finally, let's find Your Joy.

A year ago, a young lady named Sidney Case somehow ended up in Easton Maryland. as opposed to Easton, Pennsylvania. Because of us, she was able to go India and had a lifetime of experiences and joy. We should follow her path and find our joy as Rotarians. We should work this year to help others more and be joyful.

In closing, I again want to express thanks to all of you. As leaders of our community, let's go forward positively as we accomplish this year's plan while we prepare for our 100th Anniversary.

So, for my first act as your President, we will now end with the **Four-Way Test**:

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill and better friendships?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Good night!



Past-President Richie Wheatley swears in the 2020-2021 Easton Rotary Directors and Officers. Pictured are (l-r) Megan Miller, Kelly Griffith, Terri Charest, Reza Jafari, Andrew Walsworth, Richie Wheatley, Casey Baynard, Patti Campen, George Hatcher, & Pat Fitzgerald. Missing are Rosemary Fasolo & Mike Jacobs.

2019 - 2020 AWARDS

Presented by President Pat Fitzgerald



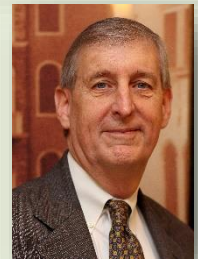
President's Award

Richie Wheatley



Directors' Service Awards

Bob Grill
Barc Upchurch
Derek White
Bruce Armistead



Rookie of the Year Award

Lonnie Green

Dave Haslup "Service above Self" Award

Ron Flohr





Tim Kagan "Duz" Award

George Corey
Casey Baynard



THE DONALD E. OSBURN
CLUB SERVICE AWARD

2020



The Donald E. Osburn Club Service Award is meant to recognize that Rotarian who has demonstrated a lifetime commitment to service. Hugh Dawkins has done just that, and he is a role model to us all. Congratulations and thank you!



The Donald E. Osburn Club Service Award

Hugh Dawkins

June 25, 2020 – John Hurt (left) presents the Don Osburn Award to Hugh Dawkins on Change of Officers Night



The Spark

Rotary Club of Easton, Md.



Organized in 1921

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

PRESIDENT W. BEN WILSON
 PRESIDENT ELECT — SIDNEY S. CAMPEN, JR.
 VICE PRESIDENT — C. DON DUNCAN
 SECRETARY — JOHN F. CHALLENGER
 TREASURER — ARTHUR E. SOUTHARD

Meets Wednesday 12:15
 Tidewater Inn

EDITOR
 JACK ANTHONY
 822-4008

DIRECTORS
 JOSEPH CARROLL
 WILLIAM C. MILLER
 KENNETH W. BARTON
 A. I. VALLIANT
 JOHN E. MEINTZER, JR.



Arthur Southard
 P. O. Box 120
 Easton, Md. 21601

PROGRAMS FOR JULY:

- 2nd - Our own Mr. Bill Paul will be our speaker today. His topic will be "Pancho Villa and The Causes of World War I". Don't miss it. In the past it seems that our best programs are those done by our own members.
- 9th - Open Meeting - President Ben has requested an open meeting for today to discuss the New Rotary Year.
- 16th - E. Holmes (Hap) Hawkins will be our guest speaker today, and he will show a movie and discuss The Impact of The Waterfowl Festival on Ducks Unlimited.
- 23rd - Rex Barney, who was a great fastball pitcher for the Old Brooklyn Dodgers will be our speaker today. Currently he is the public address announcer at the Baltimore Oriole Baseball Games.
- 30th - A special treat today. Our program will be provided by The Cut and Runs - A newly formed local barbershop quartet consisting of Drs. Thompson, Hawkinson, and Gieske along with Mr. D. E. Klima.

BIRTHDAYS DURING JULY:

15th - Orville Wyatt
 17th - "I" Valliant
 19th - Emory Slaughter

23rd - John Noble
 28th - Jim Fountain

CLUB NEWS:

Ben Wilson wishes to express congratulations and a special thank you to Jack Meintzer for the contribution he has made to The Easton Rotary Club during the past year.

Incoming Committee Chairmen for the Year 1975-76 are as follows:

Club Service - Joe Carroll

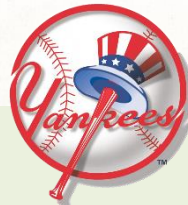
Community Service - Ken Barton

Vocational Service - "T" Valliant

International Service - Bill Miller

As the new Rotary year begins, let's all try to give Incoming Program Chairman Don Duncan our best co-operation in filling our program needs.

As this edition of *The Spark* goes to press the editor wonders why Rex Barney is going to speak to The Rotary Club. It seems that in recent days there has been a scarcity of interest in baseball. Why just last week while the Yankees were in Baltimore I could find no one to discuss baseball with. If the current trend continues, look for them to be for sale again.



Well, well! On this page and the previous one, is *The Spark* from July of 1975- 45 years ago! You'll recognize many Easton Rotarian names, and please note the speaker on July 23, 1975. It was Rex Barney, the PA announcer for the Orioles at Memorial Stadium. Note also *The Spark* Editor at the top of the previous page and his comment at the bottom of the page above. It seems that the more things change, the more they stay the same- right Jack Anthony???



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 grandchildren 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)



Richie Wheatley and his family truly represent the best in all of us. They are wonderful people, each willing to share a smile and serve others less fortunate than themselves. In “It’s a Wonderful Life,” when George Bailey really needs help, Clarence the angel comes to his rescue. And it is so true what Clarence says, “*Each man’s life touches so many other lives.*” He inscribes in the Tom Sawyer book that he gives George at the end of the movie, “*Dear George, remember no man is a failure who has friends. Thanks for the wings, Love, Clarence.*”

By that measure (and any other), Richie is the richest man in the world, but he is going to need our help—his friends’ help—for months to come. Read the inspirational story on the next page about how his son, Jack, beat back acute myeloid leukemia (AML). Jack’s life and story touched so many others, but in a horrific twist of fate, his AML has returned. The Wheatleys have a long road ahead, but in any way we can, we must show Jack that we still have his back. Each one of us has a talent in one way or another that can help them through this difficult time. Think about what you can do and when the appropriate time is to do it and ***be there*** for Richie and his family. The concept of this alone is earth shattering, BUT

WE’VE GOT JACK’S BACK!



WE’VE GOT JACK’S BACK!





Jack Wheatley

This is an inspirational story from the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's website, but it's one without an ending because Jack Wheatley's acute myeloid leukemia has returned. Pray for Jack, Richie, and the whole Wheatley family and let them know "We've Got Jack's Back!"

Cadet John (Jack) Wheatley's story began on June 2016 when he received a call from the US Coast Guard Academy Baseball Coach telling him he was pulled from the wait list and offered a fully paid tuition and spot on the DIII Coast Guard Academy Bears pitching staff. Jack had already been accepted to Maryland and was set to attend Fall 2016 when he received this call. This call saved his life. On Monday, June 13th (his Mom's birthday), he accepted the appointment and was set to report on Monday, June 27, 2016.

Jack began his tough swab summer and it was then that the medical clinic checked his blood counts. It was determined that his white blood cell count was low, but nothing alarming. Every month, the clinic continued to check his blood and in October, it began to drop and again in November which was enough to send him to a local hematologist for a complete blood evaluation. Up to this point, Jack completed an intense swab summer training with his classmates and continued in the fall semester a demanding 19 credit course load in which he received B's in all classes.

It was on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 last day Fall semester, when Jack was taken to the local hematologist in New London, CT and that afternoon was told he had leukemia and needed to be admitted to a major hospital within 24 hours. On Friday, December 9, 2016 it was confirmed he had acute myeloid leukemia (AML) and would need to begin standard of care that week which involved four rounds of chemotherapy.

Thankfully, Jack reached remission after the induction round for AML and was considered a low risk AML patient, but would need to complete the other three rounds of treatment as recommended for standard of care. "We've got Jack's Back" became a daily reminder of support from family, friends, Coast Guard classmates, families, officers, Police, EMT's, Navy and numerous Collegiate Sports teams across the country who simply held a sign supporting Jack. An amazing gesture by strangers who simply wanted to help and believe me it did.

Today, Jack is feeling great with his health improving daily, but unfortunately cannot return to the Coast Guard Academy and is awaiting a medical discharge. In the interim, Jack is enrolled at the University of Maryland and part of the Civics program, where he is volunteering at many charities. Jack was able to pitch one inning in the Fall 2016, retired three of the four batters and excited about pitching in the upcoming season. Baseball has always been a favorite sport of Jack's which he excelled from an early age of 5. Jack received top honors in his Junior/Senior year of high school, and never considered attending a college to play baseball. It was about getting a quality education for Jack. However, the opportunity came for both a quality education and playing baseball for the United State Coast Guard Academy and Coach Grant.



As *The Spark* was nearing publication, Richie Wheatley posted these photos and the text below on Facebook. We send the Wheatleys all our love and prayers.

In June 2019, Jack Wheatley was the Mission Speaker and gave an incredible speech at the LLS MWOY event on his courage to fight AML and the challenges he faced on his journey to remission.

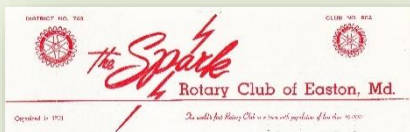
Last Friday, he got the news he had relapsed after three years in remission - a punch in the gut with one semester left to graduate. Today he started his new mission to be a 2-time AML survivor and once he has achieved that goal, he will then receive a Bone Marrow Transplant and we are praying that one of his four sisters will be that donor.

Simple goals now for Jack:

1. Get to remission!
2. Successful BMT!
3. Back to good health by 2021!
4. Graduate with finance degree from Maryland in December!

Our family is saddened by this news, but we know the Johns Hopkins transplant team will put their best plan together to bring Jack to good health, and we need you to keep Jack in your prayers. More to this story to come.....

#beatAML



Anniversaries

Spark Editor – George A. Hatcher, Jr.

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.

01 – Phil Foster - 43
 01 – Bill Snyder - 10
 01 – Bob Grill - 1 (28)
 01 – Don Goodliffe - 1 (8)
 07 – Ron Flohr - 13

July Birthdays

02 Dana Newman
 05 Marilyn Neal
 11 Cliff Stafford
 15 Barbara Osburn
 23 John Flohr
 25 Stuart Bounds
 30 Geoff Turner
 31 Richie Wheatley

July Zoom Meetings

02 – **John Flohr** 2020-2021 Rotary President
 09 – **Beth Ann Langrell** For All Seasons
 16 – **Matt Spence** WCEI
 23 – **Cassandra Van Hooser** Ta County Dev
 30 – **Suzanne Sullivan** ShoreRivers

Invocation Leaders

02 – Lisa Felts
 09 – Claude Maechling
 16 – Curry Wilford
 23 – Rosemary Fasolo
 30 – Jack Anthony



Meals on Wheels – July



We salute the USA on her 244th birthday. May God always bless our great country.

01 Andrew Walsworth/Deena Kilmon
 03 Closed
 06 David Anthony/Mike Kopen
 08 Brad Watts/Derek White
 10 David Lee/Richie Wheatley
 13 Barc Upchurch/Josh Deutsch
 15 Peter Dietz/Bill Skelton
 17 Albert Pritchett/Marc Alderfer
 20 Dana Newman/Steve Shearer
 22 David Anthony/Jed Anthony
 24 Marc Alderfer/Connie Loveland
 27 David Fike/Curry Wilford
 29 Buck Duncan/Josh/Deutsch

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