

www.eastonrotary.org

The SPARK

Chartered Sept. 1, 1921



June 2020 - Extra

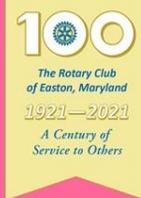
The world's first Rotary Club in a town of less than 10,000

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2020

6:00 PM



CHANGE OF OFFICERS NIGHT



BE THERE!



Please be a part of our Change of Officers Night via Zoom. Welcome in John Flohr as our new president and honor Pat Fitzgerald for making what could have been a disastrous year something special. Zoom information is below!



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86779734786?pwd=N3g1RTd4NDJlVQmtUbnhGWmVBQy9vQT09>

Meeting ID: 867 7973 4786

Password: 035453

Dial-in: 301-715-8592



Before the 2019-2020 Rotary year is over, let's reflect on something we've done for years. It may seem small, but it is anything but. Read what our volunteers have to say about Meals on Wheels.



MOW Reflections

By: Josh Deutsch

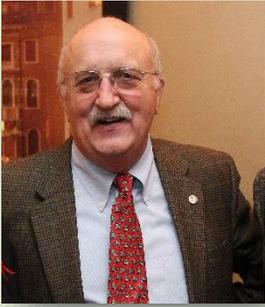
My reasons for signing up for Meals on Wheels are not unique, however what I've gained from this volunteer opportunity is insurmountable. When I first learned that Rotary was looking for volunteers I signed up, figuring that I should simply give back to the community that has always given so much to me.

What I did not expect was to be so moved and humbled by the individuals Meals on Wheels provides for.

The demographic of people Meals on Wheels provides for can easily be considered 'forgotten' within our community. These are people who have fallen through the cracks in our system and who also tend not to have a voice. I truly believe that how we treat our most underprivileged individuals reflects who we are. As Rotarians, we're seen as leaders in this community so it's just right that we step up and provide help to everyone within our community.

When I make my weekly deliveries, typically I interact with an elderly woman who struggles since she lives alone, a gentleman without legs confined to his house, and another individual who lives in a home that's literally falling apart. However, on my last trip I did not focus on those negative views. Instead I focused on the kindness and gentleness that was shown within the eyes of the people I was delivering meals to. Their show of gratitude for an act that seems so small to me, resembles hope for a brighter future. When I look at this group of people, who aren't angry or spiteful, I see stories that need to be told.

So as I reflect on my service to Meals on Wheels, I realize that this story is not about me, but rather about those underprivileged individuals who still manage to inspire hope. These are people who have been forgotten by a system that is supposed to show 'equality for all', yet clearly that's not always true. This is a time for our community leaders to LISTEN to the voice of the undervalued and keep working to create a community that not only reflects the beliefs of a few, but also echoes the voices of the less fortunate.



Hi George! Good idea with what you want to accomplish. MOW is very therapeutic. It makes me feel very good, especially if I think I've got problems, and then I deliver MOW, I know my world is OK. All the recipients are very happy to see us, and when we tell them they are getting three meals in one day, and nobody is coming for three days, they are very grateful that the meals are even coming. Very satisfying.

Curry Wilford



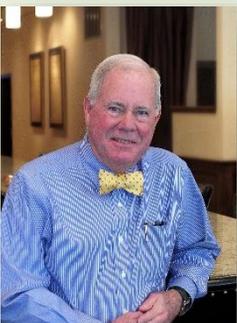
I can say that I truly look forward to my Meals on Wheels delivery day each month, because it is a time when I can actively participate in serving those in need. A lot of times we think that we are serving others by making monetary and/or goods donations - which are very helpful and necessary - but we don't typically see the end result of that action. Meals on Wheels is a time when you can actually see the good that your service is providing. While it only takes an hour or so of my time each month, it provides me with a sense of joy that I have provided members of our community with meals that they may not have had the opportunity to otherwise receive on their own.

Jed Anthony



While I have only been delivering for several weeks, the people that receive the meals that I have interacted with seem very grateful. The only story that I have is that one lady told me that she would not know what she would do if she did not have these meals. I think that we are really providing a much-needed service, especially during this time and that it really makes a difference for vulnerable populations. I have enjoyed the three shifts that I have worked so far, and I am learning more about Easton as well as I drive around.

Dana Newman



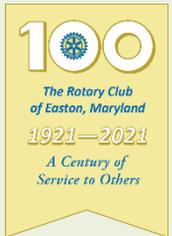
I have been doing meals on wheels since 1989 and I can't imagine not doing it. The people are so appreciative. Some just say "thanks," and others want you to sit and chat for a few- it's so much fun. I work by myself, so getting out into the community is important to me on so many levels. The only thing I dread is going to a delivery and finding out that the recipient has passed away. You get attached very easily.

Peter Dietz



I stepped up to lead Meals on Wheels several years ago simply because I was new to Rotary and eager to help in any way that I could. I had no exposure to the program prior to my start with Easton Rotary and immediately realized that it was more than a volunteer position to help my local club. Meals on Wheels has been a tremendous experience that has allowed me to work with fellow Rotarians and local leaders to provide a service that is needed not only in our community but across the country. Food insecurity is not something that is often in the public eye and we have a responsibility to ensure that our neighbors always have a place to turn for their next meal. On top of that, it has been great getting to know some of the people that we deliver to. These individuals have become friends and people I look forward to seeing a few times per month when I stop by for a delivery. The true heroes though, are those at the Brooklets Senior Center including Cheryl Knopf and her team of volunteers. Their ability to take meals from a truck, bag them up and have them prepared for delivery in such a quick time frame is remarkable.

Derek White



In normal times, our Talbot County first responders are always there for us. They are that thin line that stands between peace and tranquility and disaster. Now, during the COVID-19 pandemic that has gripped the world, they are more important than ever. When many of us sheltered in place, they were on the front lines doing their duty no matter what. We are deeply grateful for your service as we, too, always put “Service above Self.” God bless you all.

John F. Flohr – President – 2020-2021

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

2019-2020 Cub Officers

President Patrick Fitzgerald
 President-Elect John Flohr
 President-Elect Nominee Reza Jafari
 Immediate Past President Richie Wheatley
 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

