

Rotary



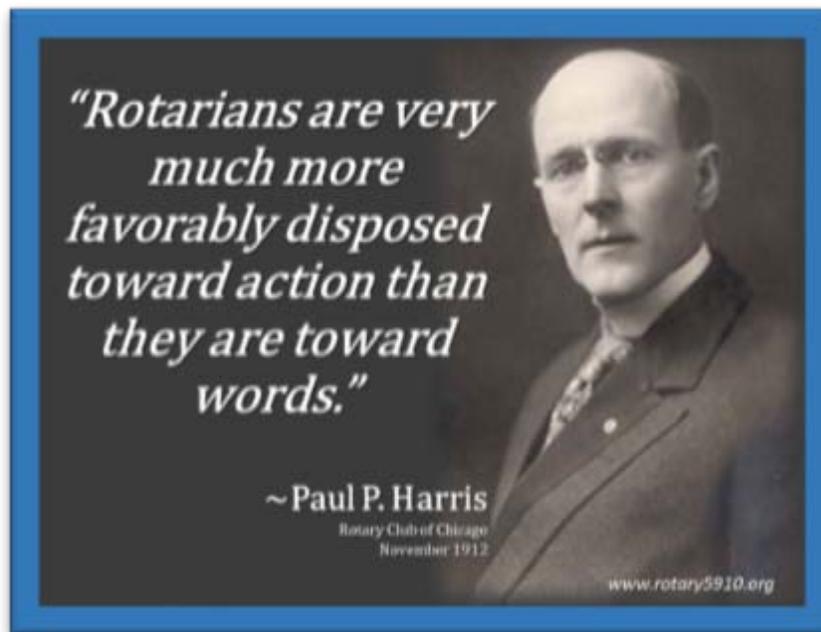
Club of Washington

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

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The Rotary Club of Washington met by Zoom

Present were: **Brad Montgomery, Tom Drewitz, Dave and Shirley Moore, Angeline East, Dave Hart, Mary Jo and Rich Podgurski, John Hopper, Andy Goudy, Ken Baker, Dorothy and John Tecklenburg, Bill and Susan Price, John Quayle, Carrie Richardson, Lars Lange, Joe Piszczor, Susan Priest, and prospective member Rachel Gladden**



Pre-Meeting

As this writer entered, people were enjoying seeing **Rachel Gladden** and catching up. She credited **Tom Drewitz** with helping her get connected. Rachel commented on the background in **Susan Priest's** image. **Susan** explained that it was a Scottish loch, taken in 1963. She uses it because nobody would want to look at the open closet door leading to the litter box, which is directly behind her. **Rachel** responded that she comes from a Scottish background, and **Susan** explained that her lone Scottish ancestor came to America in the middle of the seventeenth century. **Rachel** asked **Susan** if she was tight, an accusation often leveled at her by her children. **Susan** replied that her brother sometimes accuses her of being cheap, but that she prefers frugal. Someone said that a spirit of saving speaks to being raised by parents who experienced the Depression. One even remembered a relative who had a place to save strings too short to use.

Rachel also noticed a picture in the background of **Dave and Shirley's** room and asked about it. It is a picture of quails by Whitlock, and **Rachel** said that the Gladden home has one by him of an eagle, and also several pictures by Nat Youngblood.

Conversation turned to the COVID vaccine shots. Several more have received at least their first shots, **John Hopper** and **Rachel Gladden** are scheduled soon. **Dave Moore** said that the sign at the Washington Crown Center is so large that it must be visible from the West End.

Getting Started



At this point **President Brad Montgomery** rang the bell and the meeting began with an invocation by **Dave Hart**. The flag(s) used by **President Brad** for the pledge of allegiance were in a picture of some of the 20,000 flags in the COVID memorial installation on the mall in Washington DC.

Induction

President Brad then turned the meeting over to **Tom Drewitz** for the induction of our newest member, and the first person ever to become a member virtually, **Rachel Gladden**.

Tom said that she has been ♦essentially a Rotarian for years♦. Now she would become one ♦legitimately♦, so that we can now bill her.

Rachel is a former grade school teacher and a volunteer at the Washington Hospital, the Literacy Council, and so many more community organizations.

Rachel said that she was happy to become a member. She feels so comfortable among so many friendly faces, which she was so pleased to see today. Rotary meant so much to her husband **Tom**, and she looks forward to many happy Rotary times.

- This week ♦s meeting was a club assembly and began with an account of actions taken at the board meeting last week. The board voted to continue our contribution to the Literacy Council for the Baby Book Bag program, \$1,000. While the board has had to seriously weigh donations, this long-standing program will continue to be funded.
- **Angeline East** reported that 10 schools are going to participate in the Dictionary Project. Fort Cherry decided not to do so. **President Brad** said that he would need to order more dictionaries, and **Angeline** said that as soon as we have enough, she will schedule a week for delivering them. Volunteers will be asked to deliver the dictionaries to the schools, but will only drop them off. There will be no interaction with students. She will email us as soon as dates are available.
- The board also decided not to hold that raffle which is usually done in February or March. Proceeds usually go to our international projects. It was felt that it would be too difficult to manage a raffle at this time, but it will return when we get back to more normal conditions.
- (At this point, serious barking was heard from the Tecklenburgs ♦ home. **Kyanite** had awakened. **Dorothy** distracted her by throwing a toy.)
- **President Brad** said that he attended the first Virtual Membership meeting held by the district last week. He said that he was pleased to find it fun.
- **President Brad** then asked **Dave Hart** to speak on the Family Essentials project. **Dave** said that through his outreach to friends and neighbors he has assembled **118** packets so far. This has been possible because those who learn of the project either make up packets themselves, give him items to put into packets, or give him money to buy items to be put into packets. In one case, when he explained the project to someone, that person ended up sending him a check for \$100. He concentrates on shampoo, deodorant, soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes. Recently he found a deal on toothbrushes at a dollar store: 3 for a dollar. He bought them out. He says that the staff at the local dollar stores are getting to know him. Recently **President Brad** received a check for the project from **Amity**, and **Dave** happened to come in a few minutes later. That check got snapped up, and **Dave** delivered it to **Dave Moore**. (Later **Dorothy Tecklenburg** said that she has been promoting the project in her area and that

the check came from someone she had spoken to.)

- **Dave Hart** gave his mantra: ♦You gotta ask.♦ He said that he would be happy to shop for anyone who hasn't got the time. He suggested a phone campaign to members who may not get the newsletter or email to let them know about this project.
- **Bill Price** said that the Rotary stickers for the packets have arrived and he will be bringing them to Brad. President Brad said that: ♦It is starting to look like Bed, Bath, and Beyond in here.♦ **Susan Price** suggested he use the Rotary banner and a display of some of the packets in one of Hickson's windows.
- The deadline for getting packets to Hickson's is April 1, so that they can be distributed by the Community Circle Food Pantry before Easter. Someone suggested that this project could be continued, with the packets going to other agencies which could use them. Places mentioned were the City Mission and Domestic Violence Services. The Prices recently attended a meeting of the McMurray club which just ended a project aimed at collecting women's personal essentials for the City Mission women's shelter, and they seemed interested in helping us with our project.
- **Dave Hart** also spoke about the Foundation. The club is not yet at the minimum required to allow us to apply for grants from the district. Don't forget the Foundation. **Joe Piszczor** asked how much more is needed for the club to meet its Foundation goal. Dave answered that we are \$1,100 short right now.

The Rotary Foundation transforms your gifts into service projects that change lives both close to home and around the world.

Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects.

With your help, we can make lives better in your community and around the world.

Our mission

The mission of The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International is to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

What impact can one donation have?

- For as little as 60 cents, a child can be protected from polio.
- \$50 can provide clean water to help fight waterborne illness.
- \$500 can launch an antibullying campaign and create a safe environment for children.

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Let Dave Hart Know!

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- Dave then shared news of **Bob Hillberry**, who is doing very well, using a walker and being able to visit with family. Former member **Phil Morrow** was hospitalized with COVID and is home again, needing a home care nurse. His children are pressing him to move closer.
 - **Mary Jo Podgurski**, who had been left us briefly earlier in the meeting, apologized for taking a phone call, but explained that the Teen Center was the beneficiary of a bequest from a gentleman who told his daughter that he wanted them to have his pool table. This is a high-end table with a slate top, and requires quite a team to safely transport it and set it up. The teens are planning a ♦pool party♦ Saturday with a beach theme. She has told them that if they intend to introduce sand into the center, they will need to clean it up. At this point **Joe Piszczor** shared in chat that the best billiards book ever is 99 Critical Shots in Pool.
 - **President Brad** then asked **Susan Priest** to talk about upcoming programs. She has booked speakers for all of March and has several ideas for April. March 2 will see a program by Park Burroughs about a school he attended as a teen which was located on the site of an old Shaker Community. On March 9 we will have a presentation from Dr. John Six, Chief Medical Officer at Washington Hospital. He will talk about the last year as the hospital grappled with COVID. March 16 will bring former member **Betsie Trew** to talk about the Washington County Community Foundation. She is looking forward to seeing old friends. Finally, on March 23 we will hear from **Commissioner Larry Maggi** about his experiences as a volunteer with a COVID vaccine trial. The **Prices** heard him earlier this month at a meeting of the McMurray club and say: DON'T MISS THIS ONE. He has a fascinating story to tell.
 - In April, food month in her calendar, expect to hear from the Washington County Food Bank. **Mary Jo Podgurski** offered to have some of her teens, who have been conducting cooking lessons, give us one. **Susan** also hopes to have a speaker from Heritage Craft Butchers.
 - **Rich Podgurski** said that we need to remember that the vaccine trials are still going on, as manufacturers continue to discover details on the efficacy and longevity of their products. **Rachel Gladden** shared that her brother was involved in the Moderna study done by the University of Pittsburgh, he received the placebo, but has gotten the vaccine now.
 - **Bill Price** inquired if the 250-pound plaque for the pavilion has arrived, only to learn that it isn't here yet. Of course, the bill hasn't come yet either. He said it was coming by flat bread (slip of a hungry tongue) truck.
 - **President Brad** said that he will be changing how he sends out the link to the meeting so that it doesn't still have a January date on it. **Mary Jo Podgurski** told him how to get a permanent link.
 - Several people saw **Mary Jo** on The Doctors last week. The **Prices** bragged that they were first, since they saw it on a West Virginia station which broadcasts the program at 9 AM, not 10 AM. Then someone noticed the lovely **Cheryl Hopper** art work hanging behind Rich and Mary Jo. Mary Jo said that they had their first in-person visit from their grandbaby Kate recently and it was hard to tear her away from the hanging. She kept saying ♦flower.♦ **John Hopper** said that he would pass this on to Cheryl.

The meeting ended with the Four Way Test, led by President Brad.

Speakers

February 23rd
Brad Montgomery
Club Assembly

March 2nd
Park Burroughs
Darrow, New York: From Shaker Colony to
Private School

March 9th
Dr. John Six
Washington Hospital and COVID: One year
later

March 16th
Betsie Trew
Washington County Community Foundation

Events

No Events found

Club Leaders

[David Bradley Montgomery](#)
President

[Brandi B. Miller](#)
President-Elect

[John P. Hopper](#)
Vice President
Vocational Service Chair

[Lars Lange](#)
Secretary

[Susan E. Priest](#)
Assistant Secretary

[Robert K. Wicker](#)
Assistant Treasurer

[David W. Moore](#)
Treasurer

[David A. Hart](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair

[William J. Mesler](#)
Membership Chair

[Diane L. Ambrose](#)
Club Service Chair

[Thomas C. Drewitz](#)
Webworker

[Angeline Anyango East](#)
Community Service Chair

[Dorothy Curley Tecklenburg](#)
International Service Chair

[Antonio Zuloaga](#)
Area Governor

Club Meeting

Washington
Meets at W & J College, The Commons
60 S. Lincoln St.
Washington, PA 15301
Time: Tuesday at 12:00 PM