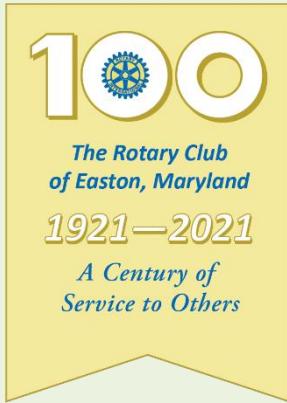




The world's first Rotary Club in a town of less than 10,000



## FROM THE PORCH

With President John

This will be my last month as your President, and I first want to thank everyone for their full support this year. This year with Covid-19 has been challenging but very rewarding. Our club is special because we never stop, and we are always living the Four Way Test.

May was exciting with the induction of 4 new members. Our Flags for Heroes event was in full display, and didn't it just make you a little happier seeing all the flags flying? Many thanks to the flag team—our tenth year and still going strong!

June starts off with our annual golf tournament on June 7<sup>th</sup> at Talbot Country Club. It's going to be fun! On June 10<sup>th</sup> we will have an outdoor meeting at Idlewild Park to present the Town of Easton (Mayor and President of the Town Council) with the Town of Easton flag to be on display at the Flag Court. On June 17<sup>th</sup> Kelly is working on our scholarship recipients to be our speakers. Mark your calendar for June 23<sup>rd</sup> as we once again have an in-person Change of Officers night. I will be sending out information, but please make plans. This will start our 100<sup>th</sup> year as a club, so let's all come out.

I look forward seeing all of you this month at the many activities and thanking you in person for your support this year.

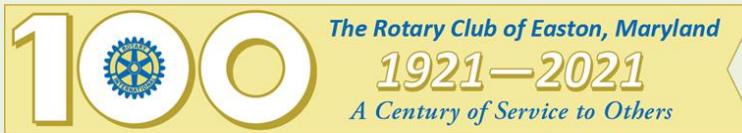
*John*

99<sup>th</sup> President of the Rotary Club of Easton



## Flags for Heroes

What a terrific year for Flags for Heroes! In its 10<sup>th</sup> year, it surpassed all expectations. Not only did it touch our hearts again with pride in our great country and gratitude for the many heroes who make it that way, but we raised \$54,000 to give back to them and to our community. Plus, we had fun and made friends doing it! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



2021 is our centennial year, and we've been looking back at the incredible history of the Rotary Club of Easton. One thing is obvious- our club is what it is because of our incredible members. Over the next few months, we'll meet current members and find out what makes them tick and how they view Rotary and the world. The Anthony family has been integral to all our club has done for more than half of its history. Grandfather, son, son, and grandson have all been presidents of Easton Rotary. What does that kind of legacy mean? How does it affect your life? Grandson Anthony knows, and Jed tells his inspirational, heartfelt, and meaningful story to us to begin this journey of insight. If you let it, it could change your outlook and life. Read on!



*May 15, 2021 - Jed, Noah, Janice, & Malia Anthony*

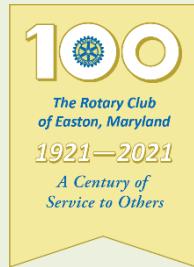
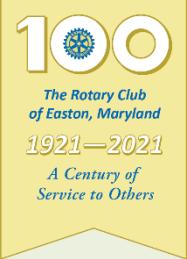


## *My Rotary Story* *by Jed Anthony*



There are two things that were pre-determined for me prior to my birth: 1) I would be a New York Yankees fan, and 2) One way or another, the Easton Rotary Club would play an important role in my life.

*Continued next page.*



I was born in 1976, and at that time my Grandfather (J. Howard Anthony) and Father (Jack Anthony) were both active members of the Easton Rotary Club. A few years later my Uncle (Joe Anthony) would also join the club. I have distant memories of attending Rotary meetings with my Dad during “Family Day” and standing nervously by his side when he introduced me to the club. Those memories are mixed with the emotions of pride and a little bit of fear, as I never truly knew what my Dad was going to say about me during that introduction!

I also remember a feeling of comfort, as I could distinctly tell that everyone I met, sat next to for lunch, or watched my Dad speak with, was genuinely happy to be at that meeting. I didn’t understand at the time why they were so happy to be there and what they all really did together, but I did know that whatever it was must be important.

When I was nine years old, I had the pleasure of putting on the distinct maroon jersey of the Rotary Easton Little League team. I had watched my older brother wear this uniform for four years prior to my chance, and always knew that Rotary was going to be “my team.” There was something different about wearing the Rotary name across my chest. Don’t get me wrong, the Elks, Lions, Jaycees, and VFW were fine teams too, but I knew what Rotary was and I knew who Rotary represented; Rotary was more than just a team name, it stood for something much more. It also didn’t hurt that we had a really good team! In my four years playing for Rotary, we went to the Championship series each year, losing twice and winning twice.

*Continued next page.*





In high school, my trips to the Rotary meetings were less and less. As I am finding out in my own life right now ... teenagers are not as excited to spend time having lunch with a group of "old people!" However, Rotary was always around our house as my Dad would regularly tell us about the speakers he heard at that week's meeting and what other things he learned from his Rotarian friends. I also had the pleasure of meeting and becoming brief friends with at least three fellow students who were attending Easton High School as part of the Rotary Youth Exchange program. These students always spoke about the opportunity the Rotary Club had given them and how grateful they were to these families.

The next seasons of my life flew by without a lot of direct interaction with Rotary, as I went to college, began a career, stopped a career, moved back home, started a new job, moved out again, and then met an amazing woman who would become my wife. It was time to settle down and buy a house, but I didn't know where to begin.

Thankfully, my Dad knew just where to go for assistance – the Easton Rotary Club. There he found a fellow Rotarian that was willing to help a young professional navigate through the home buying and mortgage process. During our brief meeting, that Rotarian saw something that made him think there was a place for me in his organization. Shortly after settling on my house, Mr. Buck Duncan reached back out to me and asked, "if I had ever thought about being a banker?"

That one simple question ... which I respectfully answered "No, but I'm willing to listen," provided me with an opportunity to begin a new career and to find Rotary back once again in my life.

*Continued next page.*





Upon establishing myself in the local business world, I was asked to attend some Rotary meetings as a guest and then was offered the opportunity to apply for membership. The whole time my Dad was there to lend support, but at the same time making sure that becoming a Rotarian was my choice and not based on his influence. But as I mentioned earlier, becoming an Easton Rotarian was pre-determined for me, so the choice was easy and the chance to join was an honor of high value.

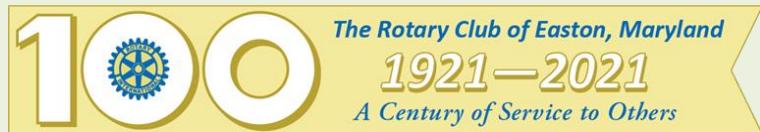
Even though my membership was seemingly destined for me since I was a young child, my evolution to being a true Rotarian took a few years longer. As with a lot of new members, it takes a little while to feel comfortable joining a club with such exceptional members and history. I volunteered for an event or two, went to some meetings, and even took a leave of absence for a few months. I was a member of the club but hadn't fully committed, until given the chance to listen and learn from one of our club's outstanding members - Mr. Tim Kagan.

Tim's bravery, thoughtfulness, unending generosity, and quiet leadership during his year as our Club President became a true inspiration for me. I thought I knew what Rotary was about, since I had been around it my whole life, yet I saw Rotary and our club through a different lens when watching Tim lead. I learned that if I wanted to be a Rotarian attending meetings was not enough, I had to really get involved. I didn't necessarily have to be on every committee, or speak the loudest at every meeting, but what I had to do was give back as much as I could, and as best as I could ... Tim showed me how that could be done.

Shortly after this internal revelation, George Hatcher met with me to discuss taking on some of the leadership roles of the club and eventually becoming President. I was extremely humbled and honored to be asked and did not take the opportunity lightly. For accepting the responsibility of leading the Easton Rotary Club was one of great privilege, especially knowing that I was to follow in the generational footsteps of my Grandfather, Father and Uncle ... all Past Presidents of our club.

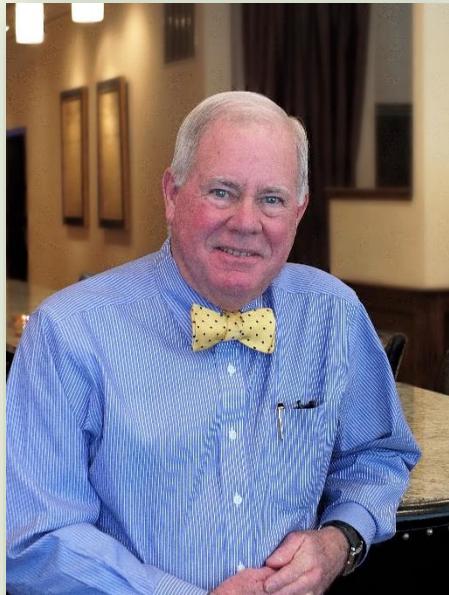
Yes, the Easton Rotary Club has been with me since I was born, but for the last 15 years it has truly become a part of who I am. I have been able to sit with my Dad almost weekly for lunch, I deliver meals on wheels each month with my brother, I've packed meals for the hungry with my wife and daughter, and I've raised hundreds of Flags with my son and his teammates.

Rotary is an amazing International service organization made up of an outstanding group of men and women, but to me our Easton Rotary Club is much, much more ... to me it is family.



If you have not seen the new Rotary Club of Easton Flags for Heroes Flag Court at the Easton Rotary Pavilion at night, you should really try to do so. Peter Dietz said, “*When I first started with Flags for Heroes, I got goosebumps listening to all the horns honking as we were putting the flags in the ground, and I still do.*” Seeing the American flag lit at night in that beautiful setting at Idlewild Park will give you goosebumps, too. Many thanks to George Corey, Jack Anthony, and their committee for making this a reality. Well done!





*Peter M. Dietz*



In a May meeting of our club, when Buck Duncan gave us a report on the Mid-Shore Community Foundation which is housed in Easton's historic Bullet House, he noted that whenever they needed anything at Bullet House, Peter Dietz was always there to take care of it. And that's how Peter is with everything—always there. He is a true Rotarian and friend and lives the Rotary Four-Way test as well as anyone could. These are his thoughts on Rotary:

*Rotary allows me to give back to the great community that gave my family a great life in Talbot County.*

*Traveling, I always try to attend a Rotary meeting because it makes my heart feel good to see how Rotarians around the world help others.*

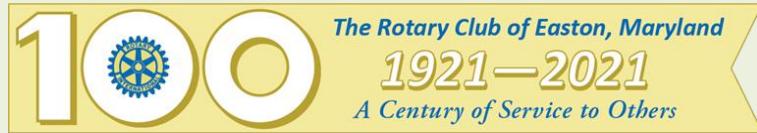
*Meals on Wheels is a boost to my psyche! I know I'm doing something good.*

*When I first started with Flags for Heroes, I got goosebumps listening to all the horns honking as we were putting the flags in the ground, and I still do.*

*I've been inspired by people like Tim Kagan, Don Osburn, the Anthony family, Jacques Baker, and so many more. They taught me what "Service above Self" truly means.*

*"Service Above Self." I love that concept because for me, that's what Rotary and life are all about.*

*Simply put, those things are just what make me feel good.*



## Resolution

The Board of Directors  
The Rotary Club of Easton, Maryland  
May 4, 2021

**Resolved:**

**Whereas** Casey Dulin Baynard has been a Rotary member in high standing,

**Whereas** she has served with distinction on the Board of Directors, shepherding the Scholarship Program and the Interact Club, both benefiting the youth of our community,

**Whereas** in the era of COVID-19, draconian government intervention has required lockdowns, social distancing, and other deleterious actions which have isolated young people and deprived them of many important milestone events, and society has all-too-easily complied,

**Whereas** Casey Dulin Baynard saw such deleterious behavior and decided to take action. Even when there was opposition, she made sure the Easton High School Class of 2021 would have a memorable, proper prom and that it would be one of those golden, milestone moments in each participant's life. To some, an event like that is not important, but they are wrong, and Casey knew it. She moved mountains to make it happen,

**And Whereas** Rotary's mission is truly about serving others,

The Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Easton does hereby recognize Casey Dulin Baynard and congratulate her for a job well done and for living Rotary's motto of "Service above Self."

George A. Hatcher, Jr.  
Secretary  
Past President, 2004-2005  
The Rotary Club of Easton, Maryland

At the May 4, 2021, board meeting, the resolution above was unanimously adopted. Please read on to learn more about how a dedicated Rotarian used Rotary principles to make a difference.



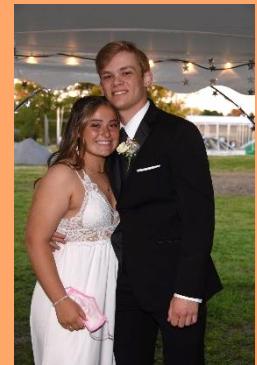
*Casey Baynard with her son, Colin, and husband, Jason  
before the 2021 EHS Prom*

### *Casey on the Easton High School Prom & More*

We have an amazing group of parents for the Easton High School Class of 2021. Since it is tradition that the parents give the seniors an After Graduation Party the night of graduation, we have been in full on planning mode for that since last July. We have had to have a “Plan A” and “Plan B,” not knowing what would be going on with COVID almost a year out from when we started. This whole year has been about adjusting and changing plans. As a parent of a Senior in the times of COVID, you see just how much your son or daughter is missing out on. I can remember back to my high school days of Friday night football games, pep rallies, Homecoming, Homecoming parades, Prom, Senior Baccalaureate, and more. We have watched our kids miss out on all those moments the last year and a half or so. So, this amazing parent group decided it needed to take action. There were some obstacles along the way, but we were tired of seeing our kids miss out on important once-in-a-lifetime events. We watched the toll isolation was having on them and decided to take action as many senior parents in surrounding counties have done. We had a “prom committee” of three of us that planned the prom, and then lots of parents that came to help set up, chaperone, and clean up. We had the site donated to us for the night from **Triple Creek Winery**, we had **4 Shore Tents** put up a beautiful open-air tent, and we threw these kids one heck of a party. The smiles on their faces were priceless! To have a group of 200 17–18-year-olds together with no issues and just having a wonderful time (finally) was truly heartwarming. If it weren’t for this amazing group of parents, these special Seniors would not have many senior moments together. We are in the process of planning a town Parade for them on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June, and then the not-so-traditional After Graduation Party this year will be held outside for the first time ever in their home football stadium. To say the parents and seniors are excited for this special time would be an understatement. These kids have been through so much in the last year, and we are going to celebrate them the way they deserve!



EHS Prom 2021





## *Casey on the Rotary Club of Easton*

I was approached by Jackie Wilson over six years ago about joining Rotary. She is my cousin, and we worked together at the time. I declined the invitation at first, thinking I was too busy with young kids to add any more to my life. After seeing the impact it seemed to have on her life, I eventually took her up on the invitation and came to a meeting. Joining Rotary six years ago was one of the best decisions in my life and has given me the best six years. That is a true statement. The people I have met in Rotary have truly been a blessing to me. The connections I have been able to make with other Rotarians and people from all parts of the community have been so valuable to me. The "Service Above Self" motto is one I try to live by every day. I feel that every single member of Rotary has that same mindset. Being in Rotary has really opened many doors for me, both personally and professionally. I truly do not feel I would be as successful as I am today if I had not joined Rotary six years ago. Rotary has enriched both my life and my family's life. I have been able to get my kids involved in volunteer opportunities and show them the importance of helping those around them and giving back to their community. I look forward to our Rotary meetings and events and consider every person in our Rotary Club a part of my family.



*Marvin Foster*

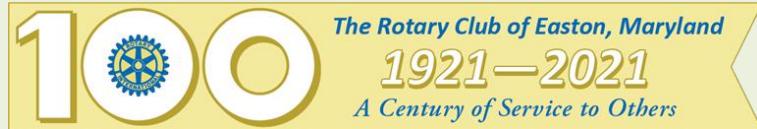
Marvin Foster is a brand-new Easton Rotarian. From the moment he first joined us- even before he became a member- he seemed as if he had always been a part of the Rotary Club of Easton. It's like Jed Anthony said in his Rotary story:

*I also remember a feeling of comfort, as I could distinctly tell that everyone I met, sat next to for lunch, or watched my Dad speak with, was genuinely happy to be at that meeting. I didn't understand at the time why they were so happy to be there and what they all really did together, but I did know that whatever it was must be important.*

“Genuinely happy to be there” and “whatever it was must be important.” That’s a great description our Rotary club, isn’t it? Well, it’s also a great description of Marvin, and here’s what he has to say about becoming a Rotarian:

*Joining Rotary for me was an accomplishment to be surrounded by many like-minded individuals when it comes to helping their communities. As a kid, I always looked forward to helping others any way I possibly could. That passion continues today seeing the levels of support in the community, so it's a no brainer that Easton Rotary was a great choice! I look forward to working with my fellow Rotarians on many different programs and keeping a positive impact in the community. I feel Rotary gives true meaning to community support. Once again, I appreciate the induction as a new member to the Rotary Club of Easton.*

What's a no-brainer is that he's a perfect addition to the Rotary Club of Easton! As Jed and Casey Baynard wrote in this issue of *The Spark*, Marvin is now family!



*Donald E. Osburn  
October 30, 1934 - May 24, 2019*

Don Osburn was a Rotarian's Rotarian. He was a friend. He cared deeply about his community and about Rotary International. He rose to the highest levels there but never forgot that the work of Rotary is done at home- locally. As we continue to move through our Centennial into our second century of Service to Others, please pause from time to time to remember the man who had as much to do with making our club what it is in modern times as anyone else. To say that we miss him is an understatement, but we will continue to try to walk in his footsteps and put "Service above Self."





## *A Debt of Gratitude*

You will note two most significant Easton Rotarians in the center of this photo. Not that the others aren't, but these two have had the sort of influence on our club that few others achieve. One of the two is wearing a white shirt and holding a poster. The other is the subject in the poster, and the advantage of that is that she was unable to talk- or talk back!

Flags for Heroes was John Flohr's idea (the Rotarian in the white shirt). Jackie Wilson (poster child!) became the face of Flags for Heroes. Together they made Flags for Heroes the most successful project in the history of the Rotary Club of Easton. Not only has it generated far and away the most money for our community, but it has also brought more people together- Rotarians and non-Rotarians alike- than anything we've ever done. In a real way, this is what Rotary is all about, and we owe John & Jackie a huge debt of gratitude. Well done!

We cannot end this year without thanking **President John** for defying the odds, not succumbing to COVID-19 fears, and not idling through 2020-2021. Despite major health concerns of his own, he put his foot on the gas and never let up. We inducted more members than at any time in recent memory. We made the Drop for Scotty Community Food Drive a success beyond our wildest imaginations- the same for Flags for Heroes- a record year. And we pushed back and met in person when it was not the "fashionable" thing to do. He showed incredible leadership and fortitude and completed a "Century of Service to Others" by the Rotary Club of Easton with a bang. John- you generated the momentum necessary to catapult us into our second century. Thank you- we'll never forget.





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

President John Flohr,  
President-Elect Reza Jafari,  
and the Board of Directors of  
the Rotary Club of Easton, Maryland  
cordially invite you to celebrate our Club's

## **Centennial Change of Officers Ceremony**

***Wednesday, June 23, 2021***

The Milestone  
9630 Technology Drive  
Easton, Maryland 21601

**6:00 PM** Cocktail Reception  
**6:45 PM** Dinner and Program

*Spouses welcome and encouraged*  
**\$30/person, cash bar**

**RSVP no later than June 15th** to George Corey  
(410) 924-4647 or [wyetreeland@verizon.net](mailto:wyetreeland@verizon.net)

## June Meetings

06 - **Larry Denton** Talbot County Historical Society

10 - **Centennial Kick Off**  
Rotary Pavilion, Idlewild Park. Bring your own chair & lunch if desired.

17 - **Easton Rotary Scholarship Winners**

24 - **Change of Officers Night** The Milestone - 6 PM

## Invocation Leaders

03 - Al Silverstein

10 - Steve Shearer

17 - John Hurt

27 - Bruce Armistead

## June Anniversaries

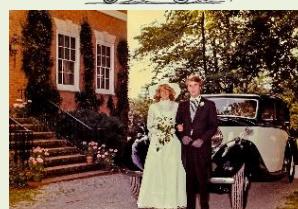
Mike Jacobs - 33 - 06-01-88  
Peter Dietz - 32 - 06-01-89  
Mike Hiner - 27 - 06-01-94  
Terry John - 13 - 06-04-08  
Nancy Andrew - 10 - 06-22-11  
Pat Fitzgerald - 10 - 06-22-11  
Patti Campen - 8 - 06-19-13  
Matt Albers - 4 - 06-22-17  
Blenda Armistead - 2 - 06-04-19  
Cliff Coppersmith - 2 - 06-20-19  
Fran Jenkins - 2 - 06-13-19  
Amy Keller - 2 - 06-13-19  
Jim Normandin - 2 - 06-13-19  
Barbara Osburn - 2 - 06-04-19  
Karen Salmon - 2 - 06-04-19  
Anne Farwell - 1 - 06-25-20



## June

02 Curry Wilford/Andrew Walsworth  
03 Tracey Johns/Albert Pritchett  
04 David Lee/Mike Kopen  
07 Caron James/Connie Loveland  
09 Peter Dietz/Bob Grill  
10 Josh Deutsch/Liz Connelly  
11 Curry Wilford/Marc Alderfer  
14 Barc Upchurch/Steve Shearer  
16 Jed Anthony/David Anthony  
17 Richie Wheatley/Mike Henry  
18 Brett Whitehead/Derek White  
21 Dana Newman/Buck Duncan  
23 Megan Cook/Anne Farwell  
24 Lonnie Green/John Flohr  
25 Brad Watts/Abby Graves/Fran Jenkins  
28 Bill Skelton/David Fike  
30 Peter Dietz/Bob Grill

Many thanks  
to Matt Albers  
for his  
phenomenal  
work with  
Flags for  
Heroes



Spark Editor  
George A. Hatcher, Jr.

## June Birthdays

07 Jonathan West

13 Mia Cranford

24 Tracey Johns

28 Ted Bautz

28 Michael Wheatley

## Spouse Birthdays

13 - Martha Wheatley

## Wedding Anniversaries

6-25-77 - Kim & George Hatcher



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 ..... 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