



Rotary Opens Opportunities

THE ROTARY FELLOE

Rotary Club of Easton, Pa., District 7430

Founded in 1915 Charter # 149

President: BJ Metz

President Elect: ????

Secretary: Ron Gano

Treasurer: Sue Worobec

Assistant Governor: Jean McGill

Holger Knaack

Rotary International President
Herzogtum Lauenburg-Mölln
Germany

Janet Kolepp

District Governor
Bethlehem Morning Star
Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Robert J. Hobaugh

District Governor Elect
Kutztown
Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

1915 - CELEBRATING 105 YEARS OF SERVICE - 2020

Meets at 12:15 p.m., Thursday (someday?) at Northampton Country Club *Vol. 2016*

Next Meeting August 13: Zoom At Noon - Mayor Sal Panto

**This
Week:**

Joker's Treasure is now \$98.00  **45**



**August 6- ZOOM at
Easton
Rotary
Social**



LAST WEEK:

Morning Star Rotarian Sue Burnett reported on the 2019 Rotaplast mission to Guatemala. Easton Rotary has a long history of supporting Rotaplast including four mission participants including Tony Petrillo, BJ & Kristie Metz, and Jean McGill. Sue explained that going to Guatemala was not really on her list to do. PDG Linda Young asked her to be on the Rotaplast committee and then she decided to go on the September 2019 mission. She was the Historian, photographer and Blog writer. Using some great photos, Sue told the story. The mission was for 13 days, to Guatemala City and it helped 114 children who had cleft lips and cleft palates. There typically are 15 missions like this each year. Our D7430 sponsors all or part of the \$120,000 costs every other year. The Rotarian volunteers pay their own way. Sue is 53 years old, speaks no Spanish, and was one of the youngest team members. The mission required a team of 16 medical staff and 10 non-medical volunteers -- eight from our district. Through a first-come, first-served process on about 200 possible, an amazing 114 surgeries were performed on children who with their parents waited in line at the Hospital overnight and some traveled 16 hours by bus to get there. Sue described the clinic screening and pre-op work followed by the 3 days of actual surgeries. There were only 3 operating rooms, no air conditioning, and they were short on sterilization equipment. To her surprise, Sue was allowed into the ORs during surgeries to take pictures. She emphasized how nice and happy the staff were the whole time. The Rotaplast program has been around for 27 years and has performed over 20,000 surgeries. BTW, many cleft palate cases need about 8 surgical procedures in their lifetime. It still is unclear what causes cleft lip and palate. One thought is the lack of folic acid in the diet. Children in Central America are six times more likely to have these problems than children in the U.S. This truly is a life changing surgery and all of the children received a handmade quilt as a remembrance of the time their lives changed. Kids born with these defects are shunned by their whole society. Sue said that near the last days they had a fundraiser and purchased shoes for every patient and for the local staff too. Planning

is under way for a 2021 mission. Already Rotarians have raised \$25,000 and another \$75,000 plus will be needed to fund this extraordinary program. For more information, contact Co-Chairs Darlene Scott dscott@cwmmeter.com or Susan Burnett burnetts@rcn.com of the D7430 Rotaplast Committee. *Many thanks to Fellow Correspondent Bill Palmer for submitting this article (Bill is a Past District Governor and Past President of Easton Rotary).*

Happy Things: *Shelley Gottlieb's* eldest son is picking up his younger brother for the family trip to Cincinnati. *Gordon Bigelow* is on the right side of the grass which is especially fortunate as he was speaking from a cemetery. *Terry Pundiak* enforces social distancing through his practice of avoiding showering. *Mike Dowd* praised the Channel 69 coverage of his Church steeple project. *BJ Metz* was happy for all the good reports about Easton Rotary at the District Changeover.

Membership Opportunity: Gordon Bigelow has stepped up to lead our membership initiative. There is always room for volunteers on this committee. Watch for electronic surveys from Gordon in coming weeks.

Welcome Aboard: We welcomed Jaimie Rzeszowski who is the new Rotary representative from ProJeCt. She reports that the literacy business is strong at ProJeCt albeit virtual. The food pantry has adopted new methods of serving customers as well.

Cap and Gown Department: *Jack Bennett's* granddaughter graduated Magna Cum Laude in Accounting from the College of New Jersey. Her twin brother graduated from Wilkes University with a 3.8 GPA in Sports Administration.

Good News Department: The District 7430 Changeover was held Monday night. Easton Rotary was recognized as a Silver level ShelterBox hero. District 7430 contributed \$71,500 to ShelterBox making us the number 1 District in the USA. Easton Rotary was also recognized for our Youth Service Awards. We also received a Silver level Club Citation. Our District grant with the Kellyn Foundation and Pinebrook Services was also recognized. Our District placed 1st in terms of membership growth compared to the other 42 Districts in our two-zone area that stretches from Philadelphia to Maine to Alaska.

Club Service: Easton Rotary elections are overdue. Open positions include President Elect, Vice President, and Board members. Please consider taking a role in the governance of our Club.

Saving smiles, Changing lives.

A dedicated group of volunteers produce quilts for the Rotaplast missions. The project is known as Wrap-A-Smile.

Every child receives a carefully selected blanket.



Important Dates :

August 18: Zoom at 5:30 2.0 Style

August 20: Zoom At Noon: District Governor Janet Kolepp

August 27: John Nanni - Polio Survivor

September 3: Evening Social at the Zoom Saloon



Rotary on the Web:

Easton Rotary: www.eastonrotary.com
District 7430: www.rotarydistrict7430.org
Rotary International: www.rotary.org



ATTENTION EASTON ROTARY:

Additions to the newsletter should be sent to B.J. Metz, Jr.; 3568 Bethman Rd.; Easton, PA 18045 (FAX 923-7415, e-mail: bjmetz@logical.ms). *Makeup Notices should be sent to: Paul Braden at 2886 Hope Ridge Drive, Easton, Pa. 18045*