



**CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD**

## THE ROTARY FELLOE

Rotary Club of Easton, Pa., District 7430  
Founded in 1915 Charter # 149

President: Gordon Bigelow

President Elect: Lynn Schoof

Secretary: Paul Braden

Treasurer: Wayne Barefoot

Assistant Governor: Kathy Heller

**Gordon McNally**

Rotary International President  
South Queensferry  
Scotland

**Diane Donaher**

District Governor  
Bethlehem  
Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

**Katie Farrell**

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

1915 - CELEBRATING 109 YEARS OF SERVICE - 2024

Meets at 12:15 p.m., Thursday *Vol. 2402*

**Feb. 8 - TBD**

**This  
Week:**

**Create Hope To Achieve  
Lasting Change In The World**



**Feb. 1**

**Rotary**  
Club of Easton



**Evening Social**  
**5:30 PM**



*Bring Your  
Own Scissors!*

# LAST WEEK:

**Last week featured** Doylestown Rotarian Carol Ferguson who is the District 7430 Polio Plus Coordinator and a Founder of the Pennsylvania Polio Survivors Network. She used her personal experience to help shed some light on this terrible disease. It is hard to picture the plight of the polio victims in the days before the vaccine. There is the terror, the loneliness, and the pain that they will never forget. Children had to be isolated from their families, often for weeks or months. Parents were left standing on sidewalks to wave to their hospitalized children. Some families needed to travel hundreds of miles to find a hospital with an open bed. The ones at home had their entire family quarantined. There was the stigma of the house being the home of a cripple. The crutches and braces needed for walking set them apart from the other kids. Eventually they learned to live with the consequences, but polio was not done yet. This is a disease that attacks again as the survivors age. Symptoms of Post-Polio Sequelae occur, on average, 35 years after the acute polio infection and may include: overwhelming fatigue, muscle weakness, joint pain, difficulty swallowing & breathing, and sleep disorders. The last outbreak in the United States was in 1979. The reason that polio has ceased to be a major problem in the USA is that vaccines work. Unfortunately, misinformation abounds, and many people are choosing not to vaccinate their children. This is dangerous because there are still places in the world where polio is active. This is particularly true for Pakistan and Afghanistan. The recent discovery of Pakistani-based polio in sewage in New York State proves that polio is only a plane ride away. Carol urged us to heed Rotary's call to action and help spread proper information about vaccinations in our community. Vaccine information packets are available to distribute to Pediatricians, Pediatric Dentists, Pre-Schools and Day Care Centers. The packets are available in English and Spanish and are available at no cost. We hope we will soon see the day when polio is



officially the second disease to be completely eradicated. No one should suffer from a vaccine preventable disease.

**Happy Things:** *Ron Gano* found a parking place. *Lew Fish* had a birthday check and a slightly larger Jack Bennett Holiday Classic check. *Terry Pundiak* was happy in secret. *Gayle Rogers* is out of the bedroom where she has been for two weeks. *BJ Metz* enjoyed Rotary beer at the Rotary social. *Audra Frank* had a guest for lunch. *Amy Korman* was back at lunch. *Carol Ferguson* was happy to be with us. *Jean McGill* reports that son Reagan is President of his fraternity.

**Rotary Politics:** The official Club election was held at the weekly meeting. President Gordon announced the proposed slate of officers. There being no new nominations from the floor, the entire slate was elected through a voice vote with no objections recorded. As of July 1, 2024 our Club officers will be: President: Gordon Bigelow (7/1/2024-12/31/2024); President Elect: Lynn Schoof (7/1/2024-12/31/2024); President: Lynn Schoof (1/1/2025-6/31/2026); Vice President: BJ Metz; Treasurer: John David; Secretary: Andrew Bogoly; Directors: 3-Year Term: Gayle Rogers, Audra Frank, Lew Fish; 2-Year Term: Mike Dowd, Paul Braden, Don Lockard; 1-Year term: Kathleen Trimble, Jean McGill, Nick Swingle.

**Service To Youth:** Easton Rotary will participate in this year's D7430 4-Way Test Speech Contest. Chair Mark Haldaman may be looking for some volunteer assistance.

**Service To Youth:** Easton Rotary has agreed to sponsor two students to the District 7430 STEM YEA Summer Camp.

**Bear News:** The annual Teddy Bear distribution will occur on February 12. We currently have about 216 Bears. This is a simple yet effective way of instantly brightening the day of the patients in our local oncology wards.

**Time For Giving:** The deadline for grant applications to our Easton Rotary Service Foundation will be April 1, 2024.

**Training Opportunities:** District Grant Training will be offered via Zoom on February 1, and February 12. We need Easton Rotarians to be certified if we want to be eligible to apply for District Matching Grants.

**Food Dept.** Thanks to Zac Chase and Tom Walton for delivering this month's load of Wegman's food to the pantry at ProJeCt.

# We Love Easton



This month's social at Weyerbacher Tap Room will feature a heart making party! It will be BYOS, Bring Your Own Scissors. We will need paper in the form of magazines, scrapbooking paper, etc. Anything to make some hearts. Scrapbooking paper and art supplies would help. A glue stick or two can be helpful. Markers, Crayons, Glitter Glue, stickers, etc. Any decorations to get creative.....

## Important Dates :

April 26-28 - District Conference at Wind Creek



## Rotary on the Web:

**Easton Rotary:** [www.eastonrotary.com](http://www.eastonrotary.com)  
**District 7430:** [www.rotarydistrict7430.org](http://www.rotarydistrict7430.org)  
**Rotary International:** [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)