

THE ROTARY FELLOE

Rotary Club of Easton, Pa., District 7430 Founded in 1915 Charter # 149 President: Gordon Bigelow

President: Gordon Bigelow President Elect: Lynn Schoof Secretary: Andrew Bogoly Treasurer: John David

Assistant Governor: Kathy Heller

Stephanie Urchick

Rotary International President McMurray Pennsylvania, USA

Katie Farrell

District Governor Warminster Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Mary Cook

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

1915 - CELEBRATING 109 YEARS OF SERVICE - 2024 Meets at 12:15 p.m., Thursday *Vol. 2427*

January 16 - TBD

This Week:



Focus On Peace







LAST WEEK:

Our meeting featured a preview of the upcoming Jack Bennett Holiday Classic Basketball Tournament. President Gordon presented the Terry Pundiak-crafted Rotary Football Trophy to Easton Athletic Director Matt Baltz in honor of the Rovers win over Phillipsburg on Thanksgiving Day. The Rotary Tournament has been a Holiday tradition for almost three decades. Easton Girls Coach Dave Lutz spoke about what a great event it is for the community. He has seen a lot of tournaments and recognizes this



one as being well-organized every year. His Rovers are 5-0 this season and looking forward to next week's action. Easton Boys Coach Eric Jacobs leads his 4th different team into the Tournament. He was a star basketball player for Easton which makes it extra special to be coaching his alma mater. East Penn Athletic Director Rebecca George has also seen bumpy roads at other Tournaments and appreciates the well-run Rotary event. 1st year Hornets Coach Avon Mack has her team off to a 6-1 start. The Freedom girls are looking to get on track after a 2-5 start and will rely on their Senior leadership next week. Nicole Sorvino Fulmer is in her second term as Phillipsburg Girls Coach. The Skyland Conference rules force Philipsburg to start later than the Pennsylvania teams so they will only have two games in which to gear up for the Tournament. Phillipsburg Boys Coach Todd Sigafoos played in the event and it is the only Holiday Tournament he knows. The Skyland Conference is geographically large so it is nice to have a short bus ride for a change. The Tournament will also feature Boys teams from the Northeast Vikings and the Abington Galloping Ghosts. A new twist this year will be the ability to tune in via a livestream broadcast available at RedRoversSportsNetwork.com. All

livestream proceeds will go to Easton Rotary. This year's program book will be all digital and available for download through a QR code. We will also be able to process credit and debit cards at the gate.

Service opportunity: The Jack Bennett Holiday Classic is here. We will need volunteers to staff the doors at each end of the school. The work is extremely easy. Please consider signing up for a shift on December 27/28. It can be chilly in the school so consider wearing layered clothing. *Slots are still open for Friday 6:30-8:30 and Saturday 2:30-5:30, 6:30-8:30.*

Happy Trails: President Gordon has officially presided over his final meeting as Easton Rotary President. He considers his service to Easton Rotary as the honor of a lifetime.

Happy Things: Gayle Rogers has trademarked being happy "just because". Mark Haldaman did a commercial for the BJ Metz Young Person of the Year Award. Lynn Schoof attended her first BIG Rotary lunch. Terry Pundiak awarded outgoing President Gordon with a magnificent wooden bowl. Audra Frank's client's bathroom is finished. Karen Hickey received her official Rotary badge (which she will misplace according to Jim Palmeri). Jean McGill is expecting Reagan and Blake for the holidays. Gordon Bigelow welcomed the representatives from the six schools that were in attendance. Jim Palmeri had happy money for each team and also threw in some loose change for Jean and Gordon. Sanju Choudhary was happy to experience a great Rotary President who took emailing to new heights. BJ Metz congratulated Jean McGill on being selected by the nominating Committee to serve as Governor of District 7430 in the 2027-28 Rotary year.

International News: The Rotary Healthy Communities Challenge, a three-year, US\$30 million program to combat disease in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Mozambique, Nigeria, and Zambia, has officially launched. Rotary International is partnering with the Gates Foundation and World Vision to target pneumonia, malaria, and diarrheal diseases, which are among the leading causes of death for young children and other vulnerable populations in these countries. The Rotary Healthy Communities Challenge aims to reach an estimated 3.5 million people in 700,000 households. It will engage communities, raise awareness about the importance of treating disease early, and improve the collection and management of data.





Unwrap the Magic of Rotary!

2025 Multi-District Conference Date: April 4-6, 2025 Location: The Hershey Lodge

Registration is now open. https://bit.ly/4cWoh3E

Important Dates:

Dec. 27, 28: Jack Bennett Holiday Classic Tournament

Jan. 1 - 12:01AM - Official Transfer Of Power!

Jan. 9: New Member Inductions



Rotary on the Web:

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