



Rotary Club of Red Hook, New York

Weekly Bulletin

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

December 22, 2020

<http://www.redhookrotaryclub.org/>
www.facebook.com/RedHookRotaryClub

Marking the 40th week of “stay at home” meetings required by the coronavirus outbreak, Jennifer Van Voorhis called the Zoom meeting to order at 8 am. Eleven club members attended including Jen, Susan Ezrati, Linda Greenblatt, Fred (and Rosalie) Cartier, Bud Weaver, Dave Wright, Carl Dowden, the Hon. Jonah Triebwasser, Chris Chale, Tim Lynch and Mike Shafer. The meeting started with the pledge, the Rotary 4-Way test and a blessing by Mike Shafer. Guests in attendance were Janet Warden, RHCS D Superintendent and Emily Mangieri, prospective new member.



Screenshot provided by Fred Cartier. Pictured by row from top left to bottom right are: Jenn, Fred, Linda, Bud Weaver, Janet Warden, Dave Wright, Carl Dowden, Susan Ezrati, the Hon. Jonah Triebwasser, Rev Mike Shafer, Tim Lynch, Emily Mangieri and on the phone, Chris Chale.

Jen started the meeting with a recap of the food pantry distribution at the Red Hook United Methodist Church over the weekend that the club volunteered for. Saturday, six Rotarians pre-packed grocery bags and Sunday additional Rotarians distributed the

bags plus donated hams and ducks to 70 Red Hook families. Jonah gave thanks for the abundance of food that is made available by local farms, grocery stores and food banks for these distributions.

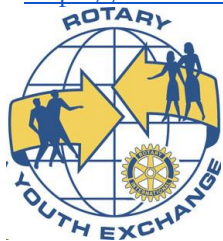
Dave Wright reported that our club foundation will be giving \$2500 to the Red Hook community center toward the purchase of a \$26,000 freezer. He reiterated his amazement at the leadership that is being provided to Red Hook Responds by Dan Budd and urged all of us to support Taste Budds, Dan's local restaurant.

Linda Greenblatt introduced Janet Warden, the new school superintendent. Janet noted that she was a native of Dutchess County and came from a family of educators. Her own start in the field was at the Astor Children's Home in Rhinebeck. Prior to taking the job in Red Hook, Janet was Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Carmel, NY, Her Red Hook experience has been special. On arrival, she moved an entire system to online learning. Today, the district is using a hybrid process that enables 50% of the students to attend in room classes. With the changing experience of the virus, it is difficult to forecast what comes next. Janet hopes to revisit the district's Mission statement. The schools need to address not only excellence in education, but equity issues in the community. Issues that become more evident with the demands of the pandemic. Emily Mangieri, mother to a Red Hook school student, spoke of being overwhelmed by witnessing the local community need at the food pantry. She told us that her son was so moved that he asked not to receive gifts at Christmas, but that rather those funds should go to feeding families. The Red Hook CSD has also been feeding students daily and on weekends since the end of March. The auditorium is nearing completion.

Linda Greenblatt noted recent Rotary initiatives to support the schools. She highlighted our support of public Wi-Fi transmission in the Rec Park. Linda spoke about Rotary's November coat drive that distributed over 250 coats in the community. Janet noted that the schools had distributed 100s of computers to help with online learning. She also noted that the student's who are now attending classes in the schools all wear masks, even those in pre-school. In part because of their diligent mask wearing, the schools are not spreading the virus.

Next Club meeting: December 29, 2020 at 8am by Zoom.

The Red Hook Rotary club currently meets every Tuesday online at 8:00 a.m. Check our website at www.RedHookRotaryClub.org or our Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/RedHookRotaryClub/>



Red Hook Rotary Club normally seeks host families for our inbound youth exchange students. During this year, due to the Pandemic, the YEX program is suspended. Watch this spot for information on its reappearance. At that time, contact Chris Chale with volunteer families

Radio Rotary

Next weekend on RadioRotary: Jackie Valcom will speak to us about the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley

Listen to Radio Rotary on WBPM 92.9 FM Sundays at 6:30 a.m. or one <http://www.wbpmfm.com/> or ask Alexa to play WBPM

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Anytime at www.RadioRotary.org

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Stitcher <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/anchor-podcasts/radiorotary>

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See our video at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rzF-3SU-UA>