

# GEAR POST

Waynesboro  
Rotary Club  
5780

July 2021

*President:* Leonard Poulin  
*President Elect:* Barrett Owen  
*Secretaries:* Sarah Paiste & Margaret Hersh  
*Treasurer:* Laurie Landes  
*Immediate Past President:* Rebecca Shin  
*Directors:* Frank Carey, Celine Reid, Tracy  
Straight and Anne Hudlow  
*Gear Post:* Francine Johnston



## WELCOME TO A NEW ROTARY YEAR

**June 10<sup>th</sup>**



### *Club Assembly*

Len Poulin set forth his ideas about the upcoming Rotary year at our Club Assembly. Starting off with the district theme “Each One Bring One” he emphasized the importance of expanding our membership in order to maintain our 96-yearold legacy. He also emphasized the importance of committee work and participation to keep the club healthy and to meet this year’s Rotary International challenge- “Serve to Change Lives”.



### *Jean Harris Award*

Maggie Van Huss presented the Jean Harris Award on June 10<sup>th</sup> to Mary Mannix. Mary has been the CEO of award-winning Augusta Health Hospital for the last 13 years. She provided outstanding leadership during the pandemic and helped to establish a vaccination clinic to serve the local community. Mary is member of the Staunton Rotary Club and her husband, Frank Carey, is a member of our club.

**June 17<sup>th</sup>**



### *Juneteenth and Local Activists*

Kayla Ross, Andrea Jackson and Alisha Jackson organized the first local Juneteenth celebration just last year. Andrea gave us some background on this national holiday, just signed into law today, and Alisha shared plans for this year. Kayla, who grew up in Waynesboro told us some of her story then described her new foundation known as “Great Hands” designed to give back to the community.

**June 24<sup>th</sup>**



### *Passing the Gavel*

Today was a day of much applause and some tears. Members shared memories of Charlie Poland who recently passed away (see below) and Rebecca reflected on her year and thanked her board of directors. She presented the President’s Service Award to Len Poulin. Then a series of video clips captured members’ reflections on working with Mary Ann Everly as club secretary over the last 17 years. Mary Ann will continue to serve the club as historian. She was presented with a plaque in appreciation of her many years of service above self. Barrett Owen was given his president- elect pin and badge. New badges were also given



to Sarah Paiste and Margaret Hersh who will replace Mary Ann as Executive Secretary and Club Secretary. Bill Watkins, who served as president in 1989, began the ceremony of passing the gavel between all the members present who have served as president up to our new president Len Poulin. Len then thanked Rebecca for her outstanding work in a challenging year and presented her with a presidential plaque as well as her past-president pin and badge. She was also given a Paul Harris Fellow Award. Len is looking forward to the next year as our president! (see more about Len below)



### **In Memoria**

Charles Poland, who was a member of our club for nearly 50 years, passed away on June 17<sup>th</sup>. He attended William and Mary College and served with the army in Korea. He moved to Waynesboro in 1957 with his wife Bobbie, working for Traveler's Insurance. He then went into law and served as Commonwealth Attorney for 28 years. He served as our club president and was involved in many other ways in the local community. Our sympathies go out to his sons and extended family.

### **Our New President**



Leonard B. Poulin (Len) has been a Waynesboro resident, business owner and downtown property owner for over 38 years. Born in Natick Massachusetts to French Canadian parents, he attended UMass-Lowell earning a degree in Business Management. He worked in the Information Technology industry for 43 year and has started several businesses of his own. Len served as the President of Waynesboro Downtown Development Inc. for 9 years. He oversaw the creation and management of the Virginia Fly Fishing Festival and the Center for Cold Water Restoration and is a member of the Foundation Board of the Virginia Museum of Natural History. In 2014 he was diagnosed with liver disease which required a liver transplant. Len is an avid golfer, sailor and lover of water sports. He enjoys history, natural resources and experiencing different cultures. He is married to his best friend and love of his life, Mary Tomes. Len has been a club member since 2001.



### ***Service at the WARM House***

Charlie Guggenheimer had a new crew to finish the landscape project at the WARM House on June 12<sup>th</sup> and they had a cooler day to do it. Weeding, trimming, and mulching were done by Meg Huebeck, Vonda Lacy, Rebecca Shin and her husband Jung-Bum. They worked for several hours under gray skies and were unfazed by periods of drizzle. Thanks for a job well done!

### **Notes from the Board**

Anne Hudlow will replace Charlie Guggenheimer as Director of Service. A donation of \$330 will go to Clark Dana (Paul's grandson) for his Eagle Scout project – a cabinet for Wayne Hills Community Center Foodbank.

