

Reporting ZOOM Meeting of 21 December 2020

Calendar of Events

Last Week: 12/14 Virtual Holiday Party

This Week: 12/21 BOD Update; Announcements;
Beth and Tom Brownell Appreciation

Next Week: 12/28 Post-Christmas Social Gathering

Coming Up: 1/04 Glen Cortese, Schenectady Symphony

Note: Regular ZOOM Meetings are held Mondays at 6:00 pm.
Check your e-mail inbox the day of the meeting for the computer ZOOM ID# and Password, as well as the phone number you can use to phone in if using your cell phone to participate.

*Please give suggestions for future programs to Dan Stec.
Find us at bhblrotary.org and on Facebook*

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities and in ourselves

Board of Directors and Other Announcements

The decision has been made to raise the semi-annual dues to \$85 from the present \$80, increasing operating funds by about \$330 per year, covering club expenses such as a 'Pro' subscription to Zoom. **Ken Crotty** pointed out that club operations are funded by Happy Dollars plus dues, less the portion of dues going to Rotary International. Considerable discussion followed about dues increases discouraging recruiting efforts. A possible fix would be for club members to underwrite the dues of new younger members. It was noted that four members are in arrears. Removal would save the club the RI assessment, but impair our membership count. **Gregg, Mike** and **Dan** will consider further. **Mary** noted that time is short; she must report the membership count to RI at the end of the year.

Beth and **Silas** are leaving the board; replacements are needed.

Those members attending the present Zoom meetings are urged to reach out to those who don't, urging their participation.

Silas reported that club investments are doing well, standing at about \$30 K, with a goal of \$50 K by the end of 2026. Earnings will help charitable programs. **Silas** is looking for a new committee chair – *someone who wants to do it.*

Maryellen has taken on the position of Scholarship Chair, a position for which she is very well suited.

The club has contributed \$1000 to the local Giving Tree, \$500 of club funds, the balance by individual members.

Gregg displayed greeting cards prepared by elementary school kids as an art project, reading captions. **Beth** suggested that a photo spread of the cards be made for inclusion in the Facebook page. **Gini** reported that relocation of the clients of the former Maplewood Manor will take months before it is closed.

Darlene has been familiarizing herself with the District-provided fund-raising platform, Event Groove, and will send out a link, suggesting that members play with it and learn its capabilities. The program is very flexible with ability to promote, sell remotely, take reservations, acknowledge gifts/pledges, etc.

Mike and **Linda** reviewed last week's Virtual Holiday Party, deemed by all to have been a great party and lots of fun.

Happy Dollars and Appreciation of Beth and Tom Brownell

Beth and **Tom** have moved to Florida, continue to participate in the Zoom meetings, but are in the process of joining another club, and cutting the tie with the Rotary Club of Burnt Hills/Ballston Lake at year end. They will be missed here, have a continuing invitation to join us by Zoom, and of course will be welcome to join us in person when opportunity presents.



Tributes were received during the collection of Happy Dollars. **Harper Schrader** displayed the first prize she won in a school art competition. **Peter Parker** is doing well and sorry to see Beth and Tom depart. **Darlene** thanks Beth and Tom for all that they have done for the club. **Gini** is grateful for their work on the website. **Alex** would be happy to send them some of our two-and-a-half feet of snow! **Mike** has had enough winter already. **Rey** has 10 boxes full of books in his basement ready for mailing to the troops – a pretty neat program. **Dan** says that it has been wonderful knowing you all these years. *Be Good Be Safe!* To which your reporter adds *Be Kind.*

Reported by Fred Bailly

*Merry
Christmas*