



JOANNE STRASSER

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ON THE WEB

www.uarotary.org

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For make up locations, check the club web site or call the make-up hotline at (614) 470-1002.



Our speaker today was **Joanne Strasser**, Vice President of Marketing and Communications, Jewish Columbus.

Jewish Columbus is part of a network of Jewish Federations in the United States. The federation system reflects an effort to organize Jewish communities around the country. The Columbus federation is the largest in Ohio – which includes organizations in Cleveland, Akron and Dayton.

Core functions of Jewish Columbus include advocacy, organizing and serving the community. The Columbus organization also has a Foundation established to help carry out Jewish Columbus' focus on charitable efforts and getting things done. Those are two underlying tenets of Jewish organizations – “Doing and Charity”. Joanne noted that Judaism is not about believing but rather about doing and charity.

There are a surprising number of Ethiopian Jews. When they were faced with starvation in the 1980's the Federation system, in keeping with its purpose, responded by airlifting 20,000 people out of the country. Another example of the Federations' activity includes the rapid organization of the 300,000

person demonstration in Washington DC calling for the release of hostages following the October 7 Hamas attack.

We saw a video entitled “Blessed and Burdened” which focused on the Jewish experience over the generations and how the community has dealt with challenges and attacks. Lighting a candle, standing strong together and not letting the light go out are the responses required.

Joanne recounted some of the history of the Jewish community experience since the establishment of the Israeli state in 1947/48 – including the war of independence in 1948 and the Yom Kippur war in 1973.

The Jewish community includes many cultures with the common denominator being a respect for the Torah.

From the Q&A session:

We learned that security around various facilities costs Jewish Columbus about \$1 million per year. This level is difficult to sustain with about 5,000 people in the organization's active database. There are an estimated 25,000 Jews in the Columbus area however.

Judaism is considered to be as much an ethnic group as it is a religion

CLICK HERE to view this meeting and all previously recorded Rotary meetings

GREETERS

December 5

Scott Emch
Ben Lupton

December 12

NA

December 19

Steve Zid
Leonard Quick

REGISTRATION DESK

December 5

J.D. Dickerson
Jim Nicklaus

December 12

NA

December 19

Dick Stone
Jeanine Hummer

CALENDAR

December 5 - Scioto CC/Zoom

Dr. Robert Hunt, Superintendent
– Upper Arlington City Schools

December 12 - Scioto CC/Zoom

No Lunch Meeting

UA Rotary Holiday Party

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

December 19 - Scioto CC/Zoom

Bob Ness & John Ness
“Legacy of an Entrepreneur”

Host: Jessica Grisez

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Submit your volunteer opportunity to herb@herbgillen.com for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Please submit your social event reminder to herb@herbgillen.com for inclusion in the Rotaryview Newsletter.

OUR NEXT MEETING

DECEMBER 5TH
Scioto Country Club/Zoom

Upper Arlington
Rotary
Club



THE MEETING



President **Andy Livingston** called the meeting to order and, after a search for someone to offer the invocation proved futile, stepped into the breach himself. He led us in the Pledge of Allegiance also.

NOTE: **Don Leach** saved this issue of Rotaryview by lending a pen to the editor after an ink crisis arose. Thanks, Don.

Jeanine Hummer asked **Jessica Grisez** to introduce her guest **Margie Pizzuti**. **Alan Yaretts** introduced two UAHS Interact members **Natalie Ness** and **Allie Gomez**.



President Livingston announced a \$6,000 grant to Santa's Secret Helpers. The club level grant reflects a decision to move away from individual member funding requests during the holiday season.

He also reminded us that there will not be meetings on December 26 or January 2.

Jim Winfree was recognized for attaining Paul Harris Fellow +2.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:



A Salvation Army bell ringer is still needed for one shift – December 8 from 7 to 8 PM.

Rick Barth noted that he would be discussing the Kennedy Assassination this evening (11/28) at UA Library's Tremont location.

Chip Knoop announced that Santa's Silent Helpers needs folks to help pack boxes of toys, gifts and food on Saturday, December 9 from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. No pre-registration is required. 4321-23 Equity Drive, Columbus 43228.

Chip also noted that there are currently no requests for the Community Service Committee to consider. The December 4 meeting will be cancelled unless a request is forthcoming. He also reported that the committee has approved requests totaling \$35,455 so far this Rotary year. The balance available for the rest of the year is \$34,555.



The club's Christmas party is Tuesday, December 12 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM at Scioto. Email invitations have been sent by **Anne Croskey**. Please reply one way or another ASAP. There will be no lunch meeting that day.

ROTARY ROUNDTABLE

Our Rotary Roundtable Speaker on December 19, 2023 will be **Ed Zirkle**. Ed is a member of the Tri-Village Rotary Club. Ed has traveled to Ukraine at least twice and will share his knowledge and photos taken on his travel there.

SORTING OUT WHERE TO CONTRIBUTE

Where do your contributions go? There are three main organizations where we as Upper Arlington Rotarians direct our Rotary giving. Sometimes it can be confusing, so here is something to hopefully help keep things straight.

ORGANIZATION	DONATION DESIGNATIONS	ADDRESS	MEMBER CONTACT	EMAIL
Upper Arlington Rotary Club	Club dues	P.O. Box 12013 Columbus, OH 43212	Peggy Concilla	concillapl@gmail.com
Upper Arlington Rotary Foundation	Annual \$250 and some other club funding requests	1704 Sundridge Dr. Columbus, OH 43221	Andy Livingston	andy.w.livingston@gmail.com
Rotary International Foundation	\$125 Club, Paul Harris and Polio Plus	244 Daniel Burnham Sq. Columbus, OH 43215	Debbie Johnson	debbiejohnson33@gmail.com