



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450

John Kenny, International President 2009-2010

Bulletin #04 www.WestChesterRotary.us July 23, 2009

This Week's Program: July 23, 2009

Speaker: Jeanne Edwards
Arranged by and introduced by
Linda Hicks

Next Week's Program: July 30, 2009

Speaker: Lorri Sarosy
Interfaith Housing Assistance Corp.
of Chester County
Arranged by: Mark Sammarone

MINUTES by Gary Hess

Freshly-minted **President Dave Rayburn** rang the bell promptly at 12:30. Dave still has that new President smell. **Jeff Sommers** provided the invocation.

Our sole visiting Rotarian was frequent flyer **Joe Kahn** from WEGO.

Mark Sammarone introduced us to his guest Doug Purdy, and **Joe Polito** followed up with his guest Rich Toland, who recently assisted Joe in presenting a safe driving program to high school kids.

President Dave had a few announcements, starting off by quoting William Faulkner who quoted Ernest Hemingway. I don't recall the quote, or any other quotes for that matter, except for a few pearls from Confucius and my dad, who oft spaketh, "that lawn ain't gonna cut itself." Dave reminded us that our next meeting will be devoted to club business, so if you need a little podium time, please email Dave. Dave also mentioned that the club is fiscally sound, but a few extra shekels in the kitty can't hurt. That said, the Big D broached the subject of a yearend Poinsettia sale and mentioned that **Jeannie McGinn** has already done some legwork and **Katie Decker** has volunteered to serve as chair. Sounds great to me...I just love the way they taste!

Joe Polito wished a happy birthday to **Joe DellaVecchia**, saying, and I quote, "he's the last guy to let you down." **Katie Decker** wished **Jean Oakes** a happy birthday. **Charles Streitwieser** followed with a birthday greeting to **Steve Quigley**, and **Sue Casso Rogers** echoed that by wishing Charles his own happy birthday.

Bob Poole kicked off the happy bucks, saying he was forgiven by **Sue Casso Rogers**. **Greg Radford** took the architectural green exam (he did look a little green around the gills) and was happy about a \$250k grant from the Ford Foundation. New member **Stuart Brooks** coughed up some green for his youngest child receiving a driver's license. **Jean Oakes** was simply happy to be alive, providing some foreshadowing for the upcoming 50/50. **Sue Casso Rogers** offered a Hammond organ to any taker, and before the word "free" had passed her lips, resident music man **Terry McGrath** had his hand in the air. The only catch is he needs to retrieve said organ from Sue's 3rd floor! If we don't see Terry for a few weeks, we'll know he's nursing a nice hernia at home.

In other announcements, Sarah Credeur asked for volunteers at the Goshen Country Fair, of which she is President. She's looking for four folks to man a booth on July 28th. Free ribbon if you bring your goat! **Chuck Swope**, pinch hitting for **Dick Yoder**, invited us to the Chesco Pops on July 19th. **Jeannie McGinn** thanked **Mark Sammarone** for upgrades to the Chili website, and said we have 27 teams, well ahead of last years' pace, thanks to the "Chili Stimulus Package." **Joe Polito** took advantage of the package to sign up the Italian Social Club, bumping the team count to 28. Who would have guessed Joe was Italian? Speaking of Joe, he mentioned that we gave our Phillies tix to the West Chester Civic Association. **Bob Frame** announced D-Day and H-Hour for the Rotary Shootout at Targetmaster. The event will be held on Wednesday evening, July 22nd at 6:30. I sure hope they serve beer there!

Jean Oakes won the 50/50. According to math guy **Al Filano**, the odds that she would win are around 17 million to one. Congrats (again) Jean!

SPEAKER REVIEW by Matt Bradley

On a hot and humid day in which the WCG&CC air conditioning decided not to work, you might think that we could do without anything "warm" in our program. But today our hearts were warmed by hearing from the four organizations doing humanitarian work in the West Chester area that are the recipients of Community Grants from our club.

Mary Beth Drobish is the Founder and Executive Director of The Barn at Spring Brook Farm, which provide animal-assisted activities for children with chronic illnesses and physical disabilities. The grant supports their summer camp program which children attend free of charge. Mary Beth told a touching story of two children who are benefiting from the program -- and from each other.

Lorri Sarosy is the Executive Director of the Interfaith Housing Assistance Corporation of Chester County, which strives to prevent/end homelessness by assisting single parents with dependents in securing housing and greater independence. The grant is supporting case management services and it is no surprise that the demand has only increased this past year. Lorri said that the most rewarding experiences for her come in seeing the success of their graduates, one of whom has recently joined their board.

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Autism Resource Center received previous Community Grants to purchase equipment that is used in the training of parents with autistic children. Executive Director Phil Duncan reported that the equipment is being used daily. This grant is supporting Friends of SPARC Scholarship Fund, which helps fund services when a family cannot fully afford them. Prof. Duncan emphasized that many families will simply cut out services when money is tight, which can be catastrophic to the child's development.

Bill Ronayne, the new president of the Senior Center board, accepted on the center's behalf a grant to purchase hospitality equipment which will allow the Center to improve their services. Bill gave a brief history of the center, pointing out that their recent move to Union Street allowed them to double the number of individuals served.

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided by **Michele Parent** of Makemie Ridge.

NEW MEMBERS

The following person has been proposed for membership and has indicated her desire to become a member:

Terry Weber - First National Bank of Chester County, Classification – Banking, Investments,
Sponsor: **Linda Hicks**

If no written objections are received by the Club Secretary within three (3) days of this notice a date will be set for her induction.

SAVE THE DATE

Oct 11 Chili Cook Off
Check out the Rotary Calendar of events at <http://www.westchesterrotary.us/clubcalendar.htm>
Add events: calendar@westchesterrotary.us

THE ROTARY CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS

President, Dave Rayburn; President-Elect, Bill Ronayne; Vice-President, Mark Sammarone; Past President, Steve Karp; Secretary, Patricia Kotsay; Treasurer, Rob Feenan; Sergeant At Arms, Katie Decker; Directors-at-Large: Bruce Beadle, Cristina Combee, Elizabeth Guman, Jeannie McGinn, Terry McGrath, Bob Rogers, Bert Volger
Al Marland, District Governor
Gary Hess, Assistant District Governor
Robert Poole, III, M.D., P. D.G. 1980-1981
District 7450

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

President: cdrayburn@aol.com
Votary Committee: Chair, Faith Woodward, 610-918-3432 fwood@bf.kendal.org; Web site maintenance, Bruce Beadle, Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us;
Committee Members: Pat Barron, Matt Bradley, Sue Casso, Victoria Dow, Elizabeth Guman, Wendy Hoffman, Charlie Lyddane, Fran Luft, Paula Ott, Cathy Palmquist, Joe Polito, and Mark Sammarone (Web site)