



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450

John Kenny, International President 2009-2010

Bulletin #09 www.WestChesterRotary.us August 27, 2009

<p>This Week's Program: August 27, 2009 Speaker: Trudy Heller, PhD Investment Opportunities In Local Green Businesses Arranged by: Ed Malet</p>	<p>Next Week's Program: September 3, 2009 Speaker: Pat McGrail Critters at the Brandywine River Museum Arranged by Dave Biffen</p>
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MINUTES by Fran Luft
President Dave rang the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. **Ken Hickman** gave the invocation a message about grandchildren.

Visiting Rotarians included Mark Bridger and Dale Yeager from WEGO and ever present John Sailing. Guests today were Megan McGinn, Megan Boltz, Dave Keifer and Bud Bruton.

President Dave mentioned the problems concerning professional football and went on to say that a referee he knew marked off a 15 yard penalty in the wrong direction and got yelled at by the Dallas Cowboys coach, Tom Landry.

On a sad note **President Dave** announced that due to business concerns **Paul Woodruff** has resigned as a nominee for District Governor. The District has accepted his resignation. **Bob Poole** noted that we should all give our support to Paul.

Charlie Lyddane wished a happy birthday to **Mel Josephs**.

Happy Bucks: **Michele Parent** (teach at Widner and WCASD); **Jeannie McGinn** (Comcast commercials will run any day now, there is a UTube link); **Geoff Baker** (There are 9 Rotary Youth Exchange students- 3 are here now); **Bill Winters** (This is the first week of school at Collegiums Charter School); Bud Bruton (Some of the Rotary monies has been given to the Veterans Viet Nam Restoration Project); **Marjorie Wentz** (son on high school soccer team, recovered from operation- glad to be back).

Terry Mc Grath reminded us of the monthly canned food drive at our regular lunch mtg. The third Thursday of every month Terry will collect our canned food and non-perishable items donations (diapers especially need) and deliver them to the Salvation Army. **Becky Cacase** announced that volunteers are needed for the Chili Cook Off. Signup sheets will be ready at next weeks' meeting. On the Chili website you can also sign up to volunteer. Chili Cook Off sheets can be secured from **Sue Casso Rogers**. Megan Boltz won the

50/50 today. She pulled her own ticket to win. The Queen of Spades is still in the pack.

SPEAKER REVIEW by Cathy Palmquist

Membership Chair **Sue Casso Rogers** inducted new members, **Terry Weber** and **Winnie Stroup**. **Linda Hicks** introduced **Terry**, a member of the administrative group at 1st National Bank and a member of the West Chester Area Senior Center board. **Sue** noted that **Winnie**, retired from IBM, was previously a Rotarian in the Rancho Santa Fe club in California.

Sue spoke briefly on the subject of why people join Rotary. They are attracted to our worthy community projects, to our broad involvement in the world, they seek fun and friendship and the opportunity to serve. Our objectives to help others, as individuals and as Rotarians, our adherence to the 4-Way Test and our connections to people from all walks of life, attract new members.

Carolyn Comitta began her classification talk by saying her husband suggested she start with a joke about becoming a big wheel. When trying to decide her classification, reflecting her life work as an educator, town planner, environmentalist or member of local government, she settled on local government. Born in Buffalo, NY, she eventually moved to Chester County. Rotarian **Bob Poole** was her family doctor; and she was active in student groups other future Rotarians. Carolyn got her special ed degree in 1974 at West Chester University and a masters at Widener, before teaching in gifted and creative education programs for 12 years in the Octorara School District.

With husband Tom, she is co-owner of a community planning and consulting business, serving over 50 communities. They are parents of a grown son, Tom, and daughter, Ann. In 1991, the family moved to West Chester. Thinking about the future her children would live in, Carolyn became involved in health and environmental issues,

particularly the World Information Transfer (WIT), a non-profit, nongovernmental (NGO) organization that works with the United Nations. In her 21 years work with this group, she has attended international conferences on such issues as world population and human settlements. She works with high schools, securing funding and grants for students to attend conferences and participate in an internship program with WIT.

Carolyn first learned of Rotary through WIT. Friend Barb McIlvaine Smith suggested Carolyn run for Borough Council. Through her council work, Carolyn has learned about democratic governance through her affiliation with the National and PA Leagues of Cities. Former Rotarian Madeleine Wing Adler, past president of WCU, urged her to run for mayor. Carolyn closed her comments with a familiar quote from Margaret Meade.

Stuart Brooks' classification talk was next. Born in Vermont, Stuart was on skis at the age of two. He commented, "I feel I've been in Rotary all my life!" Stuart's father was a Rotarian and every Sunday, club members took youngsters on ski trips and gave them lessons. Stuart was expected to go also, although he was already an adept skier. At that time, only men were allowed in Rotary and only one person was allowed per classification, he recalls.

After attending the University of Vermont for a couple of years, Stuart realized piano performance was not the life he wanted and got his degree in English, followed by an MBA from Case Western Reserve. He lived in Cleveland, OH for a few years and met his wife Mary, a Midwesterner from St. Louis. They lived in Washington DC for awhile, where daughter Betsy was born. Son Patrick attends the University of Vermont and son Teddy is at Malvern Prep. Mary is an archivist at Westtown School.

Up until a year ago, Stuart worked in his first career, retail. He loved to sell, create teams, and build leadership among his employees and co-workers. He was in charge of 100 retail stores for 19 years, traveled all the time and realized he had missed a number of important times in the lives of his family. The compromise to the travel was that he planned great family vacations - he had been everywhere and knew the best places to go!

Wanting to be back with his family, he retired from retail, but wanted to continue to help people develop their talents, and teach leadership skills to top, midlevel and upcoming leaders. With those objectives in mind, he acquired the Taylor Group a year ago.

So, why did Stuart seek out Rotary? His father's influence was primary and his club was

active and dynamic, like our club. His wife, Mary, knows everyone in town, while he knows no one. Lastly, when he was doing a search for corporate real estate, he met Rotarian **Chuck Swope**, who has a big heart and has family ties to Rotary himself. "The more I'm here, the more I want to be involved," he said in closing.

We are happy to have such interesting and active new members as Terry, Winnie, Carolyn and Stuart join our club!

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided by **Patty Jefferis** of Whirlaway Travel.

ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE BENEFIT

A Charity Sporting Clays Tournament will be held October 8, 2009 at M & M Hunting Preserve 2 Winslow Road, Pennsville, NJ. Proceeds benefit the Harry C. Rosenberg Scholarship for Rotary Youth Exchange For more information contact: MelanieSmith@suretybond.com or 610-688-9100

SAVE THE DATE

Oct 8 Benefit for Rotary Youth Exchange
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

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Committee Members: Pat Barron, Matt Bradley, Sue Casso, Victoria Dow, Elizabeth Guman, Wendy Hoffman, Charlie Lyddane, Fran Luft, Cathy Palmquist, Joe Polito, and Mark Sammarone (Web site)