



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450

John Kenny, International President 2009-2010

Bulletin #15 www.WestChesterRotary.us October 8, 2009

This Week's Program: October 8, 2009
Speaker: Bill Ronayne Chili Cook-Off Part 2
Arranged by Bill Ronayne

Next Week's Program: October 15, 2009
Speaker: District Governor Al Marland
Arranged by Dave Rayburn

MINUTES by Victoria Dow

President Dave rang the meeting to order at 12:30. **Irvie Hoffman** ended up giving the invocation after a short mix-up. Irvie read a prayer written by Benjamin Jenks (1646); Irvie had the prayer from former club member Steve Trimble.

Visiting Rotarians today were Joe McLaughlin and Adrienne Masak-Rozier. Special guest was Sid Rabin.

Several members brought guests. **Charles Streitwieser** introduced his wife Leslie. **Adi Masak-Rozier** brought along Meyer and Louise, both from South Africa. **Charlie Lyddane** introduced Frank Pancoast, who is in the membership pipeline. And **Chuck Swope** introduced Bob McComsey and Barbara Balmar. **Bill Ronayne** brought along Tom Mann also in the membership pipeline.

Pres. Dave had a nugget concerning Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur: evidently one can transgress in the nine days between and atone right away. There was a note from **Jeannie McGinn** assuring everyone that the weather for 10/11 will be great. The District Conference for 2010 will take place May 8-13; it will take place on a cruise ship to Bermuda. Information is available online from our club website.

There were a number of Happy Bucks. **Jeff Sommer** was happy for his son's latest three goals. **Pat Costanzi** was happy for all the donations and help for the upcoming Art of Caring Auction. **Michele Parent** was thrilled to finally be able to announce a Ladies Night to be held at the Italian Social Club on Oct 5 – **Joe Polito** may not attend. **Jim Langer** was happy his little daughter announced she wanted to sleep in "her own bed." **Gary Hess** was happy for a golfing success. **Craig Kalemjian** was, and is, happy for his daughter's success and her life: Sid Rabin got her to breath at birth, thus saving her life. Sid Rabin was happy for 15 grandchildren and 2.5 great-grandchildren. **Terry McGrath** requested a song from Sid – and got one: we all joined Sid in "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" in honor of the Phillies. **Joe McLaughlin** from the Haverford club

announced that his club will again be selling bouquets of roses for \$20/dozen the week of November 9. **Joe DellaVecchia** announced that the funeral home outsourced nothing any more: they now have their own crematory.

Announcements followed that dubious Happy Dollar. **Linda Hicks** said that the Henderson HS Interact Club is in need of an advisor in order to stay in business. Please contact John Schwab if you are interested. **Matt Schwab** announced the Rotaract Club's Dine About for Thursday evening, 6 to 9. Tickets are \$25 for a great menu featuring seven courses. Ticket pickup is at the Wealth Management Office of 1st National Bank. **Frank Helms** is still looking for two more reading volunteers.

Adrienne Masak-Rozier introduced Meyer and Louise who are working with AIDS orphans in South Africa. Meyer explained that he and Louise have started an organization called Hope Village to help the foster families who take in these orphans, children whose parents have died of AIDS. South Africa has the highest incidence of AIDS of any African country – about one quarter of the population is infected with the HIV/AIDS virus. Through Hope Village they intend help the foster families and orphans by building houses to get the families out of the shanty towns, providing economic support through jobs creation in a leather manufactory and other similar enterprises, and finally providing social help such as training in parenting skills as well as extra-curricular activities for the children. They are here in the states to look for and create partnerships in support of Hope Village. They will contact their local Rotary Club as soon as they are home!

SPEAKER REVIEW by Cathy Palmquist

Craig Kalemjian, who has often given the preview of Chester County Day, introduced this year's presenter, Pat Mehok, a member of the Chester County Hospital Auxiliary in Kennett Square. By way of background, **Craig** reminded us that Chester County Day is always the first

Saturday in October, has been held since 1936 and is the oldest continuously operated house tour in the country.

Pat, a retired math professor from Immaculata University, noted this is the 69th year for the tour and is the largest fundraiser for the Chester County Hospital. Every homeowner has a story to tell, she said, as she gave highlights of the tour. Grove Hollow's center rooms were built in 1752. It has 5 fireplaces and was added onto in the 1830s, 1939 and 1947. Folkstone, a wedding gift to a family's daughter, was part of the Underground Railroad system and is now a charming bed and breakfast. Sugarbridge Farm was built in 1750, with additions in the 1800s and 1970. It has a walk-in fireplace and is owned by a notable author who uses the barn for parties.

A 1730s saltbox, fieldstone house features an interesting collection of fabric animals. Added onto in 1990, it includes a waterfall, patio and pergola. Tour goers will enjoy seeing the Gibbons Covered Bridge originally built in 1872 and rebuilt in 1997. The Ashbridge House, built by the Baldwin family, is now owned by the Downingtown Historical Society. The well-known Downingtown Log House, built in 1705 by John Hickman, is also owned by the Historical Society which did extensive renovations and relocated it to its present site.

The Sycamores features two homes. Access to the second home is through the upstairs bedroom of the first home. Seventeen layers of paint were removed before the owners got to the original milk paint. The idea of special dolls made there in 1939 was sold to FAO Schwarz. Also on the tour is a 220-year-old home with a spring running under the kitchen and a quaint dining room. Duck Hill Farm, circa 1792, features three working fireplaces, old farm tools and lovely grounds. Rocky Creek Farm, a log cabin built in 1695, contains many American antiques. Added onto in 1970, the home features tables, cabinets and other work working done by the homeowner. Jailhouse art is on display.

Hibernia County Mansion reflects the lifestyle of a wealthy Philadelphia lawyer. Amish workers did most of the work on a home built in 1991 to look historic, which features a pig theme throughout. Other stops on the tour include the one room Edgewood View School House, a church in Gap, whose cemetery contains the remains of the founder of Coatesville, Hopewell Furnace and a

winery. A total of 33 homes are featured in this northwestern quadrant tour. Those who want to experience the whole event can start the day with the fox hunt at 8:30 a.m. With another perfect weather day expected, the Chester County Day tour is sure to please its visitors!

EXCHANGE STUDENT Amedea Garella – Italy

Host Parents: Dave Breen and Cyndi Skripak
229 Forest Avenue Elkins Park, PA 19027
Home: 215-885-5195 Cyndi: 215-316-1431

THANK YOU

Copies of the Volary are provided by **Faith Woodward** at Barclay Friends.

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



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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, Cathy Palmquist, Joe Polito, and Mark Sammarone