



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450

John Kenny, International President 2009-2010

Bulletin #22 www.WestChesterRotary.us December 3, 2009

This Week's Program: December 3, 2009
Speaker: Josh Olmstead
Brandywine Ballet
Arranged by Ed Malet

Next Week's Program: December 10, 2009
Speaker: Jeff Sommer
Rotary Foundation
Arranged by Jeff Sommer

MINUTES by Faith Woodward

President Dave opened the meeting and **Wendy Hoffman** gave the invocation, "Why I Believe in God" an insightful poem by a third grader.

No Visiting Rotarians were present.

Guests: Brian Schreffler with **Marjorie Wentz** ; Christine Lorgus with **Wendy Hoffman**, And Sue Breslin with **Sue Casso Rogers** (and **Michele Venema!**)

President Dave announced that **Becky Cacace** had a healthy, 7 lbs. 1.5 oz, baby boy, Ryan Maxim Cacace on 11/9/09.

No Happy dollars!

Gary Hewitt announced that nominations for board members and a Vice President are still open. At the next meeting he will announce the slate of nominees but anyone can nominate someone on the day of announcement. The three Past Presidents who make up the committee would prefer that nominations were suggested before that moment.

Katie Decker reminded all that poinsettia orders are due by November 30. We still need more orders. There will be no more meetings before the pickup dates of Dec 1 and 5. Remember that on-line orders are also accepted!

Jack Wintermute asked for volunteers to ring the bells for Salvation Army. This one-hour commitment is well appreciated by the Salvation Army.

Dick Yoder announced the semi-annual blood drive December 10, 10:30 AM to 3 PM at Borough Hall. During the holiday season, we often get near an emergency situation for blood.

Jim Langer presented the Student-of-the-Month awards to Victoria Reidinger and Justin Nicely from Henderson High School and to Dillon Flanagan and Holly Grum from East High School.

The 50-50 was won by **John Schwab** but he found no queen of spades.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Elizabeth Guman

Charlie Lyddane introduced our distinguished speaker today, former U.S. District Attorney, Pat Meehan. Mr. Meehan served in that office from 2001 to 2008, overseeing an office of some 200 lawyers who handle all the civil and criminal federal cases in Philadelphia and eight other southeastern Pennsylvania counties. One of the most well known cases that Mr. Meehan handled while in office was the prosecution of one of the state Senate's most powerful figures, outgoing Democratic Sen. Vincent Fumo.

Mr. Meehan began his talk telling us the story of how he started as U.S. District Attorney. He was the District Attorney for Delaware County and had been nominated for the national office, but was waiting approval by the Senate. Six days after the September 11 attack, he received a phone call one morning saying he had been approved, that he needed to

immediately resign, and to be in the city in an hour and a half for a briefing with the FBI and other agencies.

The next few days included a visit to the Pentagon that was still smoking from the attack and then a visit to the bowels of the World Trade Center. Pat shared with us a conversation they had with the Attorney General who was wrestling with the question of what he could have done to prevent the attack and challenged the incoming U.S. District Attorneys to ask how they can use their role to "make sure it will never happen again". Thus the job changed from only dealing with issues of people who have committed crimes to also considering how to prevent future terrorist crimes from happening.

Pat finished his talk with a discussion about the current issue in the news of the Attorney General Eric Holder's decision to hold a civilian trial in Manhattan for Khalid Shaikh Mohammed. Mr. Meehan explained the differences between a military tribunal and a civilian trial and expressed his reasons for strongly disagreeing with Holder's decision.

Dave Biffen opened the floor for a few questions and then thanked Mr. Meehan for his service to our state and to our country.

CONDOLENCES

Arlene A. Hewitt, mother of **Gary Hewitt** (club Past President), passed away on Friday November 20th.

On behalf of the Club, our prayers go out to Gary and his family.

SAVE THE DATE

Dec 1 & 5 Pick up poinsettias
Dec 10 Blood Drive @ Borough Hall
Check out the Rotary Calendar of events at <http://www.westchesterrotary.us/clubcalendar.htm>
Add events: calendar@westchesterrotary.us

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided by **Victoria Dow** of the West Chester Public Library.

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

POINSTETTIA SALE



Pickup between 10 AM and 2 PM, Dec 1 or 5.

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, P. D.G. '80-'81 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