



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450

John Kenny, International President 2009-2010

Bulletin #23 www.WestChesterRotary.us December 10, 2009

This Week's Program: December 10, 2009

**Speaker: Jeff Sommer
Rotary Foundation
Arranged by Jeff Sommer**

Next Week's Program: December 17, 2009

**Forty-Niners
Holiday Music Program**

MINUTES by Fran Luft

President Dave opened the meeting and **Charlie Lyddane** gave the invocation, a prayer for our military, by reading the Navy hymn.

No visiting Rotarians were present.

Guests: Will? Christine Wildaur, Rabbi Sue Greenberg, Frank Pancoast, Rick ?, and Josh, Jamie and Katelyn from the Brandywine Ballet.

Jeffery Sommer extended birthday greetings to **Terry McGrath**, **Linda Hicks** wished **Terri Weber** a happy birthday and **Steve Quigley** extended birthday greetings to **Greg Radford**.

Announcements: **Jack Wintermute** asked for two volunteers at both sites for 7- 8 p.m. This one hour commitment is well appreciated by the Salvation Army.

Joe Polito passed around two "Thinking of You" cards for **Joe DellaVecchia**, as he is in hospice.

Dick Yoder announced the semi-annual blood drive December 10, 10:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Borough Hall. Time slots are still available. Please consider donation blood.

Bob Connolly announced that Westtown School will be hosting Rotary on New Year's Eve. This will be the last time Bob will join us for Rotary as he has accepted a position at Millbrook School in Hudson, New York.

The Rotary membership voted in the Rotary board and officers starting July 1, 2010. They

are as follows: President **Bill Ronayne**, President-Elect **Mark Sammarone**, Vice-President **Cristina Combee**, Past President **Dave Rayburn**, Secretary **Patricia Kotsay**, Treasurer **Rob Feenan**, Sergeant-At-Arms **Katie Decker**, Directors at Large: **Bruce Beadle**, **Elizabeth Guman**, **Sue Carr**, **Jeannie McGinn**, **Terry McGrath**, **Bob Rodgers**, **Bert Volger**.

The 50/50 was won by **Rob Feenan**, but he did not find the queen of spades.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Matt Bradley

For many people, the Christmas season traditionally includes The Nutcracker. We are fortunate in the West Chester area to have the Brandywine Ballet, which presents its 30th anniversary production of The Nutcracker later this month. We learned more about the production and the company from Josh Olmstead, Marketing Coordinator and Grant Writer for the Brandywine Ballet company.

Josh treated us to a video of the "Dance of the Snow Queen" from a past performance -- truly an example of art and beauty in motion.

The Brandywine Ballet was founded in 1979 by Artistic Director Donna Muzio to showcase the talent that was coming out of her dance school. There are now two companies: the Brandywine Ballet Company, which is for pre-professionals in their teen years, and the Brandywine Ballet Theater, which is for professional dancers and draws professionals from around the country. The facilities in West Chester include three studios, a pilates studio,

offices, props and costume storage, and a quiet room where dancers can rest and work on homework. Many graduates are accepted into schools and companies across the country.

The company has developed media partnerships with County Lines Magazine and online with WestChesterDish.com, and has been featured in Dance Magazine, Main Line Today, and the Evening Bulletin.

In the second part of the program, two veterans of the company, Jaime Lennon and Caitlin Oeste, gave a presentation of basic movements and answered many questions about their background, experiences, practice schedule, and professional prospects. Kudos to the brave and agreeable **Faith Woodward** for volunteering to try the positions. She was heard to say something about hip surgery as she returned to her seat.

SAVE THE DATE

Dec 10 Blood Drive @ Borough Hall
Dec 12 Ring Bells for Salvation Army
Check out the Rotary Calendar of events at <http://www.westchesterrotary.us/clubcalendar.htm>
Add events: calendar@westchesterrotary.us

MEMBERS' PASSING

It is with great sadness that we have learned that Rotarian **Joe DellaVecchia** passed away early Sunday morning, December 6. Joe had been a member of our club since 1989 and was sponsored by **Joe Polito**. Please keep his family in your prayers.

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

POINSTETTIA SALE



Thank you **Katie Decker** for all your work for the poinsettia sale! The plants are lovely and helped to kick-off this new fundraiser for our club. We are also grateful to the Chester County Art Association for allowing us to use their exhibit hall for flower pick-up. For an added bonus, West Chester resident John Supplee had a fantastic show of his works depicting various places in the borough and the county.

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