



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450

John Kenny, International President 2009-2010

Bulletin #24 www.WestChesterRotary.us December 17, 2009

This Week's Program: December 17, 2009
Forty-Niners
Holiday Music Program

Next Week's Program: December 24, 2009
TBA

MINUTES by Cathy Palmquist

President Dave Rayburn opened the meeting and **Jeannie McGinn** gave the invocation, a humorous story in memory of **Joe Della Vecchia**, who passed away this week and always liked a good story.

Katie Decker introduced two visiting Rotarians.

Chuck Swope introduced his guest, David ?, and **President Dave** gave a brief reflection by George Bernard Shaw.

Bob Frame called up **Clifford DeBaptiste, Elizabeth Guman, Jim Smith, Rich Kauffman, Katie Walker, Bunny Welsh and Ralph Freed**, and we sang Happy Birthday to them.

Jack Wintermute gave us good and bad news – 37 members have signed up to ring the bells for the Salvation Army, but there are still three slots left. Please contact him if you can help. **Chuck Swope**, reporting for **Mayor Dick Yoder**, announced the cancellation of the blood drive due to a strike by union workers helping the Red Cross.

Elizabeth Guman reported that due to the assimilation of all the new members, she now needs occasional helpers to staff the check-in table on Thursdays from 11:45 to 12:30, and **Terry McGrath** reminded us to bring canned foods to next week's meeting.

Michele Parent introduced the new Career Enhancement Program to assist Rotarians, their families and friends who have been affected by job layoffs. The program, which will feature "Needs and Leads" each week, will begin in January.

Sue Casso Rogers, membership chair, introduced new member **Winnie Stroup**, who gave her classification talk. **Winnie** began by

saying as she gets older it gets easier to summarize her life. A Rotarian from San Diego, she moved here 15 months ago. Although she is originally from Wilmington, DE, her parents moved to West Chester when she was in college, so she feels she is "coming home" to West Chester, where her mother and siblings still live.

Winnie got a degree in Philosophy at Manhattanville College in New York and went to work for IBM, where she stayed for 26 years. She worked mainly in the New York metropolitan area and settled into marketing, mostly PCs. When the company made changes, she was offered a generous retirement package, took it, then went to work in Boston. After a time, she was again offered a great retirement package, took it, and went to San Diego with her (then) husband.

This job involved working in and learning about the juvenile justice system. Then, she became the executive director of the San Diego Chamber Orchestra, which surprised her mother who said **Winnie** was the least musical of all her children. She organized the office of this non profit and learned how challenging the work of non profits is. When she retired this time, she moved "home" to West Chester.

Winnie first joined Rotary in San Diego, "for the wrong reasons;" she joined because her predecessor had joined. Like most Rotarians, she became passionate about the projects. Her favorite, providing water to the Sudan, became particularly important when her club and a New York club joined to work together.

When she moved here, she planned to "shop around" at different clubs, but felt so at

home with our club, she stayed. And aren't we glad she did!

Lastly, **Tom Spackman** won the 50/50, but the queen eluded him.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Wendy Hoffman

Jeff Sommer, Rotary Foundation Committee Chair

Jeff gave an informative, inspiring and (as always) entertaining pitch for the Rotary Foundation. The ultimate question is not WHY we should support the Rotary Foundation, but rather is this a good time? We all know that Rotary does great things – whether it's through our efforts to eradicate Polio, the water project in Kenya or sending medical equipment to Mexico. We may not be able to save the world or even complete all of these projects in our lifetime, but the Rotary Foundation teaches our children to "believe in possibilities". Jeff used his wealth of knowledge of English literature to quote from C.S. Lewis, Dr. Seuss's "The Lorax", as well as conversation between Ebenezer Scrooge and Marley in "The Christmas Story". (I couldn't write fast enough to get it all, but he did take the opportunity to poke fun at Jack – who as always, was a good sport). The bottom line is that we have a vehicle to effect change in small ways...through our Rotary Foundation. Just like in Ebenezer Scrooge's world where his motto was that "whenever you have an opportunity to interfere **for good** in a human matter – use it before it's lost forever".

At the close of the meeting, Jeff handed out envelopes to all Rotarians with information on how to contribute to the Rotary Foundation.

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

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

SAVE THE DATE

Dec 17 Canned Food Drive
Dec 31 Meeting at Westtown School

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

NEW MEMBERS

The following persons have been proposed for membership and have indicated their desire to become members:

Tricia Johnston- Daily Local News;
Classification: Newspaper Advertising.

Sponsored by **Jeannie McGinn**

Sue Breslin- Neighborhood Health Agencies;
Classification: Senior Care.

Sponsored by **Sue Casso Rogers**

Tom Mann -All Event Party Rental;
Classification: Party & Equipment Rentals.

Sponsored by **Bill Ronayne**

Frank Pancoast- Pancoast and Clifford;
Classification: Commercial Construction.

Sponsored by **Charlie Lyddane**

If no written objections are received by the Club Secretary within ten (10) days of this notice a date will be set for their inductions.

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