



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450

John Kenny, International President 2009-2010

Bulletin #39 www.WestChesterRotary.us April 8, 2010

This Week's Program: April 8, 2010

Speaker: Dr. Jame Scalon

WCASD

Arranged by Dave Biffen

Next Week's Program: April 15, 2010

Speaker: Jim Smith

Gundaker Foundation

Arranged by President Dave

MINUTES by Fran Luft

The Meeting was called to order by **President Dave**. **Cristina Combee** gave the invocation. **President Dave** gave the Rotary club sad news. Long time Rotarian, **Amos Bassett** passed away, March, 26, 2010. A memorial service will be held April 11th at 1 p.m. at the United Methodist Church in West Chester. Our condolences go out to his family.

The lone visiting Rotarian was Yoko from the Sunrise Rotary Club. Guests at today's meeting included Cory Collins and Scott Schaeffer. **Linda Hicks** extended birthday greetings to **Andrew Stump**.

Happy Dollars: **Bill Gotwals** (Received good comments on the fruit from our sale. Thanked **Cristina Combee** and **Elizabeth Guman** for doing a great job.), **Ken Hickman** (Has secured a job with the CC Court System and would like to thank **Paula Ott**), The Sunrise Rotary Club will be honoring **John Schwab**. The banquet will be held at the Ridley Country Club, April 24th. Tickets are \$75.00. **Cristina Combee** (Thanked **Bill Gotwals** for his kind words, The Rotary Fruit Sale check presentation will be held April 22nd. We made our goal. A check will be presented for a little over \$10,000), **Paul Woodruff** (Kenya Project), **Charlie Lyddane** (Kenya project and going to Annapolis M.D. to present a check in the amount of \$1,000 for their book project), **Gary Hess** (Glad to be back in West Chester after taking his daughter to look at colleges in New England.), **Jim Langer** (Ran marathon), **Debbie Sparre** (3rd daughter going to private college), **Michele Parent** (Her brother fine after taking him to the hospital with chest pains), **Faith Woodward** (event held at Barclay Friends with help of two Rotarians, **Tom Mann** and **Sue Breslin**).

Christina McCawley announced that

nominations are need for the Honorary Rotarians. To date only one nomination has been submitted. This individual cannot be a current Rotarian, has to contribute and be active in the community.

Jack Wintermute announced Rotary Night at the Blue Rocks is scheduled for Monday May 24th. This is a date change. New tickets are needed if you have already purchased a ticket. See Jack.

Wednesday, April 14th is Rotary Target Shoot. This will be held at 6:30 pm. The cost is \$40.00. See **Bob Frame** if you wish to attend this event.

Carolyn Comitta pulled the 50/50 ticket. The winner today was **Christina McCawley**.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Cathy Palmquist

Matt Bradley introduced David Elderkin, president of the board of the Kennett Symphony of Chester County by telling of the partnerships and children's programs that West Chester Friends School has enjoyed with the symphony.

Founded 70 years ago as the Kennett Symphony Orchestra by Kennett Square residents, Dr. Duer Reynolds, a physician, Ray Lyman Ott, music teacher, and some amateur musicians, it added "of Chester County" to its name in 1996 to include West Chester. It converted to all professional (paid) musicians in 1987 and hired Mary Woodmansee Green as music director and conductor the next year. Rotarian Jack Yeatman joined the symphony board in 1996.

The symphony's mission is three-fold: to present symphonic music through five subscription programs, to provide opportunities for young artists, and to educate young audiences. The subscription programs provide eight concerts: at West Chester University's Asplundh Hall, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, which has an acoustically superior space, a holiday concert at

Kennett High School auditorium, in the Longwood Gardens Open Air Theater and at Lincoln University International Conference Center, which has a spectacular 1,000 foot concert hall.

The Opportunities for Young Artists program sponsors three competitions each year, junior, instrumental and vocal, at Kendal, which involves youth from middle school through college age. While the winners get small cash awards, the most exciting part is the winners perform with the symphony during the next season.

Educating Young Audiences is conducted through three, free, family concerts, featuring a one hour program of children's music and then an opportunity to go on stage and meet the musicians, an "instrumental petting zoo", Elderkin calls it. The second part of the education program is the Children's Chorus, now in its 20th season, which involves 85 children from kindergarten through high school in four ensembles.

Elderkin said 70 percent of the symphony's funding comes from foundations, corporations and supporters; 30 percent comes from ticket sales. While the musicians are paid, their jobs with the symphony are not full time, so most teach private lessons, direct music programs in schools, etc to supplement their income.

Saying that symphonic music is a "heavy thing," Elderkin says they are looking for ways to take symphonic music out to the people. With school music programs suffering cutbacks in funding, they are also looking for alternatives to using the schools. Noting that the typical audience is folks 55 years or older, the symphony is taking smaller ensembles to different venues to connect to people where they are located. For example, the symphony has reached out to the large number of Hispanics in Kennett Square through La Comunidad Hispana, to residents in Oxford through connections at Lincoln University and to senior centers.

The symphony has recently started working with Art-Reach, a national program that connects arts providers to community organizations and has been expanding into the Brandywine Valley. For additional information about this musical gem in Chester County, check their website.

BLUE ROCKS

Due to a conflict the Rotary Night at the Blue Rocks is changed to: Monday May 24th.

If you already have a ticket for the old date please return to Jack Wintermute and receive a ticket for the new date.

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided today by **Bill Ronayne** of Brandywine Valley Heating and AC., Inc.

SAVE THE DATE

April 8 Board Meeting
April 20 Career Support Meeting
May 15 Community Philanthropic Grant applications due.
May 15 Rotary help at May Fair at CCH
May 24 WC Rotary Night at Blue Rocks
Oct 10 Chili Cook-Off

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

Add events: calendar@westchesterrotary.us

COUNTY HOSPITAL MAYFEST

The 27th Annual Chester County Hospital Mayfest will be held this year on Saturday, May 15th. Our Rotary Club will run the Chicken Fingers and Fries booth as we have done for the past several years. I will be asking for volunteers shortly; so if you have a favorite shift please let me know in advance.

Here is a link to more information about the Mayfest Event.

<http://www.westchesterrotary.us/forms/mayfest10.pdf>

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

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: Mark Sammarone and Bruce Beadle Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us; Committee

Members: Pat Barron, Matt Bradley, Elizabeth Guman, Gary Hess, Wendy Hoffman, Charlie Lyddane, Fran Luft, Cathy Palmquist, Joe Polito, and Sue Casso Rogers.