



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450

John Kenny, International President 2009-2010

Bulletin #44 www.WestChesterRotary.us May 13, 2010

This Week's Program: May 13, 2010

Speaker: Dr. Nancy Loane

Following the Drum:

The Women of Valley Forge

Arranged by Dave Biffen

Next Week's Program:

Rotary Day

Arranged by President Dave

MINUTES by Sue Casso Rodgers

President Dave rang the bell at 12:25. The invocation was delivered by **Frank Helms** reminding us to appreciate life. **President Dave** asked us to vote on an issue from the District concerning incorporation of the district. This does not adversely affect the clubs and adds protection of the officers. The document was drafted by past and future leaders of the District and approval was recommended by our board. The vote was in favor.

There were no visiting Rotarians. Guests were **Tom Spackman's** son, Randall, **Bob Frame's** future father-in-law and **Emily Barber**, prospective Rotarian. Additionally there were several unannounced prospective Rotarians - **Cory Collins, Scott Schaffer** and **Glenn Fricke**.

Happy Bucks - **Pam Costanzi** was happy that her son is graduating from college, has been accepted to a Masters Program with a stipend and they are going on vacation together. **Jim Langer** was happy to have completed a long distance run, **Cory Collins** was happy to be going to a Blue Rocks game. **Mark Sammarone** reminded us to sign up for the volunteer work at the Chester County Hospital May Festival, **Bill Ronayne** announced that we have our first Chili Team - the 49'ers and he was happy that his hockey team won a Silver Medal.

Bill Ronayne wished a Happy Birthday to **Dave Rayburn, Steve Quigley** wished Happy Birthday to **Gary Hewitt** and **Faith Woodward** wished Happy Birthday to **Carol Hanson** through song.

Jack Wintermute reminded us of the Blue Rocks game on May 24. **Steve Quigley** announced that he is in charge of the Fitness Challenge Committee and is looking for committee members and volunteers to work at the Senior Center Run/Walk on May 22. **Dick Yoder** asked

us to participate in the annual Blood Drive at Borough Hall on June 3. **Jim Langer** reminded us about the "Scoot Boot" - if you have to leave a Rotary meeting early, please put a donation in the boot which will help the Student Scholarships.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Warren Callaway

Bob Frame introduced today's speaker, our own **Bill Winters**. Bill is originally from Ohio and attended Stanford University. After five years in the Marines he joined Scott Paper Company while remaining active in the Marine Reserves. Following twenty years with Scott Paper, Bill joined the effort to open Collegium Charter School (www.ccs.us) in 1999. Confirming his wife Doreen's assertion that his considerable experience makes him "old as dirt", Bill limped to the podium due to an undisclosed recent injury.

Bill explained that charter schools are public schools that operate under the governance of their own board of trustees. They are funded with tax dollars but at 80% of the per capita expense of public schools. Additionally, charter schools must fund their capital expenditures out of the operating budget in contrast to public schools which float bonds for facility construction. Starting with the old Bishop Shanahan facility as their first building, Collegium has developed its three facilities at a cost of \$17,000 per student, compared to \$90,000 per student for capital expenditures by the West Chester district facilities.

Charter schools total 1.5 million students nationwide; there are 140 charter schools in Pennsylvania, most are urban. Collegium is an exception being in a suburban setting. Legal issues plagued the opening of the school in 1999; there were only 39 students in the first class. This year there is a waiting list of students wanting to attend; there are 1,635 students in attendance. Students are a cross-section of the population, reflecting the racial, ethnic and socio-economic makeup of the

public school system. Even though 14% of the students in attendance are "special needs" students, overall test scores are similar to public school average scores; the school meets the Annual Yearly Progress goals for "No Child Left Behind." The largest graduating class numbers only 20.

Students enjoy a one hour longer school day and a longer school year resulting in 27% more classroom time than public schools. Beginning in kindergarten, students focus on Spanish, language arts, computer science, music and art, reflecting a well rounded curriculum. Students are prepared to excel in writing and grammar.

Collegium's teachers work without contracts, are not tenured, are paid less than their public system colleagues, yet are dedicated, committed to their students and are compensated for performance based on student scores and parent comments. All teachers are certified. Teachers are willing to work for less salary due to the superior work environment.

Bill answered questions from his fellow Rotarians: parents are expected to volunteer two hours per month of their time; when the school moved between facilities, all work was accomplished by parent volunteers. Students are accepted by lottery; 52% are from Coatesville, 25% are from West Chester. No tuition is charged and 92% of budget is from local revenues, while 8% comes from state and federal sources. Fundraising is only a small component of operating revenue.

Bob Frame thanked Bill for an informative presentation.

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided today by **Jeannie McGinn** of McGinn Marketing Works

SAVE THE DATE

May 15 Rotary help at May Fair at CCH
May 17 Philanthropic Grant apps. due
May 24 WC Rotary Night at Blue Rocks
June 3 Blood Drive
June 24 President's Gala
Oct 10 Chili Cook-Off

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

Add events: calendar@westchesterrotary.us

EXCHANGE STUDENT

Amedea Garella – Italy

Host Parent: Sally Steed

1332 Wheatsheaf Lane, Abington, PA 19001

Home: 215-576-5055 Cell: 215-901-2402

pstead@comcast.net

NEW MEMBERS

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

Scott Schaffer, Executive Director- The Second Mile; Classification: Non-profit Youth.

Proposed by **Dave Rayburn**

Cory Collins, Business Development- Superior Benefit Plans; Classification: Benefit Plans,

Proposed by **Mac Neilon**

Sandi Carr, Branch Manager- Citizens Bank; Classification: Banking.

Proposed by **Terry McGrath**

Debbie McDowell, VWR Scientific; Classification: Sales Scientific Product.

Proposed by **Sue Casso Rogers**

Emily Barber, Dir. of Communications Vision Quest; Classification: Non-profit Youth.

Proposed by **Sue Casso Rogers**

Glenn Fricke, Executive Director- Safe Harbor Classification: Non-profit Shelters.

Proposed by **Greg Radford**

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.

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, Warren Calloway, Elizabeth Guman, Gary Hess, Wendy Hoffman, Charlie Lyddane, Fran Luft, Cathy Palmquist, Joe Polito, Sue Casso Rogers, Winnie Stroup, Terry Weber, Marjorie Wentz .