



# ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Bhichai Rattakul, International President 2002-2003



**Bulletin #25**

[www.rotary7450.org/westchester](http://www.rotary7450.org/westchester)

**January 16, 2003**

<p><b>This Week's Program: January 16, 2003</b>  <b>Fruit sale Kickoff for</b>  <b>Center on Hearing and Deafness</b>          Arranged by John Olszewski</p>	<p><b>Next Week's Program: January 23, 2003</b>  <b>Chester County Hospital</b>  <b>Cardio Vascular Center</b>  <b>Speaker: Dr. Verdi J. Disesa</b>          Arranged by Tim Phelps</p>
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## **MINUTES by Faith Woodward**

The invocation was given by Vernon Brewer. Visiting Rotarians announced by Judy Ray were, John Saling and Mary Mosley both from GWC Sunrise.

Guests present were Marietta Lamb Mawby (with Paula Ott), Pam Blankley (with Irvie Hoffman, Betty Silfer (with whom?), Somebody Davies and John Messersmith (with Carl Werner) and Jackie Close (with Dad Andy).

Alan Elko wished Linda Antonowich a Happy Birthday.

Finemaster, Jack Wintermute got some cash from Andy Close for being unsure of where his daughter works and Phil charged John Schwab for not being able to pronounce John Olszewski's name (yeh, but can you spell it, Phil?).

Steve Karp announced a raffle of a Richard Bollinger print to benefit Polio Plus. The print is worth \$650 and chances are \$10 each. The drawing will be February 26.

Don Stonestrom would like your e-mail address to cut costs for printing and mailing the Votary each week. We have 92 members who have not divulged their addresses. If you have one, please fess up.

Peacemakers has only reached 56% of its goal according to Carol Hanson. Since up to now 38% of the membership has given, she will be calling the rest to see if you might donate even \$10.

The Pot of Gold was won by Wes Firkin. But the grand finale was a rousing chorus of "Fly Eagles, Fly" by Steve Karp our Director of Esthetics. Our singing must have made all the difference to the Eagles.

## **SPEAKER'S REVIEW by Faith Woodward**

Paula Ott introduced and arranged the program on Balanced and Restorative Justice. Due to confidentiality for the youths involved, not much

is known about the Juvenile Court system by the public. Balanced and Restorative justice aims to help both the community and the youthful offenders. Judge Ott and Marietta Lamb Mawby support this program and are working to educate the community over the next two years.

Three individuals involved in the Juvenile Probation office presented the power point presentation, Diana Munson, Michelle Harris Alexander, and Reggie Wade.

To be involved in the Juvenile Justice System, a youth must have been charged with a crime and be between the ages of ten and twenty-one. The Juvenile Prbation Opffice has approxameately 1400 open cases. Thirty Probation Officers handle these cases, taking on 1200 new referrals each year.

After an arrest, if the youth is referred to Juvenile Probation, he or she under goes an interview to learn about the background, school involvement, and family situation. The recommendation from the Probation Officer will depend on how cooperative the youth is and how seriously he or she takes the crime. There are six levels of dispositions. Less serious crimes will result in a warning, counseling, and dismissal. First time offenders who don't require going to court will receive an informal probation. A consent decree will require more supervision but still no court time and will expire in 6 months. Probation, Placement, and Certification are the next levels.

Rationalization of the Juvenile Probation System has greatly helped the community and youths. West Chester School District is joined by Unionville and Downingtown to form the eastern Region. With this division, there is better organization, increased efficiency, and a better understanding of the community where the offenders live.

School-based Probation clients are seen three times a week in 6 of the 12 school districts in Chester County. This system leads to better academic performance, decreased discipline problems, and better school attendance.

Youths in the program are involved in ways to make amends to the victims of their crimes and are directed to take steps to rectify the harm they have done. They are encouraged to treat their required volunteer work as a job so that they learn job skills, social skills, teamwork, and career possibilities. Educational lectures are required as well. The Community Service Program provides juveniles a chance to feel like they are a part of the community. Peak crime hours (3-6 PM weekdays and 9 Am to 2 PM Saturdays) are targeted for volunteer work. They can develop good relationships with responsible adults and by feeling more connected to the community will be less likely to repeat crimes. The Hickman has been very pleased with this program.

Students from WCU meet with young offenders between the ages of 10 and 14 two times a week for an 8-week period. This mentoring program has been so successful that other counties want to replicate it. Young offenders learn how to apologize by role playing. They also come to understand how their actions affected others.

The Rotary Club can provide opportunities for community service as The Hickman does. In fact a group from the Juvenile Probation program helped us with our "United We Walk." We were very pleased with how they organized and ran the games to entertain children younger than they. Rotarians can also provide opportunities for offenders to learn more about our occupations, provide scholarships for educational and/or recreational activities, and participate on the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee. Its next meeting is Wednesday, March 12 at 8 AM at the Hazlett Building on N. Walnut Street.

#### **GUNDAKER BENEFIT**

On Thursday, March 6, at 8:00 PM, Rotary District 7450 is hosting a presentation of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' at the Media Theatre for the Performing Arts. This event is the Rotary District Party with any profits going to the Gundaker Foundation. Tickets are \$30 each and are available now in a limited supply. See Gary Hess for tickets.

#### **EXCHANGE STUDENT**

**Gustavo Giacomini** - Palhoca, Brazil  
Hosts: James and Linda Hicks  
1072 Glenn Hall Rd. Kennett Square, PA 19348  
610-347-2134  
Unionville High School  
Future host families are needed.  
Please contact Joe Polito or Linda Hicks

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#### **READ ROTARY ON-LINE**

[www.rotary7450.org/westchester](http://www.rotary7450.org/westchester)

**"A Night at the Campus Theatre"**  
**Thursday, February 20, 2003 ~ 8 p.m.**  
**(reception 6:45 p.m. at Tanglewood)**

***The Laramie Project***

***Pre Production Reception:***

6:45 p.m. hosted by  
President Madeleine Adler and Dr. Fred Lane  
Tanglewood Residence – West Chester  
University Campus  
Tickets \$8.00 per person

For more information and/or ticket purchase  
contact Mell Josephs

610-436-2955

At Rotary Meetings

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#### **"HOW TO GET IN TOUCH"**

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