



# ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Bhichai Rattakul, International President 2002-2003



**Bulletin #36**

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

**April 3, 2003**

**This Week's Program: April 3, 2003  
Wilmington Blue Rocks  
Speaker: David Brown  
arranged by Jack Wintermute**

**Next Week's Program: April 10, 2003  
The 64th Senior PGA Championship  
Speaker: Jason Soucy  
arranged by Tim Phelps**

## **MINUTES by Bruce Catando**

As per the new schedule, the meeting started promptly at 12:25 PM. Martha Carson-Gentry gave the invocation.

Visiting Rotarians were introduced by new member Steve Riley. Joining us today were Joe Kahn(WEGO), Mary Mosely(GWC Sunrise), and past district governor Paul Osomo. Guests introduced were Mac Neilon by Tim Phelps, and Shell Wiedemeyer by Gary Hess.

Birthday greetings today were extended by Jeff Sommers to Dave Wood.

Sue Casso announced that the auction will be 05/03/2003, which is a Saturday. She gave some ideas for donations and wondered if anyone would be interested in advertising in the program. Gary Hess, on behalf of the Gundaker Foundation, is looking for donations for the foundation. Sixty dollars per person would be GREAT start.

President Carl wanted to remind us that we have a joint meeting with the Lions club on April, 24. And FYI, The presidential citation has been submitted, and we are waiting to hear.

The Pot-O-Gold this month is for the West Chester Public Library. The \$24 pot this week was won by Steve Karp. He did not pull the right spade for the big one.

## **INDUCTIONS**

The following people were inducted in our club:

**Pamela M. Blankley**, Bank manager for First Union/Wachovia; Classification- Banking/ Commercial. Sponsored by Irv Hoffman

**David C. Rayburn**, Financial Advisor for American Express; Classification- Business/ Financial Advisor. Sponsored by Pete Thompson.

**Shannon Cassidy**, Mediation Consultant; Classification-Business Service/Mediation; Sponsored by Deborah Ellenberg

**Karen Busby**, Executive Director Of Chester County Opportunities Industrialization Center; Classification:Education/Adult-Administration; Sponsored by John Hall

Bob Poole welcomed the new members and reminded us all how sorely they are needed in our challenged world today.

## **SPEAKERS REVIEW by Victoria Dow**

As a follow-up to today's inductions, we heard two excellent ("Brevity is the soul of wit") classification talks.

First up was **Bill Burke**, whom **John Hall** and **Paul Woodruff** introduced to Rotary. Bill is a long time Chester County resident, having arrived here from Broomall when he was nine. He currently lives in East Vincent with his wife, two sons, several each of horses and cats, and one hard-headed Golden Retriever.

His parents moved to rural Chester County, "the wilderness," to raise steers and chickens and other farm animals, a life that sounds ideal for a nine year-old. Bill recounted that when his father told him there'd be lots to do, Bill thought that would be just fine. Little did he know he was signing on for post-hole digging, mowing, and building construction and destruction on the farm. However, he learned to work hard and enjoy the sense of satisfaction that comes after a day's honest work.

As to his profession, Bill maintains he's a fly fisherman who suffers a career in order to feed his passion. He is a transactional lawyer, that is, he takes represents clients in business transactions, the sale and purchase of businesses, and in commercial real estate deals.

Bill went to Dickenson for his law degree and later earned an MA in taxation. He found early in law school that he wasn't interested in litigation, so he got into transactional law.

**Andrew LaRosa** also grew up in Chester County, in Exton when it was still a rural place. Andrew attended Salesianum, and then went on to Villanova for a degree in accounting, and then to Widener for an MA in taxation (is there a theme here today?).

Andrew was active in sports in high school and also at Villanova. Unfortunately, he injured his knee in his senior year at Villanova and so was discharged from the NROTC, to his great disappointment. At that point he had to rethink his career. His father, an accountant, suggested he become an – accountant. His brother is also an accountant; his mother teaches mathematics. One sister is a Lieutenant in the Navy; her husband is serving in Saudi Arabia and the family is working hard to keep her spirits up. Andrew's other sister lives locally and works as a Civil Engineer.

While at Villanova, Andrew was active in ÁÔÙ where he formed many lasting friendships. He was also involved in various service projects. Two of his most memorable adventures he had in the company of his sister Renee. They visited Yosemite Park and climbed Half Dome one afternoon; on another occasion they bicycled across Alaska. He claims his legs have not recovered from either adventure.

Andrew started his career with a large accounting firm, but quickly realized he preferred working in a smaller firm. He finished his MA and then moved back to Chester County where he enjoys working with entrepreneurs, assisting them in navigating the tax code.

Just recently married, Andrew and his wife enjoy golf and time at the beach. Interestingly enough, his wife is also an – accountant.

**Ken Hickman** introduced Andrew to Rotary, an organization Andrew says intrigues him. He is impressed by the level of involvement he sees and the opportunity for service. His life goals are to own his own business, run a marathon, raise a family, and make a contribution to Rotary and the community.

Welcome to Bill and Andrew.

## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

April 24- Joint Meeting with the Lions  
May 3- Spring Auction @ William Bunch Auctions  
May 20 - W.C.Community Night at the Blue Rocks  
June 2 District 7450 Golf Outing  
June 5 - Rotary Club of West Chester in the Cafe @ the Blue Rocks.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS - THE ROTARY CLUB OF WEST CHESTER - DISTRICT 7450**

Carl Werner, President; Charles Streitwieser, President-Elect; Steve Quigley, Vice-President; Jeffrey R. Sommer, Past President; Jim Gasho/Amos E. Bassett, Jr., Secretary, M. Robert Clarke, Treasurer; Steve Karp/Annalie Lorgus, Sergeant At Arms; Phil Sacks, Assistant Sergeant At Arms; John Hall, Gary Hewitt, Carol Hanson, Ken Hickman, John Olszewski, John Schwab, and Michelle Venema  
Dan Guyon, District Governor  
Thomas Gibson, Asst. District Governor Area 8  
Robert Poole, III, M.D., P.D.G. 1980-1981

## **EXCHANGE STUDENT**

Gustavo Giacomini - Palhoca, Brazil  
Hosts: Eric and Carol Metzker  
1109 Forsyth Lane,  
West Chester, PA 19382  
610-793-4286

Please invite Gustavo to outings with you!

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

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