



## ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Bhichai Rattakul, International President 2002-2003

Bulletin #43

[www.WestChesterRotary.us](http://www.WestChesterRotary.us)

May 22, 2003



**This Week's Program: May 22, 2003**

**Wellness**

**Speaker: Deborah Ellenberg**

**arranged by Lil Georg**

**Next Week's Program: May 29, 2003**

**To be announced**

### **MINUTES by Bruce Catando**

The invocation today was given by Sue Casso. Visiting Rotarians were introduced by Frank Helms. John Saling (Sunrise), Joe Kahn (WEGO), Dick Dudek (Lasalle, IL), Steve Pahides (Paoli- Malvern-Berwyn), and Chris Feryo (Bala-Narberth) joined us today. Gary Hess introduced his guest Steve Titus, and Amos Basset introduced Patty Dean as his guest. Birthday greetings were extended from Joe Della Vecchia to Cliff DeBaptiste, and from Bob Frame to Joanne Tadeo.

There were several announcements. Jack Wintermute reminded all about Rotary night at the Blue Rocks. The Blue Rocks will be playing the Kingston Indians on Thursday, June 5. Cost is \$30 per ticket for the game and festivities. Steve Riley is looking for volunteers for the GLEANING program. This includes food bank pick ups. Gary Hess, Gundaker director, presented Paul Woodruff with a Gundaker Foundation plaque. Carol Metzker reminded all that the Polio donation cans were at the lunch tables. For as little as sixty cents a child can be immunized against polio.

Finally the Pot-O-Gold was won by Alice Thomas. However the Queen of spades is still out there. Joseph's People is this month's recipient.

### **SPEAKERS REVIEW by Joe Polito**

The program for the meeting was a report by the Honorary Rotarian Committee arranged by Chairperson Jean Oakes. Jean noted the designation of someone as an Honorary Rotarian was the highest award the club can make to a non-Rotarian individual. She reviewed The Four Way Test and motto "Service Above Self" and indicated that those chosen would basically be for meritorious service in furtherance of the ideas of Rotary.

Jeanne noted the two recipients Msgr. Thomas P. Craven, the Pastor of St. Agnes Church and William H. Dean Jr. retired Editor of The Daily Local News. Jean then introduced Msgr. Thomas Craven. Born in 1928 in the hard-coal regions of Pennsylvania, his grandparents were immigrants from Ireland. In 1941 the family moved to Philadelphia where he graduated Roman Catholic High School as valedictorian and voted the most likely to succeed. After High School, he entered St. Charles Borromeo Seminary was ordained in 1956. He was first assigned in Puerto Rico for a year. He returned to Pennsylvania and was named Assistant Pastor at St. Mary's Church in West Grove where he spent 4½ years. The next 24 years were served in Philadelphia in the Hispanic Catholic neighborhoods. In 1982 he was named a Monsignor and in 1986 came to St. Agnes Church, a parish of 3,500 families, to serve as its Pastor. Jeanne noted the greatest expansion program occurred during his term as Pastor for St. Agnes Parish. She noted the new buildings erected, but specifically programs such as the Day Room for men and women in need of assistance where meals and clothing are made available five days a week. Another program is the Nurse's Center staffed by volunteer nurses and physician providing emergency care to anyone needing care on the Church or School property. He has been an integral part of the West Chester community and an advocate between the Catholic faith and other faiths. He has appeared in various churches in the community either as a guest or part of a special service. He has served as Pastor of St. Agnes for 17 years and officially retires June 1, 2003.

Msgr. Craven thanked the Rotary for making him an Honorary Rotarian and thanking us for the service we rendered to the community. He then favored us with one of his many good jokes "Jonah and the Whale." Amos Bassett then introduced Bill Dean. He noted that Bill was a life long resident of West Chester and that his father, William H. Dean Sr., was one of the Charter members of The West Chester Rotary Club.. Bill started his career at The Daily Local News by writing sports reports during his high school years which laid the foundation for his subsequent career. Upon graduation, he entered the US Army Air Force Air Cadet Program. He then enrolled at West Chester State Teachers College and subsequently transferred to Colgate University receiving a BA 1950. At Colgate he was Sports Editor for the campus weekly "The Maroon". He was President of the honorary Journalism Fraternity. He returned to West Chester and became employed at The Daily Local News remaining there until retirement in 1986. In 1971 he succeeded Henry L Briton as fourth Editor since its founding in 1872. Many of those who worked under him at The Daily Local News went onto higher positions in the news world. Amos noted that Bill has always exemplified Rotary's mottoes "Service Above Self" and "He Who Serves Best, Profits Most". Amos also noted that Patty, Bill's wife for over fifty years, was with us. Bill thanked Amos and Jean Oakes for the recognition as an Honorary Rotarian. In looking around the room he noted "a room full of community activists who improve the quality of life in our community". He thanked West Chester Rotary for its many good works over the years. HE brought with him a photograph taken at our 50th anniversary dinner on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1971, a photo of the six surviving members of the 23 charter members. Bill also noted that he consider his designation as Honorary Rotarian to be even more rewarding since he was able to share it with Msgr. Craven. He asked us to continue the good work and noted that the community of West Chester is better because of The West Chester Rotary Club. Jean Oakes ended to program by reminding everyone of RI's theme this Rotary year "Sow the Seeds of Love".

*Note from Webmaster: The photograph circulated at today's meeting for our archives. A copy can be viewed on the web page at <http://www.WestChesterRotary.us>.*

**"HOW TO GET IN TOUCH"**

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

June 2 District 7450 Golf Outing  
 June 5 - Rotary Club of West Chester in the Cafe @ the Blue Rocks.

**ROAMING ROTARIANS**

Clifford DeBaptiste                      Downingtown  
    WE-GO x3

**EXCHANGE STUDENT**

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

**GUNDAKER FUND DRIVE**

As of April 24, one month into the campaign, various members of our club have contributed a total of \$1,645 to the Gundaker Foundation. This is an excellent start! So far, 20% of our members have made contributions...our goal is for 100% participation. Over 90% of the money given to Gundaker stays within our District to support a variety of bcal programs run by Rotarians. We welcome contributions of any size, so please, consider a donation to this excellent non-profit Foundation.

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

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