



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Glenn Estess, Sr., International President 2004-2005

Bulletin #07

www.WestChesterRotary.us

August 12, 2004

This Week's Program: August 12, 2004

Classification Talk

Speaker: Clint Wiggins

Arranged by: Tom Varley

Next Week's Program: August 19, 2004

District Governor's Talk

Andrew Pendleton, DG

Arranged by: Steve Quigley

MINUTES by Faith Woodward

After **President Steve** opened the meeting, **Jim Gasho** gave the invocation.

No Visiting Rotarians were present.

Guests were introduced by **Don Stonestrom** and **Andy Stump**.

Happy Bucks were given by **Paul Woodruff** and **Mike Alfonsi**.

Ken Hickman informed us that Brian's Run will be December 5th at WCU. **Duncan Smith** is the fundraising chairman. As the race entry forms income usually covers the cost of the race, it is the corporate sponsors who actually raise funds. Legg Mason will be giving \$5,000 less and Exxon Mobil nothing so we will be \$15,000 short at the start. The goal is to raise \$40,000. Ten new sponsors of \$1,000 are sought to help attain this goal.

President Steve shared some Rotary correspondence he has received. June 18-22, 2005 will be the 100th Rotary International celebration. November 5-7 will be the District conference at Valley Forge Crown Plaza. September 14 will be Charter Night for a new club in Philadelphia. Check the web site for all the details.

50-50 winner was Ray Deering but he won not the \$1065 in the grand pot. The beneficiary of the proceeds is Chester County Mothers of Multiples.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Faith Woodward

Jim Gasho introduced our illustrious speaker,

Vernon Brewer. He described Vernon as persistent, a 30-year member of Rotary, a member of First Presbyterian Church, and the object of some woodchuck story.

Vernon was born at Kendal, well anyway on his grandfather's farm that is now Kendal. It was the Depression and the family had to move back to the farm but in 4th grade, Vernon moved to Miner Street in West Chester and joined the Everhart Park gang. "It was a great town to grow up in," he proclaimed. Why, he killed rats over where the kitchen for WCU is now and he saw famous people like Claude Raines.

The movies were a central part of growing up in West Chester. There were three movie houses. One where he saw comedies, cartoons, and Roy Rogers movies, and a chance to win a bike. The Rialto had rerun double features, and the Warner with great architecture, could hold 1,200 people. The air conditioning was installed for a large full room and was usually too cold - bad for the air conditioning business.

B. Reed Henderson, Principal of the high school made a big impression on Vernon. He seemed to know everything that went on, even the time Vernon played hooky and reported it to his mom. He got 5 points off each grade for the classes missed.

After high school, the big decision was which branch of the service to join. Vernon and his friend chose the Navy Air Corps. It took three times before he passed the test. Cadets needed recommendations from their Principals and Vernon thought he was

doomed after that hooky episode. He was surprised that B. Reed actually wrote it for him.

The Navy sent him to college at Franklin and Marshall for four months, then kept extending it to a total of 12 months. He later learned the Navy was back-logged in case the atom bomb didn't work. Phew!

After the war he returned to F & M and went out for dramatics. He did well with summer stock in Long Island. Here he met Sarah Churchill, Winston's daughter, and she was just great. Vernon decided to keep drama as a hobby and at amateur theatre at Longwood, he met his wife-to-be. They had five children, three boys and two girls. Two of his sons now run his business. His other sons is a principal in Delaware, one daughter is an executive at Johnson & Johnson, and the other daughter sells quilts. He has 14 grandchildren. His children have done well and one son did particularly well in football. Vernon even watched him play football in Tokyo.

After 32 years of marriage, Vernon's wife died of cancer. This was a rough time but he felt welcomed back into Rotary after a break. His youngest son later introduced him to a widow and they have been married for twenty years now. Although she lived beside **Irv Hoffman** and **Jack Wintermute**, neither of them thought to introduce her to him!

Neighbor **Sinc Adam** asked Vernon to join Rotary and Jim Latta convinced him to join to meet people other than those he would have met through his business. Vernon admits he's met many great people.

"HOW TO GET IN TOUCH"

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SAVE THE DATE

Sept. 26 International Student Picnic
@ West Chester University
Oct. 10 Chili Cook-Off
Nov.5-7 District Conference

POLIO UPDATE

Polio immunization resumes in Kano, Nigeria

By Vukoni Lupa-Lasaga
Rotary International

Nigeria's Kano State ended an 11-month boycott of polio eradication activities with the start of Subnational Immunization Days on 31 July. Governor Mallam Ibrahim Shekarau signaled the state government's change of heart by administering the oral polio vaccine to his own children at the official launch of the five-day event in Takai, 100 kilometers (62 miles) from Kano City, the state capital.

Traditional rulers, state government officials, Rotarians, and representatives of the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#) partners were among the throngs of people who attended the launch.

See www.rotary7450.org for the entire article.

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