



**SERVICE Above Self**

# ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar, International President 2005-2006

Bulletin #10

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

September 8, 2005

**This Week's Program: September 8, 2005**  
**Induction - Bert Volger**  
**Classification Talks**  
**Speakers: Bob Crow & Mary Lou Jennings**  
**Arranged by Tom Varley**

**Next Week's Program: September 15, 2005**  
**Chili Cook-Off Gala**  
**Speakers: Jeannie McGinn and Jim Gasho**  
**Arranged by Jim Gasho**

## MINUTES by Elizabeth Guman

**President Gary** opened the meeting. **Cristina Combee** offered a moving invocation dedicated to the victims and those working in service of Katrina.

We had one visiting Rotarian –dave Moldoff (WEGO) and 5 guests. We had two children: Chelsea, **Mark Sammarone's** daughter and Elizabeth, **Carol and Eric Metzker's** daughter. Two new exchange students were with us: Ginny who is hosted by the Metzkers and Vlad who is hosted by **Bill Hess**. Three other guests included Laura Dallas-Beuford, Lisa Howard and Katie Walker.

**Joe Polito** wished **Raoul Pagin** a happy birthday and **Sue Casso** wished **Cristina Combee** a happy birthday. Happy bucks were given by **Bob Crow, Geoff Baker, Jerry Alfonso, Carl Warner, Steve Quigley, Howard Johns, Joe Polito, Carol Metzker** and **Annalie Lorgus**.

Gary had lots of good announcements for us. First, he is receiving information about where Rotarians can send checks for the Katrina relief effort and will let us know as soon as he gets it. He asked us each to check our listing in the online directory as the updated printed directory will be published soon. He encouraged us to attend two upcoming events: the International Student Picnic on September 25 and the Membership

Development and Rotary Foundation conference on September 17. On October 2 two GSE teams will be arriving in our district, from Israel and Mexico, and there are hosting opportunities. And there will be a celebration for a new club opening in Glen Mills.

**Frank Helms** announced that the Reading Program will be getting underway soon. If anyone would like to set a good example for kids by reading 20-30 minutes a week to 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students, see Frank. **Sue Casso** told us about the Barclay Festival of Gardens on September 10 from 10-3. Sue and Bob's town garden will be on the tour and the proceeds go to Barclay's horticultural therapy program. **Jeanne McGinn** updated us on the Rotary Cook-off, including that WCOJ has offered free advertising and interviews (listen Friday mornings from 8-9). And **Bob Frame** urged us to help him reach our goal of 60 cooking participants, we are now in the high 40's. Volunteer opportunities will be forthcoming shortly.

**Jerry Alfonso** won the 50/50 and drew the Queen!

## SPEAKER'S REVIEW by Faith Woodward

Our speaker, Carolyn Davis from the Inquirer editorial board, was introduced by Jessica from WCU (she helped with the project on Washington Street).

Carolyn has been studying the effects of violence on children in Uganda throughout

their 19-year war. She shared copies of her extensive article written for The Philadelphia Inquirer in the May 2005 issue entitled "Until There is Peace in Uganda..."

The war in Uganda has been between the government and a self-proclaimed prophet, Joseph Keny. He has no political aims and making peace efforts extremely difficult. He has taken 50,000 children as his recruits right off the streets by kidnapping them and making them sex slaves and soldiers.

Information can be found at [www.ugandacan.org](http://www.ugandacan.org). There is a petition that we can sign for the US to help resolve the conflict in this war-torn country.

The children are kidnapped when they are 5-8 years old. Carolyn showed photos of a young girl whose lips were cut off as punishment. The children gather into the cities for protection at night so they won't be kidnapped.. These "Night Commuters," as they are called, number in the thousands and gather in courtyards, hospitals, or Save the Children shelters. Some centers bring in teachers to help the children with their homework. They sleep on sacks from food shipments or on nothing at all.

Some children have been abducted for 8-9 years and have been forced to kill relatives to divorce them from their former lives. Many children are in refugee camps. 75% of their supplies come from the World Food Program but the rest they are expected to provide themselves with nowhere safe to grow food. The food distributions centers can be 3-4 hours away and many have to travel in the unsafe darkness of night to get there.

The Concerned Parents Association is trying to increase awareness of these problems. One young girl was burned in a fire caused by the rebels. She has had 8-10 surgeries over 5 years to repair the damage to her face. A hospital in the US is being sought to help her. According to the United Nations, this is one of the ten most ignored crises in the world.

Please sign petitions to help these children or contribute to their aid.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

- Sept 17 Rotary Training at Delaware Community College 8-12:30
- Sept 25 Rotary International Student Picnic at WCU 5-7PM
- Oct 9 Chili Cook off
- Oct 28- 30 District Conference at the Racquet club in Philadelphia

### **EXCHANGE STUDENTS**

**Virginie Bregeon** (France) Henderson  
Host Family - Harvey and Shannon Hicks  
414 Oakland Dr  
Downingtown, PA 19335  
610 524-4277

**Sebastian Velez** (Ecuador) East HS  
Host Family - Ted and Alice Lenthe  
627 Beaumont Circle  
West Chester, PA 19380  
610 430-0898

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

P. Gary Hewitt, President; Annalie Korengel-Lorgus, President-Elect; Gary Hess, Vice-President; Steve Quigley, Past President; Patricia Kotsay, Secretary; Victoria Dow, Assistant Secretary; M. Robert Clarke, Treasurer; Steve Karp, Sergeant At Arms; Mike Alfonsi, Assistant Sergeant At Arms. Board Members: Vic Abdala, Bob Frame, Joe Hamel, Rich Kaufmann, Carol Metzker, Bill Ronayne, and Joanne Tadeo.

Bob Lankin, District Governor  
Robert Poole, III, M.D., P. D.G. 1980-1981

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

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Mark Sammarone, Vice-Chair and Web site maintenance. Committee Members: Jane Blandy, Elizabeth Guman, Seamus Lavin (Web site), Fran Luft, Eric Metzker, Cathy Palmquist, and Joe Polito