



SERVICE Above Self

ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar, International President 2005-2006

Bulletin #33

www.WestChesterRotary.us

February 23, 2006

This Week's Program: February 23, 2006

ACEER/Rainforest

Marguerite Gould & Roger Mustalish

Arranged by Steve Quigley

Next Week's Program: March 2, 2006

To be announced

MINUTES by Faith Woodward

President Gary opened the meeting and **Matt Bradley** read a passage from "A Quaker Book of Wisdom."

Mike Alfonsi introduced Visiting Rotarians Pat Barron (Concordville-Chadds Ford) and Bronwyn Martin.

Guests were Shannon Royer with **Steve Quigley**; Bob Hall with **Lee Bunting**; Amy Quinn with **Annalie Korengel-Lorgus**; Mark Bettrando, Diane, Kyle, Andrew, and Erica with **Rick Dunlap**; Dan Callahan with **Jerry Alfano**, and Brad Barron and Dave Pressley with **Joe Polito**.

Mike Alfonsi wished a Happy Birthday to **Joe Polito** as did **Steve Founds** to **Carl Werner**, and **Chuck Hawkins** to **Mark Sammarone**.

Happy Bucks were from **Martha Carson-Gentry** for Bull Terriers one won the Dog Show, **Steve Godsall-Myers** for their new minister Gwendolyn King, **Carol Metzker** for **Steve Karp's** helping her walk again after shoveling snow, and **Joe Polito** for **Demetri Cidis** who performed eye care for an Olympic athlete.

Geoff Baker won the 50-50.

Rick Dunlap announced that the Interact Club will be having a fundraiser on March 25. The proceeds from \$20 tickets for this Battle of the Bands will provide fresh water to a school in Ecuador. Rick and Mark Bettrando recognized Students of the Month, Andy Mangold (East HS), Kyle Wesley (Henderson HS), Erica Wahl (East HS), and Diane (Henderson HS) for their accomplishments as students and volunteers.

Geoff Baker announced the progress of the Olympic teams and encouraged all to SELL FRUIT!

Carol Metzker let us know that **Frank Helms** is doing well after experiencing a blood clot in his lungs, She also asked that members keep us updated on **Sinc Adam's** condition (he is presently in the hospital).

Annalie Korengel-Lorgus had Valentine candy for everyone present.

SPEAKER'S REVIEW by Faith Woodward

Larry Richards introduced **Lee Bunting**, Executive Director of the YMCA and Bob Hall, co-chair of the YMCA capital campaign. (**Sue Casso** was unable to speak due to illness).

Bob Hall invited us to look into the next 100 years of the YMCA. 105 years ago, the

YMCA began with 19 members in what later became Boyd's Funeral Home. In the 1950's there was an expansion to the Chestnut Street location and in 1997 a gymnasium was added for their 4,500 members. Now in 2006, there are 9,700 members with 1,500 visitors a day!

Their mission is to put Christian Principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind, and body for all. The West Chester Area YMCA serves nine municipalities and is affiliated with the Brandywine Valley YMCA.

Financial assistance is offered so that no one is turned away for membership. The Good Kids Campaign, the Golf Tournament, and donations provide \$213,000 for financial assistance.

The new facility will open in the fall of 2007. The decision to move was difficult. Parking has been costly and limited and crossing the busy street has been unsafe. The new facility will have 340 parking spaces. The Summer Day camp formerly traveled to Camp Toland and that lease was lost. The new site can host the camp. There were limited facilities for handicapped individuals and there was no room for new programs. The make-shift childcare center had 65 kids and no playground. Swim meets cannot be held at the present YMCA because the pool is too shallow.

Lee's power point presentation took us on a virtual tour of the new site. It will be off Airport Road and occupy 15 acres. John Ciccarone's donation of \$1 million for the Norma Ciccarone Family Center was announced in the Daily Local this morning. \$1.7 million has been raised already and the campaign itself will begin now. The goal is \$2.5 million. Grounds breaking will be this summer.

The present building was considered for use as a satellite but that would have been too costly. This property will be sold to offset the cost of the new building. Discussions are

underway with various prospective buyers including the YWCA. The total cost of the new building, including the 15 acres of land, will be \$15 million.

The foundation for the new building could support a third floor but right now the township will only approve the proposed 80,000 square feet.

BLOOD DRIVE

Many thanks to all Rotarians who showed up to give blood on February 9th! We collected 21 pints - that's a lot of lives saved!

EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Virginie Bregeon (France) Henderson
Host Family – Ellen and Mark Morun
416 Crislana Lane 19380 610-344-0205
Sebastian Velez (Ecuador) East HS
Host Family - Steve and Catherine Burtch
170 William Penn Blvd 19382
610-399-1258

SAVE THE DATE

Feb. 24-26 RYLA conferences
Mar 4 Rotary Leadership Institute

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

Rotary Rotary Committee: Faith Woodward, Publisher. Work: 610-918-3432 Home: 610-692-5411 Fax: 610-918-3404 e-mail: fwood@bf.kendal.org.
Mark Sammarone, Vice-Chair and Web site

maintenance. Committee Members: Elizabeth Guman, Seamus Lavin (Web site), Fran Luft, Eric Metzker, Cathy Palmquist, and Joe Polito