



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester
Bill Boyd, International President 2006-2007

Bulletin #1 www.WestChesterRotary.us July 12, 2007

This Week's Program: July 12, 2007
Gary Hess
Installation of New Officers

Next Week's Program: July 19, 2007
Speaker: Stephanie Perea
Chester County Futures

MINUTES by Joe Polito

The meeting was called to order at 12:25 P.M. We were still without a piano; but **Mike Alfonsi** lead us in singing "America" a cappella. The following invocation was given by **Bill Hess**. You can't go wrong when you have someone doing a job who has that many years' experience and has an inside line above. **President Annalie** followed with a joke and indicated it was next to her last joke as her term as President was coming to an end. **Dave Biffen** introduced the visiting Rotarians. Dave did an excellent job with no mistakes with the names since there were no visiting Rotarians. **Past President Gary Hewitt** was introduced as back from Kuwait on a vacation and all were happy that he was safe and sound. Several indicated they wanted to go to Kuwait as they noticed he had lost quite a few pounds.

President Annalie introduced Katie Decher and **Gary Hess** introduced Travis Mayo, a former Exchange Student we sponsored to Germany and his friend Angela Pitstich. Both are serving in the Peace Corps.

Ken Hickman wished a Happy Birthday to "a lawyer, auctioneer, realtor, golfer, confirmed bachelor, etc." **Bob Frame**. **Jeff Sommer** had another golfer with a great sense of humor - **Jim Gasho**. **Bob Frame** noted another lawyer who we normally hear from in October, **Craig Kalemjian** and **Carol Metzker** congratulated **Matt Bradley** for a birthday and a new baby.

Happy Bucks were deposited by **President Annalie** for all women in Rotary. **Jeannie McGinn** for an upcoming program for her brother on TV. It was noted that Gasho's group will perform at the Brickette on Saturday, his actual birthday. **Terry McGrath** put Happy Bucks in for **Steve Karp** who has lost 35 pounds on his diet. **Steve Quigley** made a donation thanking all of those last week for attending luncheon at the Senior Center and for all the support to the West Chester Area Senior Center by Rotary.

President Annalie reminded everyone that the dues letters are out as Rotary's fiscal year starts July 1st. "Pay your dues to **Trish Kotsay**". It was also noted that we will do a Valentine Day in August on August 30th. The

final count must be in by July 18th. **President Annalie** also noted that the party at her house would be at 500 West Union, her new home. It is caddy-corner from her former home and is on the southwest corner of Union and Brandywine Streets intersection. Sheets were passed around for individuals to fill in the type of food they would bring to the picnic. **President Annalie** passed out "Lead The Way" pins for the new Rotary year. **Joe Polito** announced that the Italian Social Club of West Chester would be having a Pig Roast - \$20.00 a person - men and women, on Tuesday, July 17th. Anyone interested to make contact with him.

Sue Casso next spoke regarding the installation of the new District Governor who hails from Upper Darby/Lansdowne Rotary. She and **Bob Rogers** attended the affair and brought back with them a Presidential Citation for West Chester Rotary. One of only 22 awarded for the year 2006-2007.

Next, **Gary Hess** spoke about our former Outbound Youth Exchange Student, Travis Mayo, who we sent to Germany. There were 260 applicants who applied for a program for scholarship monies to learn more about helping others. Travis spoke about his Youth Exchange year in Germany, attending Penn State, and now serving in the Peace Corps in South Africa. The upcoming program is a two-year Master's Program. He was endorsed by District 7450. In two weeks he returns to Africa to serve in the Peace Corps and basically attributes his desire to help others as coming from Rotary accepting him into the Youth Exchange Program and thanked the West Chester Rotary for the experience which changed his life.

Next, **Bill Hess** was called upon to acknowledge individuals who had attained Paul Harris Fellows. They included **Eric Metzker**, **Rich Kaufmann** and for the additional level - **Kevin Quinn**, **Gary Hewitt** and Dave Wood, Jr. and for the third level - **Bob Rogers** and **Irvie Hoffman**.

The 50/50 drawing with winning ticket went to Lucky **Dave Rayburn**. He did pick the high spade; but unfortunately it was the Ace - not the Queen.

Mike Alfonsi presented our upcoming budget for 2007-2008. He made it very clear as to where our monies come from and where they go with a lot of detail. It was worth seeing. Now, if we can only do what the new financial boys ask of us.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Matt Bradley

We heard from one presenter today, but saw three. Paula Kielich, the founder and president of Pals for Life, brought along Min the dog and Taffy the bunny to help explain the work of her organization. In the Pet Visitation Program, volunteers bring companions to those who need them most. Paula explained that pets – ranging from dogs and cats to ducks and guinea pigs - are ideal for this therapy work because they are the best source of unconditional love. They don't care if you're memory is failing; if you have lost a limb, or have a substance abuse problem. The Children's Literacy Program uses pets to help children, especially those with learning differences, develop their reading and writing skills. This program began at the K. D. Markley Elementary School in a class that included students with disabilities such as autism and dyslexia. Children read to the pets and the teachers noted more progress in three months than they had seen in the whole previous year. After the visits, children often write letters to the animals. One child wrote, "I felt famous when I read to the dogs." The pets also visit public libraries, where the librarians choose animal related stories to read to the children (and to the pets).

Pals for Life relies on help from the community in a number of ways. They use pets that they "borrow" from families and from shelters. Volunteers and financial support are always needed. Go to www.palsforlife.org for more information.

SAVE THE DATE

July 12 Presidential picnic for **Gary Hess**
Sept 23 International Picnic
Oct 7 Chili Cook-off

Check out the Rotary Calendar of events at
<http://www.westchesterrotary.us/clubcalendar.htm>

To add events send e-mails to:
calendar@westchesterrotary.us

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided at our meeting by.

AN EVENING OF FUN AND FUND RAISING

What: Valentine's Day in August dinner

When: Thursday, Aug. 30th, 7 p.m.

Where: Ruth's Chris Steak House, 220 North Gulph Rd., King of Prussia, PA

Cost: \$75 per person

Menu: Petite Filet, Atlantic Salmon, or Stuffed Chicken Breast;

Reservations and personal checks will be accepted before July 18th at Rotary meetings. Questions? Call Carol Metzker at 610-793-4387 or Anita Trump at 610-733-6127.

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Robert Poole, III, M.D., P. D.G. 1980-1981

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

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