



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Wilfrid J. Williams, International President 2007-2008

Bulletin #5 www.WestChesterRotary.us August 9, 2007

This Week's Program: August 9, 2007

Meeting at the West Chester Golf and Country Club

Speaker: Congressman Joe Sestak

Arranged by Dave Rayburn

Next Week's Program:

To be announced

MINUTES by Cathy Palmquist

Opening the meeting, **President Gary Hess** called on **Jack Cording** to give the invocation. Following in the joke telling tradition of some past presidents, **President Gary** told a hole-in-one tale.

Michael Alfonsi introduced the lone visiting Rotarian, Jonathan Wright from the King of Prussia club. Guests included Michelle Perant, introduced by **Bill Hess**, Jane Burgarella, introduced by **Annalie Korengel Lorgus**, Joe Pavo and Chuck Cramer, guests of **Bill Winters**. **Jim Gasho** opted to hold off introducing his guests until later in the meeting.

President Gary announced that **R** President Wilf Wilkerson will be in Radnor for a special Paul Harris Fellows dinner (\$75) and he invites other interested members to join him. He also announced that **Bill Ronayne** has a torn rotator cup, and all signed a get well card for Bill.

Irvie Hoffman was called forward by **President Gary** to receive the *Rotarian of the Month* award for being a catalyst in bringing members into the club. **Irvie's** efforts account for about 28% of the club's membership – illustrating the ripple effect and power of one member. **Irvie** was presented with a Rotary recognition pin and \$200 is being given in his name toward his Paul Harris Fellow.

Faith Woodward reminded members of the Goshen Country Fair and asked that anyone interested in helping out this evening to see her.

Bob Poole contributed the first Happy Buck in honor of **Jim Gasho** who won the West Chester Classic Golf Tournament after a grueling 26 holes. **Jim** modestly replied, "It was all luck!" **Annalie** put in a buck to speak into the microphone again, and **Steve Karp's** happy bucks gave him an opportunity to try out his opening words to the 15 doctors to whom he will be speaking later on. **President Gary** put in a happy buck to say his wife and children are heading for the shore and he will be home alone next week. He welcomes offers of dinner.

President Gary introduced the "**Jeannie**

(**McGinn**) and **Jim (Gasho)** Show" to talk about the Chili Cook-off. **Jim** reminded us this is the club's major fundraiser and is expected to raise between \$20,000 and \$30,000 for us to give to community organizations. **Jeannie** introduced three people from Smaltz's Harley Davidson, this year's presenting sponsor and a participant since the cook-off's beginning. In presenting them chili cook-off aprons, she noted they also make a pot of chili in the competition. "Stretch" Smaltz gave an inspirational talk about why he is thinking of running for president. After praising the club for its patriotic opening, he presented his "platform."

"Stretch" then shared an interesting story about the piece of ribbon in his hand that had been on the wreath laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 1963 by President John F. Kennedy. He was given a piece of it, making him part of the Honor Society of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The song, "Let there Be Peace On Earth," sung at the end of the wreath laying ceremony at Arlington Cemetery, continues to inspire him and remind us all to seek peace.

President Gary told members that next week's meeting will be a field trip to the West Chester Golf and County Club. Reminders will be emailed.

Steve Quigley noted there will be a Habitat for Humanity work day for Rotarians on Saturday, August 11th in West Chester. Sign up sheets are on the tables; only six volunteers can be accommodated at this time.

Steve Karp won \$21 in the 50/50, but missed the queen and \$450 jackpot

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Matt Bradley

Stan Zuken introduced today's speaker, Tim Harvey, by applauding the incredibly challenging and important work that Tim and his colleagues do in educating individuals with autism and other mental and educational disabilities. Tim is the Director of Quality Improvement in the Education Division of Elwyn. Their programs serve as many as 12,000 people on any given day, with the primary goal of maximizing the potential of the young men and women with whom they work.

The Teach to Reach program serves 14 to 21 year-olds who are transitioning from school to adult life. It provides opportunities to move into careers that are interesting and beneficial to them. The program includes taking an inventory of their interests and skills, job shadowing, training, and instruction in resume writing, interview skills, grooming, conflict resolution, and other social skills.

Connections is one part of the Teach to Reach program that supports individuals with autism. Interestingly, it occupies the former Senior Center and has some students working in new Senior Center. We learned of other students who are working at Wilmington Trust.

Tony diRosa, the owner of On a Roll restaurant in Media, also spoke about his experience having students from Teach to Reach working in his restaurant. One key to the success of this program is supervised work experiences.

Tim emphasized that Elwyn's philosophy mirrors Rotary's commitment to service above self and to vocational and career development.

They are seeking help in forming cooperative partnerships to expand career opportunities for students with disabilities. Opportunities to participate include being a speaker, providing job shadowing experiences, assisting in portfolio review, becoming a mentor and/or a member of the advisory committee, hiring and encouraging others to hire graduates of the program.

For further information, contact Rose Barbella (610) 891-2453 rbarbella@elwyn.org or Tim Harvey (610) 891-2558 tim_harvey@elwyn.org

GOSHEN COUNTRY FAIR

Thanks to **Bruce Beadle**, his wife Sandy, **Carl Werner**, and **Faith Woodward**, our club was represented with volunteers at the food booth at the Goshen Country Fair.

SAVE THE DATE

Aug 30 Valentine's Day in August
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 **Chuck Swope** and **Jim Lees**, Source Realty Group.

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