



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Wilfrid J. Williams, International President 2007-2008

Bulletin #7 www.WestChesterRotary.us August 23, 2007

This Week's Program: August 23, 2007
Classification Talk
Speaker: Bryan Mitchell
Arranged by Noel Stanek

Next Week's Program: August 30, 2007
Chester County Leadership Connection
Speaker: Mary Anne Feeley
Arranged by Elizabeth Guman

MINUTES by Victoria Dow

President Gary pounded the gavel (the missing bell was purportedly in **Mike Alfonsi's** truck) at 12:30pm; we said the Pledge of Allegiance since there was no piano (also in Mike's truck?). **Bob Frame** gave the invocation. There was no joke since the previous week's joke met with little applause.

There were no guests. Once she had composed herself, **Past Prez Annalie** introduced visiting Rotarians Reese Reynolds from Kennett, and our very own, it would seem, John Saling from Sunrise.

Annalie also expressed birthday greetings and best wishes to **Al Filano** and **Bob Frame** wished **Tom Spackman** a very happy birthday.

In the Happy Bucks department, **Geoff Baker** again had golfing success to relate for his wife and himself in the Philadelphia golf championship. **Anita Trump** was happy her son is graduating from Kent State. John Saling is happy about his impending 35th wedding anniversary.

Announcements from the podium included a dues reminder from **Prez Gary** – they were due in July; all who have not yet paid are urged to do so, please. The dinner with RI President Wilf Wilkinson is coming up; registration deadline is August 19. Starting with the September 6 meeting, the club will meet at the West Chester Golf and Country Club. A senior discount of \$2 for lunch will be in place – the criteria is combined age and club service of 85 years. **Anita Trump** had a reminder about the Valentine's in August Dinner – she is still accepting reservations. **Steve Quigley**

reported on the club's Habitat for Humanity workday on Saturday, August 11. The club will have another Saturday workday later in November, however, if there is sufficient interest Steve will organize one sooner on a weekday.

The winning 50/50 ticket was pulled by **John Olszewski**; the winner, sitting right next to John, was **Jim Gasho**, who did not find The Queen.

The meeting portion was finished in 10 minutes flat! A new record.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Elizabeth Guman

Don Stonestrom introduced our program, always a favorite: classification talks. **Chuck Swope** started us off, reminiscing about helping out with his dad at the fruit sale and Brian's Run when he was a boy. Rotary started before that in his family, though. His grandfather received an award from the Johnstown PA Rotary Club in 1955.

Chuck's family ties to West Chester started in the 1920's when his grandfather arrived to attend West Chester Teacher's College. He almost went home because he didn't have the required suit and tie to attend classes. But fortunately someone helped him figure out how to get one and he went on to earn his degree and later serve as President of the college. His father, Charles Swope (a long-time member of our club) was also very involved in the University as well as serving as President and CEO of FNB of Chester County for many years. Chuck's mother still lives in the area and teaches 6th grade geography. Chuck now serves on the Board of the Swope Scholarship Fund.

Chuck attended East high school, and was very involved in sports there. He went on to Washington College and studied English and Environmental Studies, graduating in 2003. He went on to earn his Masters in Environmental Studies at Penn. He is now back in the area working in commercial real estate with Jim Lees. He is engaged to be married to Betsy, who is a doctoral student at Temple studying about children with autism.

Chuck has 4 dogs and enjoys people, travel, food. He is an optimist by nature and glad to be a part of our club.

Bryan Brockson illustrated his classification talk with some great pictures, starting with him as a baby! Bryan lived his early childhood in a row home near the city, then his family moved to his grandparent's farm in Unionville. He attended Penn State University and offered us 3 highlights of his time there. 1) He earned a degree in architectural engineering. 2) His time with Delta Upsilon. 3) His work on the famous Dance Marathons where he was able to be a part of organizing an fundraising event that was fun and raised 1.2 million for children with cancer.

After Bryan married his wife, he found he had time on his hands while she worked shift hours as a nurse at Paoli Hospital and so he went to Drexel to get his masters in Engineering Management. He now lives in West Grove with his wife and two daughters, ages 2 and 4, Chloe and Emily.

Bryan works for EDIS in Kennett Square. He started as a project manager, and is now working as the Marketing and Sales Manager. EDIS has done many regional jobs, including the dorms at Lincoln University and the West Chester Senior Center. One aspect of his work he enjoys a lot is doing career fairs and talking with young people about their career ideas.

Before moving to Kennett Square, Bryan lived in Media and joined the Media Rotary. He looks back on that time and admits that he was probably a RINO (Rotarian in Name Only). He is excited to become a member of our club and is looking forward being a

RINO no longer! He recently completed the Leadership Connection program and is looking forward to putting the skills he learned there to use in our club.

Welcome Chuck and Bryan!

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided at our meeting by **Victoria Dow**, West Chester Public Library.

SAVE THE DATE

Aug 23 Reception with RI President
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

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