



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Wilfrid J. Williams, International President 2007-2008

Bulletin #22 www.WestChesterRotary.us December 13, 2007

This Week's Program: December 13, 2007

**Classification Talk by Michele Parent
Arranged by Noel Stanek**

**Next Week's Program: December 20, 2007
To be Announced**

MINUTES by Sue Casso

President Gary rang the bell at 12:30 and with a change in normal procedure introduced the speaker to accommodate her busy schedule.

Following the speaker, **President Gary** welcomed everyone and the following visitors were introduced - Dan Cosgrove with **Patty Jefferis** and Eric Trajtenberg with **Bob Poole**.

Visiting Rotarians were Steve McGann and John Saling.

Pat Barron wished a Happy Birthday to Sheriff **Bunny Welsh** (or was it the other way around?).

President Gary made the following announcements: A Christmas card and an envelop are circulating for the exchange students, please help make this a Merry Christmas for them. District Governor Russ has planned a Project Fair on January 26 replacing the regular District Assembly. (More interest, less "speechifying.") District Conference will take place at Skytop Lodge on April 26. The District is currently looking for individuals who would be interested in serving as District Governor 2010 - 2011.

Greg Radford announced that the Brighter Futures Committee needs members.

Jim Lees informed us that **Bill Gotwals** took a fall and cut his eye. He is currently at Will's Eye Hospital and due home tomorrow.

Steve Quigley announced that nominations for board positions and officers of our club are open until December 13.

Terry McGrath announced that he will be collecting canned foods for the Salvation Army for the next two weeks.

Steve Karp commented on his less-than-perfect attendance, plans to improve his attendance and is looking forward to his position as Club President in July. He supports the formation of the new club and reminded us that the party at Annalie's on Friday night will support the Honduras Blood Lab.

Annalie Korengel Lorgus reiterated Steve's comments about the party. The blood lab has many needs and **Carol Metzker** will write a list of needed items.

Joe Polito informed us that he and **Steve Karp** bought the coats for Operation Warm and now has further donations for more coats.

Bob Poole reminded us that the last District Governor from the West Chester club was 27 years ago and he suggested that our club should seriously consider a candidate. (anyone interested?)

In order to help **Bill Gotwals** continue his perfect attendance, the ringing of the final bell was suspended so a make up event could be planned for Bill.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Victoria Dow

Commissioner Carol Aichele was introduced by **Bunny Welsh**. Commissioner Aichele began by noting she had been at the Women in Government Conference recently. Chester County will soon have two women Commissioners and already has a woman as President Judge, not to mention the only female Sheriff in the state. Some day, Comm. Aichele hopes we will look past whether a man or a woman is the officer holder.

The Commissioner got her start in Chester County politics when she and her family moved to Tredyffrin Township. She believes in a well-educated electorate and saw an opportunity to make her mark in the T-E school district. From there she went on to serve as a Tredyffrin Supervisor.

Her topic today was Chester County – Behind the Scenes. Chester County is a popular place to live: more than 10,000 people move here each year and has a highly educated populace. Maintaining the quality of life for residents and the county's image as a good place to live are key. Commissioner Aichele believes that government can provide a high quality product at

a good price to its electorate.

She started by noting the county has been successful in preserving open space while managing growth. Twenty percent of the county's 486,000 acres are preserved with a goal of preserving 40%. This has been achieved through public-private partnerships, with private donations matching county expenditures two to one.

The Landscapes project is in Phase 2; a public comment phase is coming up soon. The biggest challenge to preservation and in managing Landscapes is transportation. Vehicle registration in the county is up significantly; mass transit improvements as well as major road and bridge improvements are critical. Much of that will have to come from PennDOT, which is short the needed funds.

The county has undertaken major building projects in the past few years – the new Justice Center is almost finished and on-budget; it will be ready for move-in by late spring or early summer -08. The county prison needed to be doubled in size, and the Youth Center was cheaper to build through good financing than paying Delaware County a per diem to house adjudicated youths.

Commissioner Aichele touched on the 2008 county budget, which includes no tax increase. The highly favorable Moody's bond rating of AAA has helped in balancing the '08 budget despite some costs that will come due in the next year. The Commissioners did trim some departments and streamlined some operations. However, most county costs are mandated by the state – especially those pertaining to the judicial system.

The county parks and trails are doing well, with 4500 acres in the parks system and thirty miles of trails already in existence. This will increase soon with the expansion of the Chester Valley Trail, and Commissioner Aichele hopes to even double the number.

In regards to the Library System, the Commissioners are investigating the possibility of a new library in the southern part of the county.

Finally, Commissioner Aichele returned to Moody's AAA bond rating for the county, an indication that county taxpayers are getting good value for their tax dollar.

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided at our meeting by **Linda Hicks** of First National Bank of Chester County.

NOTICE

The following person has been proposed for membership and has indicated his desire to become a member:

Daniel Cosgrove, Marketing Director/ Manager, La Difference Salon & Day Spa, Classification: Business Service – Beauty Industry, Sponsor: **Patty Jefferis**

If no written objections are received by the Club Secretary within ten (10) days of this notice a date will be set for his/her (their) induction."

SAVE THE DATE

Dec 13 & 20 Canned Food Drive @ meetings
Jan 12 Work on House for Habitat

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

EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Bjoern Brauner (Germany) Henderson HS
Host Family: Mark and Ellen Morun
416 Chrislena Ln, WC
610-344-0205

Bert Volger 610-793-1708(H) 484-459-9023(C)

Andrea Kogoj (Italy) Unionville HS.
Host Family: Marc and Rachel Bevis,
110 Merrymet Farm Dr.
Kennett Square

610-444-0324(H) 610-563-0443(C)

Joe Polito 610-692-8123(H) 610-431-3090(W)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS –

THE ROTARY CLUB OF WC- District 7450

President, Gary Hess; President-Elect, Carol Metzker; Vice-President, Steve Karp; Past President, Annalie Korengel-Lorgus; Secretary, Patricia Kotsay; Treasurer, Rob Feenan; Sergeant At Arms, Mike Alfonsi; Directors-at-Large: Rich Kauffman, Adrienne Masak-Rozier, John Messersmith, John Olszewski, Dave Rayburn, Bill Ronayne, Mark Sammarone, Joanne Tadeo.

Russell deFuria, District Governor

Dede Carruthers, Ass't District Governor

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

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

Votary Committee: Faith Woodward, Publisher. 610-918-3432 fwood@bf.kendal.org Mark Sammarone, Vice-Chair and Web site maintenance. Committee Members: Pat Barron, Bruce Beadle (Web site), Matt Bradley, Sue Casso, Victoria Dow, Elizabeth Guman, Charlie Lyddane, Fran Luft, Eric Metzker, Paula Ott, Cathy Palmquist, and Joe Polito