



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Wilfrid J. Williams, International President 2007-2008

Bulletin #24 www.WestChesterRotary.us December 27, 2007

**This Week's Program: December 27, 2007
Election Slate from Nominating Committee
and Seasonal music
Arranged by Gary Hess**

**Next Week's Program: January 3, 2008
General Assembly with
presentations from the Avenue Chairs.
Arranged by Gary Hess**

MINUTES by Cathy Palmquist

Opening the meeting, **President Gary Hess** called on **Elizabeth Guman** to give the invocation, a thoughtful reading from Robert Louis Stevenson. **Gary's** joke compared Christmas to a day at the office.

Bob Crow introduced visiting Rotarians, Gus Gumpsta and Steve McCann from Sunrise, noting that Steve McCann will soon become a member of our club. Other visitors included "Mazie," **Steve Karp's** new West Highland Terrier, introduced by **Duke Evans**, another Westy fan. **Geoff Baker** introduced his daughter Sara, who has recently joined her father in business. **Bert Volger** introduced Mark and Ellen Morun, host parents of exchange student Bjoern Brauner, then presented our Rotary gift to Bjoern. A gift will also be given to Andrea Kogoj, exchange student from Italy. **Bob Frame** introduced his office assistant Marie Bagliva, **Michelle Venema** introduced her brother, Eric, and his two daughters Casey and Nicole, and **Sue Casso** introduced her parents, Gwen and Bill Haines, who she said **Bob Rogers** spotted at the bar when he came in. **Jeannie McGinn** introduced Patty Griffin from *Main Line Today* magazine, and **Katie Walker** introduced her Chamber staff, Dot Kennedy and Maggie O'Neill.

Jack Wintermute's birthday recipient had to leave, but **Charlie Lyddane** extended greetings to **President Gary**, **Rick Dunlap** extended greetings to **Lee McFadden**, about whom he could think of nothing bad to say, and **Faith Woodward** extended greetings to **Noel Stanek**, with whom she has become well acquainted over the past several months.

Charlie Lyddane led off the announcements with news of an \$8,200 donation from ERM and a \$2,000 grant for the water project. He had hoped that Paul Woodruff would announce these donations, but has a back problem. Pending is a \$25,000 match from the Rotary Foundation, which has been

championed by **Charles Streitwieser** and Paul, as well as a \$340,000 grant for which we appear to be in the running. Charlie said the plan is to send Dr. Michael Jackson back early in 2008 with \$400,000, supported in part by a \$40,000 annual donation from World Gospel Missions.

President Gary announced that **Bill Gotwals** is doing better and appreciated members coming to his home to adjourn last week's meeting, allowing him to continue his perfect attendance. Because he will have additional surgery, this week's meeting will also be adjourned at **Bill's** home.

Applicants are still being sought for the Group Study Exchange trip in 2008. Interviews will be held in early January. **President Gary** asked for a show of hands of those willing to host members of the inbound GSE team in April.

President Gary also shared comments from the RI President who was in Fredericksburg. "How can we best foster peace and goodwill?" was one comment.

Charles Streitwieser, representing the committee of past presidents, who included **Steve Quigley**, **Annalie Korengel Lorgus**, **Gary Hewitt** and himself, has put together a slate of officers to be approved by voice vote at next week's meeting.

John Schwab shared an interesting newspaper feature about Irvie Hoffman's father.

Happy bucks were contributed by **Jeannie McGinn** who lost this year's annual bet with **Terry McGrath** over the Eagles and Cowboys game (**Jeannie** supports the Cowboys). **Bill Winters** donated \$20 in recognition of the 250 volunteers who moved his entire Collegium Charter School into its new building in one day – now that's impressive volunteering! **Michelle Venema** was happy her two nieces are visiting, along with their father (her brother) who has been promoted to skipper, and **Judith Ray** is happy her new Christmas CD is now available (see her to purchase a copy).

Bob Crow asked one of Michelle's nieces to draw the 50/50, which was won by **Jeff Sommer**, although he missed pulling the queen.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Pat Barron

Today we were honored to have as our guests another group of outstanding "Students of the Month". Our own **Rick Dunlap**, principal at East High School, introduced Matt Pincus, Dan Dorff, and Erikka Loper. Elaine Kirkland, assistant principal at Henderson High School, introduced Megan Sanders and Noel Abraham. The accomplishments of these young people are so numerous that your poor scribe could not keep up with all of them. Nevertheless, here are a few highlights.

Erikka Loper carries a 4.0 GPA, only 1.4 points higher than that of President Gary Hess. She participates in Lincoln University's Upward Bound Program and wants to be a nurse.

Noel Abraham runs cross-country and wrestles. He is working on his Eagle Scout badge, and I doubt that President Gary Hess even knows how to tie a granny knot. Noel wants to be either a biological engineer or a cardiovascular surgeon.

Matt Pincus is a member of the National Honor Society, something that President Gary Hess could only dream about. He wants to be an aeronautical engineer or major in either Arabic or the Chinese language.

Megan Sanders is captain of the junior varsity soccer team. She is a member of the astronomy and ski clubs, among many others. She wants to be a physical therapist, and may have President Gary Hess as a client in his old age.

Dan Dorff is one of East's top students. He is a member of the marching band, which means that he has to be able to walk and play a musical instrument at the same time. President Gary Hess cannot chew gum when he goes for a walk.

West Chester keeps turning out a seemingly never-ending supply of wonderful young people.

EDITOR: We also had a visit from Santa who had many gifts to hand out after working his Dollar Store elves to the limit. The most provocative gift was handed to **Bob Frame** but Bob generously re-gifted it to **Sue Casso** and **Bob Rogers**.

(From **Cathy Palmquist**) The highlight of Santa's gift giving was his final gifting, a small box to **Bob Rogers**. Taking the microphone, **Bob** said he has been in Rotary for 17 years and considers Rotarians his family. He also met and has been with one special Rotarian for seven years. Turning to **Sue Casso** and getting down on one knee, **Bob** took a ring from the box and asked **Sue** to marry him. After she burst into tears of joy with a hug for **Bob**, she said "yes," and the room exploded with enthusiastic applause, hugs and best wishes for **Sue** and **Bob**.

Please go to the web site for photos!

ELECTIONS

The Committee for the Election of Officers and Directors for 2008-2009 nominates the following slate of candidates. The election will be held at the Annual Meeting, December 27, 2007.

OFFICERS:

President: **Steve Karp**, President-elect: **Dave Rayburn**; Vice-president: **Bill Ronayne**, Past President: **Gary Hess**, Secretary: **Trish Kotsay**, Treasurer: **Rob Feenan**, Sgt-at-Arms: **Bob Crow**

RE-NOMINATED DIRECTORS

John Olszewski (Third year), **Mark Sammarone** (Second year), **Terry McGrath** (Second year)

NEW DIRECTORS

Cristina Combee, **Elizabeth Guman**, **Jeannie McGinn**, **Bert Volger**

THANK YOU

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

SAVE THE DATE

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, Bob Crow; 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