



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Wilfrid J. Williams, International President 2007-2008

Bulletin #29 www.WestChesterRotary.us January 31, 2008

This Week's Program: January 31, 2008
Inductions of Eric Trajtenberg, Daniel Cosgrove, and Stephen McGann
Classification Talk
Speaker: Katie Decker
Arranged by Noel Stanek J

Next Week's Program: February 7, 2008
Vietnam & Personal Peace
Speaker: Bud Bruton
Arranged by Steve McFalls

MINUTES by Cathy Palmquist

Vice President Dave Rayburn opened the meeting in the absence of **President Gary Hess** and **President-elect Steve Karp**. **Lee McFadden** gave the invocation citing the benefits of Rotary.

Steve Quigley kicked off the introduction of guests by welcoming his friend Steve Evans from Pottstown, **John Schwab** introduced former Rotarian Chaya Scott, who has recently opened her own business, which provides administrative support to businesses, **Matt Bradley** introduced Susan Flynn, Steve Lane, Phil Duncan and Susan Elko, the four grant recipients who would speak later, and **Adrienne Masak Rozier** welcomed our two exchange students and the host father of one student.

Starting off announcements, **Acting Prez Dave** reminded members there is still time to apply for the board position vacated by **Carol Metzker**. Nominations will be closed in about a week. He also reminded members of the District Assembly being held this Saturday.

Lee McFadden returned to the podium to encourage members to sign up for the Career Opportunities Program to share information about their careers with students at West Chester University on Feb. 19th and 20th, 5 to 7 p.m. at Sykes Student Center on Rosedale Ave. With hundreds of careers available, talking with folks about their careers is very helpful to the students.

John Schwab announced that formation of a Rotaract Club for 18- to 30-year-olds will kick-off Wednesday at Iron Hill Brewery. The Vocational Service Committee already has 11 names of prospective members. He encouraged members to contact him with names of others in this age group who might like to participate. He added this will be a good feeder group for prospective members to our club.

Carl Werner spoke about the upcoming Rotary Leadership Institute that provides helpful information and problem solving for club leaders and potential leaders. The spring schedule is out and courses will begin on Saturday, March 15th in southern New Jersey and on Saturday, April 12th in Wilmington. Our club provides tuition assistance to members, so he encourages anyone who would like to attend to see him.

Dave Wood announced the Vocational Service Committee is now accepting nominations for outstanding non-Rotarians who are proven business leaders in the community. Deadline for nominations is May 31st. See **Dave** for nomination forms.

Fruit czar **Geoff Baker** concluded announcements by noting that our newest Rotarians seem to be doing the best at selling so far. He said **Pat Barron** had used up all his slips by last Friday and called Geoff for more – that should move **Pat's** Olympic team ahead in the standings!

On another note, **Geoff** extended birthday greetings to our hardworking, enthusiastic exchange student chair, **Adrienne Masak Rozier**. **Past Prez Gary Hewitt** won the 50/50 but failed to find the queen.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Sue Casso

Today's program was arranged by Rotarian **Matt Bradley** of the Community Philanthropic Committee. This year our club received 10 applications for grants and today 5 recipient organizations were represented to explain how their money will be used. These grants total \$7845.00 distributed from our club.

Our first speaker was Sue Flynn from the Chester County Family Academy. CCFA is a Charter School for ages K - 2nd grade, funded with public dollars, offering a private school style education to low income and challenged

children. Our grant will fund a trip to the Franklin Institute for the children, many of whom have never been outside Chester County. This trip is in conjunction with a series in the school called "what's in the air" where the children learn about electricity, air, lights and sound. Ms. Flynn pointed out that the students are recognizable around the community wearing bright yellow Tee shirts.

Our next speaker was Steve Lane of Chester County Interlink which is a volunteer organization founded in the early 1990's to provide free internet access to those who could not otherwise afford it. The group now finds itself in transition as internet access is much more available. Currently the organization has about 1,000 users of the strictly dial up service as Verizon and Comcast do not offer any subsidized service. CCIL now is an enabler offering such things as computer training and recycling and re-distribution of computers. Our funds will help these new initiatives.

Our next grant recipient was Phil Duncan, Professor of Psychology at West Chester University who was representing SPARC - Southeastern PA Autism Resource Center which is a non-profit center addressing the issues of Autism. The center offers an array of services from assessment and diagnosis to therapy in both home and schools. Our grant will assist with peer mentoring which links autistic teens and young adults with WCU students for social interaction. Additionally the grant will be used to purchase one way windows used to watch and coach parents during therapy sessions.

Susan Elko represented the West Chester Area Homeless Single Women Task Force. Susan explained that the Day Room at St Agnes accommodates homeless people during the day. But there is difficulty in placing homeless single women through the night. The short term solution has been through the help of various local churches which open areas for the women at night. Our grant helps with transportation, supplies, cell phones and other necessities. Long term, the task force hopes to build a shelter for women.

In the absence of **Victoria Dow**, Matt explained that our final recipient is the Summer Reading Club at the West Chester Public Library. The program accommodates over 800 children from toddler age and up who have read over 24,000 books. Some children read many books over the summer and some accomplish only one book. Our grant supports the purchase

of books and each book is noted with a book plate indicating the support of the Rotary Club.

Many thanks, Matt, for this fine and informative program. Your fellow Rotarians appreciate knowing where our hard earned dollars go and who benefits from our fund raising in our own community.

NOMINATION FOR BOARD SEAT

The following member has been nominated to serve the balance of Carol Metzker's term on the Board, beginning February, 2008 through June, 2008:

Bob Rogers

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided at our meeting by **Mark Sammarone** of Arthur Hall Insurance

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)

SAVE THE DATE

Feb 29 Fruit orders due

Mar 8 Fruit Pick up

Oct 5 Chili Cook Off

Check out the Rotary Calendar of events at

<http://www.westchesterrotary.us/clubcalendar.htm>

Add events: calendar@westchesterrotary.us

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – THE ROTARY CLUB

President, Gary Hess; President-Elect, Steve Karp; Vice-President, Dave Rayburn; Past President, Gary Hewitt; Secretary, Patricia Kotsay; Treasurer, Rob Feenan; Sergeant At Arms, Bob Crow; Directors-at-Large: Rich Kauffman, Adrienne Masak-Rozier, Terry McGrath, John Messersmith, John Olszewski, 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