



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester
Wilfrid J. Williams, International President 2007-2008

Make Dreams Real Bulletin #01 www.WestChesterRotary.us July 10, 2008

This Week's Program: July 10, 2008
Presidential Party

Next Week's Program: July 17, 2008
To be announced

MINUTES by Sue Casso

President Gary rang the bell for the last time during his presidency promptly at 12:30. Steve Founds delivered a Native American invocation.

Visiting Rotarians were Dale Yeager from WEGO and a gentleman from Germany. Welcome!

Guests were Stuart Brooks with **Chuck Swope**, **Alice Thomas** brought a guest, **Joe Cunnane** introduced Joe Jr., **Dave Rayburn** introduced Rachael Wood and Matt Skrow(?), **Andrew Stump** introduced Joe Panero, and **Matt Bradley** introduced our speakers for the day.

Birthdays were wished to **Bob Frame** by **Jack Wintermute** (who said some really nice things about Bob!) and to **Jim Gasho** by **Charlie Lyddane**.

We were a very happy club today: **Gary Hess** was especially happy that today was his last meeting as Club President, **Terry McGrath** was happy to wrap up his recording of Christmas music, **Faith Woodward** was happy about the Barclay Friends Art Show, **Jim Gasho** is happy to have his group playing at Swinging Summer Thursday on July 3, **Jeannie McGinn** was happy to tell us about the Ice Cream Quest, **Katie Walker** was happy that the Bike Race is coming up on July 5, **Sue Casso** admitted she forgot to put her name on the announcements list so paid a happy buck to remind everyone about the upcoming President's Gala on July 10 - sign up now and help out with auction items, one of our guests gave a happy buck, **Linda Hicks** is happy to be visiting her daughter Ashley, and **Chuck Swope** was happy about having Gold Bond Powder to send to the troops.

"**Last day President**" **Gary** reminded us that DUES ARE DUE, so pay up, Foundation checks need to be sent in right away to take advantage of the matching, Gundaker checks are also due, and he was happy to announce that we have new Fruit Sale czar(ettes) - **Elizabeth Guman** and **Cristina Combee**. Thank you ladies! **Steve Karp** reminded us that there is no meeting on July 3 so

we can gear up for the Presidents Gala on July 10 (no lunch meeting that day either). Steve thanked everyone for their participation at the long range planning meeting Saturday morning, he announced that our newly re-designed website is up and running and he will share his vision for our club at the President's Gala.

The 50/50 was won by Alice Thomas' guest.
CONGRATULATIONS GARY ON A JOB WELL DONE!

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Vicotria Dow

Matt Bradley, Chair of the Community Philanthropic Committee announced and introduced the winners of the second round of club community grants for the '07-'08 Rotary year. The committee has handed out \$15,000 in grants to a wide variety of local organizations all doing good works in the community. Matt also thanked committee members **Bruce Beadle** (Co-chair), **Bill Gotwals**, **Pete Thompson**, **Becky Cacace**, and **Cathy Palmquist**.

The seven recipients were Handicrafters, West Chester Area Senior Center, The Charles A. Melton Center for the Arts, Cares Food Network, Mommy's Light Lives On, Neighborhood Health Agencies/Neighborhood Hospice, and the YWCA. Representatives from six of these were here to tell us about their organization and receive their checks (a photo is on the club's website on the Community Service page).

Alice Thomas thanked the club on behalf of the Melton Center, a community center that is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. Long known as the West Chester Community Center, it was for many years the only place where West Chester's African Americans could meet, hold meetings, take classes, and swim in the two outdoor pools. Today the center, funded solely by donations from individuals and community groups, offers a summer camp for youth, as well as educational classes for adults, and meeting and event space for the entire community. The club's

gift will help fund several field trips for the kids in the day camp this summer.

Esther Brown of the Cares Food Network opened her comments by noting that she is a proud product of the Melton Center. She went on to talk about the Cares network, in existence since 1923. Its name was recently changed to better reflect the work it is doing in the community. Over 30,000 Chester County residents go to bed hungry every night; these are the invisible poor, those who are working but are not earning enough to really make ends meet. Esther said the Cares network's goal is to get food to everyone who needs help in the county so that no one goes to bed hungry. She thanked the club for assisting in this worthwhile effort.

Mommy's Light Lives On helps maintain a mother-child tradition for children and teens whose mothers are deceased. Kendra Muscella thanked the club for supporting this relatively new organization. She explained that Mommy's Light receives many applications every year; those children chosen for the program receive the service every year thereafter until they reach 18. Mommy's Light may provide a special birthday cake that a mother was know for, or tickets to the Nutcracker to allow a child to remember Mom and that special outing, or any other tradition a deceased mother and child shared. This simple provision of a treasured tradition helps children and families in their bereavement and helps keep a mother's presence real for a child.

Heidi Owen of Neighborhood Hospice, a part of the Neighborhood Health Agencies, told us about the new in-patient hospice unit located across from the Chester County Hospital. The agency was founded in 1912 and provides a broad range of health services, including hospice, to county residents. They have about 150 patients in hospice case on a daily basis; a wide spectrum of services are provided by RNs and therapists, as well as a large group of volunteers. The new in-patient unit is a place for patients to seek help with pain management, or, if they so chose, to die. Family can stay with the patient and staff strive to make the unit as friendly and homey as possible. The club's gift will help decorate the unit to make it look more homelike.

The YWCA has been running a Summer Enrichment Program for West Chester kids for a number of years; this year, noted **Fran Luft** who runs the program, it is filled to capacity with 40 children. They engage in traditional day camp activities and also have the opportunity for educational programs, some provided by WCU, the BVA and the Chester County Historical Society.

They will have programs on science, music and nutrition, learn from a Leni Lenape storyteller, and enjoy a visit from the Eagles bookmobile. Most of the children come from economically disadvantaged families, and all receive breakfast and lunch at the camp. Fran thanked the club for supporting this program.

Finally, **Steve Quigley** filled in for Amy Balian of the WC Area Senior Center to thank the club for its donation and to congratulate the club on its long involvement with the center. He noted that the center is very busy: participation there has more than doubled in the two years since it opened at its new site. The club's gift will help in the purchase of new tables for the craft room.

There were two quick questions from club members: what sorts of food items will the Cares network accept – frozen and canned, non-perishable items. Is the YWCA's camp open to boys and girls – yes.

THE ROTARY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Steve Karp; President-Elect, Dave Rayburn; Vice-President,; Past President, Gary Hess; Secretary, Patricia Kotsay; Treasurer, Rob Feenan; Sergeant At Arms, Bob Crow; Directors-at-Large: Rich Kauffman, Adrienne Masak-Rozier, Terry McGrath, John Messersmith, Bob Rogers, Bill Ronayne, Mark Sammarone
Russell deFuria, District Governor
Samantha Ramsey, Ass't District Governor
Robert Poole, III, M.D., P. D.G. 1980-1981

Chili Wristbands on Sale3/\$25

SAVE THE DATE

Oct 5 Chili Cook Off -
Check out the Rotary Calendar of events at <http://www.westchesterrotary.us/clubcalendar.htm>
Add events: calendar@westchesterrotary.us

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, Paula Ott, Cathy Palmquist, and Joe Polito