



Make Dreams Real

Bulletin #03

ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

Wilfrid J. Williams, International President 2007-2008

www.WestChesterRotary.us July 24, 2008

This Week's Program: July 24, 2008

Speaker: Dr. Judy D' Angelo

Issues on Autism

Arranged by Dave Biffen

Next Week's Program: July 31, 2008

Speaker: Victoria Dow

The Chester County Library or How do I find the "deep Web"?

Arranged by Dave Biffen

MINUTES by Faith Woodward

Jeannie McGinn gave the invocation and **President Steve** thanked **Sue Casso Rogers, Bob Poole, and Dave Biffen** for their parts in this great event attended by about 100 people. The proceeds from the gala will be used to purchase new badges, new flags, and other branding items. The club has \$60,000 in credits for Paul Harris Fellowships that will be awarded this year

Visiting Rotarians included Reese Reynolds, John Saling (Sunrise), and Jason Pyrah (Central Chester County).

Katie Decker is our interim Sergeant-at-arms pending board approval. Her team will also include **Adam Godwik** and **Mac Neilon**.

Guests: **Bill Ronayne** introduced Sue who helped with the Chili Cook-Off and Lloyd Roach. **Dave Rayburn** presented Marie Thelod, **Mac Neilon** introduced Tony Palentino, **Gary Hess** had a guest, **Faith Woodward** presented Sarah Credeur, and **Matt Bradley** introduced Brian Tagliaferro.

Past Present Gary Hess was commended for a great year and **President Steve** presented him with a golden gavel plaque.

Gary Hewitt wished a Happy Birthday to **Steve Quigley, Mel Josephs to Martha Carson-Gentry, John Schwab to Brian Broxson, and Linda Hicks to Charles Streitwieser.**

Happy Bucks were given by: **Sue Casso Rogers** (Raised \$7,000 through the auction, grateful for all the help and donations, **Jeannie McGinn** helped with the centerpieces, and Sue corrected some facts: **Al Filano** was president during the 75th anniversary and our club was founded in 1921); **John Schwab** (The Hickman was granted air rights to build a bridge over E. Biddle Street); **Becky Cacace** (\$1 million grant for library); Sarah Credeur (Need help with Goshen Country Fair on July 29 to serve in food booth. Proceeds benefit the Goshen Fire Company); and **Steve Karp** (Senator Dinniman gave senate

citations to him and to **Past President Gary**).

Linda Hicks read a thank you note from Henderson student Ellie Brown for her scholarship. **Jeannie McGinn** pointed out the flyers for vendors and discount wrist bands (3/\$25 for us to purchase) to distribute. The Sponsorship Drive is on now, please contact either Jeannie or **Bill Ronayne** this week. Congratulations to **Jim Gasho** as our newest sponsor (bronze). **President Steve's** cell number is 484-678-7825. Please call or text message him if you need anything. Don't forget that his e-mail address can be found on our website www.westchesterrotary.us.

More Minutes by Cathy Palmquist

Dave Biffen, presented one of the new Rotary mugs to **President Steve**. The mugs are available for purchase by members.

Matt Bradley, introduced Brian Tagliaferro from Handi-Crafters. Brian expressed sincere thanks for the grant from our club, which will assist Handi-Crafters in providing employment services for 300 of their clients who work at their Thorndale site.

President Steve presented Jason Pyrah of Habitat for Humanity with a check for \$10,000 for our Habitat house. Jason said our club is the largest donor to the "Rotary House" and he presented a Habitat plaque to **President Steve** in appreciation for our support, which reflects the funds raised from our fruit sale.

Irvie Hoffman won the 50/50, but the queen eluded him.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Cathy Palmquist

Program Co-Chair **Dave Biffi** introduced the first program of **Steve Karp's** presidency. As is often the case, the best programs are those presented by our own members. **Matt Bradley's** talk about West Chester Friends School was no exception. In introducing him, **Dave** noted that **Matt** is a graduate of Notre Dame, and also has a master's degree from Columbia University.

Matt talked about the founding and growth of

WCFS, giving a few notes about what was going on in the Borough, the region and the world at about the same time.

The oldest continuously operating school in the borough, **Matt**, who is a history teacher as well as the school administrator, said WCFS's growth reflects the history of West Chester. When WCFS was founded in 1836, Andrew Johnson was President and Mexico had just won its independence. Founders Nathan Sharpless, David and Thomas Hoopes, Benjamin Price, and George and Thomas Darlington were concerned whether there would be enough Quaker children to have a school, what a fair wage would be for teachers and if they could find qualified administrators.

The school, built for \$1,210.80, had about 65 children enrolled. In 1866, an addition was built, and in 1886, the large, stone part of the building, which still stands, was added, with sheds for horses and carriages.

Reportedly the first baseball game between WCFS (still listed on the official books as Friends Community School) and the local public school was held on the lawn. Pupils represented West Chester founding families, such as the Hickman/Chalfonts, Strodes, Darlingtons and Halls. Tuition was \$20 for 20 weeks.

Many notable people attended WCFS, including Samuel Barber, who reportedly attended first grade in 1915. Report cards were extensive and reported attitudes and observations about the students in addition to their grades, said **Matt**, reading from one such report card. School records of 1918-1919, note that the school was closed for the month of October due to the Spanish Flu. Sometimes students attended only half a day so they could attend a local fair.

In the 1920s, all of N.C. Wyeth's children, except for Andrew, were enrolled in WCFS; Andrew was home schooled at his father's side. **Matt** noted that WCFS has collaborated extensively with the community. During the 1930s, students took physical education at the YMCA, visited the borough library and held pet shows and dance festivals that were open to the public.

Matt showed a 1940s bank statement from First National Bank, which is still the school's bank. The Parent Teacher Assn. had \$261 in the bank then; now the PTA raises about \$5,000 per year to give to teachers for use in the summer to attend classes or participate in other enriching activities.

In the 1950s, a kindergarten building was constructed. New construction started this year will add a library, allowing the school to expand from the single classroom that has served as the library. In addition, the first floor of the new facility will

become the front entrance to the school.

In closing, **Matt** said WCFS continues close connections with the community: the new construction is financed by First National, heating/cooling by Brandywine Heating & A/C, and The Hickman and Barclay Friends, where students visit and do projects with the elderly residents. The students tour the borough post office, courthouse and judges chambers, the Historical Society and other local venues as part of their extended classroom experiences. Also, **Mayor Dick Yoder** read to the children, and Rep. Barbara McIlvaine Smith spoke to the children about her Indian heritage. WCFS is truly an integral part of the fabric of West Chester!

NOTICE

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

James Langer, District Director, Chester County Council, Boy Scouts of America; Classification: Non-Profit Organization – Management; Sponsor:

Noel Stanek

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

CHILI WRISTBANDS ON SALE 3/\$25

call Bill Ronayne at 610-692-3900.

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

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

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