



Make Dreams Real

ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester
Dong Kurn Lee, International President 2008-2009

Bulletin #26 www.WestChesterRotary.us January 22, 2009

This Week's Program: January 22, 2009

Fruit Sale Kick-Off

Speakers: Cristina Combee and Elizabeth Guman, Co-Chairs

Arranged by Steve Karp

Next Week's Program: January 29, 2009

Medical Acupuncture

Speaker: Dr. Thomas Burgoon
Arranged by Dave Biffen

MINUTES by Sue Casso Rogers

Today's meeting was held at the West Chester Holiday Inn and was called to order by **President Steve Karp**. **Carol Hanson** delivered an invocation reflecting on the upcoming Presidential inauguration and included the Serenity Prayer.

Judge Paula Ott's guest today was Wendy Hoffman, Executive Director of the Chester County Bar Association with a New Year's resolution to further explore Rotary. **Bob Frame's** guest was Lynette Susadell (sp?) from National Penn Bank and **Linda Hicks** brought Debra Ward Sparre. Our Exchange Student, Anri, was in attendance today. And Winnie Strup joined us who was a Rotarian in California. **President Steve** made sure each visitor knew that **Sue Casso Rogers** is the person to see about membership.

Birthdays were wished to **Katie Decker** by **Jeannie McGinn** who called Katie "the Square Bar queen" for organizing recent outings to the aforementioned taproom, **Bert Volger** wished happy birthday to our excellent webmaster, **Bruce Beadle**, and **Jeff Sommer** decided that his birthday recipient, **Sue Karr**, office manager at Buckley, Brion, must be the "Square Bar Queen Mother." **Frank Helms** announced that our Rotary Readers program is in need of some substitutes - see Frank to volunteer.

In an effort to keep membership on everyone's mind, our new membership chair, **Sue Casso Rogers**, asked each member to identify someone they know who is a good candidate for membership in Rotary. Sue also commented that we will be identifying industries and professions which are not represented in our club and approaching them to identify someone in their company who might join Rotary. More on this at a later date.

Jeff Sommer conducted a very inspirational induction on 4 new members: **Jim Smith**, President of Visiting Angels Home Care, sponsored by **Dave Rayburn**, **Marie Thibolt** of Partners Advertising, sponsored by **Dave Rayburn** (go Dave!), **Ryan McGough** sponsored by **Bryan Brockson**, and **Charnetta Gadling-Cole** of West Chester University sponsored by **Steve Karp**. In his induction, Jeff pondered on what drives people to participate in projects for which we will never see an end such as clean water for all people or the eradication of polio worldwide. His answer is FAITH and it is Faith which drives us to service. Jeff encouraged our new members to become part of a community of Rotarians where all things start with service and to serve with enthusiasm. (ed note - the writer wishes that the entire induction could have been printed in this column. For your personal copy of this wonderful induction, see Jeff. Great job, Jeff!) Welcome to our new members!

Continuing with a very busy meeting, our Students of the Month were presented. From East High School: Tom Zamadics, David Boswell and Kari Lunden. And from Henderson High School: Jennifer Gilbert and Dallas Reynolds. All very accomplished young people.

The 50/50 was won by, guess who.... **Jean Oakes!** But she did not pull the Queen. Better luck next time!

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Cathy Palmquist

An engaging video about the partnership between the Exton Square Mall and Chester County Art Association (CCAA), which lead to the development of the CCAA Exton Square Studio, preceded the presentation about this unique program by Karen Shelly-Genther.

The relationship began in 2005 when the mall's Mary Kay Owen offered to help CCAA with their fund-raising project by displaying 62 colorfully decorated planters by area artists throughout the

mall. Owen also arranged for CCAA to set up a studio in the mall to enable CCAA to further reach out to the public. During the December 2005 holidays the CCAA offered 150 art classes for adults and children to help people understand more about CCAA.

The effort, underwritten by the mall, had such positive results that the Mall/CCAA partnership team realized they shouldn't limit this activity to the holiday season. Not only was it a great opportunity for hundreds of people to learn about the CCAA, but a great opportunity for the mall to fulfill its goal of being more involved in and supportive of the community, with a solid commitment not just a one time event.

Darcie Goldberg, executive director of CCAA, said the mall site enables a diverse group of artists to display their work, noting there are three galleries along with the studio space allotted CCAA by the mall. Customers come upon the art studio in the mall and say it brings vibrancy and energy to the mall, as well as being a good place to find gifts among the offerings of area artists.

Shelly-Genther explained CCAA offers classes in three-week sessions, all free. In 2008, CCAA taught 584 classes to over 6,400 adults and children. It's a great place to come and play for free! In addition to painting, the studio offers classes on art history, sculpture and other artistic venues. When CCAA offered Mommy and Me classes for moms and tots once a month, 35 to 65 moms and kids showed up, so they began offering the classes every week and then, twice a week. Dads and grandparents come also, as well as homeschoolers, students from Devereaux, and seniors from Barclay Friends.

Art displayed in the galleries is provided by CCAA members who pay an annual \$35 membership fee to belong to CCAA. CCAA attracts accomplished artists, international artists and all levels of artists to display (and sell) their work.

The CCAA Exton Square Studio is open Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 11 months of the year and every day during December. The studio depends on donations to keep going said Shelly-Genther. She invited folks to buy an extra ream of paper to donate the studio when they go to the office supply store. Tissue paper, bubble wrap and other materials are also greatly appreciated, she said. There are currently 2,000 art pieces for sale in the galleries from 120 artists, although she was quick to point out that "art is not about the sale, it's about creation – stimulating those who look at it." She added that all purchases are 35% tax-deductible because CCAA is non-profit.

Looks as if the Exton Mall and CCAA have

formed a valuable and enduring partnership worthy of a visit!

SAVE THE DATE

Jan 17 Habitat for Humanity work date
Feb 21 Habitat for Humanity work date
Apr 17-19 District Conference

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

Add events: calendar@westchesterrotary.us

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided at our meeting by **Katie Decker** of DNB First.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant DG Samantha Kranyak- Ramsey gave birth to a son, James Ramsey-Noah on January 5, 2009 at 5:26 PM. He was 8 lbs., 1.5 oz and 20.5" long

EXCHANGE STUDENT

Anri (pronounced Anli) Izui at Henderson HS
Hosts: Eric and Susan Aaldenberg
129 Bantery Rd. W C19380
610-436-1615
Anri Cell Phone: (610) 400-7432

THE ROTARY CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS

President, Steve Karp; President-Elect, Dave Rayburn; Vice-President, Bill Ronayne; Past President, Gary Hess; Secretary, Patricia Kotsay; Treasurer, Rob Feenan; Sergeant At Arms, Katie Decker; Directors-at-Large: Cristina Combee, Elizabeth Guman, Jeannie McGinn, Terry McGrath, Bob Rogers, Mark Sammarone, Bert Volger

Joel Chesney, District Governor
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Robert Poole, III, M.D., P. D.G. 1980-1981

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

President: krpstr@yahoo.com or 610-430-6233
Votary Committee: Faith Woodward, Publisher. 610-918-3432 fwood@bf.kendal.org
Bruce Beadle, Vice-Chair and Web site maintenance. Committee Members: Pat Barron, Matt Bradley, Sue Casso, Victoria Dow, Elizabeth Guman, Charlie Lyddane, Fran Luft, Paula Ott, Cathy Palmquist, Joe Polito, and Mark Sammarone (Web site)