



# ROTARY VOTARY

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

**Make Dreams Real** Bulletin #34 [www.WestChesterRotary.us](http://www.WestChesterRotary.us) March 19, 2009

**This Week's Program: March 19, 2009**

**Classification Talks**

**Speakers: Sue Karr and Tony Coluntonio**  
**Arranged by Sue Casso Rogers**

**Next Week's Program: March 26, 2009**

**Wilmington Blue Rocks**

**Speaker: Chris Kemple**  
**Arranged by Jack Wintermute**

## MINUTES by Faith Woodward

**President Steve** opened our meeting after we all sang "America." **Charlie** Lyddane gave an invocation quoting the Roman Seneca. We also held a moment of silence in honor of **Sue Casso Rogers'** father, Bill Haines, who had passed away that morning. [The Memorial Service will be held on Saturday March 21 at 11:00 at First Presbyterian Church, West Chester. Visitation will be from 9:30 - 11:00 at the church prior to the service.]

Joe Kahn was our sole Visiting Rotarian. Guests were Jessica and Rich with **Dave Biffen**, Kelly McVeigh with **Mac Neilon**, Peter King with **Paul Woodruff**, Joe Packer with **Don Stonestrom**, Bruce Kirk with **President Steve**, and son Henry with **Charles Streitwieser**.

**Terry McGrath** wished a Happy Birthday to **Steve Founds** and **Gary Hess** did the same for **Joe Cunnane**.

**Jack Wintermute** reported that **Ken Hickman's** knee replacement and therapy are going well. As far as measuring pain with this surgery, Jack also had a new definition for the number "10."

**Chris McCawley** reminded us that it was time again for our Honorary Rotarian nominations. A non-Rotarian who exemplifies Rotary values would qualify for this award and applications can be obtained from Chris.

**Ed Malet** invited all to participate in the International Picnic at WCU on April 19 5-7 PM. Attendees are asked to mingle with the students and respond to questions about America. Please supply prizes and give suggestions to **Mark Sammerone**.

**Matt Schwab** explained that the CCH May Fest will be celebrated on several dates, the first of which will be the Dash for Diabetes on April 4.

**Gary Hess** presented **President Steve** with the "Enjoy Rotary" pin that has been passed down from president to president since the 50s.

**Elizabeth Guman** and **Cristina Combee** filled us in on Fruit statistics: We have \$18,000 dollars and have a goal of \$30,000. 63 Rotarians have participated so far. Fruit could be sold up to Sunday, March 15 by calling Cristina's cell phone and bringing the slip and money to the meeting on March 19. **Marjorie Wentz** has volunteered to deliver fruit to the Haverford Club.

The trivia question, "Who sold the most grapefruit last year?" was correctly answered by **Terry McGrath**. Why, **Don Stonestrom**, of course! Everyone responded to the question, "Where do we pick up fruit?"- A. Duie Pyle by Henderson High School, of course.

The 50-50 was won by **Debbie Sparre**. The WC Recreation Department is the beneficiary of the proceeds.

## SPEAKERS REVIEW by Fran Luft

The presentation today by Dr. William Watson was about DUFFY'S CUT. The bark John Stamp sailed from Londonderry in April 1832 and landed in Philadelphia June 23, 1832. 160 Irish men and women were on board. Most males were Irish laborers. Three ships alone in that period carried all Irish passengers from and Irish port directly to Philadelphia. The Captain was John Young. 57 men were hired on the docks by Phillip Duffy to construct part of the Philadelphia and Columbia railroad. This

line is still in use today. Duffy's Cut was mile 59 near Paoli.

Violence and conflict broke out at this time due to the perception of the immigrant and cholera. These men were in their 20's all Irish and dirt poor. They came from the northern part of Ireland. There was a lot of cross-cultural conflict with growing ethnic and religious tension. The Irishmen worked to build canals and the railroad in the 1830s. They were victims of the Industrial Revolution. There was urban squalor. President Andrew Jackson wanted to cultivate the Irish immigrant vote.

In 1829- 1832 cholera spread from Europe through Canada to the United States. This was caused through bacteria in the water. Lack of understanding of the disease caused people to be buried alive. In 1893 the Philadelphia Board of Health to quarantine food. 14 Sisters f Charity from Maryland worked in the Philadelphia cholera hospitals. There was panic – no cure. The Irish men worked in the Main Line Public Works. There were two rail lines and canals where the men fell sick with the disease, cholera. The men were cutting out the landscape to lay trails. Patrick Duffy had a contract worth \$23,500. Labor was \$.50 a day total cost \$4,800. The profit was \$12,000.

When the men fell ill it took 2 weeks from the onset of the illness to death. There are lots of ghost stories of the men dancing on graves. The men were to have been buried in a grave in the valley. Tragedy did not affect Patrick Duffy. He continued to obtain railroad contracts. Duffy died a very rich man in Port Richmond in 1871 at the age of 88. He had no remorse for not helping the 57 men who died at Duffy's Cut.

In June of 2003 permission was granted to dig for the grave site. A historical marker in honor of Duffy's Cut Mass Grave at King and Sugartown Roads, Willistown Township, was dedicated June 18, 2004. This is a forgotten moment in Irish history.

**THANK YOU**

Copies of the Votary are provided by **Michele Parent** of Makemie Ridge.

**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

**NEW MEMBER**

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

**Carolyn Comitta:** West Chester Borough Council Member, Classification - Government, Borough Administration.

Sponsor **Dave Rayburn**

If no written objections are received by the Club Secretary within three (3) days of this notice a date will be set for her induction.



**SAVE THE DATE**

- Mar 21 Fruit pick-up
  - Apr 17-19 District Conference
  - Apr 18 Rotary Leadership Institute -DE
  - Apr 19 International Student Picnic
  - May 26 Rotary at the Blue Rocks
- Check out the Rotary Calendar of events at <http://www.westchesterrotary.us/clubcalendar.htm>  
Add events: [calendar@westchesterrotary.us](mailto:calendar@westchesterrotary.us)

**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  
Samantha Kranyak-Ramsey, Ass't District Gov.  
Robert Poole, III, M.D., P. D.G. 1980-1981

**HOW TO GET IN TOUCH**

President: [krpstr@yahoo.com](mailto:krpstr@yahoo.com) or 610-430-6233  
Votary Committee: Faith Woodward, Publisher.610-918-3432 [fwood@bf.kendal.org](mailto: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)