



District 7450

www.WestChesterRotary.us

Week # 13 September 24, 2026

CLUB MEETING ~ September 17 Minutes by Chris Zaccarelli

President-Elect Steve Bayles opened the meeting
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Phil McFadden**
An invocation was offered by **Patty Jefferis**

GUESTS

Susan Nice and **Rich Martini**, guests of **Rick Dunlap**
Amy Miller, guest of **Bill Ronayne**
Andy DeWese and **Julia Lydon**, guests of **Sue Casso-Rogers**

HAPPY BUCKS

Connell O'Brien is happy for his grandson who is a senior in high school and president of best buddies and has been nominated for a national award – doing great stuff in our community



Christine Scott is very happy for winning the pot a few weeks ago and her son got engaged

Sue Casso-Rogers is happy Sunday October 4th when she and Bob are hosting the Gala Auction BBQ where there is still room for four people at \$100 a person, first come first served; also happy that **William Pasquale** is back in WC Rotary and his oldest daughter got her first job at Highlights – a career job in her field.

Steve Bayles is happy for the \$3,500 Alex's Lemonade Stand got from Hankin Group and CTDI, for a total just shy of her \$300k goal as his daughter will be going off to college.

Bob Frame is happy that **Bill Friedmann** hosted cave-man night at his house and it was a great time.

Mahendra Patti - Went to Canada and is happy he survived

Amy Miller – had to have Rotary's District Governor at the Senior Center last week and it was much appreciated – everyone is invited to the visit the Senior Center to learn more about about their programs.

Dimeji Gisanrin is happy he is on the board of the WCASC and had a great meeting this morning. Any type of financial support would be much appreciated.

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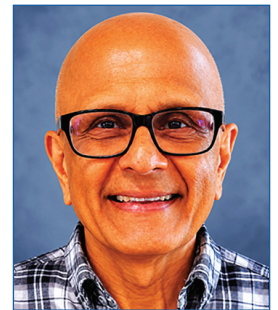
TODAY'S PROGRAM ~ September 24
Kristen de Marco, Executive Director
Gateway Horseworks

NEXT WEEK ~ October 1
Ken Rogers
"Pedaling With a Purpose"

SEPTEMBER 3 PROGRAM Member Classification Talks

Mahendra Pattni

My journey began in Zanzibar, an island off the coast of Tanzania, and has taken me around the world through education, career, family, and travel. I completed my early education in Zanzibar, Dar es Salaam, and Nairobi, then earned a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the National Institute of Technology in West Bengal, India. I later studied in England and the United States, earning an MBA from Western Illinois University and an accountancy qualification from the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants in London.



I met my wife, Nita, in England, and we have been married for 41 years. Our children, Karishma and Shaan, grew up in Radnor. Shaan recently married Rish, and our family enjoys traveling together, including trips to India, Australia, Montreal, Vermont, and a memorable balloon ride in Tanzania.

My career began in my uncle's hospitality and property-development business. Seeking new challenges, I joined GlaxoSmithKline in London and eventually returned to the United States. My career included Rogers Corporation, founding a Goddard School franchise that continues to operate in Newtown Square, and serving as CFO of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation before retiring.

Family and travel remain central to my life. I enjoy cycling and skiing and belong to the West Chester cycling club. My Rotary journey began with Rotaract in Arlington, Mass., where I participated in many projects and activities.

The journey continues – and the destination remains unknown.

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Happy Bucks continued

Diana Liberi was happy that Carol Hanson was given the District Governor’s Award when DG Carol Lerner visited us.



Paul Sookaisian was happy to be back and wants to say hello to everyone. He recently returned from Armenia where he had a great experience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Michelle Venema’s dad passed away, card is going around

Murder Mystery Dinner is sold out – if you are going make sure you read the NUCU on how to get there

Fellowship committee is meeting just after this meeting

Our Community Philanthropic Committe (CPC) will be getting grant money to give out this year

So Good Now – collecting sports equipment – they are looking for used sports equipment only, no uniforms, cleats or sneakers – will give us a one pager with details.

Rita Brouwer-Ancher on behalf of Communications Committee - Liz had the idea to put cards out on how to join Facebook or Instagram so we can build our social media presence.

Connell O’Brien - this weekend is the WC Restaurant Festival – we have a full scheulde of volutneers for the table and he is grateful – table is near the old Iron Hill Brewery

Ernest Zlotolow – our Internatonal Service Committee is completing generator installation in six rural schools in Tigre, Argetina with help of Powell Foundation and starting a scholarship program there – kids are dropping out of school because they can’t afford books or uni-forms

Phoebe Kitson-Davis – Stocking for Soldiers will be coming up soon and has handouts, she would love a few volunteers to help her collect things.

Birthdays: our Board has decided to move away from birthdays at club meetings are recognize Rotary anniver-saries instead. No gifts, no cost.

TRIFECTA DRAWING

Susan Shirley had the winning ticket, but did not draw the Queen of Spades. Better luck next time!



CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Classification Talks continued

Craig Scott



Craig began with a joke: he had no visuals, was starting late, and anyone who needed to leave could simply walk out. Hav-ing joined Rotary about eight months ago, he has found it a wonderful experience.

He grew up in Villanova, attend-ed Bucknell, and began his career in sales. After several jobs, he eventually built a career in money management, using some unconventional – and humorous – ways to connect with prospective clients.

Now retired, he stays active through volunteering, ten-nis, travel, and music. He has three children and enjoys spending time with family. His travels have taken him throughout the United States and around the world, most recently on an African safari. There, he met an ele-phant-protection group that uses helicopters to relocate rogue elephants threatening farms. On a later encoun-ter, he was invited aboard a helicopter to observe their work. When handed M-80s and asked to drop them near an elephant, he quickly declined!

He believes curiosity opens the door to adventure and that without travel, our world can become very small. A passionate music fan who has attended more than 200 concerts, he especially recommends the New Orleans Jazz Festival.

He concluded with lyrics from several favorite songs.

BOARD of DIRECTORS 2026-2027

President	Michael Louis
President-Elect	Steve Bayles
Vice President	Phil McFadden
Treasurer	Diana Liberi
Secretary	Sue Casso Rogers
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bob Rogers
Immediate Past President	Kyle Rheiner
Directors-at-Large	Rita Brouwer-Ancher, Glenda Brion, Sue Flynn, Bob Frame, Chuck Heckenberger, Michael Karwic, Miranda Reilly, Jeff Spencer, Howard Sundwall
District 7450 Governor	Carol Lerner
P.D.G. ’13-14 District 7450	Charles Streitwieser
P.D.G. ’12-13 District 7510	Dwight Leeper

VOTARY COMMITTEE

Anne Driscoll, Joe Driscoll, Brian Fahey, Michael Karwic, Randy Lindel, Miranda Reilly, Susan Shirley
Website: webmaster@westchesterrotary.us