



# ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450  
Barry Rassin, International President 2018-2019

Bulletin #27 [www.WestChesterRotary.us](http://www.WestChesterRotary.us) January 31, 2019

**This Week's Program: January 31, 2019**  
**Speaker: Gaspar**  
**Rotary Exchange Student from Chile**

**Next Week's Program: February 7, 2019**  
**Stay tuned!**

## MINUTES by Cathy Palmquist

**President Bill Friedmann** opened the meeting back at the West Chester Golf and Country Club. **Carol Hanson** gave the invocation, beginning with a quote from Eleanor Roosevelt, and ending with some thoughts on doing good things for the benefit of all. **President Bill** then gave a special shout out to our sergeants at arms, who have set up our meetings the past two weeks away from the country club, which necessitated some extra effort. Our lone visiting Rotarian was our guest speaker, Skip Torresson from the Haverford Rotary Club. Among our many guests was Debby Berry, the guest of **Patty Jefferies**, who is applying for membership in our club, Mike Book, guest of **Bob Frame**, Claudie Brock, wife of **Lynmar**, and Duke Evans, former Rotarian and guest of **Paul Woodruff**. Duke then introduced his guest, Larry Spaziani, former Rotarian from the Ardmore Rotary. Both Duke and Larry saw many old friends. **Chris Franz** guest was Sarah Stout from his church council.

**President Bill** kicked off Happy Birthday greetings, of which there were many. His birthday honoree was **Bill Ronayne**, **Jack Wintermute** gave best wishes to **Bert Volger**, and **Faith Woodward** extended birthday wishes to **John Schwab**, a longtime friend and great strategist. **Bob Frame** congratulated **Bill Winters**. **Steve Quigley** congratulated **Bob Poole**, who has been in the club for over 60 years, **Carol Hanson** extended best wishes to **Jesus Corraliza**, and **Mac Neilon** extended birthday greetings to his best friend in our club, **Katie Martin**.

And, there were LOTS of Happy Bucks! **Carol Hanson** reported that she and Dennis had a fabulous time at Uptown! recently – and ran into **Pres. Bill** and Debi there; **Jeannie McGinn** expressed thanks for the donations given by Rotarians to the Warehouse Project last weekend, and **Ebbie Alfree** was happy to announce an upcoming fundraiser at P.J.

Wheelihan's for The Hickman. **Gary Green** was happy to see three past YMCA board presidents in attendance, **Paul Woodruff**, Larry Spaziani and **Bob Hall**; **Melissa Baxter** was happy and thankful for the help Rotarians gave to the Domestic Violence Center recently, and **Jesus Corraliza** was happy to announce that the Salvation Army is providing help to furloughed government workers with rental assistance, heating oil, their pantry and soup kitchen. Another happy Rotarian was **Paul Woodruff**, our Rotary Foundation treasurer, for invaluable help with foundation record-keeping on the computer from **Michelle Venema**. **Bob Poole** put in \$2.50 in celebration of his grandson graduating from the Police Academy, and another \$2.50 because **Sheriff "Bunny" Welsh** hired Bob's grandson! Visitor and former Rotarian Duke Evans was happy to express his great regard for **Gary Green** who served the YMCA for 18 years.

**President Bill** looked back at history in noting some famous Rotarians, such as Connie Mack and Pres. Harry Truman. In Miami, a fellow named Al Brown applied for membership but was turned down – his real name, Al Capone! **President Bill** named a number of members through the years who are celebrating a Rotary anniversary today, including **Rob Feenan**, **Mac Neilon** and **Jack Wintermute**.

Kicking off announcements, **Christine Wildauer** noted that we are off to a very slow start with our fruit sale. She has received about \$900, which means just \$200 in profit. She said that **Paul Woodruff** has written a very nice email to send to friends and family that describes the fruit sale, who it benefits, and how to participate. If members need help recruiting customers, she will share **Paul's** email with them.

**President Bill** noted upcoming meetings, especially the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting, when the highest-ranking woman in Rotary International will

speak. **President Bill** is thinking of inviting other local clubs to join us to hear her.

**Jack Wintermute** announced the next 50/50 recipient, Chester County Children, Inc. The 50/50 was won by **Brian Fahey**, but he missed the queen.

In closing, **President Bill** read a quote from President Woodrow Wilson.

### **SPEAKERS REVIEW by Winnie Stroup**

Skip Torresson of the Haverford Township Rotary Club presented two compelling subjects. The Haverford Club is one of the smallest in our District with only 15 members. We know them well from the beautiful roses they sell every year as their major fundraiser.

Skip first described his personal journey that led him to Uganda. As a 15-year Rotarian, he had often thought about making a difference internationally but never found the path. Introspection told him that he had "no useful skills to apply." At a conference for Christian business owners a charismatic speaker called for 100 attendees to commit to an international business mission and Skip said yes. Internally "Uganda" called to him for no discernable reason.

Through a series of connections and Father Joseph Sserugo, the Uganda point person, arriving at the wrong church to give a mission talk, Skip connected to *The Bridge to Uganda*, a 501C3 founded in 2007. Father Joseph invited parishioners to visit his home village in Uganda and the bridge was formed.

By 2009, the organization supported a high school in lower Uganda and then began the effort to build a school in the bush, 2.5 miles north of Kampala. The co-ed school, Pope John Paul II Academy, opened with 60 students in 2012 and today houses over 600 students. The school places in the top 5% of secondary schools in Uganda. The first graduating class in 2018 had 98% of the students qualify for college. In 2016 with a \$1000 grant from the Haverford Club, a chemistry lab was built. Soon followed by a physics lab. The current project is to build sanitation facilities with \$4500 from the Haverford Club, \$5000 from the Miami club and \$2500 from the district. An amazing amount has been accomplished in a short time but much remains to be done. The United Nations has reported that one of the great challenges in Africa creating economic opportunities and lasting peace is the lack of secondary education (less than 7% of students are able to attend secondary school). The school is also supported by St. Vincent de Paul parish with funding and visits. The Philadelphia Union has sent soccer balls, uniforms, cleats and other equipment. The wife

of a business acquaintance of Skips, a Penn professor created the concept of laptops preloaded with Ted talks, Wikipedia etc. so that the almost non-existent internet connection wouldn't stop student minds from exploring.

You can contact Skip at 610-353-0843 or [skipper@stewardshipgroup.com](mailto:skipper@stewardshipgroup.com) and read about the Bridge to Uganda at [www.bridgetouganda.org](http://www.bridgetouganda.org).

### **CONDOLENCES**

The members of the Rotary Club of West Chester express condolences to our member, **Seamus Lavin**, on the loss of his mother. Seamus and his family are in our thoughts and prayers.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

Feb 16	Community Warehouse Day 9AM to 2 PM. Volunteer through Jeannie
Feb 17	Website closed for fruit sales
Feb 18	Last day for fruit purchase
Mar 2	Fruit pick up Check out the Rotary

Check out the Rotary Calendar of events at <http://www.westchesterrotary.us/clubcalendar.htm>  
Add events: [calendar@westchesterrotary.us](mailto:calendar@westchesterrotary.us)

### **THANK YOU**

Copies of the Votary are provided today by **Bill Ronayne** of Brandywine Heating & AC

### **THE ROTARY CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS**

President, Bill Friedmann; President Elect, Matt Holliday; Vice President, Michelle Venema; Treasurer, Jack Ellis; Secretary, Sue Casso Rogers; Sgts at Arms, Catherine Friedman & Deb Sparre; Immediate Past President, Mickey Hall; Directors-at-Large: Laura Aloisio, Brad Abel, Rob Malone, Rich Murray, Steve Brown, Bill Winters, Diana Liberi, Glen Sweet, Ernest Zlotolow

Paul Quintavella, District Governor  
Cynthia Rugart, Assistant Governor  
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Dwight Leeper, P.D.G. '12-13. District 7510  
Robert Poole, P.D.G. '80-'81 District 7450  
Lynmar Brock, Past Director of Rotary International, P.D.G. '77-78 District 7450

### **HOW TO GET IN TOUCH**

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[Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us](mailto:Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us) Committee: Pat Barron, Gary Hess, Fran Luft, Cathy Palmquist, Kyle Rheiner, Patty Roos, Charles Streitwieser, Cynthia

Stroup, Winnie Stroup