



ROTARY VOTARY

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

Bulletin #37 www.WestChesterRotary.us April 11, 2019

This Week's Program: April 11, 2019
Speakers: Tim Healy and Mark Yoder
Classification Talks

Next Week's Program: April 18, 2019
Speaker: Sydnie Bayles
Alex's Lemonade Stand

MINUTES by Cathy Palmquist

President Bill Friedmann opened the meeting. **Ernest Zlotolow** gave the invocation, noting the arrival of Ramadan and Passover, and encouraging members to enjoy the warmth of spring and fellowship. Sherry Harry from Lancaster Penn Square was the lone visiting Rotarian. Visitors included Katie Phillips and Dennis Steiner from VisionCorps, and soon to be inducted, Jeff Spencer, new CEO of the Boy Scout Council.

Jeannie McGinn extended birthday greetings to **Andrew Stump**. **Sue Casso Rogers** kicked off Happy Bucks by inviting members to join the country club, which offers not only golf, but tennis and swimming. **Bob Frame** was happy to invite members to the Coldwell Banker Preferred Annual Appreciation Party and open house on Wednesday, April 10th from 5 – 8 p.m. at the American Helicopter Museum. Included is food, beverages, live entertainment, a raffle and silent auction to benefit Unite for Her charity. Contact Bob to RSVP. Bob reports that five Rotary members are among the sponsors. **Don Kohler** is happy that he will be attending his last Boy Scout Blue and Gold Banquet, which will mark the end of his term as Scout leader.

President Bill, looking back at Rotary history, noted that in 1943, the U.S. Treasury challenged all Rotary clubs to sell war bonds. By April 26th Rotarians had raised over \$224,000. In 1992, our club inducted **Carol Hanson**, and 10 years later, we inducted **Jim Lees**. **Sue Casso Rogers** reminded members of the two upcoming volunteer activities, the Rotarians at Work Day, and the MS Walk, which is seeking Rotary volunteers. Also, via President Dennis Wallace of the Sunrise Club, four Rotary clubs will be involved in doing cleanup on Rotarians at Work Day, and there are tee shirts available that say "Rotarian at Work,"

without a specific date on them. Forms for ordering shirts were on the tables.

In announcements, **President Bill** noted that **Steve Brown** is collecting soup today for Safe Harbor. Upcoming programs include classification talks, the District Assembly, Rotary Night at the Blue Rocks, a Chili Cook-off meeting, and Goose Creek Cleanup. He reminded us that CPC grant applications are due April 30th so members who serve on charitable boards may want to remind them of the deadline.

The 50/50 was won by **Bob Rogers**, who drew his own name! However, the queen eluded him.

President Bill's historic quote for the day was from President Gerald Ford, who said "Never be satisfied with your best effort..."

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Faith Woodward

INDUCTION

Mark Sammarone led the induction of Jeff Spencer whose sponsor is **Don Kohler**.

Mark asked, "Why join Rotary? certainly to give service, to make the world a better place among many reasons, to get to know your community, to establish business partners or relationships with fellow members who might be working alongside of you on a project.

As **Jack Wintermute** has admonished all of us, "Don't be a RINO!" (Rotarian In Name Only). Check our website for work projects to get involved in and practice the principles of goodwill and friendships.

PRESENTATION BY VISIONCORPS

Mark Yoder introduced Dennis Steiner, President and CEO of VisionCorps. They met though the

Greater WC Chamber's program to connect our youth to the community and now they rent space from the Chamber.

VisionCorps is one of the oldest non-profits in the county, established in 1927. In WWII they provided services for the Lion's Club of Lancaster by manning an outpost on the Conestoga River and hence Lancaster was never attacked!

VisionCorps serves Adams, Lancaster, Lebanon, York, and Chester Counties. Their mission is to empower individuals with vision loss to attain independence and their vision is a world without barriers for those with vision loss.

The organization works towards early intervention for blindness and help build confidence through kayaking, skiing, and scuba diving.

Referrals in Chester County have increased but most of their work had been in Lancaster County. The average age of their clients is 80.9 years. Most clients are over 65. One 93-year old has learned to use technology that takes a photo of a menu at a restaurant and her iPad will read it to her.

Macular Degeneration, Glaucoma, Diabetic Retinopathy, and cataracts are among the diagnoses that have led to blindness, although cataracts are the leading cause in third world countries only. One in six people over 65 will experience vision loss. That increases to one in four for those over 75.

Employment programs are important for those with vision loss because they experience 75% unemployment. VisionCorps has six locations with employment programs. Some of the job opportunities are: making components for military helmets to reduce head trauma, making reflector strips for highways for PennDOT, and reviewing government vendor contracts. All told, they generate \$1.5 million in revenue.

Contact them at 866-876-6550 or visioncorps.net to make referrals, volunteer as drivers, or donate funds. They never turn anyone away and rely on grants to help fulfill their mission.

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided today by **Brian Fahey** of West Chester Friends School.

SAVE THE DATE

Apr 13 Rotary Clean Up at Goose Creek
Apr 27 Rotary at Work Day
May 5 East Goshen MS Walk
May 13 Rotary @ the Blue Rocks
May 18 Community Warehouse Day

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

ROTARIAN AT WORK TSHIRTS:

\$12 each (\$14/2XL-4XL)

Order from Bill Friedmann

bill@getbluedog.com by April 12

COMMUNITY WAREHOUSE PROJECT

Our next volunteer workday for the Community Warehouse Project will be Saturday, May 18, between the hours of 9 and 2. If you have a truck and/or are willing to help with furniture pickups and drop offs please let me know! Click on the link below to sign up. www.volunteersignup.org/YQEL7

THE ROTARY CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS

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HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

Votary Committee: Chair, Faith Woodward, 610-918-3432; Votary@westchesterrotary.us Web support: Judi Bell and Howard Sundwall.

Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us Committee: Pat Barron, Gary Hess, Fran Luft, Cathy Palmquist, Kyle Rheiner, Patty Roos, Charles Streitwieser, Winnie Stroup