



# ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450  
John F. Germ, International President 2016-2017

Bulletin #29 [www.WestChesterRotary.us](http://www.WestChesterRotary.us) February 2, 2017

## This Week's Program: February 2, 2017

## Next Week's Program: February 9, 2017

### To Be Announced

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#### MINUTES by Winnie Stroup

**President Bob Rogers** opened the meeting. After the club recited the pledge of allegiance, **Pastor Chris Franz** gave the invocation. He brought style and finesse to the task thanks to his years of experience. **Catherine Friedman** led us in God Bless America.

**Brad Abel** added multimedia to his joke section by including a video ... something about a dog and a cookie.

Visiting Rotarians included Reese Reynolds from WEGO and Mark Finley from Longwood. For the second week in a row, **Mickey Hall** brought her husband Bob and **Winnie Stroup** brought her daughter Cynthia. Guests also included Brian Fahey, Jim Murphy, Spencer Dean, Marty Huclad, Cindy Santine and our 2016-2017 exchange student, Gabriel Bay. **Bob Rogers** suggested that club members invite Gabrielle to any event that would enhance his exchange experience.

Happy bucks: **Don Kohler** made many of us happy by selling girl scout cookies. Each box is \$4 and Don will make a contribution to the Club foundation for every box he sells. He took orders for next week as well. Catherine Friedman was happy with her experience in Washington, D.C. which she found uplifting, safe and peaceful. She also had a happy buck for a homeless Mom with 2 children who had agreed to move into an apartment. It will be the first home the 12 and 17 year old have ever had. **Lynn Childs** is happy to be a club member after being inducted last week.

Birthdays: **Steve Founds** wished a Happy Birthday to the member with the beautiful smile, **Laura Aloisio**. **Ken Hickman** congratulated **Bill Winters** for his flying career in Vietnam and commented that he had yet to master golf. **Larry Miller** reminded us that

**Bruce Beadle** was very active with Rotoplast and is a Grant Writer while he wished him Birthday Greetings.

**Diane Lemonides** announced that February is soup Month. Members can make a gallon or 2 gallons of soup and freeze it and bring it to the meeting on Feb 9<sup>th</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> for delivery to Safe Harbor. Reese Reynolds announced that the WEGO club will be having a Souper Bowl event with everything but Chili the Friday before Super Bowl Sunday.

**Rachel Barakat** reminded the club that the fruit sale is going on thru 2/17/2017. See her if you did not receive your white envelope. This year there are 8 beneficiaries of the proceeds of the sale. The West Chester Library and the Domestic Violence Center have already sole over \$500 of fruit which qualifies them as recipients.

**Marjorie Wentz** invited anyone in the club or any one we know to become the second host family for Gabriel. Rotary International strongly recommends that exchange students have the opportunity to live with more than one family to maximize their experience. Host families must be in the Henderson School District as Gabriel is currently enrolled there.

**Elizabeth Guman** reminded the club that we will all receive a survey to provide the club leadership with input to the Strategic Planning meeting in April. It will also form the basis for table discussions in early March.

**Bob Rogers** shared that the current issue of Rotary Magazine carries a story about a Rotary Peace fellow who is a retired Philadelphia police officer and currently implementing key initiatives in Philadelphia. He also announced that the Chester Rotary Club which launched our club will be celebrating their 100th anniversary at Harrah's Casino this spring.

The 50-50 was won by **Howard Sundwall**.

## SPEAKER'S REVIEW By Patty Roos

The speaker was introduced by Visiting Rotarian Mark Finley.

Dr. Aaron Rundus of West Chester University works with the Departments of Anthropology, Sociology and Psychology. He and his wife Mary Ravenfield are working on a project in Rwanda called the West Chester University Research Station in Gishwati. In 2008 their focus was on primate behavior and ecology with chimpanzees and golden monkeys. The Gishwati Forest has shrunk down considerably over the years so it was decided that it was important to learn more about the forest and the communities and conservation. The program that was formed from this is 1 of 8 in the United States and West Chester University is internationally recognized. West Chester University Abroad between 2014-2015 took down small field schools to learn about the primates, communities and conducted research on the forests of Rwanda. The last Saturday of the month, is National Community Service Day and everyone takes part in it. The students in the field study work along with the communities on that day. Their experience is life changing, they come away changed and have life-long partnerships/friends from it.

The current field station is the old health building and they have out grown it. They are looking to create a new place. This facility would contain a new bunk house that can accommodate 24 students, a lab/research station, kitchen cooking facility and small residents for long term researchers.

They also want to engage more professors of different academic disciplines to help in their research.

By working with Forest of Hope, the project will contribute back to the communities by providing clean drinking water, job creation and helping local businesses by using them for the furniture.



## SAVE THE DATE

Feb 9 Super Seminar – Membership  
Feb 16, 23 Soup Drive for Safe Harbor  
Feb 19 Fruit Orders Due  
Mar 10 RYLA Awards  
Mar 11 Pick up Fruit

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  
**Katie Martin** of DNB First



## EXCHANGE STUDENT

**Gabriel Bay** from Rafaela, Argentina  
Attending Henderson High School  
Host family: Mark and Ellen Morun (610) 344-0205  
416 Chrislena Lane, WC, PA 19380

## THE ROTARY CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS

President, Bob Rogers; President-Elect, Mickey Hall.  
Vice-President, Bill Friedmann; Past President, Katie Martin; Secretary, Sue Casso Rogers; Treasurer, Tim Walsh; Sergeant-at-Arms, Brad Abel; Directors-at-Large: Laura Aloisio, Dave Barkasy, Judi Bell, Cristina Combee, Linda Hicks, Jim Smith, Andrew Stump, Michelle Venema, Ernest Zlotolow.

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## HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

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

[Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us](mailto:Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us) Committee: Rachel Barakat, Pat Barron, Chris Feryo, Elizabeth Guman, Gary Hess, Matt Holliday, Jim Kammerer, Laura House Kelly, Fran Luft, Cathy Palmquist, Patty Roos, Winnie Stroup, Glen Sweet, Marjorie Wentz