



# ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450  
 K.R. Ravindran, International President 2015-2016  
 Bulletin #50 [www.WestChesterRotary.us](http://www.WestChesterRotary.us) June 22, 2016

**This Week's Program: Wed, June 22, 2016**  
**Silent Auction and**  
**Bob Roger's Induction**

**Next Week's Program: June 30, 2016**  
**To Be Announced**

## MINUTES by Matt Holliday

- **President Katie** opened the meeting and **Ron Ginns** gave the invocation.
- We had one Visiting Rotarian, John Saling. **Chris McCawley** introduced her husband, Dwight McCawley, who came to be part of the Rotary Readers Recognition. **Marjorie Wentz** introduced her son Justin.
- **President Katie** announced that on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, **Bob Rogers** will have his induction ceremony/dinner at the Country Club. His installation ceremony will replace the normal Thursday meeting that week. **Glen Sweet** made an announcement about the wonderful auction (both silent and live) that will take place at Bob's induction gala.
- **Carol Hanson** gave a happy buck for the Barclay Friends golf outing at Whitford Country Club, which was supported by a large number of Rotarians. **Bill Friedmann** was happy that he was given 500 free tickets to the Reading Phillies game on July 1<sup>st</sup>, so if anyone wants one, they should see him. **Jim Smith** was happy that he got engaged in France. **Cathy Palmquist** gave a happy buck for her husband's birthday, and because her grandson received a Rotary Scholarship in New Jersey. **Catherine Friedman** gave a happy buck to announce the Friends Association for the Care and Protection of Children's Golf Outing.
- **Dr. Poole** wished a very happy birthday to **Chris McCawley**.
- **President Katie** announced that **Joe Polito** was placed on hospice and that if anyone would like to reach out to him (he would love to hear from us) they can call him at 610-692-8123. She also gave out three months' worth of Rotarians of the Month. **Elizabeth Guman** was the Rotarian of the Month of April. **Andy Keen** was the Rotarian of the Month of May. **Carol Hanson** was the Rotarian of the Month of June.

- **Chris McCawley** called up all the folks who participate in the Rotary Readers Program which is made up of folks in our club, a few Rotarians from other clubs, and the spouses of some of our club's members.
- **Rob Malone** won the 50/50 drawing, but just barely missed the Queen of Spades.
- \$1,000 with only twelve cards remaining.

## SPEAKER'S REVIEW by Winnie Stroup

**Bob Frame** introduced Mary Beth Yannessa, the Executive Director of the Animal House Project dba Chester County Pet Food Pantry. He promised that there was a surprise in store at the end of her presentation involving **Bill Ronayne**.

Mary Beth described the goal of the Project as helping families keep their pets at home by giving them food and other services for their pets. She is so passionate about her clients who are often Seniors or Veterans who need their pets to fight off "the demons of depression." Many are known to feed their pets first and not take care of themselves. Recently they added 400 veterans to their roster who have service and/or companion pets.

During hard economic times, families where a key person is unemployed or is in jeopardy of losing a job needs food to be able to keep their pets. Clients are referred by word of mouth, Churches, and Food Pantries. Shelters often will ask a why a pet is being surrendered. If the answer is food or basic pet cared they are referred to the Animal House Project. Shelters are a difficult subject. Some seniors will try to give their pet to a shelter hoping that a family will love and care for them. Although there are no kill shelters, 1.3 million animals are euthanized every year in other shelters.

Mary Beth shared a story with us to illustrate her love of animals. She has 3 dogs. While traveling in Texas, she spotted a German Sheppard by the side

of a 3 lane highway. Driving a rental car, she crossed 2 lanes and got the dog into her car using a leash she just happens to carry with her at all times. She kept the dog in her hotel room until she could find an appropriate shelter who would take him.

Clients must complete a 4-page registration form to qualify for help. They must be within 200% of the poverty level. They must agree to keep the pet inside and provide basic veterinarian care thru the center. A maximum of 3 cats and no more than 6 pets in total are allowed. In addition to dogs and cats, the Project has served a Donkey, hamsters and several other pets. Once the Project is providing food, no additional animals are allowed in the household. If they can't care for an animal, they must notify the Project. Beside food, the Project offers basic veterinarian service and spaying/neutering.

The Animal House Project was founded by Nina Firnge who funded it thru a family foundation from 2003 to 2014, serving 700 animals a month. Today the project feeds 3900 pets a month in Berks, Chester and Montgomery County.

They are always in need of volunteers and donations. One creative fundraiser this summer is a special cocktail offered by the Thorndale Inn where \$1 from every sale of *waggin tails and cocktails* will be donated. The project can be contacted via Facebook, [www.animalhouseproject.org](http://www.animalhouseproject.org) and 484-558-0467.

**Bill Roynayne** presented a Thank You to Mary Beth acknowledging it was his therapy amidst howls of laughter from a number of Rotarians. New members and anyone who "wasn't there" were puzzled. Turns out that several years ago when Bill was managing the Chili Cook Off he was quite adamant that not only were animals forbidden by the health department to enter the Chili Zone, he personally felt strongly that dogs etc. were not appropriate. Bill will never live his animal hater reputation down!



## THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided today by  
**Bill Friedmann** of Blue Dog Printing

## SAVE THE DATE

Jun 22	Bob Rogers' Induction
Jun 23	No lunch meeting
July 19	Rotary Night at the Phillies
Oct 9	Chili Cook Off

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

## ROTARY READERS

Thank you, **Chris McCawley**, for organizing the Rotary Readers this year. Those who read to students in local elementary schools were:

Marlou DeHoratius, **Phyllis Dunn**, **Chris Frantz**, **Catherine Friedman**, **Sue Greenberg**, Lenore Guthrie, **Patty Jefferis**, **Glen Jensen**, **Craig Kalemjian**, Sandy Kalemjian, Sarah Matas, Dwight McCawley, **Joe Panaro**, **Bob Poole**, **Bill Ronayne**, Bob Struble, Lynnette Suzadail, **Iliana Tati**, **Christine Wildauer**, **Jack Wintermute**, **Dave Wood**, **Paul Woodruff**, **Faith Woodward**.

## THE ROTARY CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS

President, Katie Martin; President-Elect, Bob Rogers; Vice-President, Mickey Hall; Past President, Rob Feenan; Secretary, Sue Casso Rogers; Treasurer, Tim Walsh; Sergeant-at-Arms, Bill Friedmann; Directors-at-Large: Dave Barkasy, Judi Bell, Cristina Combee, Linda Hicks, Matt Holliday, Jim Smith, Debra Sparre, Marjorie Wentz, Denise Wine.

Chad Rosenberg, District Governor  
Bronwyn Martin, Assistant Governor  
Charles Streitwieser, P. D.G. '13-14 District 7450  
Robert Poole, P.D.G. '80-'81 District 7450

## HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

Votary Committee: Chair, Faith Woodward, 610-918-3432; [Votary@westchesterrotary.us](mailto:Votary@westchesterrotary.us) Web site: [Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us](http://Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us) Judi Bell.  
Committee Members: Rachel Barakat, Pat Barron, Chris Feryo, Elizabeth Guman, Gary Hess, Matt Holliday, Jim Kammerer, Laura House Kelly, Fran Luft, Cathy Palmquist, Winnie Stroup, Glen Sweet, Marjorie Wentz