



ROTARY VOTARY

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

Bulletin #17 www.WestChesterRotary.us October 27, 2016

This Week's Program: October 27, 2016
CARS Committee
CARS Strategic Partners
Helping Rwanda Patients

Next Week's Program: November 3, 2016
To Be Announced

MINUTES by Cathy Palmquist

Immediate Past President Katie Martin opened the meeting in the absence of **President Bob Rogers, President-elect Mickey Hall** and **Bill Friedman**. She called on **Matt Holliday** to lead us in singing *My Country Tis of Thee*. **Dan Cosgrove** gave a thoughtful invocation talking about the invisibility of the Chili Cook-off team that put in many hours of work we don't see, and the visibility we do see - a successful cook-off, with fun, laughter and other visible signs, saying "service brings joy."

Past President Katie asked **Sergeant-at-Arms Brad Able** "what do you know?" Brad said he has a friend who lost his right arm and right leg, but the doctor told him he would be all right! Then he got down to more serious business as we welcomed visiting Rotarians John Saling and Charles Streitwieser. Guests included Gabriel Bay, our exchange student, and his host parents, Ellen and Mark, introduced by **Carol Hanson**. **Laura Aloisio** introduced her dad, Dave, and **Steve Miersch** introduced his guest Mark, who came last week but didn't get introduced due to the visit from our District Governor.

Conducting the meeting in her own style, **Past President Katie** showed a Throwback Thursday photo from **President Bob Rogers's** installation. She also asked members to send her funny photos of members for use at the Ex-Sergeant of Arms event coming up.

Happy bucks were kicked off by proud grandmother **Patty Roos** who was doubly happy to report she has moved into a new home and will be living just 3 doors from her daughter, who is expecting another baby. **Bill Ronayne** was happy to report he raised \$2,940 – goal was \$2,000 – in preparing for rappelling 29 stories down a building in a couple of days in a Rotary fundraiser.

Our club received news from Rebecca Lukens that a book written by our late member, **Rob Lukens**, journaling his challenges with stomach cancer, will be

available Nov. 5th at CCHS. Proceeds will go to the Historical Society and to stomach cancer research/cure. **Bob Poole** was happy to announce that his gardening club project was given the blue ribbon by the PA Horticultural Society. Congrats, **Bob!!**

Paula Ott was happy to announce that her longtime friend, **Michelle Venema** is the new CEO of Home of the Sparrow, an area non-profit. **Charles Streitwieser** was happy to announce he has put in his application to return his membership to our club. **Past President Katie** reported happy news from **Tamara Minnick** (in Tamara's absence) that the company Tamara was working for has renewed her job, and that her health is improving.

Mac Neilon wished birthday greetings to **Dan Cosgrove**, commenting that you learn a lot about a person when you run together. **Bob Frame**, wishing greetings to **Kevin Quinn**, reported you also learn a lot about a person when you play golf together.

Linda Hicks kicked off announcements by reporting that 230 stockings were delivered on behalf of our club to the yearly Stockings for Soldiers project. Now, we need to bring in small items of food, paperback books, snacks, etc. to put in the stockings by Nov. 17th. If folks don't want to donate items, they can donate \$2 or more, because the Stockings project must pay to have the stockings shipped.

Mac Neilon won the 50/50, but missed the queen.

SPEAKER'S REVIEW By Cathy Palmquist

Sauna Yeldell, chair of the Community Philanthropic Committee announced that \$33,400 is being awarded to 15 area nonprofit organizations, out of 31 organizations who applied for grants. She explained that the funds are generated by the annual Chili Cook-off. **Sauna**, and her co-chair, **Matt Holliday**, acknowledged the CPC, tasked with reading the numerous grant applications and accompanying materials.

Hallie Romanowski, executive director of Act in Faith said the funds would be used in the Housing Stabilization Program, which assisted in keeping 300 families from eviction last year. ARC of Chester County's executive director, Jeanne Meikrantz, introduced Michael Donovan, who explained the funds will help clients with needs such as transportation and socialization activities. Kenneth Klein, board member of Chester County Children, Inc., said their funds will help keep at-risk children out of trouble in the summer by providing them a camp experience. Their organization is made up of volunteers who work with the children through the Chester Co. Dept. of Children, Youth and Families.

The Chester County Family Academy executive director, Sue Flynn, said funds will support the music and literacy programs for children, all of whom come from low-income families. Community Volunteers in Medicine representative, Catherine Binz, said the funds will help provide comprehensive health and dental support to some of the 3,000 working adults in Chester County who live at 300% below the poverty line. Dolly Wideman-Scott, executive director of the Domestic Violence Center, said the funds will be used for group and individual counseling of survivors of domestic violence, and for creating social change. Lorri Sarosy, development director of Friends Association of Chester County, said the funds will be used at the homeless shelter, for rental assistance, and in their new program, Outreach to Homeless Families. Interfaith Housing Assistance Corp. executive director, Joyce Lacy, and Deb McGinty, said their funds will go to help kids of single, working parents. Rotary funds help provide opportunities for music lessons or to go to camp.

Read2Dream was represented by Carol Baker, who said the funds will provide new reading material to families with children and for parents who read at various reading levels, themselves. Jeanne Corman, executive director of Safe Harbor, said their funds will help provide safe, clean, temporary housing for homeless women and men, enabling staff to connect them with resources to help them transition back into the community. Funds will also help purchase food. Over 1,100 meals were served to the homeless last year. Terri Potrako, executive director of The Volunteer English Program, said that VEP helps adult immigrants learn English to enhance the economic and social quality of their lives. Over 30 volunteers, annually, help immigrants who speak over 30 different languages. Rotary funds will help with the purchase of workbooks for immigrants.

Kathy Sullivan, director of the West Chester Area Senior Center, said the funds will help double the dollars for the grandparents program they share with the Chester County Family Academy. Funds will

also help provide food boxes for seniors in the winter, and nutritional information to seniors and children alike. The West Chester Public Library's Teens and Tweens program will benefit from Rotary funds, said Victoria Dow, executive director. Funds will provide access to additional STEM and Robotics materials. Rick Roberts, executive director of Young Men and Women in Charge Foundation, and site coordinator Tanya Baxter, said the funds will target youth, 5th through 12th grades, who are economically disadvantaged and historically underrepresented in STEM, to excel and become leaders in STEM, through math and science programs after school and in the summer. Funds will help purchase Robotics materials. Home of the Sparrow is an organization that works with women facing homelessness, helping over 400 women a year secure housing and working to achieve long-term stability.

THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided today by
Mark Sammarone of Arthur Hall Insurance

SAVE THE DATE

Nov 22 Ex-Sergeant-at-Arms "Awards"

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

EXCHANGE STUDENT

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

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.

David Haradon, 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;
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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