



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE

ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450
Ian Riseley, International President 2017-2018

Bulletin #43 www.WestChesterRotary.us June 7, 2018

This Week's Program: June 7, 2018
Pulled Pork Showdown at
Deb Sparre's

Next Week's Program: June 14, 2018
Club Business

MINUTES by Faith Woodward

President Mickey opened the meeting and after the Pledge of Allegiance, **Chris Franz** introduced his guest Nick Gentile who will be attending seminary after he completes his degree at Temple. Nick offered the invocation and then we sang the *Star-Spangled Banner*.

Brad Abel filled in as Sergeant-at-Arms with a burial joke (you know, with all the things you own, a burial plot is the last thing you need.)

Visiting Rotarian was Peter Mardinly, 2019-2020 District Governor nominee.

Guests were introduced by **Wendy Leeper** (Fran Salter), Peter Mardinly (Donna Douglas), **Mark Sammarone** (Mark Yoder and Seamus Lavin), **Bill Friedmann** (Jack Ellis), **Jeannie McGinn** (Danielle Mortimer), **Katie Walker** (Captain Jesus Corraliza), and **Chuck Swope** (Matt Brae and Cameron McCullen).

Happy Bucks were paid by **Michelle Venema** (Mom's 80th birthday and Home of the Sparrow's Gala and raffle), **Steve Brown** (Thanks to **Jack Wintermute** for organizing a great gathering at the Blue Rocks game).

Happy Birthday greetings were offered by **Gary Hess** to **Bob Rogers**, by **Chuck Swope** to **Eric Rosle**, and by **Carol Hanson** to **Joanne Tadeo**.

Matt Holliday gave the VP Report on Leadership Development. This new committee, led by **John Schwab**, will help direct members to leadership positions.

Calendar:

June 11 Net-work at the Courtyard Marriott in Coatesville, June 21 Installation of new president and officers, Oct 14 Chili Cook Off

Please make reservations and payment for the Presidential Gala on June 21 to **Sue Casso Rogers**. Checks should be made out to the Rotary Club of West Chester. **Glenn Sweet** reminded people to let her know what you will be donating for

the auctions.

Rotary Night at the Phillies will be on June 24. Your ticket of \$30 will provide \$8 to Polio Plus and it will be tripled by the Gates Foundation. See **Bill Friedmann** for tickets.

June 17- Rotary Golf at Downingtown. See **Steve Quigley** for details.

President Mickey thanked **Jack Wintermute** for coordination of the Rotary Night at the Blue Rocks. Thirty-five people attended!

In June we will be collecting spices and cooking oils for the Food Bank.

Don't forget that the *Pulled Pork Showdown* will be on June 7 at noon at **Deb Sparre's** house, 1104 Debra Way, West Chester. Your usual meeting charge of \$15 would be a great donation to Project Healing Waters. Competitors will be **Brad "The Pig" Abel**, **Don "Donnie Brisket" Kohler**, **Mark "Deep Freeze" Berenato**, **Bob "Hunk-a-Hunk of Burning Rub" Rogers**, **Bill "Dr. Squealgood" Friedmann**, **Jim "The Meatmaster" Magee**, **Melissa "Miss Que" Baxter**, and **"Joey Baga Donuts" Fratoni**.

The 50-50 was won by Mark Yoder but he didn't find the Queen of Spades.

SPEAKER REVIEW by Pat Henson

Before giving us his account on the trip to Pakistan, **Dwight Leeper** told us when he first began to truly understand what the Rotary was all about. It was around 2012 when he decided that he and his wife, Wendy, should go to Pakistan on a National Immunization Day (NID) which is a world-wide effort to eradicate polio. This has been a Rotarian endeavor for the past 25 years.

Dwight challenged us to "just say yes" explaining there is so much a person can do or be a part of if he or she can just get past fear. Dwight also shared a quote, though it is paraphrased here: Even if you do not know how to do it, say yes and learn how to do it later.

Dwight noted that there is peace through service and that there are so many ways to serve through the Rotary. We should not be short on ideas. In this case, Dwight contacted the Rotary International for suggestions in exploring opportunities that would be more complex, different from what we typically in our communities here in the states. He soon had the pleasure of meeting a Rotary International President Tanaka prior to the trip to Pakistan and Jalal Ahmed from Bangladesh who were instrumental in guiding him on to such an extraordinary experience.

While the volunteers were there to represent Rotary in North America and to assist specifically with polio vaccinations, Dwight pointed out the numerous issues that exist within Pakistan making it very difficult to know what to focus on first. Pakistan is one of the fastest growing countries in the world, but they also have one of the highest mortality rates for mothers and babies. It is also one of only three countries left with endemic polio.

Eighty percent of the population is illiterate, which makes it very difficult to communicate what needs to happen to bring about change. The Taliban and other religious leaders bent on keeping power are actively working against polio vaccinations, tell people that it will make their children infertile and infer that it is somehow 'un-Islamic'. Dwight said that one way they are counteracting this is by meeting with men who hold the title of Imam (an Islamic religious leadership position). By building these relationships, the hope is that the people of Pakistan will trust the western way of fighting polio. In regard to illiteracy, the workers communicated using cartoonish type drawings. However awkward, it seems to be working. Sanitation, economy, and transient populations are a few of the other major barriers to working with the Pakistani people. They are hard working and hope very much for economic success. The unrest in the whole region causes people to migrate from Afghanistan and India, down into Pakistan and back again, thus making something like polio even harder to control. Polio can stay alive more than a week outside a host, making it extremely infectious. One of the tactics used to inoculate was operating from toll booths on major highways. Another way was going from door to door. Interestingly, families kept track of who received the vaccine by noting the information on the wall of their homes.

The Taliban and their propaganda, especially at the time of the trip, was an overbearing obstacle. There were shootings and bombings with barricades everywhere. Rumors that Osama Bin Laden's whereabouts had been reported by a polio worker made it very difficult for everyone. Some polio workers had been shot and killed randomly.

Dwight said that he was very proud to have been a part of this effort in Pakistan and that polio is very close to being eradicated. The Pakistani Rotarians and the people who wanted their children to be treated for polio were very accepting of the volunteer's presence; even having a march down the main street one day.

In 2014, Dwight had the opportunity go to Nepal, India on a mission where his son accompanied him.

The final challenge was to "Be Our (Rotary) Story" in an effort to support and strengthen clubs; To Be Seen and to get out into the world; To Tell Our Story; and To Invite People to our causes and not just to meetings since the causes are the service-oriented experiences that speak to what the Rotary is all about.

THANK YOU

Copies of the Volary are provided today by
Laura Aloisio at Dave's Automotive Repair

SAVE THE DATE

May Bring PB and J for CC Food Bank
Jun 7 Pulled Pork Show Down at Deb Sparre's
Jun 21 President's Gala
Oct 14 Chili Cook Off

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

Add events: calendar@westchesterrotary.us

THE ROTARY CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS

President, Mickey Hall; President-Elect, Bill Friedmann; Vice-President, Matt Holliday; Past President, Bob Rogers; Secretary, Sue Casso Rogers; Treasurer, Tim Walsh; Sergeants-at-Arms, Catherine Friedman and Debra Sparre; Directors-at-Large: Laura Aloisio, Brad Abel, Cristina Combee, Catherine Friedman, Rob Malone, Rich Murray, Andrew Stump, Glen Sweet, Michelle Venema, Ernest Zlotolow.

Dawn deFuria, District Governor

Alan Simbo, Assistant Governor

Charles Streitwieser, P. D.G. '13-14 District 7450

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

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

Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us Committee: Pat Barron, Chris Feryo, Pat Henson, Gary Hess, Matt Holliday, Fran Luft, Cathy Palmquist, Patty Roos, Winnie Stroup, Marjorie Wentz