



CLUB MEETING ~ May 21, 2026
Minutes by Susan Shirley



President Kyle Rheiner opened the meeting. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Dave Wood** **John Schwab** delivered a moving Memorial Day reflection asking members to imagine a loved one deployed to combat zones, only to later be declared MIA or POW. He spoke about the unimaginable pain families endure when they never receive closure or the chance to say goodbye. He concluded with this prayer:

“lord, we remember the brave men and women who have been missing or held captive for decades — heroes long absent, but never forgotten. Grant them eternal peace or safe return, and bless their families who still wait with unwavering hope. May our nation never cease to honor their sacrifice.”

VISITING ROTARIAN

Mina Yi-Merizalde, President of the Media Rotary Club made a visit to surprise **President Kyle**. She shared an emotional story about meeting three elderly Canadian veterans in a Seoul train station years ago. The men had returned to South Korea to revisit the battlefield where they met during the Korean War and to honor their fallen fellow soldiers.



GUESTS

Mahendra Pattni, who is applying for membership.
Aria Pennypacker, 3-months-old, who brought her mother, club member **Alyssa**.



TODAY'S PROGRAM ~ May 28
Alfred Rasch
Dishfunctional Estate Liquidators

NEXT WEEK ~ June 4
Marian Moskowitz
Chester County Commissioner

MAY 21 PROGRAM
Mark O'Neill
Classification Talk

Mark shared a deeply personal and emotional presentation about:

- His military service in Vietnam
- A long healthcare administration career
- Leadership roles running hospitals and healthcare systems
- A life-changing stroke that caused aphasia
- Learning to speak publicly again



He reflected on:

- The importance of people and relationships
- Starting over after major health challenges
- The support of family, friends, and fellow Rotarians

One memorable line:

“Make plans... and God laughs.”

The audience responded warmly and emotionally to Mark's courage and honesty.



Meeting Minutes continued

BIRTHDAYS

Tom Rowlands toasted by **Charles Streitwieser**

Mike Louis toasted by **Steve Brown**

Larry Miller toasted by **Ernest Zlotolow**

Bob Rogers toasted by **Joe Driscoll**

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY CENTER PIZZAS

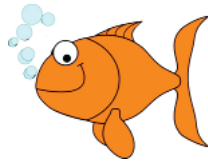
Club members delivered 10 pizza last week to the kids at Westside. **Basil Moschairs** of **Pizza316** (who gives us a great deal on these terrific pizzas) is shown on the right.



GRATEFUL GOLDISH

Kyle Rheiner proudly shared that his daughter: qualified for age-group championships at West Chester University and advanced to competition at Franklin Field after only four-weeks competing in this event

Graduations: **Doc O'connell** celebrated his grandson and great grandson's graduations and **Rita Brouwer-Ancher** celebrated her daughter's graduation from law school at the top of her class.



Patty Jefferis celebrated her grandson's 1st place State Wrestling championships and her granddaughter's graduation from WCU

Weddings - Mac Neilon celebrated his 36th wedding anniversary and the marriage of his son that took place in the same church as Mac and his wife Margaret.

Steve Brown said the **West Chester Senior Center** is hiring **Mickey Hall** is celebrating 2 adorable new puppies

Rotary Dining Around - Patty Jefferis hosted a successful "Dining Around" gathering by her pool, which **Mickey Hall** and **Mike Louis** described as fun and memorable.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rotary membership dues bills have been sent out and payment is due by June 10. If for any reason you're not planning to renew your membership, kindly advise Sue right away.

There will be **no lunch meeting on July 2** because of the Fourth of July **or July 9** because of the President's Gala..

John Schwab thanked the full-day lineup of volunteers for our community outreach at the **Turkshead Music Festival on June 7.**

... continued next column

Meeting Minutes continued

Join Fair at West Chester Public Library May 30,

Home of the Sparrow golf outing fundraiser on June 1

Hickman fundraiser and Gala June 5

Deb Sparre announced new club **Sunshine Committee** – launch today after our meeting, all welcome

Hearing aid collection for disadvantaged individuals, see Randy

Chris Zaccarelli announced next **Mental Health** meeting is Tuesday. Other meeting times and places TBA

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE CHALLENGE

Why did you join Rotary?

Send your answers to **Charles Streitwieser**. Answers to be edited and comined into public relations articles for the club.



TRIFECTA DRAWING

Connell O'Brien was the winner, but he did not pull the Queen of Spades.

TED LASSO SAYS

"I always figured that tea was just gonna taste like hot brown water. And you know what? I was right. Yeah, it's horrible. No, thank you."

UNITE FOR GOOD

BOARD of DIRECTORS 2025-2026

- President Kyle Rheiner
- President-ElectMike Louis
- Vice President Steve Bayles
- Treasurer Diana Liberi
- Secretary Sue Casso Rogers
- Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Rogers
- Immediate Past President . . . Catherine Friedman
- Directors-at-Large Glenda Brion, Jeff Cantwell, Rita Brouwer-Ancher, Sue Flynn, Chuck Heckenberger, Phil McFadden, Nathan Miller, Miranda Reilly, Jeff Spencer
- District 7450 Governor Jan Biros (Phoenixville)
- P.D.G. '13-14 District 7450Charles Streitwieser
- P.D.G. '12-13 District 7510 Dwight Leeper

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

Votary Committee: Anne Driscoll, Joe Driscoll, Brian Fahey, Randy Lindel, Mike Louis,

Photo: Anne Driscoll, Jeff Cantwell, Miranda Reilly