

# ROTARY VOTARY

## The Rotary Club of West Chester

District 7450

www.WestChesterRotary.us

Week # 33 February 12, 2026

### CLUB MEETING ~ February 5, 2026 Minutes by Chris Zaccarelli

The meeting was opened by **President Kyle Rheiner**  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Chrissy Bowden**  
The inspirational quotes were offered by **Michelle Venema**

#### GUESTS

**Angela Scully, Heather Reifer, Craig Scott, Charles Streitweiser, Erica Gross, and Tammy Williams**



#### GRATEFUL GOLDFISH

**Jeannie McGinn:** thankful to **Mac Neilon** for putting together the **Super Bowl Pool** and she is hoping she wins.

**Miranda Reilly:** SERVPRO is sponsoring a CHESCO Business Networking event Tuesday Feb. 10th from 5-7 pm at Station 142 in 142 E. Market St. West Chester

**John Schwab:** Survived another year of skiing with his grandchildren in Vermont – was super cold!

**Jeff Cantwell:** thankful for following

**Bob Frame's** the strategy the second time around and selling on their house March 15th

**Steve Brown:** he and his wife just celebrated 50 years of marriage

**Paul Woodruff:** very grateful for BVHAC – called them at 9:00 in the morning after they lost heat and it was fixed and running by 5 that night.



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### TODAY'S PROGRAM ~ February 12

**Katie Lemon - First Resource Bank  
Fraud Prevention and Scams**

### NEXT WEEK ~ February 19

**Club Business - Classification Talks  
Mark O'Neil and Shellia Coleman**

### FEBRUARY 5 PROGRAM

**John O'Brien, Exec. Director  
Downtown West Chester**

Downtown West Chester is the new identity of the WC Business Improvement District (BID) – re-branded a couple of years ago to reflect their mission to create economic success in the Borough and act as a liaison between business and government.

They are re-authorized every five years

by the businesses in the Borough which keeps them accountable. They were just re-authorized in October and expanded their boundaries within the Borough – to Adams Street on the East and Price Street on the South. A new focus is walkability on East side of town.

**Key 2026 Events:** Restaurant Week (Feb 22 - Mar 1) - 28 different restaurants with dinner specials, some also having lunch specials. All dinners will be a price-fixed multi-course meal. Also - Spring and Fall Gallery Walk, World Music Day, Gay Street Open Air Market, Up on the Roof, Octoberfest, Turkey Trot will be coming back, KrisKrinkle Market.

Other projects include adding more big belly trash cans downtown, installing new tree wells, exploring trail connectivity, investing in mural art and improving traffic flows to improve walkability (area, please tell people not to put stickers on lamp pole – they're really hard to remove).

**America 250:** Everyone is feeling the divide in the Country right now and Downtown West Chester's goal is to find



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## Grateful Goldfish continued

**Katie Martin:** grateful for everyone’s patience with check in today and the new system

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / CLUB CALENDAR

**Weather interruptions** - we follow the WC Area School District – Delayed opening or closing = no lunch meeting that day.

**Bring a Guest to our meeting** - one of the best sources of new members.

## NEW CLUB APPAREL

**John Schwab** previewed this year’s club apparel offerings personalized with The West Chester Rotary logo.



There are 9 items (including the popular apron back from last year) - produced by Blue Dog Printing. Details and a web site link will be in Monday’s *News You Can Use*.

## DESIGNER HANDBAG BINGO FUNDRIASER

Designer Handbag Bag Bingo will be Saturday, April 18 at the WC Senior Center. Volunteers needed for many tasks. Contact **Nate Miller**, **Steve Bayles** or **Kyle Rehiner**. A jar for **donations to help buy prizes** is on the **front table** at club meetings.



## TRIFECTA DRAWING

**Ernest Zlotolow** had the winning ticket, but did not draw the Queen of Spaces. Better luck next time.

## TED LASSO SAYS

“I want you to know, I value each of your opinions, even when you’re wrong.”

## Downtown West Chester continued

things that will connect us again. A chance to celebrate America and West Chester. There are multiple levels of organizations celebrating the 250 at the Federal, State, County and local levels. CC250 is a group of local leaders celebrating and their events can be found at [america250chesco.org](http://america250chesco.org).

At the local level there are many things planned to celebrate WC including dressing up the town in red, white and blue, bunting installing American flags on the street lamp poles, lighting at the Historic Courthouse, encouraging residents to decorate in historic bunting, a mural on the side of the VFW, a tree dedication, a time capsule, block party on August 2nd, drone show, essay contest, art installations and history walks.



Downtown West Chester will be celebrating America 250 along with the Chester County Community Foundation (flyer was on the tables) and West Chester University along with highlighting sporting events in the area.

If you would like to volunteer you can sign up at [west-chester.com/213/mayor](http://west-chester.com/213/mayor) – they plan to meet primarily via Zoom.

Event information and more is available at:

[www.downtownwestchester.com](http://www.downtownwestchester.com)

**UNITE FOR GOOD**

## BOARD of DIRECTORS 2025-2026

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 P.D.G. ’13-14 District 7450 . . . . . Charles 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, Matt McKeon  
 Photography: Anne Driscoll, Jeff Cantwell, Miranda Reilly

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