



# ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450  
Barry Rassin, International President 2018-2019

Bulletin #21 [www.WestChesterRotary.us](http://www.WestChesterRotary.us) December 13, 2018

**This Week's Program: December 13, 2018**  
Annual Meeting  
Classification Talk  
Speaker: Jack Ellis

**Next Week's Program: December 20, 2018**  
Chester County Family Academy  
Holiday Concert

## MINUTES by Gary Hess

**President Bill** rang the meeting open in a reasonably timely fashion. **Brian Fahey**, who was supposed to do the invocation, was nowhere to be found. **Faith Woodward** chimed in from the front row in "he's a Quaker, it would be a moment of silence!" And so that's what we did. And it was a pretty darn good moment of silence as well! I'd say easily in the top ten all-time for me. You would have loved it, Brian.

Bill moved on to his moment of history, going all the way back to six years ago. On that date, another Friedman joined the club, i.e. Catherine Friedman. I think two Friedman's are probably enough, but we could squeeze in another if necessary. After all, there are three Gary's in the club and no one's complaining.....yet. Happy 6th anniversary Catherine and Bill!

We had a couple birthday wishes. **Patty Jefferis** said her birthday gal was "locked and loaded," which could only mean **Sheriff Bunny Welsh**. She certainly didn't look loaded to me. For that matter, she didn't look locked either. I didn't know what locked meant, but after consulting the Urban Dictionary, it turns out that when the Irish say they are locked, it means they are really drunk. So locked and loaded would mean "drunk and really drunk." As I already said, Bunny didn't look drunk, let alone really drunk and believe me, I know the difference. I'll have to check with Patty to see if this was a mixed metaphor, or some other linguistic device and I'll get back to you first thing tomorrow morning. In other birthday news, **Matt Holliday** had a birthday greeting for the "other" **Biffen**, this one being the "other" **Matt** in the club. As one who analyzes things like this, there seems to be a pattern emerging....two Biffens...two Matt's...two Friedmans...three Gary's. We need to work a lot harder on increasing name diversity in our club. A lot

harder. I won't rest until something is done. This is an outrage and I won't stand for it!

We had a couple visiting Rotarians make the scene Thursday. Dennis Wallace breezed in to spread his message of glad tidings, joy and happiness, and John Saling did much the same. John did mumble something about the cold weather, though, which is comical. Ever hear of Florida, John? I didn't think so.

As for guests, **Cathy Palmquist** introduced Gloria Watula, who got a huge endorsement from **Catherine Friedman** (there she is again), Gloria having helped out over at Friends Association. **Lymar Brock** introduced his lovely bride Claudie. She really is a peach, don't you think? **Cristina Combee** introduced us to Dennis Roberts, and also Irving Sulzman. I did have a chance to meet Irving, but I have nothing cheeky to add. He seemed nice enough.

**Sue Casso-Rogers** treated us to an induction, bringing three new members into the clan: **Jonathan Hankin**, **Nick Branton**, and **Nancy Pine**. If you happen to bump into any of these three newbies, first, you should apologize and watch where you are going. Second, you should introduce yourself and make them feel welcome. I still clearly remember when old-time members did that for me when I was a fresh faced newly minted Rotarian. Third, tuck in your shirt, will ya?

I don't recall who won the 50/50. They didn't win the big money, which is what you really wanted to know, wasn't it? You'll have another crack at the big bucks next week my friend. Over and out.

## SPEAKERS REVIEW by Faith Woodward

**Ernest Zlotolow** introduced our speaker, Peter Ash, from *Under the Same Sun*. Our club has helped children with Albinism through CORS with surgery at

Shriners Hospital. Peter has helped as the founder and CEO of *Under the Same Sun*.

Peter showed a brief video telling the story of children and families who have experienced incredible hardships and discrimination because of their albinism.

Through his organization *Under the Same Sun*, children get a good education, return and tell others as well as encourage employers to hire those with Albinism, The organization's goal is to "Make discrimination a faint memory".

Most people haven't heard what happens in Africa to those with Albinism, a rare, non-contagious, genetically transmitted condition wherein the hair, eyes, and skin lack pigmentation. Everyone with Albinism is vision-impaired. They are no different from all other human beings.

Peter first visited Tanzania ten years ago and met a family whose 5-year old daughter had been murdered to obtain her body parts for sale for use by witch doctors. Peter was the first non-African with Albinism to visit the area. He has a Master's Degree in Psychology and is a counselor and minister.

Witch doctors say those with Albinism are an omen and are not sent to school. One in 1400 people in Africa have Albinism. Through advocacy and public education, Peter's group teaches that body parts should not be sold. Mothers learn that both parents must have the gene, contrary to what their husbands have told them. *Under the Same Sun* sends children with Albinism to integrated private schools that have smaller classes and students perform well. Peter's organization has hired those with Albinism to help promote their position in society.

Ten years later, death rates and attacks have decreased immensely in Tanzania but have increased in neighboring countries Malawi and Mozambique. A body will sell for \$100,000 and limbs \$5000. Peter has a body guard himself since he's not popular by decreasing the income of attackers.

The Rotary Club in Tanzania has helped some but not recently. Ernest reported that he tried to contact them with no results.

In 2008, Tanzania changed from socialism to capitalism and the witch doctors found they could make money through selling body-parts so the numbers of attacks spiked in that year.

East Africa has a higher rate of Albinism because the first person with Albinism was 3,000 years ago in the Bantu tribe. One in 17 people have the gene in Tanzania.

*Under the Same Sun* needs partners to support their efforts. Every donated dollar goes to help, not to administrative costs. Please raise awareness, donate, and pray for their worthy cause. Contact: [info@underthesamesun.com](mailto:info@underthesamesun.com)

## PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS

President: **Matt Holliday**

President-Elect: **Michelle Venema**

Vice President: **Steve Brown**

Secretary: **Sue Casso-Rogers**

Treasurer: **Jack Ellis**

Sergeant-at-arms: **Catherine Friedman**

Immediate Past President: **Bill Friedmann**

**Directors at Large**

**Bill Winters, Diana Liberi, Rob Malone, Glen Sweet, Laura Aloisio, Ernest Zlotolow, Brad Abel, Rich Murray, Carol Hanson**

## SAVE THE DATE

Dec 15 Community Warehouse Collection  
Dec 20 Dues are due  
Jan 3 No lunchtime meeting  
Jan 4 Holiday Party @ Sue Casso and Bob Roger's

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

Add events: [calendar@westchesterrotary.us](mailto:calendar@westchesterrotary.us)

## THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided today by **Bill Ronayne** of Brandywine Heating & AC

## THE ROTARY CLUB BOARD of DIRECTORS

President, Bill Friedmann; President Elect, Matt Holliday; Vice President, Michelle Venema; Treasurer, Tim Walsh; Secretary, Sue Casso Rogers; Sgts at Arms, Catherine Friedman & Deb Sparre; Immediate Past President, Mickey Hall; Directors-at-Large: Laura Aloisio, Brad Abel, Rob Malone, Rich Murray, Steve Brown, Bill Winters, Diana Liberi, Glen Sweet, Ernest Zlotolow

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Cynthia Rugart, 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

Votary Committee: Chair, Faith Woodward, 610-918-3432; [Votary@westchesterrotary.us](mailto:Votary@westchesterrotary.us) Web support: Judi Bell and Howard Sundwall.

[Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us](mailto:Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us) Committee: Pat Barron, Terri Edgar, Chris Feryo, Pat Henson, Gary Hess, Fran Luft, Cathy Palmquist, Kyle Rheiner, Patty Roos, Charles Streitwieser, Cynthia Stroup, Winnie Stroup