

ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

District 7450

www.WestChesterRotary.us

Week # 7 August 14, 2025

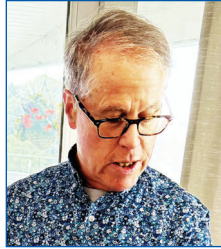
CLUB MEETING ~ August 7, 2025

Minutes by Christine Zaccarelli

The meeting was called to order by
President-Elect Michael Louis

Carol Hanson led us in the Pledge of
Allegiance

The invocation was offered by **Paul
Woodruff**



GUESTS

Prospective members **Leah Reynolds** and **Jeremy Rhoads**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 7th National Days: National Purple Heart Day,
National Lighthouse Day, National Sea Serpent Day and
National IPA Day (Cheers!)

On this day (August 7): in 1782, the Purple Heart medal was
created by General George Washington; in 1942, the start of
the Guadalcanal Campaign during World War II; in 1964, the
Gulf of Tonkin Resolution was passed by Congress – marking
the beginning of the Vietnam War.

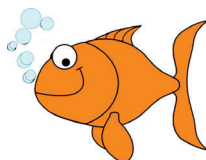
August 17 from 9 AM to 2 PM – club information table at the
Melton Community Center. Communication Committee is
looking for people to assist. See sign-up sheet at check-in desk.

The **West Chester Restaurant Festival** is September 21. We
have an information booth reserved, so need as many of you
as possible to help with that. See Jeff Cantwell or John Schwab.

Communications Committee will create a **“cheat sheet”** for
newer members to be informed about what Rotary does.

GRATEFUL GOLDFISH

Sue Casso Rogers introduced **Leah
Reynolds** the new Exec. Director at
the West Chester Senior Center. Leah
is transferring her Rotary membership to our club from the
Longwood club.



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TODAY'S PROGRAM ~ August 14

**Tom Gervasio of Bio-One
HazMat Cleanup**

**NEXT WEEK ~ August 21
Club Business / Classification Talk**

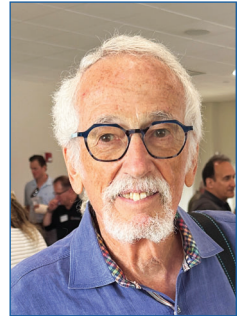
~ PROGRAM ~

Roy Smith

2024 Spring Trip to Kenya and Tanzani

Trip was about people, animals and
learning about the countries he visited,
travelers, not tourists focused on learn-
ing and discovery.

Flew about 16,000 miles by air all over
the country. They called their Kenyan
tour guide Charles, that was not his real
name but it was very difficult to pro-
nounce so he said to call him Charles.



There were 5 people on the trip. Welcomed and serenaded
at a lodge and first thing they saw was a sign to look out for
the leopards. Learned they do have beer that isn't too bad.
Charles shared what it is like for a young boy to become a
man. Met a Masia womens group that made jewelry and
crafts - made a bracelet for Roy.

They saw lions that were
cuddling, in trees, eating and
taking care of their young. Also
saw cape buffalo and some-
times saw them together with
lions. Of course they saw many
many elephants and leopards.



Saw a rhinoceros on their very last day. Saw lots of wilde-
beasts, hippos, giraffes, zebras, monkeys, warthogs and lots of
other animals. Showed a funny video of a zebra scratching his
stomach by rubbing it against a rock. Also saw the balboa tree
and the candelabra tree and plenty of great sunrises. Even
saw a sunrise from a balloon.

Stayed at the Arusha lodge, not all accommodations were
tents, some were very nice. Showed pictures of the bio gas
facility as well as water purification system. The filters were
expensive and they had the opportunity to gift one to a local
community.

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Grateful Goldfish continued

Bill Winters - for everyone at his table for their help during the week with all of his gear and to getting him to lunch.

Bob Frame grateful for round of golf at Downingtown Country Club the other day, **Gary Hess** for winning the club championship and **Jim Gashon** who had a hole-in-one on hole 9 at WCGCC.

Cathy Palmquist – ran into **Mark Sammarone** and his wife at the Goshen Fair and grateful that **Chuck Garfinkle**, former club member, who just got married and had so many PT clients from the club he had to quit

Steve Bayles – went to see Cracker with his daughter and raised \$1,800 with a \$1,000 anonymous donor for Alex's Lemonade and for the camaraderie at lunch with **Mike Louis**.

Otto Schaefer - injured one arm from a little too much golf and the other arm Tuesday night playing adult league hockey – got into a fight and shattered his pinkie – should have learned that he should walk away.

Connell O'Brien - hiking with his wife at Rocky Mount National Park and had dinner with his family and his son asked everyone to say what they were grateful for and they all said family – it doesn't get any better.

Phoebe Kitson – daughter passed her board and she got a job in Exton and she still needed her mom to help her fill out employment forms and wants to start a Thursday night dinner tradition.

Gary Hess - Planning to retire August 29th and looking forward to going out and drinking some beer.

Michael Louis – to Kyle and all the other young Rotarians in our club that they are all doing a great job.

Patty Jefferis – to follow **Mike Louis**, she is thankful for all the "old" Rotarians and all they do.

50-50 DRAWING

Steve Quigley won but did not pull the Queen of Spades. Better luck next time.



UNITE FOR GOOD

Rory Smith continued

Also visited the Albino Peacemaker Center, women are considered second class citizens and if they are albino they are treated even worse so they don't leave the center very often. In Tanzania, they visited the Mbugwe Village and also welcomed with a ceremonial traditional dance. There was a dance competition among the fellows to see who could jump the highest which was part of one of the men getting married.

One of the best part of the trip was an encounter between a female lion and a hyena when they stole the food the lion had been eating. A day in the life – they met the chief of one of a village with his three wives.

Then they went to The Serengeti – a vast savanna ecosystem, known for its abundant wildlife and the Great Migration of wildebeest, along with zebras and gazelles. And yes, they had beer, too.



In Kenya had to have armed guards because of the animals. Took a shower via a bucket. They stopped at a primary school where they were welcomed by the students. Met the head of the school and they were encouraged to bring donation to the school for things the students could use. Had a home hosted visit and gave the child Eclat chocolate as gift. Flew home from Mt. Kilimanjaro airport.

A great adventure. Rory's pictures were amazing.

BOARD of DIRECTORS 2025-2026

President Kyle Rheiner
President-Elect Mike Louis
Vice President Steve Bayles
Treasurer Diana Liberi
Secretary Sue Casso Rogers
Sergeant-at-Arms Bob Rogers
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Directors-at-Large Rita Brouwer-Ancher, Glenda Brion,
Jeff Cantwell, Sue Flynn, Chuck Heckenberger,
Phil McFadden, Nathan Miller, Miranda Reilly, Jeff Spencer
District Governor, District 7450 Jan Biros (Phoenixville)
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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Webmaster@westchesterrotary.us

Web support: Mark Sammarone, Randy Lindel,
Howard Sundwall