



ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450
John F. Germ, International President 2016-2017

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This Week's Program: October 20, 2016
Speakers: Jane Hellen and John Messersmith
Classification Talks
Club Assembly

Next Week's Program: October 27, 2016

International Service Committee
Summary of Projects

MINUTES by Chris Feryo

President Bob opened the meeting a little early, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Today's invocation was offered by **Mark Sammarone**. With the recent completion of the Chili Cook Off he offered a Chili Prayer. The club then sang God Bless America together.

President Bob offered a Big Thank You to the club for a successful Chili Cook Off. He informed us that **Fran Curtin's** mother passed away and that **Ron Ginns** was looking for volunteers to help clean up leftover items from the cook off at **Jim Gasho's** warehouse on Saturday.

50/50 – The winner was **Tim Walsh** who took home the \$12.00 prize. The pot is \$90. The Senior Center donation is up to \$500.

SPEAKERS REVIEW by Matt Holliday

President Bob introduced **District Governor Dave Haradon** as our speaker.

DG Haradon started off by showing us a few pictures of himself at our recent West Chester Rotary Chili Cook-Off. He had been invited to be a celebrity judge at the event, and he and his wife enjoyed themselves immensely.

Dave thanked us for being Rotarians, and then he went through a list of facts and figures about Rotary. There are 535 Districts, over 35,000 clubs, and more than 1.25 million Rotarians worldwide. District 7450 is a big chunk of South Eastern Pennsylvania. It primarily encompasses Chester County, Delaware County, and Philadelphia. He then walked us through the leadership team for our district, which he pointed out includes two of our very own. **Katie Martin** serves as the Youth Services Chair of the district, and **Dwight Leeper** chairs our district's service

committee.

The **District Governor** then took a selfie with **President Bob** with a number of folks from our club in the background. He mentioned that for him the three most amazing things about Rotary are our motto, "Service Above Self," the fact that we are "Making a difference in people's lives," and the "Possibility and Wonder" that goes into being a good Rotarian.

He asked for a few testimonials from some club members. **Jeff Brown, Steve Miersch, Dr. Poole, Phyllis Dunn**, and a guest named Christian were all called on to talk about their experiences with Rotary. Dave went on to talk about the best way to recruit new Rotarians. Step one is to "Get in their world" by asking them lots of questions about themselves. Step two is to "Listen to them." Finally, step three is to "Fit Rotary into their life."

Dave then went over a list of upcoming events including the million-dollar journey dinner our district is doing to raise money for the Rotary Foundation. He said we have already raised 1.7 million so far this year from our district, and he is hoping the dinner will get us over 2 million. It will be held at the Springfield Country Club on December 7th, and Rotarian International **President John Germ** will be coming in for it. He also mentioned our RI Conference which will be held in Atlanta, Georgia this June.

He gave Presidential Citations out to **Ernest Zlotolow** for his work on the CARS project and to **Ron Ginns** for chairing the Chili Cookoff. He also inducted two new Rotarians the first **Steve Miersch**, who was sponsored by **Laura Aloisio**, and the second **Christine Scott**, who was sponsored by **Bill Ronayne**.

He ended by giving **Dave Biffin** an award for his long time support of the Gundaker Foundation.

FROM ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

Today [October 17, 2016] marked the start of the battle to take control of Mosul back from the Islamic State group, also known as ISIS. The city is the group's last major stronghold in Iraq. But humanitarian aid agencies have known about the military offensive, giving them an unusual opportunity to prepare for the crisis.

"It is rare for the world to get early warning of a vast human catastrophe," says Chris Warham, chief executive of ShelterBox. "The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees issued a paper in July saying this would likely be the biggest humanitarian crisis of the year — and we better get prepared."

ShelterBox, Rotary's project partner for disaster relief, and ACTED, a French nongovernmental aid agency, have teams in the city of Irbil in Iraqi Kurdistan, 53 miles (85 km) east of Mosul. They have been working since July to get aid supplies ready so they can respond quickly as the battle unfolds.

"By tomorrow, 650 of the 3,000 tents that have been deployed to Irbil will arrive," says Warham. He estimates that, without the early notice, it would have taken ShelterBox at least two and a half weeks to gather these supplies.

Tens of thousands of people have already been displaced from Mosul and surrounding areas since March. The current round of fighting could last weeks or even months and is certain to raise that number, although it's unknown just how many people remain in Mosul and in which direction they might flee.

"Our aim is to get aid to displaced families as quickly as possible," says Rachel Harvey, operations coordinator at ShelterBox, who is in Irbil. "Giving people shelter and essential items such as a solar lamp, blankets, and a water carrier will allow them a degree of dignity and security to rest and recover."

Existing camps are already near or over capacity, so other possible sites are being readied. But Warham predicts that demand will almost certainly outpace supply, which could force many families to seek shelter outside managed camps in an inhospitable landscape during a season given to storms and below-freezing overnight temperatures.

ACTED and ShelterBox have partnered many times around the world. Most recently they worked together to help people in Haiti, where the deadly force of Hurricane Matthew caused a surge in cholera cases and left thousands homeless.

The Islamic State has controlled Mosul, the oil-rich capital of Nineveh province, since June 2014. Before the invasion, the city was Iraq's second-largest and one of its most diverse.

Follow ShelterBox on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for the latest updates.

Learn how you can help at [ShelterBox](#).



THANK YOU

Copies of the Votary are provided today by
Mark Sammarone of Arthur Hall Insurance

SAVE THE DATE

Nov 22 Ex-Sergeant-at-Arms "awards"

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, Bob Rogers; President-Elect, Mickey Hall.
Vice-President, Bill Friedmann; Past President, Katie Martin; Secretary, Sue Casso Rogers; Treasurer, Tim Walsh; Sergeant-at-Arms, Brad Abel; Directors-at-Large: Laura Aloisio, Dave Barkasy, Judi Bell, Cristina Combee, Linda Hicks, Jim Smith, Andrew Stump, Michelle Venema, Ernest Zlotolow.

David Haradon, District Governor

Bronwyn Martin, Assistant Governor

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

Robert Poole, P.D.G. '80-'81 District 7450

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH

Votary Committee: Chair, Faith Woodward, 610-918-3432; Votary@westchesterrotary.us Web site:

Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us Judi Bell.

Committee Members: Rachel Barakat, Pat Barron, Chris Feryo, Elizabeth Guman, Gary Hess, Matt Holliday, Jim Kammerer, Laura House Kelly, Fran Luft, Cathy Palmquist, Winnie Stroup, Glen Sweet, Marjorie Wentz