

# ROTARY VOTARY

## The Rotary Club of West Chester

District 7450

www.WestChesterRotary.us

Bulletin # 19 November 9, 2023

### CLUB MEETING ~ November 2, 2023 Minutes by Matt McKeon



Joanne Tadeo and new member Michael Karwic greeted us at the Check-in Desk.

Call to Order by President Rich Murray

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Matt McKeon

Invocation by Bill Ronayne

### GUESTS

Joan Paprzycki

John Spadaro, guest of Michael Louis

Ryan Dodds, guest of Rich Murray

### BIRTHDAY

The entire club extended birthday wishes to long-time member **Cathy Palmquist**.



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Spencer announced that our **Christmas Party** will be on Thursday, December 14 at the Country Club – no lunch meeting that day. Details to follow.



Club Foundation co-Chair **Gary Hess** noted that November is **Rotary Foundation Month**. And he encouraged member contributions to Rotary's charitable arm. The easiest (and most painless) way to contribute is through **Rotary Direct** – a monthly automatic donation.

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### TODAY'S PROGRAM ~ November 9

Reclassification Talk

**Ernest Zlotolow** ~ His Interesting Life

### NEXT WEEK ~ November 16

Club Business

New Member Induction & Classification Talk

### PROGRAM

#### Ken Friedman on the Appalachian Trail



Deb Sparre introduced guest speaker **Ken Friedman**, husband of club President-Elect **Catherine Friedman**. Ken gave us an overview of the Appalachian Trail and his experience hiking it.

Ken began with an overview of the Appalachian Trail itself. The trail is the longest walking/hiking-only trail in the world. The trail is old compared to other protected trails in the country, but as Ken noted, is actually younger than West Chester Rotary. The trail runs from Springer Mountain in Georgia to Mount Katahdin in Maine.

He has hiked much of the trail, but has 400 miles left to go to complete the trail. He hikes about 2 mph on average, packing as light as possible. Ken went over a few of the most notable and recognizable hikers of the trail, including the first "through hiker" (one who completes the entire trail in a single hike), the first female through-hiker, and author Bill Bryson, author of "A Walk in the Woods."

Ken gave an overview of his typical day on the trail, which started with waking up early (around 5 a.m.). After eating breakfast and packing up, Ken will start out on the trail.

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## Announcements continued

**Stockings for Soldiers** reminder: **Linda Hicks** encouraged members to bring needed items (including unused Halloween candy) to club meetings by November 16.

**Rich Murray** presented the District's **Hansen-McCarthy Foundation Challenge**: during November, all donations between \$250 and \$1000 made to the Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund will be matched with an **equal amount of Paul Harris Award recognition point**.

There will be no club meeting on Thanksgiving, but there will be our **Annual Pre-Thanksgiving Happy Hour** at the **Side Bar** on **Tuesday the 21st at 5:30**. Side Bar is open that evening exclusively for our Rotary Club. Spouses are encouraged to join in the fun. Kitchen will be open.

## HAPPY BUCKS

Happy contributions to the club treasury were made by **Jeannie McGinn, Howard Sundwall** and **Rich Murray**.

## 50-50

**Paul Sookiasian** was the winner, but didn't draw the Queen of Spades. The pot is now over \$225



## BOARD of DIRECTORS 2023-2024

President ..... Rich Murray  
President-Elect ..... Catherine Friedman  
Vice President ..... Kyle Rheiner  
Treasurer ..... Diana Liberi  
Secretary ..... Sue Casso Rogers  
Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Bob Rogers  
Immediate Past President ..... Melissa Baxter  
Directors-at-Large ..... Phil Bieg, Rita Brouwer-Ancher,  
Jeff Cantwell, Jack Ellis, Mike Louis, Doug Meis,  
Chris Scott, Jeff Spencer, Dave Wood

District Governor, District 7450 ..... Renee DeCoskey  
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,  
Gary Hess, Randy Lindel, Mike Louis, Kyle Rheiner  
Photography: Suzette Webb, Jeff Cantwell

[Votary@westchesterrotary.us](mailto:Votary@westchesterrotary.us)

[Webmaster@westchesterrotary.us](mailto:Webmaster@westchesterrotary.us)

Web support: Mark Sammarone, Randy Lindel,  
Howard Sundwall

## Appalachian Trail continued

Since there are few distractions at the end of the day on the trail, Ken will typically go to bed early, which allows him to get up early each morning. He'll pack as light as possible, with any extra weight typically consisting of extra water.

The Appalachian Trail attracts a lot of interesting people, many of whom are known by a "trail name" (our guest speaker goes by "Tender Foot"). Ken talked about extremely varied personalities he has met while hiking on the trail, as well as the unique trail lingo that has developed among hikers. Ken ended by going over the key things he has learned while on the trail, namely to live in the moment, and that one has to "hike your own hike" as opposed to emulating or trying to copy anyone else.

## ROTARY RAPPELLING

On Friday October 20th, local Rotarians hit Philadelphia with a very LOFTY goal! With the assistance of **Philadelphia Outward Bound School**, each geared up and rappelled more than 30 stories down a skyscraper on Market Street.

**Team Rotary** (including **Kate Diffenderfer** and **Charles Streitsieser** from our club) had a \$22k goal and raised \$28k to be the Top Overall Team! The total raised by the event was \$225,535.

