

ROTARY TARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

District 7450

www.WestChesterRotary.us

Bulletin # 13 September 28, 2023

CLUB MEETING ~ September 21, 2023

Minutes by Kyle Rheiner

Call to Order by PastPresident **Melissa Baxter**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Gary Hewitt**

Invocation by **Rita Brouwer-Ancher**



VISITING ROTARIAN

Dennis Wallace from the Greater WC Sunrise Club

GUESTS

Dave Jones - guest of **Kyle Rheiner** - application submitted

Matt Morley - guest of **Randy Lindel** - application submitted

Ruby Abouraya, Director of Development of Safe Harbor of Chester County - guest of **Jeff Cantwell**



BIRTHDAY

Randy Lindel wished Happy Birthday to **Lona Pangia O'Neill**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Charles Strietweiser is seeking member participation in a focus group on "what can our club do to improve mental health in our community?". The focus group will meet after Rotary next Thursday, September 28th for all interested. Please sign up via email or text to Charles at: (610) 547-0393 or streitwieser@me.com

Rotary Rapelling Fundraiser October 28 to benefit Outward Bound needs help with participation and promotion. Contact **Melissa Baxter** or **Dennis Wallace** of the Sunrise Club.



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TODAY'S PROGRAM ~ September 28

Presentation of
Community Philanthropic Grants

NEXT WEEK ~ October 5

Chili Cook-Off Leaders
Event Details and Plans

PROGRAM

Deb Sparre introduced **Jolene Wilson-Glah**, who has been living as an expat overseas. (An expat is somebody who leaves their country of origin and settles abroad for an extended period of time, often permanently).



Raised in West Chester and a Henderson graduate, Jolene was a speaker at our club last in 1969. She was an exchange student heading to Sweden and her sister was also an exchange student en route to Bolivia - both courtesy of our club!

Jolene's parents worked for TWA. Her dad lived in 35 countries and her parents urged them to explore the world. She stated that "traveling is the biggest defense against bigotry and ignorance" you'll find in life.

In 1992, she had a busy career, got back in touch with a Norwegian boy who'd been an exchange student to West Chester - and they got married. They traveled the world for 20 years but when her marriage ended, got back to working full time and moved back to WC to care for mother (she passed in 2013). Then she got a notification about going to Ecuador to learn about being an Expat in the Andes Mountains. She went, but came back home and was working as a trial lawyer. In 2014, she was diagnosed for third time. She closed her practice and moved to Ecuador and has been there for the last 10 years. "Smartest thing I ever did" Jolene says. She's been to over 40 countries in her life.

Ecuador living: You can live on \$1,000 monthly income. Life is very inexpensive and they use the US dollar. She pays \$500 monthly rent for a 2,400 sq ft apartment. There have been zero mass shootings because guns are illegal there.

There are two very active Rotary clubs in her city in Ecuador which she happily frequents.

Announcements continued

10/8 - **Chili Cook-Off** - Jeff Cantwell needs LOTS of help with volunteers - block captains, sales booth, board of health, *Pepper Drop,* et. CCO website is fixed.

John Schwab - please take and place **Chili Cook-Off lawn and road signs**. Also see John to give him \$10 for new **club baseball caps and visors**; they will be here for the Cook-Off.

Oct. 4 - **Bierhaul Happy Hour** with District Governor.

HAPPY BUCKS

Rita - \$2 sad bucks because **Doug** left early, \$5 happy for her daughter's final wedding gown fitting – 44 days until wedding!

Ruby Abouraya invited us to the Safe Harbor Golftoberfest outing on October 16th.

Michelle - New niece for Aunt Chelle.

Bob Frame - Grateful for the birthday committee.

Austin Aimone - Baby on the way. Induction scheduled for October 11th.

Dennis Wallace - \$20 - thanks to the rappelling crew - looking for more rappellers on October 20.

Melissa - Exploring a new job opportunity, has an interview & will miss Chili meeting - Oh, and she accidentally got a puppy!

Jeannie McGinn - Need donations to the Community Warehouse for those displaced by the recent major fire in Oxford.

John Schwab thanked the members who manned our club Chili Cook-Off info table at the **WC Restuarant Festival** last Sunday.



50-50

John Schwab was the winner, but didn't pull the Queen of Spades. The pot is now \$179.

CHILI PEPPER DROP

Use this QR code to buy Pepper Drop peppers. Take a picture of it and forward to friends for them to buy!



CHILI COOK OFF

The 2023 Chili Cook-Off is our biggest event of the year. We need your help.

On October 8, 2023, our club hopes to entertain 8,000 people in a massive street festival called the West Chester Chili Cook-Off. This will be the 21st time our club has hosted the event and we can't do it without you.



The CCO support pieces are started, but far from finished. Some of the jobs are small and can be done from your home. Others put you shoulder-to-shoulder with your fellow Rotarians, their families, their friends, and our friends from other clubs (Rotary, the Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry, local service organizations and non-profits). Experience is not required, only a desire to serve.

Please reach out to Jeff Cantwell (cantwell3d@gmail.com or 484-678-4441), or Melissa Baxter (melissabaxter2@gmail.com) if you would like help deciding where your talents and desires can do the most good.



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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

Webmaster@westchesterrotary.us

Web support: Mark Sammarone, Randy Lindel,
Howard Sundwall