

# ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

District 7450

www.WestChesterRotary.us

Bulletin # 18 November 2, 2023

## CLUB MEETING ~ October 26, 2023 Minutes by Joe Driscoll

Call to Order by President Rich Murray

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chelle Venema

Invocation by Rich Murray

### VISITING ROTARIAN

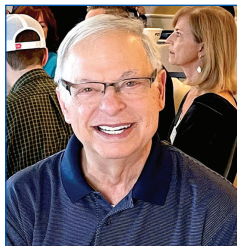
Jill Dooling, who spends 6 months in Sanibel and Captiva Islands, Florida, and 6 months in the Downingtown area. A Rotary banner exchange was conducted.



### GUESTS

Nate Garrett, hosted by Kyle Rheiner

Steve McRenolds and John Koonz, guests of Paul Woodruff.



### BIRTHDAY

Phyllis Dunn extended birthday wishes to Glen Sweet.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stockings for Soldiers reminder: bring to meetings used Halloween candy along with other items.

The District Hansen-McCarthy Foundation Challenge was announced: during November, all donations between \$250 and \$1000 made to the Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund will be matched with an equal amount of recognition

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## TODAY'S PROGRAM ~ November 2

Ken Friedman

Journey on the Appalachian Trail

## NEXT WEEK ~ November 9

Reclassification Talk

Ernest Zlotolow ~ His Interesting Life

## PROGRAM

### Chili Cook-Off Recap and Town Hall Meeting

Cook-Off co-chair Jeff Cantwell presented the "semi-final" financial results that showed event net income of \$33,897.52, down about \$25K from 2022's event. The Chili Drop 50/50 event produced \$13K, with \$6,600 going to the Community Warehouse, thanks to Glenda Brion, the 50/50 winner. A major new expense was the \$27,000 paid to the event coordinator.



A lively discussion followed with thoughts and comments about using such marketing tools like this in the future. Active discussion continued as to whether or not the club should host another Chili Cook-Off, given the exhaustive time required by the chief organizers and the expenses associated with utilizing a professional event coordinator – who already noted their fee would be higher next year.

A general consensus seemed to be that while all agreed the CCO is a great community event, Rotary should not feel obligated to produce such a benefit on the historical grand scale of past years.

Concerns were expressed about "free-loaders" who did not pay for wrist bands and the difficulty in "policing" this infraction.

Also, suggested was keeping a P.O. book to track expenses related to supplies.

In the end, Melissa Baxter, who was not present, and Jeff Cantwell, received a well-deserved standing ovation in recognition of their hard work and diligent efforts spearheading the 2023 Rotary Chili Cook-Off.

	Chili Cook-Off 2023	Chili Cook-Off 2022	Difference
Net Income:	\$33,897.52	\$9,061.86	-25,164.34
Income Items			
Item	Chili Cook-Off 2023	Chili Cook-Off 2022	Difference
50/50 Income	13,210.00		13,210.00
Banquet Parking Fee Income (2023 estimated)	6,980.00	6,980.00	0.00
Chili Cook-Off Pre-Sales	13,490.00	16,841.28	-3,351.28
Start of Event	40,407.02	40,486.82	-79.80
In-Kind Donations		5,000.00	-5,000.00
Travels, Vendors and Sponsors	57,061.00	47,716.86	9,344.14
T-Shirt Sales	435.00	610.00	-175.00
Totals:	131,573.02	117,634.96	13,938.06

## Announcements continued

**points.** That means that instead of a \$1,000 donation to become a Paul Harris Fellow, you can do it for \$500. If interested, email **PDG, Russ DeFuria**, dg0708@ocomfort.com

Four **prospective members** have been approved by the board and their induction is pending:

**Pam Humphreys** with Proforma Schrader and Schrader, sponsored by **Melissa Baxter**

**David Jones** with DSJ Painting Contractors, sponsored by **Kyle Rheiner**

**Michael Karwic** of Glenayr Family Advisors, sponsored by **Bill Friedmann**

**Miranda Reilly** of Serv Pro, sponsored by **Sue Casso Rogers**

## HAPPY BUCKS

Contributions to the club treasury were made by **Carol Hanson, Sue Casso Rogers, Chelle Venema, Catherine Friedman, Katie Martin, Paul Sookiasian** and **Rich Murray**.



## 50-50

**Suzette Webb** was the winner, but didn't draw the Queen of Spades. The pot is now over \$200.



## 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

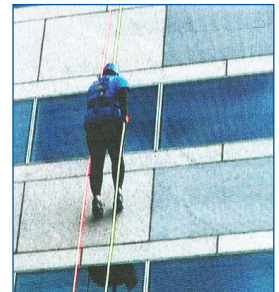
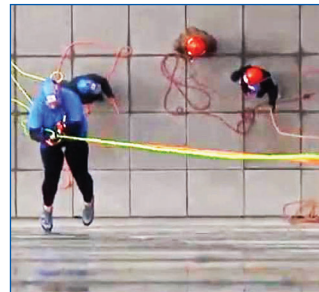
## ROTARY RAPPELLING

by **Kate Diffenderfer**

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 leader Dennis Wallace sported a custom Rotary cape on his descent! It was truly an amazing event.

Team Rotary had a \$22k goal and raised \$28k to be the Top Overall Team! Total raised by the event: \$225,535

15 individuals comprised of Rotarians and friends from West Chester, WC Passport, WC Sunrise, Philadelphia and Longwood clubs took part. Locals included: **Kate Diffenderfer** and **Charles Strietweiser** from WC Rotary, **Debi Friedman** and **Angela Brown** for WC Passport, and **Dennis Wallace** from WC Sunrise. **Carol Hanson** was the team photographer.



Team Rotary's gift will support local young people on their journeys of self-discovery through access to Outward Bound programs. Through Outward Bound, students learn they can achieve more and aspire to accomplish more than they ever imagined, while they increase their self-confidence, self-reliance and commitment to provide service and leadership to others.

A huge thank you to all club members who supported this event!