

# ROTARY VOTARY

## The Rotary Club of West Chester

District 7450

[www.WestChesterRotary.us](http://www.WestChesterRotary.us)

Bulletin # 20 November 16, 2023

### CLUB MEETING ~ November 9, 2023

Minutes by Michael G. Louis

Call to Order by President Rich Murray

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by  
Jeff Spencer

Invocation by Don Niemetz

Mac Neilon was the Acting Sergeant-  
at-Arms



### NEW PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

President Rich made a formal award presentation to Honorary Club Member **Tracy Sammarone** on becoming a **Paul Harris Fellow** in recognition of her contribution of at least \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation. Congratulations Tracy!



### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Katie Martin** informed us that **Salvation Army Bell Ringing** will be on Saturday, December 9. We are ringing the bell at Shop Rite and the Amish Market and she passed around a sign-up sheet. Contact her if you're interested.

**Katie** also told us that the club's **Audit Committee** is looking for new members.



**John Schwab** said he has samples of Rotary logo clothing for members to look at and express interest in. Also club hats and visors continue on sale for \$10.00. About half of our original inventory of 150 hats/visors is still available.

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### TODAY'S PROGRAM ~ November 16

#### Club Business

New Member Induction & Classification Talk

### NEXT WEEK ~ November 23

No Meeting

*Happy Thanksgiving*

### PROGRAM

#### Ernest Zlotolow ~ A Very Interesting Life



**Randy Lindel** introduced **Ernest Zlotolow** as our speaker. Ernest talked about what it takes to be a successful professional and how to adapt. He said that the only thing constant is change. In Mandarin the words "crisis" and "opportunity" are the same. Often times to overcome obstacles one must circumvent them. The secret of success is making right decisions.

From 1966 to 1981, Ernest worked in his native Argentina. He ran an architectural firm that did large commercial buildings and high rises. While his goal was to teach structural design at the university, he ran into prejudice because he was a first-generation Argentinian. He eventually did become a full professor, but then Fidel Castro, with Russian financing, came in and tried to take over Argentina through Che Guevara – 30,000 people disappeared, his oldest son got kidnapped. It was every dangerous. Ernest and his wife decided to circumvent the problem and come to the United States.

In the U.S., he had some excellent choices But, he realized that architects in the U.S. were not as well trained and did not run the projects like they did in Argentina. Therefore, he had to go back to business school and learn the business and finance sides of being an American project manager.

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Announcements continued

Jeff Spencer reminded us that the club **Holiday Party** is on Thursday December 14, 5:30-7:30 at the West Chester Country Club. \$50.00 each. It is in lieu of our lunch meeting that day. You can pay by Venmo or at next week’s meeting.



Linda Hicks said there is **one week left** to bring in candy or other gifts for **Stockings for Soldiers**.

President Rich, reporting on this week’s **Board Meeting**, said that we are looking for a **Co-Chair** to help run the **Chili Cook-Off with Melissa Baxter** and if we don’t come up with one, we are not going to run the Chili Cook-Off ourselves, but will hand it off to someone else. He also said that the Club is considering a follow-on **Senegal Water Project** and would welcome comments from any members.

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

Dave Biffen had a Happy Buck for all of the veterans in the club – who were asked to stand and were given a fine round of applause by club members.

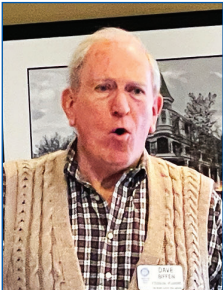
Paul Woodruff had a Happy Buck for his 16th great-grandchild.

Other happy contributions were made by **Corey Cahill, Gleda Brion, Don Kohler and Jeff Cantwell**.



50-50


Paul Woodruff was the winner (he said for the third time in his 50+ Rotary years), but didn’t draw the Queen of Spades. The pot is now over \$265



Ernest Zlotolow continued

Eventually he became a project manager for major projects like the Oxford Valley Mall, the King of Prussia Mall and Steel Pier in Atlantic City. He said that a great architect can both design and build and that their buildings pass the test of time.

**Editors note:** Ernest celebrates his 40th year in Rotary this year. He is past president of the King of Prussia Club, past Assistant District Governor, past Chair of the Gundaker Foundation and past chair of the District International Service Committee. A distinguished life of Service Above Self.



**Rotary International Theme  
2023-2024**

RI President **R. Gordon R. McNally** calls for Rotary to create hope in the world by working for peace and mental well-being. He urges members to engage in tough conversations and earn the trust that’s necessary to realize these values.



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**HOW TO GET IN TOUCH**

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