

**Program: February 18, 2021**

**Personal Protection**

**Speakers: Anne and Ernie Kirk.**

**The History of Krav Maga**

**Program: March 4, 2021**

**TBA**

## MINUTES by Cathy Palmquist

**President-elect Steve Brown** opened the virtual meeting in the absence of **President Michelle**, greeting us with a "Good Afternoon from the studios of **Rich Murray** in sunny Exton". He offered thanks to Rich, and extended greetings from **President Michelle**. Not having a bell to ring the meeting to order, he did produce **two** American flags as **Bill Winters** led us in the pledge to the flag. **President-elect Steve** noted that this is National Optimist Day, and commented that he is optimistic. **Gary Hess** was called on, and, saying he liked snow, read a very nice poem about snow for our invocation.

**Sue Casso Rogers** introduced visitor Christa Evans, from Chester Valley Golf Club in Malvern, who had been a Rotarian in North Carolina (?) and is now looking for a new Rotary home. Sue, of course, invited her to join our club and promised follow-up. Our lone guest today was Mike Benjamin.

**Arlene Adam** got out her colorful sign to wish Happy Birthday to **Terry Edgar, Fran Luft, Catherine Friedman, John Abitabilo**, and **Nancy Pine**. **Carol Hanson** kicked off Happy Bucks by thanking **Nathan Keisler** and **John Abitabilo** for serving on the joint scholarship committee with the Sunrise Rotary Club. **Sue Casso Rogers** was happy to have spent the past week in sunny Florida where she and **Bob** played five rounds of golf in six days, are now home quarantining, and were happy to get home just before the big storm hit. **Yolanda Van de Krol** was happy to be back at our meetings, having missed the past four because she was participating in the Chester County Leadership program. While it was a small group of participants, she said it was an amazing experience, and will help her being our club's assistant treasurer. **Bill Winters** had birthday money to donate but was happy there is no basket being passed around.

Kicking off announcements, **President-elect Steve** asked if all members are getting the district newsletter. If not, let **Steve** know and he will see you are on the list. **Christine Wildauer**, our fruit czar, reported that we have sold \$5,000 worth of fruit,

which amounts to about \$2,000 profit, so we are way behind in our fruit sale this year. If folks don't want fruit for themselves, they can purchase and donate a Farmer's Produce Box to the West Chester Food Cupboard. Note that the sale ends on Valentine's Day, February 14<sup>th</sup>. She asked if anyone has been in touch with **Dr. Poole**, as she has not heard from him, and he always participates. **Sue Casso Rogers** keeps in touch with his daughter and will check on him. And, a reminder that the Community Warehouse needs volunteers to help out on the third Saturday of each month.

In lieu of our usual Historical Happenings, with which **President Michelle** reports findings by our historian **Bill Friedmann**, **President-elect Steve** noted some historical happenings he looked up: in 1789, George Washington was elected President; the first Groundhog Day was in 1887; and in 1901, the first roller coaster was unveiled in Coney Island, although it closed in 1910.

He commented that **President Michelle** always ends our meetings with some inspirational quotes, but he likes to offer Points to Ponder, such as - why are there interstate highways in Hawaii?

## SPEAKERS REVIEW by Michael Louis

The speaker for our February 4, 2021 Rotary meeting was Danielle Dougherty, Director of Philanthropic Partnerships for the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County ("DVCCC"). Our own **Melissa Baxter** from DVCCC introduced Danielle.

Danielle started by thanking the West Chester Rotary Club for donating over \$40,000.00 to DVCCC since 2011.

She said that domestic violence is a pattern of behavior by one person over another to gain control over the other person. One in four women and one in seven men have experienced severe physical violence by an intimate partner. In 2019 alone 112 victims died in Pennsylvania in domestic violence incidents. 46% of those were killed by current or former intimate partners.

DVCCC started as the Women's Resource Center which was part of the YWCA of West Chester. DVCCC was founded in 1976 so it is their 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Their mission is to reduce, remedy and prevent domestic violence in Chester County.

#### *Their Services*

Trauma informed counseling for adults and children

Utilize an empowerment approach

24-7 hotline

Three housing programs including one for immediate housing (the safe house), bridge transitional housing and townhouses for people to live in

Children's programs

Legal Advocacy – assistance with obtaining a PFA (protection from abuse)

CBIM – coaching boys into men. It teaches the coaches to allow an open conversation to talk about teen domestic violence so the students feel free to talk about it

LAP – lethality assessment programs – identify those most likely to be killed – have police connect these people with DVCCC

Connections with 38 local police departments, Chester County Sheriff's Office and local colleges

#### *How Can You Make A Difference*

Make a contribution

Volunteer

Spread the word via social media

Upcoming Events

Virtual chocolate tasting – February 19, 2021

Virtual terrarium therapy – March 4, 2021

Virtual Gala – April 23, 2021

A special thanks to Danielle and Melissa for all they do for our Chester County Community.

## SELL FRUIT



## EVENTS CALENDAR

Feb 13	Community Warehouse Donation Day
Feb 14	Fruit Orders Due
Mar 6	Fruit Pick up @ Duie Pyle

## COMMUNITY WAREHOUSE DONATION DAY

Saturday, February 13th from 9a-1p is our next Community Warehouse donation day. We could use volunteers to help with the numerous donations scheduled to arrive that day.

Everyone is also welcomed to bring gently used Christmas decorations, furniture, small appliances, household items, linens, utensils, matching plates, etc... Feel free to bring helpful children too.

800 East Virginia Ave. West Chester in the Schramm business campus.

Contact: **Jeannie McGinn**; 484-343-4577 cell

[Rotaryjeannie@gmail.com](mailto:Rotaryjeannie@gmail.com)

## SLATE OF OFFICERS 2021-2022

**Steve Brown**, President; **Michelle Venema**, Past President; **Melissa Baxter**, president-elect; **Rich Murray**, vice president; **Sue Casso Rogers**, secretary **Jack Ellis**, treasurer; **Bob Rogers**, Sergeant of Arms

Board Members at Large:

**Charles Alfree**, **Phil Bieg**, **Carol Hanson**, **Diana Liberi**, **Doug Meis**, **Christine Scott**, **Yolanda Van de Krol** assistant Treasurer), **Bill Winters** and **David Wood**.

The vote on this slate will take place at our January 7 meeting. This leadership will take office on July 1, 2021.

## BOARD of DIRECTORS

President, **Michelle Venema**; President Elect, **Steve Brown**; Vice President, **Melissa Baxter**; Treasurer, **Jack Ellis**; Assistant Treasurer, **Yolanda Van der Pol**; Secretary, **Sue Casso Rogers**; Sgt at Arms, **Bob Rogers**; Immediate Past President, **Matt Holliday**

Directors-at-Large: **Ebbie Alfree**, **Melissa Baxter**, **Carol Hanson**, **Diana Liberi**, **Rob Malone**, **Rich Murray**, **Christine Scott**, **Glen Sweet**

Kevin Katarynick, District Governor

Cynthia Rugart, Assistant Governor

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

**Dwight Leeper**, P.D.G. '12-13. District 7510

**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](mailto:Votary@westchesterrotary.us) Web support: **Judi Bell** and **Howard Sundwall**.

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

Committee: **Pat Barron**, **Brian Fahey**, **Gary Hess**, **Michael Lewis**, **Fran Luft**, **Danielle Mortimer**, **Cathy Palmquist**, **Kyle Rheiner**, **Winnie Stroup**, **Jill Stoltzfus**