



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester, District 7450
Shekhar Mehta, International President 2021-2022

www.WestChesterRotary.us

Bulletin #9 September 2, 2021

CLUB MEETING AUGUST 26, 2021 MINUTES by Faith Woodward

President Steve opened meeting

Invocation – **Bob Frame** led a moment of silence for the military and those trapped in Afghanistan.

Guests- Pastor Jeff Richards, Kevin McKenna (with **Bill Winters**) Joe Driscoll (with **Sue and Bob Rogers**), Kate (**Meg Van Riet's** daughter)

Pres Steve's This Day in History

1498 Michelangelo was commissioned to carve the Pieta.

1873- First Kindergarten sanctioned by the US

1984- President Reagan announced that a first school teacher would be on a space mission (the fated Challenger).

Birthdays- No celebrants were present today.

Happy Bucks

Dan Wilson (gave \$20 for the engagement of his son and girlfriend. They climbed to top of Mt Katahdin for the proposal!) Joe Driscoll (although in the pool for jury duty, his number was not called so he was able to attend today's meeting.)

Announcements

President Steve- The Pulled Pork event will be Oct 7

Fame Fire Company – we were donors and are invited to their celebration Sat. Sept 18

Sept 17 – Golf at Downingtown CC.

Last night's Minglefest at Aligned Space - 11 attended from our club.

Next week **Past Pres Michelle** will fill for **President Steve**.

50-50 winner **Bob Rogers** for the 3rd time in a row...

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

September 2, 2021

Deb Ryan, Chester County

District Attorney

September 9, 2021

Speaker: Leslie Holt from *A Child's Light*

President Steve's parting words: The old superman wouldn't duck for bullets, but he would duck when the gun was thrown at him!

SPEAKER'S REVIEW BY Faith Woodward

Kathy Mullin, representing the Red Cross, was introduced by **Doug Meis**.

As a volunteer with Red Cross for 4.5 years, Kathy has not been bored being retired from a major corporation for 40 years.

This fabulous organization is her passion and was recently reorganized. The region used to stretch to Scranton and Pottsville. When responding to disaster, that was just too far. Now called SEPA this branch covers Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, and Delaware counties. Kathy's duties cover Montgomery, Chester, and Delaware counties.

Many people only know the Red Cross for the blood drives. Kathy is a Community Leader who informs the public about the Red Cross. She would like the Red Cross to join in Rotary programs to inform people.

Their Mission: to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. Their crew is 90% volunteer..

Last year, besides COVID, there were many weather disasters including wildfires in the west coast and the Derecho 100 mph winds in the Midwest. Signing up online, Kathy went out to Oregon to help. At that time shelters were not available, so they used hotel rooms. Those who were homeless took advantage of these

hotel accommodations. Volunteering every day from 7 AM to 6 PM, helped her to appreciate how good we have it here. One man lost his home and only had trash bags full of his belongings. The Red Cross offers short-term help and even helped with vaccination projects. For example, Afghan refugees need long-term help.

The Red Cross provided 1.2 million over-night stays. Ninety cents of every dollar is spent on care. Kathy says the rumors of CEOs getting all the money is not true.

Training is all on-line. Kathy is certified in feeding, preparedness, and training. Volunteers need to be ready to help for a 14-day period.

Preparedness help came through 15,000 new alarms installed, 5,900 homes made safer with fire escape plans, 7,000 students taught with the Pillowcase Project. (this program for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade talks about safety. In PA they talk about thunder and lightning, snowstorms, fires, and tornadoes. There is a workbook for each student. During Katrina people had to evacuate their homes and they tried to pack up their items, so the Pillowcase project instructed people to use pillowcase for personal items. At the program, each child gets a pillowcase to take home to keep for emergencies. The leaders talk about how to get out of each room in your house. Children are instructed to practice a fire drill with their parents.

The Red Cross partners with the Fire Department. They canvas neighborhoods with flyers to have home assessed for fire plans and safety. Kathy does the education piece and then fire men check smoke detectors that should be in every floor and in every bedroom and in kitchen.

In the summer there are not as many donors for the Blood Drive, so please sign up.

Military support- provide services to more than 2,800 service members. They can help to locate missing people and support families whose loved one is in the military.

The Red Cross offers babysitting class, CPR, First Aid, Swimming, Life guarding, and a CNA course. Please Google the red Cross to find services

Clara Barton started the organization in 1870 in the US after the Civil War.

They will work with corporations to get donations and would like to work with Rotary.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Sept 17	Rotary Golf Event @ Downingtown CC
Sept 18	Community Warehouse
Set 18	Fame Firehouse Dedication
Oct 7	Pulled Pork Event at Boy Scout Facility

COMMUNITY WAREHOUSE DONATION DAY

Mark Your Calendar! Saturday, August 21 from 9a-1p is our next Community Warehouse donation day.

For complete information go to communitywarehouseproject.com.

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

Contact: **Jeannie McGinn**; 484-343-4577 cell
Rotaryjeannie@gmail.com

VOTARY COPIES

Thank you, **Sue and Bob Rogers** of Robert W. Rogers Appraisals, for printing copies of the Votary this month.

BOARD of DIRECTORS 2021-2022

President, **Steve Brown**; President Elect, **Melissa Baxter**; Vice President, **Rich Murray**; Treasurer, **Jack Ellis**; Assistant Treasurer, **Yolanda Van de Krol**; Secretary, **Sue Casso Rogers**; Sgt at Arms, **Bob Rogers**; Immediate Past President, **Michelle Venema**

Directors-at-Large: **Ebbie Alfree**, **Phil Beig**, **Carol Hanson**, **Diana Liberi**, **Doug Meis**, **Christine Scott**, **Yolanda Van de Krol**, **Bill Winters**, **Dave Wood**

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 Web support: **Judi Bell** and **Howard Sundwall**.
Webmaster@WestChesterRotary.us

Committee: **Derek Chandler**, **Brian Fahey**, **Gary Hess**, **Michael Louis**, **Danielle Mortimer**, **Kyle Rheiner**, **Jill Stoltzfus**