



ROTARY VOTARY

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

www.WestChesterRotary.us

Bulletin #2 July 15, 2021

SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Program: July 15, 2021
TBA

MINUTES by Faith Woodward

President Steve started his first meeting.

The invocation was given by **Jeannie McGinn** who reflected on the 100th anniversary of our club. She shared that the objects of Rotary are still the same. **We still encourage and foster service and acquaintances as an opportunity for service.**

Sue Casso Rogers helped get new slides for Power Point.

Visiting Rotarians- none

Guests: Rita Brouwer Ancher with **Sue Casso Rogers** and Ann Driscoll with **Bob and Sue Rogers**.

President Steve- thanked **Past President Matt Holliday** and **Past President Michelle Venema** for celebrating the past 100 years of this club.

This date in history:

1776 First ringing of Liberty bell. 1883- First open heart surgery without Anesthesia.

1941 Broke the German code using the machine by Alan Turing

Birthdays were recognized by **Michelle Venema** to **Bill Friedmann**, **Carol Hanson** to **Charles Streitwieser**, **Matt Holliday** to **Patty Jefferis**, and **Bill Ronayne** to **Steve Quigley**.

Happy Bucks- **Carol Hanson** (New member's first meeting **Tara Webber**) **Cathy Palmquist** (article in DLN, league of Women Voters has new information). **Catherine Friedman** (Apologize that missed last week's meeting, welcome Steve, happy to return to Rotary). **Melissa Baxter** (13 years ago became a mom. Michelle was great to work with). **John Schwab** (46 years ago purchased an old building in the borough, and recently sold it to son and nephew). **Charles Streitwieser** (joined this club 27 years ago at age 27. Daughter just got a contract for teaching position). **Ernest Zlotolow** (arrived here 40 years ago with family)

President Steve announced Rotary tee shirts available. Parking will be a challenge for a number of weeks since equipment for fixing the chimney will be taking up spots.

Jeff Spencer, the new Fellowship chair,

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announced the opening of the new Boy Scout Facility and for community that will be the spot for the next club social event Thursday, Sept 23, 1 Scouting Way Exton, PA. 4:30 -6:30 and the site of the pulled pork showdown.

Youth Exchange opportunity- **Catherine Friedman**. Announced this for **Chris Franz**. His exchange student did a virtual visit last year and now can come to US. We need a host family in the WCASD. Please contact Chris if you can be a host.

District 7540 is sponsoring Minglefests, places throughout District that all are welcome to join including Hors D'oeuvres and paid drinks. Totally social. West Chester will have one on July 21 at Timothy's. Passport Club will be hosting.

Laura Aloisio won the 50-50 but didn't find the Queen of spades.

SPEAKER'S REVIEW BY Faith Woodward

President Steve gave an introductory speech and presented his plan for the year.

He retired in 2016 after 41 years in several administrative and executive positions. His wife, Mary, and he retired to Downingtown to be near our two sons and three grandkids.

His Rotary career: a member of this club since March of 2017, but he's been a Rotarian since 1986. In 35 years in Rotary, he's been in 5 clubs, served on 3 different boards, countless committees, and became president once. His biggest honor was being named Rotarian of the Year in 2015, and he is a Paul Harris fellow +2.

President Steve says, "I take "Service above Self" seriously. It's more than just a slogan for me – it's why we're all here – to serve our community. I'm here for you. This club isn't about me – it's about you and the good work we do for our community. I won't waste your time – I don't believe in having meetings for meetings' sake, and when we're done with our business, we'll go home. I'll never ignore you – I'll try to answer every email. You'll know what's going on. I plan to regularly update you on major board meeting

happenings, district events, RI announcements, etc. If I miss something you're interested in or want to know about, please drop me an email. Finally, I think it's important to have fun. My personal mission for this upcoming year is a very simple, 3-part statement: My mission is to return our club to pre-pandemic prominence, by re-energizing our club through: re-engaging our members; growing our membership; and widely telling our story...and have some fun in all things we do, in service, socially, and professionally.."

The new RI president is Shekhar Mehta, and his theme for the year is "Serve to Change Lives". His request of us is simple: let this be a year of changemakers and let's begin with our own membership. He urges all of us to think of new ways to reach out to our community to involve more and more people with Rotary.

And we have some terrific new leaders to help us do that, starting with three new board members – **Dave Wood, Phil Beig, and Doug Meis**. We've got some fantastic new committee chairs as well:

Past-President Michelle chair of the club's foundation, as well as the governance committee. **John Schwab**, chair of a new committee, the communications committee. We have a new program chair in **Doug Meis**. New member orientation is another critical effort for the coming year and will be handled by **Sue Casso Rogers**. **Katie Martin** is chair of the audit committee. **Jeff Spencer** is our new chair of the fellowship committee. Our new Chili-Cook Off chair is **Bill Friedmann**!

John Schwab and then **President-Elect Steve** were joined by then **President Michelle** and **Sue Casso Rogers** to outline the simplest of basic strategic plans. The plan maintains our three basic goal areas: making a difference; we are rotary; and telling the rotary story. Under each of these, through a few specific objectives, there are only twelve (12) specific action items. In addition to those, as has been our custom, a list of club-related objectives to achieve for a presidential citation have been identified. It's a very simple plan, reduced to only 4 pages, 3 major goal areas, and 12 action items, all focused one way or another on the membership with the overall thinking that we didn't want to bog the club down with a lot of goals and objectives when we're focused so critically on working to bring our club back.

President Steve is excited about the upcoming year, and thanks all members of our club for our support and help!

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: **Brian Fahey, Gary Hess, Michael Lewis, Danielle Mortimer, Cathy Palmquist, Kyle Rheiner, Jill Stoltzfus**

EVENTS CALENDAR

July 17	Community Warehouse Project
July 21	District 7450 Minglefest at Timothy's
Sept 23	Social event at Boy Scout Facility

COMMUNITY WAREHOUSE DONATION DAY

Mark Your Calendar! Saturday, July 17 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. We practice social distancing and masks are worn.

For complete information go to communitywarehouseproject.com. Call us for ways to get donations over to the warehouse too.

Everyone is also welcomed to bring 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

MEET ROTARY'S NEW PRESIDENT

OUR NEW PRESIDENT, SHEKHAR MEHTA, ENVISIONS ROTARY'S NEXT CHAPTER – AND IS READY TO MAKE IT A REALITY



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