

# ROTARY VOTARY

The Rotary Club of West Chester

District 7450

www.WestChesterRotary.us

Bulletin # 22 November 30, 2023

## CLUB MEETING ~ November 16, 2023

Minutes by Brian Fahey

Call to Order by President Rich Murray

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Suzette Webb

Invocation by Paul Woodruff

### VISITING ROTARIAN

Dennis Wallace from the Greater WC Sunrise Club

### GUESTS

Krzysztof Bozentka

Ed Stillman, who has applied for membership

Katie Walker from the Greater WC Chamber of Commerce

### BIRTHDAY

Jeannie McGinn wished happy birthday to Rita Brouwer-Ancher



### ROTARY FOUNDATION

Club Rotary Foundation Co-Chairs Gary Hess and Jim Gasho gave a short presentation on the RI Foundation Annual Fund and how it supports project grants at the international and club level. They encouraged members to sign up for Rotary Direct on the RI website – an easy way to make a monthly contribution that really adds up over time.

### NEW MEMBER INDUCTION



Past President Steve Brown inducted new members:  
Pam Humphreys, sponsored by Melissa Baxter  
Michae Karwic, sponsored by Bill Friedmann

## TODAY'S PROGRAM ~ November 30

Eagle Schout Lauren Tyree

"Successes in Scouts lead to successes in life."

## NEXT WEEK ~ December 7

Lenape Brass

Holiday Music

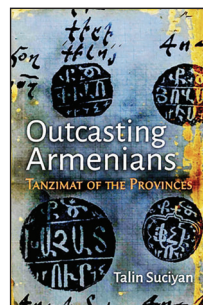
## PROGRAM

### Paul Sookiasian Classification Talk

Rich Murray introduced fellow West Chester East graduate and new club member Paul Sookiasian for his classification on talk.

Paul is a native of West Chester. He went to the Armenian Sisters Academy in Radnor for elementary school, as Paul is of Armenian ancestry. He later attended East High School and then Villanova University. An international internship turned into a full time job with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Armenia.

Subsequently, Paul moved back to West Chester to pursue a full-time writing career. He has a particular interest in history and is a tour guide in West Chester doing "Haunted History Tours" as well as in Philadelphia. More information is at: <https://chescotours.com/>



Paul recently edited a book about Armenians in the Ottoman Empire that has been published by Syracuse University Press. He also writes articles for a number of magazines and online sites, and has done extensive volunteering in Armenia and with various organizations.

Welsome Paul to West Chester Rotary!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

**Katie Martin** reminded about the **Salvation Army Bell Ringing** will be on **Saturday, December 9** at Shop Rite and the Amish Market – a few slots are still open. Contact her if you're interested.

**Randy Lindel** modeled our new "I am a Rotary Bell Ringer" aprons obtained by the Communications Committee and Salvation Army exec. **Jesus Coraliza**.



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.

## HAPPY BUCKS

**Dennis Wallace** was happy about the rappelling event, which raised \$28,000.

**Jeannie McGinn** was happy about the first **Community Warehouse Project Dance Party**.

**Melissa Baxter** Is happy to be back and to see friends.



**Steve Brown** was happy to be back at our Thursday meeting after a few weeks away.

**Rita Brouwer-Ancher** was happy about her daughter's recent wedding.

**Katie Martin** was happy about the **Thanksgiving Happy Hour** next Tuesday at Side Bar.

**Don Kohler** was happy about the closure of his term on the Kennett School board.

Guest and Chamber President **Katie Walker** was happy about the upcoming West Chester **Christmas Parade** and encouraged members to sign up to be Parade Marshalls.

**Suzette Webb** was happy to see Melissa back at our meeting

## 50-50

Jim Gasho won the 50-50, but didn't draw the Queen of Spades. The pot is not \$280.

## MEETING PHOTO ALBUM



## 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

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Web support: Mark Sammarone, Randy Lindel,  
Howard Sundwall