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Bob Bielski
Tom Corcoran
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www.wegorotary.org

Think you have news that should be put in the weekly WEGO Newsletter?

Email it to:
seth.birch@gmail.com

The Newsletter of the Westtown-Goshen Rotary Club

February 4, 2008

WEGO ROTARY FOUNDATION UPDATE... This past Thursday the members of WeGo engaged in a very thoughtful and insightful conversation about our club's foundation.

President Larry Whitaker handed the microphone over to **Past President and current Foundation President David Moldoff** to lead the discussion. A recap of the discussion follows:

The Westtown-Goshen Rotary Foundation was formed in 1989 as a Pennsylvania nonprofit corporation. It was recognized as an exempt organization under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code in 1991. The Foundation was formed to provide a vehicle to receive tax deductible contributions to fund the charitable programs of the Club and to evaluate and make recommendations relating to the charitable beneficiaries supported by the Club. The Foundation replaced the Charity Committee of the Club in 1991 and the \$3500.00 then being held by the Charity Committee was transferred to the Foundation for disposition in accordance with the determination of the Board of Directors of the Foundation.

The Foundation bylaws govern the structure and operation of the Foundation. Every member of the Club is also a member of the Foundation. The annual meeting of Foundation members is held every July, at which time the members elect the Foundation Board of Directors. The Board consists of ten individuals who are members of the Foundation. Five directors are elected each year for two-year terms.

Currently, the sitting directors in their first year are: **Seth Birch, John Young, Robert Thomas, Jeff Penfil, Ann Trevisan**. The sitting directors serving in their second year are: **Tom Corcoran, Mark Rudiger, Govinda Malya, John O'Brien and Milt Stith**.

The Board of Directors annually elect the officers of the corporation who currently are: President, **Dave Moldoff**; Vice President, **Jeff Penfil**; Treasurer, **Ann Trevisan**; and Secretary, **Bob Adams**.

The bylaws of the Foundation provide that the business and affairs of the corporation are managed by the Board of Directors. The Foundation Board is accountable to the members of the Foundation, not to the Board of the Directors of the Club. The Foundation manages all of the funds of the Club that are used to advance the charitable programs of the Club. It evaluates requests for funding that are made to the Club, including requests for the proceeds of the Club's annual Duck Race. While the Board has independence to act on behalf of the Foundation, it invariably reports to the membership its activities and recommendations and it seeks consensus on such decisions. The practical reality is that the Board of Directors, serving in a representative capacity for the members, is in the best position to perform the careful analysis and evaluation of the many funding requests brought to the Club.

An accounting by **Ann Trevisan** indicates we currently have \$23,662 in the Westtown-Goshen

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Rotary Foundation. This money is earned through our hard work and dedication to the duck race, and is distributed by the foundation after a consensus of the club is reached. A question was posed by **Dr. Kenton Stokes** as to the status of the donations that were made by individual members and friends in honor of deceased Rotarians of the club. It was explained that those donations were deposited in our Chester County Community Foundation account that was established over ten years ago by the club. The purpose of this separate account was to invest in a foundation that would spin off yearly interest to fund our annual vocational scholarship awards. To date, this account has grown to approximately \$28,604. A separate account that received individual donations that were not funneled through our foundation was established as well. To date this account has approximately \$1,537.

Foundation President **Dave Moldoff** will provide our WEGO staff with minutes of the foundation meetings so that they may be passed on to you. Of course, **ALL** members of the Westtown-Goshen Rotary club are invited to attend all foundation meetings to engage in the business of the foundation.

KAPPA DELTA RHO GOLF TOURNAMENT...Our highly energetic and masterful WEGO producer **Seth Birch** is inviting the golf pros from our club to participate in a best ball scramble. The big event is scheduled for April 13th 2008 at the Broad Run Golf Club (formerly the Tattersall Golf Club). Proceeds to benefit the West Chester Police Department. You may sign up individually or register your own foursome at www.kdrgolf.com. Early entry deadline is March 10th. Fee is \$100.00 per player, or \$105.00 per player for online payment. Seth has registration and sponsor forms at the Sgt. At Arms table.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE (REPEAT)...District Governor's Russ DeFuria's words "we're shaking things up a bit" is no joke. For you seasoned Rotarians you may recall that District Conferences were typically held in the fall. This year however, the Governor and his staff have shaken things up and have arranged for a multi-district conference for April 25-27 at the Skytop Lodge in the Pocono Mountains. District 7450 will be partnering with 7430 and the Governor reported to us two weeks ago that "this will be the best district conference ever!"

PLEA FOR PROGRAMS...Our ever diligent and awesome Program Director **Ed Olsavicky** continues to do a magnificent job lining up presenters for our weekly meetings. This is probably more challenging than being Club President. With cancellations due to weather and other unforeseen circumstances, shuffling to fill the gaps is tedious. You may have noticed that over the past several meetings WeGo has seen a fair number of speakers representing various organizations soliciting donations from our club. This was not Ed's intent. It just happened to work out that way due to the short supply of choices for speakers. In the months ahead we have eleven speaker vacancies open. All of March, April and May is wide open for speakers, with the exception of 3 meetings! We desperately need your help in recommending speakers to present to our club. When you conduct a make-up at another club, and you really enjoyed the presentation, please ask the speaker after the meeting to present at our club. All help is greatly appreciated to make our meetings more enjoyable and informative.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

7 February Jason Pyrah and Gary Hess, Habitat for Humanity
14 February Govinda Malya, CHAP project
28 February Brendon Johnson, Aid to South Africa

UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS:

District Conference April 25-27 at the Skytop Lodge in the Pocono mountains.