



The Rotary Club of Kennett Square

THE SQUARE WHEEL

July 1, 2008

District 7450 ••••• Area 9 ••••• Club 5488

Wow! What a great meeting (This was **Installation Night** and **ALL** members and several guests were present to **thank** our outgoing leaders, **congratulate** our incoming leaders, and to get our club off to a **great start** for an **excellent year!!!**

President Terry Schreep started in the usual fashion with the singing of "God Bless America" followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and an invocation by Rich Burrows. Rich also noted that three members have membership anniversaries in July:

Steven Cho - 7 years

Ross Edmonds - 9 years

John Gebhard - 30 years

Congratulations Steven, Ross, and John!

Guests: Betty Ann Lester - guest of Don Lester;
Rich Lyle (prospective member) - guest of Elizabeth Rhoads

Visiting Rotarians: Harshad Dodia - Westtown/Goshen;
Bonnie Korengel, AG - Kennett at Longwood

Announcements:

§ On **July 8** we will meet at **Brandywine Assisted Living**, 301 Victoria Gardens Drive. Dinner and a tour of the facility will be hosted by member, Susan Cohen. This will be the site of our Art Gala fund raiser, so it is very important that everyone attend this meeting to help us start planning this event. We will not meet at the Hilton.

§ Quarterly dues of \$53 are now due; July meal payments of \$95 are due.

§ The Board will meet after the regular club meeting on **July 18.**

§ Rotary Night at the Phillies is **August 6.** Get your tickets now! See Eleanor. Mike Perna said he would buy tickets for Yannick and Eric Marc is someone else could provide transportation for them.

Attendance: 16 of 16 members. **100%!**

50/50: Total of \$52. Jenny won \$26.

Program-Part I: President Terry reviewed the past Rotary year. He remarked that although our numbers are small, we have a wonderful core group and we accomplished a lot. We did many things that we always do, such as the Pancake Breakfast, Rotary Supplement to the *Kennett Paper*, sponsor Boy Scout troop, scholarships, and Trooper of the Year. In addition, we collected "Shoes for Souls" at Christmas and made contributions to Shelter Box, Power Up Gambia, and the Kennett Symphony. We have started making a 3 to 5-year plan by consulting with Rick Lewandowski to develop projects to maintain/enhance our section of the Red Clay Trail. We have helped support 2 Ivory Coast

students who are doing well. President Terry also acknowledged that personally this has been a difficult year for him and Babe, but that Rotarians have helped to make it easier.

President Terry also recognized and thanked individual Rotarians for their contributions to the club during the past year. (I cannot reproduce President Terry's eloquence, but briefly summarized)

Jenny Armitage - admired for her devotion and hard work for Rotary, both at the club and District levels; thanks as AG for helping him get organized for his term of office; for thinking of new ways to stimulate the club, such as the Art Gala fund raiser.

Louise Bair - recognized for her bouncy attitude; always having something good to say; for leading the literacy project of giving dictionaries to Kennett third graders.

Richard Burrows - recognized for his booming voice giving the Invocations which was missed when he was not present.

Steven Cho - recognized as Treasurer and his work to keep us financially on track.

Ross Edmonds - recognized for his work as Treasurer of the Kennett Rotary Foundation and for his steady hand on the "till."

John Gebhard - recognized as the person who quietly in the background ensures that someone is doing the *Square Wheel* each week.

Don Lester - recognized as a mentor and as the best extemporaneous speaker on what it means to be a Rotarian.

Bronwyn Martin - recognized as "my" secretary; couldn't have done it without her; had many good ideas; understood his humor.

Steve Pember - recognized for always being ready to do whatever was asked; for organizing the Trooper of the Year award.

Mike Perna - recognized for his work with the two Ivory Coast students and the Red Clay Trail which polishes and shines the name of Rotary.

Al Schmitt - recognized for his work as Kennett Rotary Foundation President; for being quiet and low key, but always there to get things done.

Peter Skiadas - recognized as being the 2008 Rotarian of the Year and for his unselfishness.

Eleanor Sylver - recognized for her positive attitude; "attitude is everything"

Susan Cohen - our newest member, recognized for her energy and spark. Ardmore's loss is our gain.

Elizabeth Rhoads - recognized with a Distinguished Service Award.

Program–Part II: Bonnie Korengel, Assistant Governor for Area 9 de-installed the 2007-2008 officers

and board of directors and thanked them for their service. Then she installed the officers and directors for 2008-2009:

Eleanor Sylver - President	Jenny Armitage - Director
Bronwyn Martin - Secretary	Louise Bair - Director
Steven Cho - Treasurer	Ross Edmonds - Director
Terry Schreep - Past President and Chairman of the Kennett Rotary Foundation	Don Lester - Director Steve Pember - Director

Exchange of Pins and Presentations:

- \$ President's Pin --Terry presented Eleanor with the pin that has been worn by every President of our club.
- \$ Jenny and Elizabeth presented Terry with a thank you gift (which has not yet arrived) and a Past President pin.
- \$ Bronwyn presented Terry with his own pen, so he wouldn't have to always steal hers.
- \$ Al presented Terry with a Paul Harris Fellow +1 pin in recognition of his service to the club.
- \$ Bronwyn presented Eleanor with a President's pin.

Program–Part III: New President, Eleanor Sylver gave a resounding, inspiring address to the club. (Again, I cannot reproduce her eloquence, but I will try to summarize key points:)

First, new President Eleanor acknowledged the leadership of Past President Terry, the steadfast approach of Terry and Babe, and Terry's sense of humor which helped keep us all on track. She noted that our club has a proud history and traditions and that she comes to the position of President with considerable experience—having already served twice as a club President and three years as an Assistant Governor. Even with all this experience, she realizes that the more she learns about Rotary, the more there is to learn. Rotary continues to evolve and if we as individual Rotarians also continue to evolve, we will have much power and opportunity to do “magical” things.

RI President, Dong Kurn Lee, from Korea selected the theme, *Make Dreams Real*, which reflects the world as he would like it to be—one in which children have the best possible chance at survival and the opportunity to reach their dreams. As Rotarians we are truly fortunate because we have time, energy and resources to contribute to *Make Dreams Real*. RI President Lee wants to maintain the usual emphases on literacy, water, and health and hunger; however, he wants us to focus our efforts in these areas on children.

Challenges which our club faces include:

- \$ To attract and sustain new members. ACTION: increase our membership by 10 members. Terry and Don will lead us in this effort.
- \$ To improve our public image
- \$ To support The Rotary Foundation this gives money back to our club through the District.
- \$ To re-evaluate our service projects.

In order to address these challenges, we need to do more than just talk; we must move to action. We need to focus on improving communication and keeping everyone informed. We need to work on succession planning in order to have more continuity in leadership. We need to make a conscious effort to support various Rotary programs, and we should push to achieve a Presidential Citation.

Meeting these challenges will require commitment from all of us. We must inspire each other through our collective efforts. By meeting these challenges, we will have the opportunity to ***Make Dreams Real!***

The meeting was closed with the recitation of *The Four Way Test*.

Next week's program: Tour of Brandywine Assisted Living at 301 Victoria Gardens Drive. We will NOT meet at the Hilton next week.

Next week's editor: Louise Bair

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Rhoads

