

# VOICE



ENRICHING THE LIVES OF OUR SENIOR NEIGHBORS THROUGH FRIENDSHIP, ACTIVITIES, EDUCATION AND NOURISHMENT

January, 2009

FY 2008 Annual Report Issue

Vol. 18, No. 2

## President's Message

For the past six years I have served on the Board of Directors, and I had the privilege of serving as President for 2007-08. I am particularly proud of the Board's hard work over the past year, specifically, the preparation of long-range development and strategic plans to guide the Center's operations over the next three years, organizing a record breaking fundraising gala, completing several other fundraising efforts, and much more. I want to thank the Board, Executive Director Amy Balian, our wonderful staff, and the 472 volunteers who contributed so much to the Center's operation throughout the year. I am reenergized each time I come to the Center. There's good food, fellowship you can hear and feel in every room and at every activity, and enthusiasm you can feel throughout the day. What a great place!

Financially, I am happy to report we made it successfully through the year. However, as with most non-profits, it was a struggle and will be more so this year and in years to come. Please look over the summary of our financial position on page 3, particularly the support and revenue portions. Our Center has transformed from a smaller operation with a smaller budget to a much larger operation with double the participation, programs, and expenses. We are fortunate that leases of part of the building help



*Amy Balian and Steve Quigley at Volunteer Recognition Day.*

to cover much of our mortgage expense, the Chester County Department of Aging Services funds much of the cost of our meal programs, and the United Way of Chester County has been generous.

However, we depend heavily on businesses and individuals in the community for support. Of our annual revenue, 30%, or approximately \$225,000, must come from fundraisers and donations from individuals and local businesses. That need is expected to be even larger in the future. When you consider your charitable contributions, please remember the Senior Center and the good programs those contributions support. Please be as generous as possible. The need is great and the payback is amazing.

Thanks for the privilege of serving as Board President over the past year.

**STEVE QUIGLEY**, Board President  
July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

## Executive Director's Message

It has been my pleasure to serve the participants of the West Chester Area Senior Center and its Board of Directors for almost 22 years. I feel blessed to have been a part of the wonderful things that have happened at our Center during that time. I have watched as we have outgrown two locations. It has been a joy to watch our programs grow, thrive and expand. It is now time for me to retire and let a new leader take the operation of our Center to a higher level of success.

The past 22 years have been wonderful, and I want to thank the Board of Directors for their support and direction. I am extremely grateful to our many volunteers who have contributed countless hours to ensure the success of our Center. I want to thank the outstanding staff, which has developed over the years, for their service and dedication.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to all of those who have participated in our Senior Center. You have been an inspiration and will serve as role models for me in my retirement. I am truly honored to have had the opportunity to learn from you.

While I look forward to enjoying my retirement, I will truly miss all of you and the personal and professional relationships I have developed over the years.

2009 is upon us with new opportunities and challenges. I am confident the Board, staff, and members of the West Chester Area Senior Center will meet the challenges and take advantage of every opportunity to fulfill our mission of enriching the lives of our senior neighbors through friendship, activities, education, and nourishment!

**AMY HOLMAN BALIAN**

## FY 2008 (July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## THE YEAR IN REVIEW: 7/1/07 to 6/30/08

2,768 people attended the Center in FY 2008, an 18% increase over FY 2007; the average daily attendance for the year was 132. ***This represents a 91% increase from the average attendance at our previous site on Market Street!*** As we anticipated, our new Center continues to attract older adults throughout the West Chester Area who benefit from the friendship, activities, education, and nourishment the Center provides.

Not surprisingly, new programs to accommodate the increased demand were added in FY 2008, including Low Impact Aerobics, Healthy Steps in Motion I and II, Basic Tai Chi, Ping Pong, Chorus, Chess Club, Speech Reading and Functional Fitness Testing. A watercolor painting class was funded by the Chester County Commissioners and the PA Council of the Arts. In collaboration with ACAC Fitness and Wellness Centers, a weekly stretching class was offered.

As always, volunteers continued to be the heart and hands of our organization. ***472 caring volunteers contributed 26,352 hours of service to our Center, a 10% increase over 2007.*** This represents an average of 55 hours of service per volunteer, a huge gift that is vital to the Center's operations. Volunteers help run the bookstores, cook and serve the meals, answer the telephone, teach some of our classes, and make the Center a very special place. Volunteers were recognized in April at a special Volunteer Appreciation Day Luncheon.

Our meals program continued to be extremely popular, as almost 2,000 people enjoyed delicious breakfasts and lunches throughout the year in the beautiful Knauer Dining Room at the Center. ***In all, 24,384 meals were served in FY 2008 by our staff and volunteers!***

Our Board of Directors developed a new strategic plan in 2008 to guide the Center through 2011. Under the chairmanship of Bob Lohr and with the guidance of consultant Peggy Wadsworth, the plan includes a number of initiatives for the next three years. Highlights of the plan include: creating a strategically focused and effective organizational structure that ensures growth, improving the financial stability of the Center, expanding and improving the fundraising base, and initiating a comprehensive marketing program that will reach more seniors throughout the community served by our Center.

In summation, the West Chester Area Senior Center is a success story! Our new location (even though we have been here for almost three years, it still feels like a new location) has brought many new opportunities for growth, as well as numerous challenges. Regardless of what changes the coming year may bring, the mission of the Center will remain firm: ***to be a place of warmth, hospitality, lifelong learning, and fellowship for older adults in our community.***

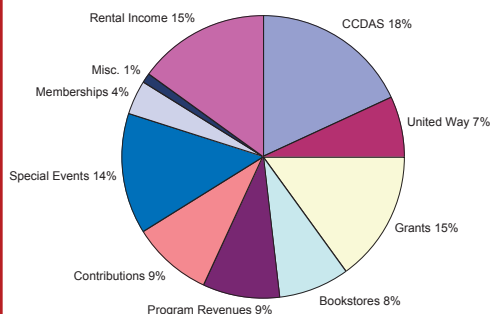
*State Senator Andrew Dinniman, back row, center, at a recent birthday party at the Center, after presenting certificates to members over the age of 90. In FY 2008 Senator Dinniman helped the Center to obtain a \$20,000 Department of Community and Economic Development grant for our Health & Wellness programs. We thank Senator Dinniman for his on-going support of our programs and services.*



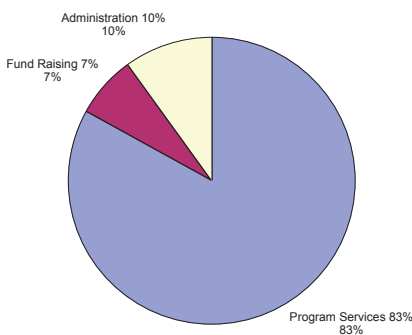
## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	June 30, 2008	June 30, 2007
<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>\$ 413,095</b>	<b>\$ 302,099</b>
<b>Net property, plant, equipment</b>	<b>\$4,227,711</b>	<b>\$4,329,727</b>
<b>Other assets</b>	<b>\$ 42,920</b>	<b>\$ 119,449</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$4,683,726</b>	<b>\$4,751,275</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 132,050</b>	<b>\$ 108,165</b>
<b>Long-term debt</b>	<b>\$2,163,733</b>	<b>\$2,248,307</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$2,295,783</b>	<b>\$2,356,472</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$2,387,943</b>	<b>\$2,394,803</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$4,683,726</b>	<b>\$4,751,275</b>

### Support & Revenue



### Expenses



*“In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the West Chester Area Senior Center as of June 30, 2007, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.”*

Maillie, Falconiero and Company, LLP  
Certified Public Accountants, West Chester, PA

*The Center's official registration may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free (within PA) 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.*

## FY 2008 FUNDING SOURCES

**Memberships** totaled \$25,550, a 23% increase over FY 2007! The annual membership fee is now \$30 for an individual and \$50 for a household. Since our relocation to Union Street, our memberships have continued to grow significantly each year. These increases are representative of the many more seniors who are attending the Center regularly and participating in its programs.

The two **Second Reading Bookstores**, at 32 N. Church Street and now at the Parkway Center on High Street, raised \$51,329 in operating support.

**Special events**, including the annual gala and silent auction, spaghetti dinners, and tag days raised \$86,861 to support the Center's operations.

Our **United Way funding** rose to \$36,000 in 2008. This 38% increase in funding was in recognition of the Center's significant contributions to the quality of life of older adults in the community, especially our meals and health and wellness programs.

The **Chester County Department of Aging Services** continues to be a major Center sponsor. The Department provided 18% of our 2008 operating budget.

And, our **members**, in response to a holiday mailing from our Planning Council, contributed \$9,120 in FY 2008, exceeding their goal of \$5,000!

# VOICE

## FY 2008 Annual Report Issue

**Published by:**

West Chester Area Senior Center  
530 East Union Street  
West Chester, PA 19382

**T:** (610) 431-4242

**F:** (610) 429-9296

**Web:** www.wcseniors.org

**E-Mail:** amyb@wcseniors.org

*Amy H. Balian, Executive Director  
Mary Kline, Program Coordinator*



*State Representative Barbara McIlvaine Smith, (left) and Pat Ross, our volunteer computer instructor, inspect one of the new computers acquired via a grant from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development. Representative McIlvaine Smith made the grant possible, which allowed us to purchase new computers for our computer instruction program. The new computers will enable the Center to continue providing state-of-the-art computer training, as well as expand its programming in this area. We thank Representative McIlvaine Smith for supporting our programs.*



*In the back row from L to R: Charles Swope, from the West Chester Rotary Club, which made a contribution for postage to send books to our troops overseas; Walter Eckman, Second Reading II Book Store Manager; Amy Balian, Executive Director; Dick Yoder, Mayor of West Chester; seated is Ed Bitner, Second Reading II Book Store volunteer who coordinated the project of sending books to our troops.*

The Second Reading II Bookstore opened officially for business in June 2007, and celebrated its first anniversary with Mayor Yoder in attendance. Proceeds from the store contribute to the Center's operations. The Second Reading Book Store I, directed by Dr. Russell Rickert, and located on Church Street in West Chester also continues to contribute significantly to the operations of the Center.



Rachel Sierk, the Center's Health and Wellness Coordinator, helps a member assess her fitness and stamina. The Center offers a diverse roster of health and wellness programs, from blood pressure and diabetes checks by a registered nurse, to exercise classes such as Tai Chi, yoga, strength training, and low impact aerobics. In FY 2008, 100% of seniors surveyed felt their overall fitness level had increased as a result of participating in an exercise class at the Center.

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~2008 ANNUAL REPORT~



West Chester Senior Center  
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