



Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081



February 14, 2019

Barry Rassin
Rotary International President

Paul Quintavalla
District 7450 Governor

Swarthmore Rotary Leaders

- Craig Fava
President
- Maria Michael Zissimos
President-Elect
Youth Services Chair
- Brian N. Casey
Club Executive Secretary
- William Clinton Hale
Club Admin Chair
President-Nominee
- Gladys D. Snively
Treasurer
- George C. Whitfield Jr.
Secretary
- Joy Charlton
iPast President
- Perri Ann Evanson
Membership Chair
- Betty Ann A. Flynn
Club Director
- Lori Markusfeld
Interact Club Sponsor
Service Projects Chair
- Penelope Reed
Public Relations Chair
- Barbara Whitaker-Shimko
Rotary Foundation Chair
- David Houtz
Assistant Governor

Meetings and Events

February

14th - [Meeting](#)

Speaker: Gil Rose, Classics Professor Emeritus Swarthmore College
Subject: Professor Rose will help us celebrate Valentine's Day with his talk: Great Love Affairs of the Ancient World.

19th - [Swarthmore Board Meeting](#)

21st - [Meeting](#)

Speaker: Peter Conn, Vartan Gregorian Professor of English Emeritus, UPENN
Subject: American Monuments and American Memory

28th - [Meeting](#)

Speaker: Interfaith Council of Southern Delaware County
Subject: Rev Peter Friedrichs of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Delaware County, Media, and Rabbi Jeremy Gerber of Ohev Shalom, Wallingford, will speak about the work of the Interfaith Council of Southern Delaware County.

Table Grace

Since school days we have honored a man called "Honest Abe." Can we do anything less today than pause to honor such a man? Thank you, Lord, that this company called "Rotary" holds high the banner of truth and truthfulness. Keep us faithful to our trust and renew us here in body, mind, and spirit, as with grateful hearts we receive the gifts of this hour.
Amen.

Frederick E. Christian

4 Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the TRUTH?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

02-07-2019

By Richard George Shimko



Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) – savior of democracy or fake news? Jack Nagel, Univ. of Pennsylvania Emeritus Political Science professor, doesn't claim RCV will save democracy but he thinks it will improve it. Jack gave a very clear explanation of how RCV works, which I will not repeat here, except to say

voters select their top three candidates in order of preference. He said the main problem RCV (also known as Instant Runoff Voting) will alleviate is the unintended consequences of third party candidates in the voting. Jack said the



Service Quotation

"DO WHAT YOU CAN TO SHOW THAT YOU CARE ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE AND YOU WILL MAKE OUR WORLD A BETTER PLACE"

Rosalynn Carter, Age 88, served as the First Lady of the United States from 1977 to 1981

Rotary Celebrations!



Birthdays

-  Raymond F. Hopkins
February 15th
-  Dan Honig
February 16th

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries Found

Years of Service

-  Susan Larson
02-20-2014
5 Years
-  Jeanie Bengtson
02-16-2016
3 Years

Happy Dollars

\$1681

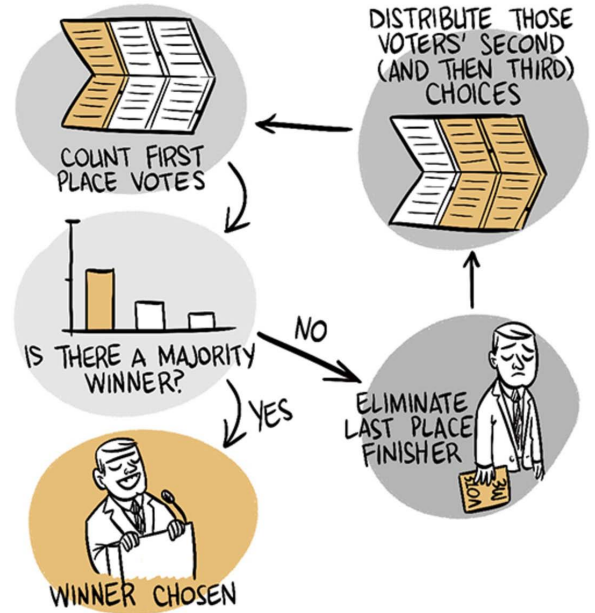
2018--19 Happy Dollars for Polio Plus Fund (\$3 to fully protect one child)
2017-2018 total: \$4,515
2016-2017 total: \$3,756
2015-2016 total: \$3,756

Guests Last Meeting

None

CANDIDATES	1ST CHOICE	2ND CHOICE	3RD CHOICE
strawberry	○	○	●
chocolate	●	○	○
vanilla	○	●	○

current system increases the spoiler effect of third party candidates and also makes voters reluctant to vote for them. According to Jack, RCV will alleviate both of these problems. The most famous example of how a third party candidate can produce an outcome that was probably at odds with the wishes of the majority of the voters was the 2000 presidential election, where the third party candidate was Ralph Nader. Nader received more votes than the difference between Gore and Bush in Florida. Jack claimed that if RCV had been in place in 2000, Nader voters would have probably selected Gore in second place, which would have given Florida to Gore instead of Bush. Another example Jack gave was Maine, where a candidate who was disliked by a majority of the public was elected Governor twice. He won because he had the highest vote count, even though he was considered an extreme candidate by a majority of the voters. The public was so upset by these outcomes that they overwhelmingly passed a referendum to institute RCV. The last Governor's election in Maine was conducted using RCV and Jack said the winner was considered to be more in line with the preference of the majority. Jack also said there is some evidence that RCV may reduce the current polarization that exists in politics in that candidates may try to be more in the middle so they can be selected as the second choice. RCV is one of the voting reforms being suggested, such as reducing gerrymandering and promoting early voting. Such reforms seem like they might be useful and necessary to promote democracy. (image from Susie Cagle <https://psmag.com/politics-and-law/complexifying-ranked-choice-voting-system>)



Our Causes in Focus

Rotary is dedicated to six areas of focus to build international relationships, improve lives, and create a better world to support our peace efforts and end polio forever. Here are two of the focus areas:

Providing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene

We support local solutions to bring clean water, sanitation, and hygiene to more people every day. We don't just build wells and walk away. We share our expertise with community leaders and educators to make sure our projects succeed long-term.

Saving mothers and children

Nearly 6 million children under the age of five die each year because of malnutrition, poor health care, and inadequate sanitation. We expand access to quality care, so mothers and their children can live and grow stronger.