



Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes

P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081



March 2, 2023

Jennifer Jones
RI President 2022-23
David Houtz
District 7450 Governor

Swarthmore Rotary
Leaders

Heather Saunders
President

Greg Brown
President-Elect

Brian Casey
Club Executive Secretary

Patrick Gunnin
Treasurer

George C. Whitfield Jr.
Secretary

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Youth Services Chair

Perri Ann Evanson
Public Relations Chair

Carr Everbach
Membership Chair

David Firn
Service Projects Chair

Betty Ann A. Flynn
Club Director

William Clinton Hale
Past President

Anne C. Hansen
International Service Chair

Kathryn Jones
iPast President

Jeannine Osayande
Youth Services Chair

Hillard Pouncy
Club Programs Chair

Joshua Twersky
Club Director

Barbara Whitaker-Shimko
Rotary Foundation Chair

Kenneth J. Wright
Club Director

Cathleen Darrell
Attendance Secretary

Lori Markusfeld
President-Nominee

Richard Shimko
Bulletin Editor

Karen Aleta Mazzarella
Assistant Governor

Meetings and Events

March 2nd

[Swarthmore Weekly Club Meeting](#) (Inn)

Speaker: Irene Nunn, Portrait Artist
Subject: Portraits, Places and Things - Looking
Back and Slightly Forward

March 16th

[Swarthmore Weekly Club Meeting](#) (Inn)

Speaker: Professor Roberta Iversen, Social
Policy and Practice, Univ. of Pennsylvania
Subject: What Workers Say about Their Work

March 9th

[Swarthmore Weekly Club Meeting](#) (Inn)

Speaker: Dan Cuellar, retired 6ABC Action News
reporter
Subject: The state of journalism in America.

March 23rd

[Swarthmore Weekly Club Meeting](#) (Inn)

Speaker: Dr. Marseille, WSSD, Superintendent
Subject: District Update – Ten Year Strategic
Planning WSSD 2023-2033

Service Quotation

The Carter Challenge:

"Do something nice for somebody that needs it. If you have someone who needs a phone call, make the call. If somebody needs a visit, go make that visit" Jimmy Carter

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?

Club News

George Whitfield presided.

Elizabeth Churché's Rotary Moment – Rotary clubs in northern Ohio organized a multi-prong effort to combat toxic algae growth in Lake Erie. At its worst, toxic algae prevents coastal communities from using the Lake as a source of drinking water. Rotary clubs organized conferences, conducted water sampling, and collaborated with various groups to address the problem.

The Rotary Arts Project - Ken Wright said there has been two successful Rotary Arts Programs so far. The next will be March 21 and feature Andrea Packard, a painter and head of the Swarthmore College Art Gallery.

The Rotary Foundation (TRF) -Barbara Whitaker-Shimko reviewed the status of our club's current Foundation campaign. She thanked the 2/3rd of our club's members who have contributed to date, and urged others to make their contributions soon.

Contributions can be made online at Rotary.org or by check (made out to the Rotary Foundation) to Barbara. Hogie Hansen, in talking about the benefits of TRF, chose to describe the new Peace Center in Istanbul, Turkey.



Happy Dollars

pledge \$2,933
2021-2022 \$4,476

Rotary Celebrations!

Birthdays

Randolph B. Winton

Last Meeting Summary



Like the Horsemen of the Apocalypse, there are, according to Owen Powell, four legal addictions causing harm across our country. Owen is a member of the PA Overdose Task Force. While not everyone who is a consumer of these products or activities is an addict, the addicts cause much harm to themselves and society. He said addictions kill close to one million individuals nationally every year.

According to Owen, the deadliest, surprisingly enough, is cigarette smoking. He told us that a half a

March 5th
Sonya Pappas
March 6th
G. Holger Hansen
March 7th

Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding Anniversaries
Found

Years of Service

Sonya Pappas
03-08-2018
5 Years

Guests Last Meeting

Tamba Brown

million die annually from smoking-related illnesses. The good news is that the rate of smoking has decreased substantially from its peak in the 1960's. The percentage of the adult population that smokes has decreased from about 50% at its peak to 15% today. Owen believes this success was caused by a public health advertising campaign and by increasing the cost of cigarettes. Alcohol, the second addiction Owen discussed, results in 150,000 deaths annually nationwide. On the other hand, alcohol sales bring in three billion dollars revenue to the state of Pennsylvania.

Gambling, Owen's third addiction, is even more lucrative. The PA lottery and taxes on casinos contribute eight billion dollars to the state. As you are probably aware, gambling addiction is a serious problem for some people. Owen claimed that while only 1% of gamblers develop a gambling addiction, there is no effective treatment for those that do.

Owen's last addiction was marijuana. Some think marijuana is fairly innocuous compared to alcohol. Owen expects that more problems will arise if marijuana is approved for general use. He expects that to happen.

Owen didn't discuss illegal drugs, other than to advocate ready availability of Narcan, a drug used to treat overdoses.

Owen's talk highlighted the dilemma of the state profiting from the consumption of substances and activities that cause such misery to some. It is a difficult moral argument.

Frequently Asked Questions About Addiction

Frequency Asked Questions about Addictions

What are the cost to society of addictions?

Alcohol – The CDC estimates the cost to PA from alcohol abuse is about 10 billion dollars annually. This includes loss of workplace productivity, health care, criminal justice expenses, and losses from motor vehicle accidents. This compares with the 3 billion dollars in state revenue from alcohol sales.

Tobacco – PA's revenue from tobacco sales is about one billion dollars. Using CDC data, the estimated cost to PA is 24 billion dollars for health care and lost productivity.

Gambling – Using National Council on Problem Gambling data, the estimated cost to PA is about 0.3 billion dollars. This compares to 8 billion dollars revenue to the state.

What are arguments for and against legalizing drugs?

The Connecticut General Assembly came up with this list while debating a bill to legalize drugs. The bill never passed.

ARGUMENTS FOR LEGALIZATION

1. eliminate the profits of the illegal drug trade;
2. save money spent on costly and ineffective law enforcement efforts;
3. take the criminal justice system out of the business of trying to control drug abuse health problems and put that responsibility in the hands of the public health system;
4. stop the spread of AIDS caused by the use of dirty syringes;
5. reduce the number of children victimized by the lure of quick riches from selling drugs, drug-related gun battles, or illegal drug usage;
6. reduce the number of crimes committed by addicts attempting to gain money to buy expensive drugs;
7. reduce the number of drug cases on court dockets and the number of prison beds needed for drug offenders;
8. restore to each individual the right of self determination, the right to engage in any peaceful action that does not deprive others of their right to free action; and
9. treat all harmful substances such as narcotics, cocaine, marijuana, alcohol, and tobacco the same.

ARGUMENTS AGAINST LEGALIZATION

1. legalization would increase the number of drug users,
2. the adverse physical effects of drugs destroy families and cause drug abusers to engage in criminal activity,
3. legalization sends the wrong message to children,
4. drug abuse causes increased costs to business, and
5. drug legalization jeopardizes the safety of society because drug use diminishes the ability to think and react quickly and thereby causes job- and travel-related accidents.