



# CogNotes



**The Rotary Club of Swarthmore**  
**July 23, 2009**  
[www.SwarthmoreRotary.org](http://www.SwarthmoreRotary.org)

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## Today's Program:

**Hogie Hansen,**  
Polio in a Time of Recession –  
Update on the Gates Foundation/  
Rotary Collaboration



**Last  
Week's  
Speaker:**

**Jim  
Thomas**

## Table Grace

Lord, as we near the end of this month, marked by the eloquence of the poetry of patriotism, quicken an undying message within us that will proclaim by our deeds that we are truly free. Accept, Lord, our gratitude for all that you have given us in the past and for the blessings of this day. Amen.

The Rev. Dr. Frederick E. Christian

## July is INSTALLATION Month

## Coming Programs & Events

**July 30 Rick Anthony**  
Boomervision

**Aug. 6 TBD**

**Aug. 13 TBD**



**Pledge of  
Allegiance**

## The Rotarian's 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?

Jim Thomas Dealer Principal at Springfield Ford along with Steve Ambile, his General Sales Manager, discussed the current environment for new cars dealers.

Ford has avoided the crunch that forced the other "Big 2" into bankruptcy and financial support from the US and to a lesser degree, Canadian governments. They still operate though, in the same challenging economic times.

New car sales volume dropped by roughly half and this year is expected to be roughly 9.5 million units in the US.

In 1980 Detroit had a 75% market share – they now have 43%. Ford has a larger market share but in a smaller market. They are committed to bring the products that today's new car buyer is demanding.

Surviving dealerships have to work hard to remain profitable and survive these challenging times.

## Guests:

Penelope Reed, Matti Weiss



## Taking Aim at Infant AIDS

Rotarian Stephen Nicholas, a pioneering pediatric AIDS specialist who helped drastically reduce infant HIV in New York City, is using Rotary as a catalyst for wiping out mother-to-child HIV transmission in the Dominican Republic.

In the early 1990s, New York City had the highest birth rate of HIV-infected children in the United States. Since 2000, only one baby in that city has been born with the virus, says Nicholas, a member of the Rotary Club of Yonkers. Similar trends are appearing throughout the United States, he adds.

This sharp drop in mother-to-child HIV transmission has largely resulted from improvements in drug treatments as well as aggressive intervention during pregnancy through testing and education. Nicholas and his colleagues pioneered this multipronged approach while he was the director of pediatrics at Harlem Hospital Center.

“For me, the moral equation changed when I realized that infant AIDS was disappearing in the United States,” says Nicholas, founder and director of Columbia University’s International Family AIDS Program. “With a world filled with HIV/AIDS, I felt for the first

time obligated to get involved internationally.”

In 1999, Nicholas began a family AIDS clinic in La Romana, Dominican Republic, a province with one of the highest HIV/AIDS infection rates outside sub-Saharan Africa. Run by the International Family AIDS Program, the clinic provides direct care and treatment for pregnant women with HIV.

To expand the International Family AIDS Program and keep it sustainable, the Yonkers club, along with the Rotary Club of La Romana and District 7230 (New York), launched the Mother-Baby AIDS Project in the Dominican Republic in 2006.

With help from a US\$50,000 World Community Service Project Grant, the project is benefiting more than 100 HIV-infected mothers and their newborn babies each year. Infected mothers continue to receive AIDS treatment after the births to protect children from being orphaned.

The clinic has lowered the rate of mother-to-child HIV transmission in the La Romana province from 40 percent to less than 1 percent, Nicholas says.

“Rotary’s involvement allows this project to serve as a global success model and help lead other international endeavors,” he says. “Our goal is to eliminate or greatly reduce pediatric AIDS and AIDS orphans over the next decade.”

## Club Web Site

Have you visited our club site lately? If you need help getting in, please call Brian Casey at 484-483-8423 for assistance.

[www.SwarthmoreRotary.org](http://www.SwarthmoreRotary.org)



## And I Quote...

“Am I not destroying my enemies when I make friends of them?”

Abraham Lincoln

## Today’s Smile (Golf)

The Pope met with the College of Cardinals to discuss a proposal from Shimon Peres, the former leader of Israel. "Your holiness," said one of the Cardinals, "Mr. Peres wants to determine whether Jews or Catholics are superior, by challenging you to a golf match." The Pope was greatly disturbed, as he had never held a golf club in his life.

"Not to worry," said the Cardinal, "we'll call America and talk to Jack Nicklaus. We'll make him a Cardinal, he can play Shimon Peres... We can't lose!" Everyone agreed it was a good idea. The call was made and, of course, Jack was honored and agreed to play.

The day after the match, Nicklaus reported to the Vatican to inform the Pope of his success in the match. "I came in second, your Holiness," said Nicklaus.

"Second?!!" exclaimed the surprised Pope. "You came in second to Shimon Peres?!!"

"No," said Nicklaus, "second to Rabbi Woods."