

# CogNotes

The Rotary Club of Swarthmore  
December 10, 2009

www.SwarthmoreRotary.org

December is **Family** Month



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## Today's Program:

**Rebecca Chopp**  
Open Discussion at Bond Hall

## Table Grace:

Lord, as the Christian world pauses to recall a time of great expectation, give us all, whatever our faith, eager and expectant hearts.

Grant that we may greet each day in the spirit of hope and give us a renewed sense of gratitude as each day unfolds. Amen.

The Rev. Dr. Frederick E. Christian



**Last Week's Speaker:**

**David Gilbert**

Dave Gilbert gave us an overview of the current state of the technology behind today's flat screen TVs.

Should we go with Plasma or LCD? Why did I lose channels on Comcast recently? Why are the new plasmas giving a better picture? Why are these TVs not "Made in America"?

Dave explained that we need to get Digital Transport Adaptors (DTAs to those of us with an aversion to gratuitous syllables) from Comcast because with all the high definition content coming through the cable pipeline, providers have to pack the content differently to fit the bandwidth of the current cable network.

To meet the price demands of today's consumer, TVs are made in Asia.

By emitting less light, newer TVs use less power, and give a blacker black which results in better contrast and improved picture quality.

## Coming Program & Events

**Dec 17 Silvertones**  
Meeting at *CADES*

**Dec 24 No Meeting**  
**Dec 31 No Meeting**

**Jan 7 Carol Williamson**  
"Exchanging Bikes, Saving Lives"

**Jan 14 TBD**

**Jan 21 Elizabeth Price**  
President, Delaware County Bar Association



**The Pledge of Allegiance**

## The Rotarian's 4-Way Test

**Of the things we think, say and 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?

## Guests Last Meeting:

David Gilbert, Dr. Dave Parker

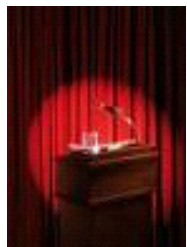


## Meetings Over the Holidays

Our **December 17** meeting **next week** will take place at **CADES**, located at 401 Rutgers Avenue.

For directions, please see the “Speakers” box on the club web site, [www.SwarthmoreRotary.org](http://www.SwarthmoreRotary.org).

Following our meeting next week, we will have 2 weeks off - December 24th and 31st. Our regular weekly meetings will resume on Thursday January 7 back at the Springhaven Club.



## And I Quote...

“A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kick boxing.”

Anonymous

## Sister Clubs Turn Scars of War Into Bonds of Peace

Akio Nishikiori clasps his prayer beads and bows his head as the Peace Bell tolls, marking the exact moment that Hiroshima, Japan, was devastated by an atomic bomb 64 years ago.

Nishikiori was just eight years old when the bomb shattered the city on 6 August 1945. A week passed before his parents located his eldest sister, who had volunteered to work in a downtown factory. Badly burned, she told them how she had desperately repeated their address to anyone who passed by. She died two days after being reunited with her family.

Now, as Nishikiori observes the crowd gathered in Hiroshima’s Peace Memorial Park, he reflects upon how Rotary helped him find friends in former foes. The story starts in 1982, when Nishikiori, a well-known architect and member of the Rotary Club of Hiroshima Southeast, learned of an unexpected request. The mayor of Hiroshima hoped to expand the city’s sister relationship with Honolulu and thought that Rotary, with its emphasis on world peace, could help.

Read the full story on [www.Rotary.org](http://www.Rotary.org).



## Welcome Fred Thibodeau

On Thursday December 3rd, Past President and current Membership Chair George Whitfield officiated at the induction of our newest club member, **Fred Thibodeau**. Assisting George were

Fred’s sponsor, Joy Charlton and President Betty Ann Flynn.

Fred was born in Waterbury, Connecticut and grew up in New Britain, Connecticut. He is a veteran of the US Army and a graduate of Kansas State University and the St. Paul School of Theology. Fred has worked for 23 years in higher education development and prior to coming to Swarthmore, was Pastor of the United Methodist Church in Hamilton, NY.

Fred is married to Rebecca Chopp and they have 3 adult sons. He enjoys golf and reading.

Welcome Fred.

## This Day in History

1901: First Nobel Prizes awarded

The first Nobel Prizes were awarded in Stockholm, Sweden, in the fields of physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, and peace.

The ceremony came on the fifth anniversary of the death of Alfred Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite and other high explosives. In his will, Nobel directed that the bulk of his vast fortune be placed in a fund in which the interest would be “annually distributed in the form of prizes to those who, during the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind.”

Although Nobel offered no public reason for his creation of the prizes, it is widely believed that he did so out of moral regret over the increasingly lethal uses of his inventions in war.

