

CogNotes

The Rotary Club of Swarthmore November 11, 2010



www.SwarthmoreRotary.org

November is Rotary Foundation Month

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Coming Program & Events

Nov 18 Ann Hansen "Foundation Update"

Nov 24 Board Meeting

Nov 25 TBD

Dec 2 Josh Twersky "The Ins & Outs of Health Care Reform"

Silvertones at CADES Dec 9

Dec 16 Club Assembly at **Swarthmore United Methodist** Church

Today's
Program:

Chris Darrell

"ABC House"



Table Grace:

Lord, as we gather on this the 11th day of the 11th month, let us remember the sacrifices of so many so long ago and throughout our history.

While the challenges of the day can consume our attention, let us never forget, but rather let us use the power of our fellowship in Rotary to honor those sacrifices and make this a better world for those less fortunate.

Amen

Brian Casey





and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



Last Week's Speaker: **Cynthia MacLeod By Mike Malone**

Cynthia MacLeod, Superintendent, Independence National Historical Park spoke to us of the activities that take place in the park.

Of course, Independence Day is the #1 attraction but she alerted us to the commemoration of the first public reading of The Declaration of Independence which happens each year on the 8th.

There are 54 acres in the park; 3 million artifacts with the original inkstand being among the most prominent items.

As for touching the Bell, she says they "don't encourage it but won't shoot you".

Guests Last Week:

Hogie Hansen, Paul Osimo, Dorothy Gelb, Judy Flannery

How We Met ABC By Cathy Darrell

In 1994 our family moved to Swarthmore. In the first few weeks of being here we learned that the Girls ABC

house was next to ours. We had, of course, started getting the Swarthmorean, and noticed a request for drivers for the ABC students. I signed up and so began our affiliation with ABC.

As you're sitting in a car driving these kids to games, doctors' appointments, etc., you can get to know them. Here are some of the things we have learned over the years... they have no idea what a car pool is, having used mass transit, and it takes awhile to make them understand that you have to call sooner than five minutes before you need to go. They are often frightened of our mostly lily white town. They are surprised when folks look them straight in the eye and say hello... something that is rarely done in urban settings.

They take their "job" of doing well in high school very seriously and expect to go on to great colleges, which they do. During their high school career, these students have to learn what our children have to learn in college... how to share a bedroom, bathroom and house with a lot of people they're not related to. They become attached to a "Host Family", a local family they spend the day with every other Sunday. The bond between the student and their host family can and often does last for decades.

They do all this starting at the tender age of 14 or 15, go back and forth from here to home on holidays and summers, manage the two worlds they now inhabit with grace and courage. They make everyone who touches their world better for the experience.

Overbrook High School Interact Club at the United Nations

The Swarthmore Rotarians who contributed to this event should know that they are very appreciated by the **Interact**

Club of Overbrook High School. These students started this past Saturday day at 6:30 am accompanied by members of the West Chester Rotaract and members of the Lower Merion High School's BuildOn Volunteer club. We traveled to the

UN compound in New York and spent the morning learning about global and local volunteer projects from other high school Interact volunteers.

Following the conference we went to the Metropolitan Museum of Art where most of the students from Overbrook set foot in an art museum for the first time. Their teacher spent a couple hours taking them through some of the evolution of art from Egyptian, Greek and Roman times through 20th Century European masters like Monet, Van Gough, Picasso and more. The two sets of high school students and the college students got along great and all seemed to enjoy themselves.

It is rare that anyone has an opportunity to experience traveling to New York City, participating in a conference at the UN, visiting one of the United States finest art museums in the company of 30 other diverse companions, also interested in humanitarian efforts along with art and culture. The contribution of the Swarthmore Rotarians supported much of the cost for this event and we truly hope they have some understanding of how powerful and meaningful a gift like this is to us and to our community. Thank You.



Happy Dollars Total Since July 1: \$675



2009-2010 Total: **\$934** (2682 Children Immunized)

All for the eradication of Polio.

Service Quotation

"It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference."

- Tom Brokaw

Greeter



Our Greeter next week will be

Anne Hansen

Classification Talk -Putty Willets By Mike Malone



Putty was born and has lived her whole life in Swarthmore.

We know of her long and distinguished teaching/coaching career and her athletic accomplishments but her talk revealed her early love of music, particularly opera since her grandfather owned an opera house in the city. She continues to innovate with her involvement in The Dew Drop Inn.