



The Rotary Club of Swarthmore December 6, 2012

December is **Rotary Family** Month

Improving Lives in Communities Locally and Around the World for over 75 Years

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Today's Program:

Paul Downie, new President, Community Arts Center "Celebrating the Holidays with the Community Arts Center"

Table Grace

We begin a month marked by shortened days and lengthened nights.

Lord, make us mindful of the meaning of the festivals of this season that tell us that light shines in the darkness and that hope transcends despair.

Quicken within us this confidence and accept our gratitude for all your gifts that never fail. Amen.

The Rev. Dr. Frederick E. Christian

Last Week's Speaker—Andrew Bunting by Ray Hopkins

Andrew Bunting, Curator of the Scott Arboretum at Swarthmore College, described his plant specimen collection trip to China last year. Using glorious pictures of the countryside and of his colleagues on the trip, Andrew explained the importance of preserving plants around the world and, especially, of discovering ones that may thrive in our local climate. He and his three companions principally explored Sichuan Province. They returned with about 200 new seed types.

His talk wove science, history, adventure and culture into many tales. The pictures and explanations were readily engaging—for example the photo of oxygen supply outlets coming with beds in hotel rooms in high elevation areas. Other attention-getting pix included the mess created in getting seeds ready for travel back to the US. The array of plant specimens Andrew showed us included flowers, trees and shrubs [but no grasses which are prohibited imports by the US]. Perhaps some of the beautiful specimens shown will be available for our own gardens in a few years if Scott finds they "work" at the College.



Coming Program & Events

Dec 13 Silvertones (at CADES)

Dec 20 Colin Darrell, entrepreneur "You Heard it Here First – Grow Culture Restaurants" *Swarthmore United Methodist Church*

Dec 27 no meeting

Know someone who might have interest in one of our upcoming topics? Invite them to the meeting that day!

The Pledge of Allegiance



Four 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 GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Guests Last Week Roma Wright and Joan Hooper – guests of Ken Wright Penny Hughes and Jim Sredenck – guests of Donna Amalfitano Dan Honig – prospective member



From the "Expand the possibilities of your thinking department" : Ancient Lebanon sea castle illuminated with "End Polio Now" message

From "Rotary Voices" on the RI web site

On 20 November, the Sea Castle in Saida, Lebanon, an important

archeological site, was dramatically illuminated with the "End Polio Now" message.

The polio awareness program has been one of the most important humanitarian initiatives for Rotary clubs around the world for more than a quarter century now. For the second year in a row, Rotarians in Lebanon have played a part in helping build awareness around the need to eradicate this crippling disease.

With the help of various civic groups, local Rotarians were successful in attracting a number of officials, diplomats, and public figures to the lighting, including the U.S. ambassador to Lebanon, a representative of the ministry of health, and several Saida area government deputies.

We wanted to highlight Lebanon's role in the End Polio Now campaign by illuminating the Saida Sea Castle. Moreover, we wanted to showcase Saida as a strategic hub for the program given that it has been a beneficiary. The PolioPlus campaign and its volunteers have provided vaccines to hundreds of thousands of children in this region over the years. As one of the oldest cities in the world, Saida has gained international attention in the fight against polio. This event has been viewed around the globe and specifically in the many countries where Rotary has clubs.

Happy Dollars Total for 2012-13: \$984



2011-12 Total:\$23112010-11 Total:\$16902009-10 Total:\$896

(9802 Children Immunized)

All Proceeds to Polio Eradication.

Service Quotation

"Happiness is that which we think and feel and do, first for the other fellow and then for ourselves."

– Helen Keller, American author, political activist, lecturer, and the first deaf and blind person to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Follow us at: www.twitter.com/SwarthmoreRC

Anniversaries

Birthday: Brian Casey Will Fairley

Dec. 6 Dec. 10



Your contribution to **Every Rotarian**, **Every Year** makes humanitarian projects possible.

About The Rotary Foundation – Six Areas of Focus



Peace and conflict prevention/resolution

Disease prevention and treatment

Water and sanitation

Maternal and child health

Basic education and literacy

Economic and community development



This Week's Focus: Water and Sanitation

The Rotary Foundation ensures that people have sustainable access to water and sanitation by

- Increasing equitable community access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation
- Strengthening the ability of communities to develop and maintain sustainable water and sanitation systems
- Educating communities about safe water, sanitation, and hygiene
- o Supporting studies related to water and sanitation

Want to know more about the Rotary Foundation? Go to this link: <u>http://www.rotary.org/en/AboutUs/TheRotaryFoundation/Pages/</u>ridefault.aspx

Marv's Amusing Musings - contributed by Marv Gelb - first in a series

Q: Why do men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's clothes have buttons on the left?

A: When buttons were invented, they were very expensive and worn primarily by the rich. Since most people are right-handed, it is easier to push buttons on the right through holes on the left.. Because wealthy women were dressed by maids, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right! And that's where women's buttons have remained since.

