

CogNotes

The Rotary Club of Swarthmore
February 7, 2013



January is **Rotary World Understanding** Month

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

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Hillard Pouncy

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Josh Twersky

Anne Hansen

/Ray Hopkins

Randy Winton

Ron Van Langeveld

Craig Fava

Steve Laxton

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Lisa Lee/Jim Leming

Today's Program:

**Jessica Medard, Rotary
Exchange Student from
Quebec, Canada**

Table Grace

We have crossed the threshold
into a month full of memories of
heroic figures, patriots and
prophets who have graced the
human race, many of whom have
enriched our great land.

We thank you, Lord, for them and
pray that we may contribute to a
quality of life worthy of our
heritage.

To that end, strengthen us as we
enjoy this hour together.

Amen.

The Rev. Dr. Frederick E. Christian

Coming Program & Events

Feb 14 Josh Twersky, CPA, Member of Swarthmore Rotary
"Affordable Health Care Part II"

Feb 21 Dr. George Assaf, Director and Representative of UNIDO to the UN "Sustainable Development"

Feb 28 John Lyndner, Mayor of Chester

Mar 15 RYLA Conference

Know someone who might have interest in one of our upcoming topics? Invite them to the meeting that day! They might be a prospective member.

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

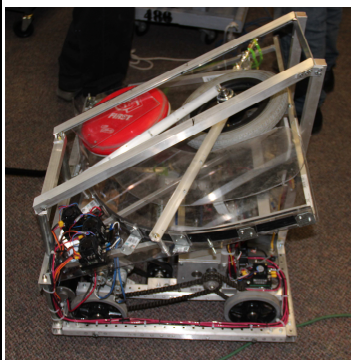
Hogie Hansen, Joan Wright

Photos: Left: A Frisbee throwing robot being developed for the Ultimate Ascent competition. Right: Members of the Strathaven Positronic Panthers (l. to r): Billy Powell, Bruce Landolph (Faculty Advisor), Alex Hu, and Michael McConnell (grandson of Anne Hansen).

Last Week's Speakers—The Positronic Panthers of Strathaven

By Jim Leming

Members of the Strathaven Robotics Team – the Positronic Panthers – fascinated Rotary members with their explanation of the robotics competition process, stories of their competitions, and their robot design for the 2013 "games." *(over for rest of story)*



February is World Understanding Month: A Message from Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Wilfrid J. Wilkinson

From the RI website

Rotary was built upon the idea of advancing goodwill and understanding – it's in our mission, and part of everything we do.

The Rotary

Foundation has six areas of focus, each of which is important. But every one of them depends on peace in the world. We can't celebrate the World Day of Social Justice on 20 February unless we have peace. We can't really celebrate World Understanding and Peace Day on 23 February, which also marks Rotary's 108th year of existence, unless we can say that we are working for peace.

There are endless ways to help build peace in our world, through our clubs and through our Foundation. The polio eradication initiative, as the largest global public health initiative in history, is doing a tremendous amount to promote peace – by building partnerships between the public and private sectors, by improving health infrastructure and monitoring the poorest areas, and by making it clear to all that we cannot have a healthy world if even one child is forgotten.

Peace comes from sharing, and as many of you know, *Rotary Shares* is my personal answer to what each Rotarian should be doing. This month, which we celebrate in Rotary as World Understanding Month, the efforts of every district, club, and Rotarian should be directed toward doing something for peace.

Monthly Message from President Tanaka—Feb. 2013

from the Rotary Website

DEAR FELLOW ROTARIANS,

In Rotary, we do not divide our work by nation, culture, or language. It does not matter what is printed in your passport. What matters is that you believe in Service Above Self. But even in Rotary, it is easy to think in terms of countries or communities. This project may help someone in my own community, or that project may help someone from Germany, or Kenya, or South Africa. Sometimes we think of different types of borders. This project, we think, helps the young. This helps the elderly. This helps people who are hungry, poor, or sick, or who have disabilities.

The truth is that Service Above Self does not know such borders. When we serve, the impact is not limited to our community, or the community we are helping. We are not only helping the young, or the elderly, or this school, or that orphanage. When we serve, we are helping all of humanity. The effects of what we do go on and on.

When we put Service Above Self, we are making a choice. We are choosing to put other people's needs ahead of our own desires. We are saying, "Your problems are my problems, and I care enough to help you."

Rotary brings peace by addressing the needs that cause conflict: the need for clean water, for nutrition, sanitation, and health care. When these needs are met, there is opportunity. And there is hope. Hope has no borders. It is the garden from which peace can grow.



Happy Dollars Total for 2012-13:

\$1320



2011-12 Total: \$2311

2010-11 Total: \$1690

2009-10 Total: \$896

(10362 Children Immunized)

All Proceeds to Polio Eradication.

Service Quotation

"To give real service you must add something which cannot be bought or measured with money, and that is sincerity and integrity."

- Douglas Noel Adams - An English writer (b:1952 – d:2001)

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www.twitter.com/SwarthmoreRC



Anniversaries

Birthday:

Mollie O'Brien

Feb 8

Wedding:

Jim Leming

Feb 14

Last Week's Speaker (continued)

A "game" is defined by FIRST Robotics Competitions, a non-profit founded in 1989 to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. All robots must compete in the same game, but the design of the robot and how it works is up to the individual teams. This year's game – called Ultimate Ascent – requires a robot to throw Frisbees through a goal to score points and then climb a monkey bar-type pyramid.

This year the Positronic Panther team includes 70 dedicated students from 9th -12 grade. Billy Powell, president of the team, stated a key benefit of involvement with the team is the possibility of being awarded scholarships. Universities eagerly scout the competitions for talented students and last year over \$16 million in scholarships were awarded to robotics students.

If you are interested in seeing the team in action, there are 2 competitions locally: 3/2-3 at Hatboro-Horsham High School and 3/15-16 at Chestnut Hill Academy. More information and videos of competitions can be found at the Positronic Panthers website (www.team486.com) and at www.usfirst.org.