



CogNotes



The Rotary Club of Swarthmore
May 23, 2013

May is **Rotary Volunteer** Month

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

Rotary International President

District 7450 Governor
Assistant Governor

Sakuji Tanaka
David Ellis
George Whitfield

2011-2012 Board

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Club Administration

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Program and Meetings

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Rotary Foundation

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Charitable Trust

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Hillard Pouncy

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Betty Ann Flynn/Marv Gelb

Cathy Darrell

Linda Carpenter

Ken Wright

Josh Twersky

Anne Hansen

/Ray Hopkins

Randy Winton

Ron Van Langeveld

Craig Fava

Steve Laxton

Brian Craig

Lisa Lee/Jim Leming

Today's Program:

Rick Lowe, Mayor of Swarthmore
"State of the Ville"

Table Grace

Lord of life, help us to hear the distant cries of need, the hopes of those who would be free, the agony of those who hunger and have nowhere to turn.

Help us to be one with all suffering humankind and out of that to catch a vision of what Rotary is meant to be.

Teach us to use our talents in gratitude for your goodness to us. Amen.

The Rev. Dr. Frederick E. Christian

Coming Program & Events

June 6 Laura Kiehner

"Papa Tortuga: One Man's Mission to Save the Kemp's Ridley Sea Turtles"

June 13 No Meeting

June 20 Kelly O'Connor and Lauren Schenkel

"Our Recent Rotary Group Study Exchange with Korea"

Swarthmore United Methodist Church

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

Last Week's Speaker: Lew Rinko

By Joy Charlton

Lew Rinko described his experience as a student at Girard "College" for Boys in the 1940s and 50s, about which he has written a fictionalized but accurate account in *About the Unique Childhood of a Hummer*. "Hummers" is the nickname for Girard students, "Hum" being an approximation of the word "home." Girard was a full-time boarding school for poor, orphaned or fatherless, white boys ages 6-17. The boys lived within the total control of school authorities, who had strict expectations, allowed no excuses, and valued punishment. Though it was tough, Girard's graduates from those days feel an affectionate camaraderie based on what they experienced together and learned.



They also have an admiration for Stephen Girard, the French immigrant sea captain, businessman, and "nation's first philanthropist," whose bequest to found the school was then the largest charitable donation ever made. The school has transitioned over time to now include children of all races, ethnicities, genders, and family statuses, who board only during the week – which makes Lew's historical account significant.

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
Kay Rinko, Jay King

Hiroshima Peace Forum Notes that Peace Begins with You

From Rotary.org

In a ceremony heavy with symbolism, RI President Sakuji Tanaka joined other Rotary and community leaders 17 May in laying a wreath in Hiroshima Memorial Park, dedicated to the victims of the atomic bomb dropped on the city during World War II.

The subject of peace has been at the heart of Tanaka's year as Rotary's president. A member of the Rotary Club of Yashio, Japan, Tanaka selected *Peace Through Service* as RI's theme for his year, and he organized three global peace forums to motivate Rotarians and others, particularly youth, to work for peace in their daily lives.

More than 2,700 people attended the forum, including Rotarians, community leaders, and students and alumni of Rotary's Peace Centers program -- a peace studies initiative that provides future leaders with the skills needed to resolve conflicts and promote peace.

Previous forums were held in Berlin, Germany, and Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. Tanaka selected all three sites because they were affected by the events of World War II and now represent the healing power of sustainable peace between nations.

"Every Rotary project, every act of service, is an act of love and kindness," Tanaka said in his closing address. "When we serve in the right ways, and for the right reasons, we bring people together, in peace and in harmony. How could it be otherwise?"

One Former Interactor's Story

From *Rotary Voices at Rotary.org*

By *Cristina Dimaano, a member of the Rotaract Club of Los Baños, Los Baños, Laguna, the Philippines*

Because I had been an Interactor, when I became a Rotaractor, I had already gained a deeper appreciation for why communities need an organization like ours. We are all about helping.

The Rotaract Club of Los Baños is composed mostly of college students, but also some young professionals who were recent graduates but still hungry to serve. Keeping our club going has not been easy. College students have their studies and social commitments, and the recent graduates are busy establishing themselves in their fields. Sometimes, it can be very difficult to raise sufficient funds and keep everyone motivated.

But this past Rotary year, we recruited a new class of members who brought renewed energy and enthusiasm to our club. They were graduates of the Interact Club of Los Baños National High School or incoming college freshmen, and they were committed to the responsibilities of being a Rotaractor. Even though they could see our club had been pushing through some rough waters, they fully embraced the possibility of volunteering and were excited to serve.

So, I am happy to say, there still exists young people who are willing to dedicate themselves to service and bring hope to their communities, overcoming whatever challenges or barriers face them. I am confident we will continue to help shape productive young leaders who will go on to make the world a better place.



RI President Sakuji Tanaka joined Rotary leaders in placing wreaths in Hiroshima Memorial Park during the third Rotary Global Peace Forum in Japan. Participants adopted a declaration, "Peace Begins With You."

**Happy Dollars Total for
2012-13:
\$2015**



2011-12 Total: \$2311
2010-11 Total: \$1690
2009-10 Total: \$896

(11520 Children Immunized)

All Proceeds to Polio Eradication.

Service Quotation

"Don't ever question the value of volunteers. Noah's Ark was built by volunteers. The Titanic was built by professionals."

- Unknown

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Anniversaries

Birthday:

Perri Evanson

May 31



The Rotaract Club of Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines