

CogNotes



The Rotary Club of Swarthmore August 8, 2013

August is Rotary Membership and Extension Month

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

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Today's Program:

Margie Baker, Master Gardener

"All about Tomatoes"

Table Grace

Eternal Father, we have daily needs that can only be supplied by your grace and goodness. We have longings of heart and yearnings of mind which alone find their fulfillment in your presence. Likewise, we have needs of body and mind that we must ask you to meet.

"Give us this day our daily bread." And then, O God, strengthen us to serve you and your children with thankful hearts. Amen.

The Rev. Dr. Frederick E. Christian

Coming Program & Events

Aug 15 Rick Valelly, Claude C. Smith '14 Professor of Political Science, Swarthmore College "The Court's Voting Rights Decision and America's Second Reconstruction"

Aug 22 David Belanger, Director, Delaware County Library System

Aug 29 Dr. Frederic Hellman, Delaware County Medical Examiner "Elegant Bones"

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?



Each Rotarian: Reach One, Keep One

By Lisa Lee, with the help of www.rotary.org

" Each Rotarian: Reach One, Keep One," the membership slogan approved by the RI Board of Directors, is a reminder that every Rotarian is responsible for inviting new members and keeping clubs active and vibrant. It also stresses that retention is an essential component of a strong club and membership base.

August is Membership Month and a good time to think about your own networks. Do you know someone who would make a good Rotarian? If so, let me know—I have introductory materials which I can give you to share, or I can be in contact with the prospective member myself.

Thanks!

Guests Last Week

Joke Williams, Kirsten Halker-Kratz

Last Week's Speaker— John Alston: Chester, Children, and Music by Joy Charlton

John Alston is the founder and director of the Chester Children's Chorus and the founder of The Chester Fund, which supports the Chester Charter School for the Arts. A long-standing professor of Music at Swarthmore College, John



has recently given that up to devote his time fully to the CCC and the CCSA. John described how the CCC began 20 years ago with 7 boys, and now has 138 children who participate in learning programs for dance, literacy, and science as well as music. The program runs on an annual budget of \$700,000 and they can use all the help they can get.

John described the stress in which children from Chester live, created by poverty and the ever-present danger of violence. That kind of stress has physical and behavioral repercussions for kids, which our public education system is not equipped to handle. John's own teaching in this context include principles such as allowing for "play" during rehearsal, giving children agency in choosing music to sing, and helping them understand the need for "non-oppositional bi-culturality" and commitment to their own community.

Especially moving were video clips of the CCC children themselves singing enthusiastically in performance – from, for examples, Mozart's *Requiem*, and the opera *The Barber of Seville!* Hear and learn more at: http://www.swarthmore.edu/Humanities/music/ccc/

Swarthmore Rotary Support to Burkino Faso [BF] by Ray Hopkins

For three years the Club has supported with matching grants the efforts of Joke Williams, Rose Valley, to assist her cousin Ditta in advancing the work of a Dutch based rural multi-purpose development project in Burkino Faso. Burkina, a land-locked West African country of 16 million peoples---the largest group being the Mossi tribes around the capital of Ouagadougou--is rated among the world's poorest.

Our funds, added to those raised by Joke [this year she sold \$1100 in plants at the fun fair and at her home], will go first to AFOS in the Netherlands who in turn add more funds. In the last three years we have contributed \$2000 to the BF project; with additional funds added from Joke and AFOS, the total sent to BF reaches nearly \$10,000.

In past years project monies have been used at rural schools to install solar panels. Such enhancements allow community reading in the evening and provide power for computers and other devices essential to rural improvement. In West African countries, for example, acquiring access to cell phones led to the tripling of farmers' profits cotton and other crops, as market margins declined. First order effects in BF include extended school attendance, better performance, and more years in school. Secondary results are wide-spread for such small rural communities.

While this year marks the third and last year of our Club's support for this particular project, following our normal policy, we can return to considering it in future years should Margaret Christensen, its club sponsor, and Joke Williams maintain their efforts to help Ditte and Burkina Faso.

Happy Dollars Total for 2013-14 \$237

2012-13 Total: \$2345 2011-12 Total: \$2345 2009-11 Total: \$2586

(12465 Children Immunized) **All Proceeds to Polio Eradication.**

Service Quotation

"I've seen and met angels wearing the disguise of ordinary people living ordinary lives."

Tracy Chapman (49 years old),
 American singer-songwriter

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Anniversaries

Program Notes

none this week

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