



CogNotes

The Rotary Club of Swarthmore
P.O. Box 4, Swarthmore, PA 19081

April 14, 2016

Maternal and Child Health Month



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

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Today's Program:

Ken Wright, India Polio-Trip Report

Table Grace

Lord of the nations, grant us a vision of this small company, expanding in concentric circles to include more than a million in many lands who share the dreams and hopes of Rotary. Help us to make our world a better place in which to dwell. Father, as we receive good things from your bountiful hand, make us truly grateful. Amen. Frederick E. Christian

Coming Programs & Events

April 21 Club Assembly

April 28 College Student and recent SHHS graduate, Sebastian Kenney, will speak about his time in Japan and his experiences apprenticing in a traditional Japanese sword forge and his connection to local Rotarians there.

***Know someone who has an interest in any of these topics? Invite them to the meeting!*

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Last Meeting's Speaker: Sabine Lyng

As a teenager, I often wondered what Danish girls were like. Based on a sample of one, they are pleasant, can laugh at themselves, are interested in many things, make lots of friends, and speak very good English. And, of course, blond. Our speaker, Sabine Lyng, is a Rotary exchange student. She was with three host families during her stay here for one year. She presented an impressive slide show with images flying in and out, mostly photos of what she saw and who she met during her stay here.



- (continued on reverse)

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:

Caitlin and Maeve Lesniak, Glenn Wiltsee and Lori Markusfeld, host parents, and Amy Connell, prospective member.

LEGACY OF POLIOPLUS LIVES ON IN INDIA

From the October 2015 issue

of The Rotarian: India reported its last case of polio in 2011. Since then, the toddler behind that statistic has grown into a child who laughs, plays, and runs, albeit with a limp. Past RI President Rajendra K. Saboo is gratified that no other children will be afflicted with the disease in his native country. “But you still see a few, above ages 12 and 13, and one starts feeling, ‘We came too late for them,’” he says. This inspires everyone to remain committed to keeping the poliovirus at bay, Saboo notes, especially with the risk of the disease’s return just a border-crossing away. The lessons and partnerships that have emerged in the decades of halting polio’s spread in India have left a legacy: a cadre of trained health workers with skills in disease surveillance, education, collaboration, and care – and they are already being redeployed to address other health and social needs.



The battle against polio in India never was the single focus of the campaign there, notes Jay Wenger, director for polio eradication at the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, which since 2007 has invested more than \$1.5 billion to help end the disease, with another \$1.8 billion committed through 2018. “While the national network collected polio information from across the country, we used the infrastructure for other things,” says Wenger, whose résumé includes a five-year stint as project manager of the World Health Organization’s National Polio Surveillance Project, based in the New Delhi area. “When bird flu came up, we got a call from the Indian government to figure it out. Later they asked if we could help them find out how many measles cases there were. This is a major way in which the polio program has helped.” One of Rotary’s key roles in ending polio in India was advocacy, says Sunil Bahl, medical officer for polio eradication with the WHO Southeast Asia Regional Office. “Rotary had a voice that would be heard by the government,” he says. “If any challenges were highlighted, Rotary was there to ensure there was some solution to overcome them.” Rotary’s voice is still vital, Bahl says, especially in Mission Indradhanush (“Rainbow”), which the Indian government and its partners initiated to target seven vaccine-preventable illnesses: diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, childhood tuberculosis, hepatitis B, measles, and polio. Their goal is to expand immunizations to all children by 2020. *-Read more of this article at Rotary.org*

Speaker: *Continued from Front*

Many happy dollars were given in her honor and Gudmund greeted her in Norwegian. It was heartwarming to see that the Rotary exchange program had developed a wonderful confidence and lack of self-consciousness in Sabine. We have seen these same qualities in the other visiting exchange students.

Happy Dollars Total for 2015-16:

\$2,294



2014-2015 total: \$3,168

2013-14 total: \$2,493

2012-13 Total: \$2,345

2011-12 Total: \$2,311

(18,711 Children Immunized)

**All Proceeds go towards
Polio Eradication.**

Service Quotation

“VOLUNTEERS – Doing more that they have to because they want to.”

- Ivan Scheier, (1926-2008)
Cutting edge thinker in the field of volunteerism. Formed the non-profit organization called National Information Center on Volunteerism.

Rotary Celebrations

Birthday:

Randy Winton	4/9
Jim Sredenschek	4/12
Ed Jones	4/15

Member Anniversary:

Andrew Sullivan	4/10
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Wedding Anniversary: None

ROTARY APRIL SPOTLIGHT

What is Maternal Health?

Maternal health refers to the health of women during pregnancy, childbirth and the postpartum period. While motherhood is often a positive and fulfilling experience, for too many women it is associated with suffering, ill-health and even death.