

# Swarthmore Rotary Cog Notes



P.O. Box 4. Swarthmore, PA 19081

# August 8, 2019

Mark Daniel Maloney RI President 2019-20 Peter A Mardinly District 7450 Governor

### Swarthmore Rotary Leaders

Maria Michael Zissimos
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Craig Fava
iPast President
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Lori Markusfeld

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Penelope Reed
Public Relations Chair
Barbara Whitaker-Shimko
Rotary Foundation Chair
Sean Murphy

<u>Sean Murphy</u> Assistant Governor

# **Service Quotation**

"You are what you do, not what you say you'll do." Carl Gustav Jung

### **Rotary Celebrations!**

**Birthdays** 

No Birthdays Found

**Wedding Anniversaries** 



Penelope Reed August 9th

Rudolf S. Amann August 9th

Years of Service

No Years Of Service Found

# **Meetings and Events**

### **August**

8th - Meeting

Speaker: Betsey Fiel, Volunteer Coordinator, WHYY

Subject: Volunteering at WHYY

15th - Meeting

Speaker: Dr. Jay Fluellen, Composer

**Subject: Making the Philadelphia Community Mass** 

22nd - Meeting

Speaker: Beth Murray, Sharon Mester, and Greg Brown Subject: Swarthmore Town Center Revitalization

### **Table Grace**

# By Frederick E. Christian

Lord, we thank you for sun-filled days and fun-filled hours at this season shared with families and friends. Although our many responsibilities continue, we carry them with greater ease because you have blessed us so abundantly. Amen.

### **4 Way Test**

Of the things we think, say or do

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?
- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

# **Last Meeting Summary**



Rotary members may have recognized our speaker, Marjorie Wainfan, as the mother of Benjamin Wainfan, one of the recipients of this year's Rotary scholarship. Marjorie returned to speak about the Art Barn at Thorncroft. Thorncroft, in Malvern, provides therapeutic horseback riding for children and adults

with mental, emotional and physical disabilities. Marjorie is the founder and Executive Director of the Art Barn, which lets clients at Thorncroft create art with their families. Marjorie said the Art Barn lets children use discovery, imagination, and hands on experience to help them build art. She considers that the important thing is the act of creating, not the product. Marjorie described one of her sessions in which she had families draw food, discuss their drawings, and then eat the food. In another project, Marjorie rented a van to transport kids from Chester to Thorncroft, where they rode horses and painted the horses, by which I mean they actually put paint on the horses. Marjorie describes art as an alternative way for families to have conversations. I had not previously thought of art as a conversation. On the other hand, some of the children at Thorncroft are severely autistic and nonverbal. The children's families find doing art with the children as a form of conversation

# Happy Dollars

\$339

2019-20 Happy Dollars for Polio Plus Fund (\$3 to fully protect one child)

> 2018-19 total: \$3,845 2017-18 total: \$4,515 2016-17 total: \$3,756

# Guests Last Meeting

No guests

# that is meaningful.

### **Gudmund Iversen**

Gudmund Iversen was 5 years old when Germany invaded and conquered his native country, Norway. Norway stayed under German rule for 5 years, until the end of World War II. Although he said his family "mostly" had enough to eat, he particularly remembers a meal of fried beets. It was the only



food his Mother could find. The fact that his Father hated beets made the meal especially memorable. The war intruded even when Gudmund was playing with other children. One friend's father was randomly picked up by the Germans and executed to serve as an example. He told of playing hide-and-seek at another friend's house and hiding in the closet where he found his friend's father's Norwegian Nazi party uniform.

After the war Gudmund attended the University of Oslo. However, he left for the United States before he obtained his degree. He arrived in New York City in 1958 with two suitcases. He was able to enroll directly in graduate school even though he had not obtained an undergraduate degree. He went on to obtain a Ph.D. in statistics from Harvard. Gudmund was recruited by Ray Hopkins to teach statistics at Swarthmore College. His focus was the use of statistics in the social sciences. One example of his work was a contribution to a book on American voting behavior. He has authored eight books and monographs and many papers.

Gudmund's Father was a member of Rotary in Norway and Gudmund remembers his Father going off to Rotary lunch every Wednesday. When Ed Jones and John Kauffman invited Gudmund to join Rotary in Swarthmore, it seemed as if he were following family tradition. Gudmund also thought the college community was isolated and he wanted to meet people beyond the college walls. In 2000, Putty Willets convinced him it was time to step up and be President of Swarthmore Rotary. His most positive experience in Rotary is all the friends he has made.

Although Gudmund is retired, his wife, Bobbie, is still busy being a professor at Penn and writing books. They have four children: Kirsten, living in Seattle, Eric, living in Swarthmore, John, California, and Gretchen, Philadelphia. They have eight grandchildren: Anna (22), Glen (20), Elizabeth(9), Owen (9), Audrey (6), Sonja (10), Ivan (8), and Chichi (21).

As we all know, Gudmund is an excellent photographer. He said he bought his first camera at 15 and used to have a darkroom in his house, much to Bobbie's annoyance. He was the photographer for the Swarthmorean for ten years. He likes to read, particularly histories of World War II. A recent book is William Shirer's Berlin Diary. He likes W.E.B. Griffin's novels about the War. He also spends time visiting his grandchildren. He has travelled across country twice, an experience he liked better when he was not driving! Gudmund commented that he sometimes is amazed to recall the young man arriving in New York City with two suitcases and consider the rich life with community, family, and friends that he has now.