

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org 2 Years Best in District April 23, 2008

PO Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

President Allison's Corner



GOALS AND ROLES!!!

On May 7th we have a scheduled Club Assembly and everyone should plan to attend. This is our last one for the year and we really need to get things lined up for 2008/2009 (and beyond). In particular, we will be forging ahead with the strategic planning that began a few months ago. We have our broad framework, we have identified our long term goals...now we will start to fill the plan

in with proposed actions and activities !!

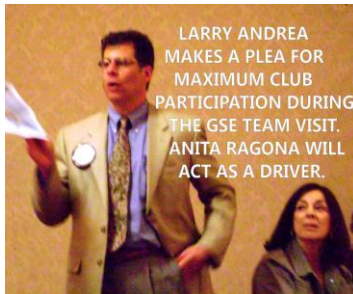
Please do not wait for next year's President or Board of Directors to come to you for assistance on various projects-- be proactive, think about what skills you have to contribute, how you want to enhance your Club .

A side benefit of this kind of planning and involvement is that your participation will attract new members, and to quote a PDG from Wisconsin, " The idea of Service Above Self provides Rotarians with a reason for belonging,"...those are the sorts of people I want to see joining to Rotary. Having a strong plan will give us the structure to perform service, which is why I believe we are all here.

Have a good week!

...And a Note from Larry Andrea:

Hello, everyone. As you might know, a GSE (Group Study Exchange) Team from the Philippines is coming to visit us on Wednesday, May 14th. I have their schedule all worked out, and I'll share that with you all at our next meeting. But I need one more Driver/Guide to help me out that day. Figure from 8:30 am to about 4 pm, with lulls in between. Please e-mail me at counsel@lawrenceandrea.com or collar me at the next meeting. Thanks!



Amber Alert-

6/7, 10 am-4 pm, Frfld Middle Schl, Ffld
6/28, 10 am- 2 pm, Oneco, CT
7/25, 11 am-4 pm, Village Fire Days, New Mlfd
7/26, 10 am-4 pm, Village Fire Days, New Mlfd
9/6, 12 noon-7 pm, Taste of Dbry, Cty Cntr
9/7, 12 noon-7 pm, Taste of Dbry, Cty Cntr
10/18, 10 am-4 pm, Reed Mdl Schl, Newtown

Speakers:

4/30 Bill Lerchen from Danbury Children First.
5/7 Club Assembly; Strategic Planning
5/14 GSE Philippines Team
5/21 Open
5/28 Scholarship Luncheon, WCSU, Westside Campus

April 23, Meeting-

Mary Gregory: Executive Director of Danbury Schools and Business Collaborative, on Mentoring--

Our guest speaker today extolled the virtues of **Rich Godfrey** who has been a mentor in the Danbury Public Schools for years. Our speaker encouraged more members of the Club to become involved in the school based mentoring program, explaining that the mentor is not a tutor, but in reality a friend to the student; i.e., he or she is a cheerleader,



Rich Godfrey

confidant, and role model all packaged as one. Although the student benefits greatly, so does the mentor in the satisfaction of giving back to the community, and improving one's communication skills with children. All mentors are expected to make a one year commitment, but many remain for years in the program. The average is 7. The longer a mentor stays with a child, the more success the child seems to have in his/her

later life. The program has always been a cooperative venture between business and the schools, and serves students K through 12. Initially DSABC was based at Union Carbide. It is now based at G.E.

Each year, DSABC has a scholarship breakfast where awards are handed out to deserving students. A total of 11 \$2000 scholarships will be given this year, for technical training, or any type of post-high school education the student wishes to have. At present 300 students are in the mentoring program, and there are 150 on the waiting list.



(left) Tom Tazza, Carol Giannico, and Pres. Allison contemplate being mentors. (right) Our speaker chats with our Program Chairperson, Jane Didona, who is thanking her for addressing the Club.

Note: May 3rd is Danbury Clean Up Day. Volunteers?

More About the GSE Team:



Catalina Hilario is the Team Leader, and is the Charter President of the Rotary Club of Paranaque Metro. Lina was honored with the Most Outstanding Rookie Club President for the year 1997-98, and began serving in her district, 3830, right after leaving her presidency. She also has an RI Four Avenues of Service Citation, and is a nominee for the Service Above Self award. Vocationally, she is on the board of a family owned land development corporation.

The remarkable Team members are:

-Marielle Nadal, Writer and Designer. She was an active student during her College days, and is now the Co-Founder and Executive director of Ideals Creative.

-Angelina Legaspi, Entrepreneur. She currently runs her own pastry business, has a BS degree in Management Information Systems, but is back in school studying culinary arts.

-Lloyd Lim, Attorney. He was the student council president in high school, and received a prestigious award while there. He loves the ocean, the mountains and dogs, and has completed two post law degrees.

-Sol Racelis, Media Strategist. Only 27, and working at Mindshare, she has achieved a solid career in advertising, crafting strategies for Nike and Pepsi. During her college years, she was a Service Merit Awardee, graduating in Commerce.

As always, our team members are the cream of the crop of their respective communities in the Philippines.

Feedback About the Spelling Bee: Anita Ragona attended the Board of Directors Meeting, recently, of Catholic Charities. They were still buzzing about the Bee, and being Co-winners. They were particularly pleased to hear that Pearl Dent is paying their sponsorship fee for the Bee.



Thoughts for the Day:

You must become the change you wish to see in the future. Ghandi

A woman in her 70s passed by my table, stared at me, and finally remarked, "If you dyed your hair black, you would look just like Al Gore."

Al Gore

And the Winner of the Weekly Drawing is:

Tom Tazza. You really drew a lousy card Tom. Still, it is enough to tip a waitress following a decent meal out, for two.



Make up locations:

- Mon. 12:15 pm, Norwalk, Silvermine Tavern
Mon. 6:00 pm, Newtown, Inn at Newtown
Tues. 12:15 pm, Westport, Inn at Longshore
Wed. 12:15 pm, Danbury, Ethan Allen Inn
Wed. 6:00 pm, Ridgefield, Parks and Recreation
Wed. 6:30 pm, Brookfield, Bailey's Backyard Rest.
Thurs. 12:15 pm New Canaan, Roger Sherman Inn
Fri. 12:15 pm, Wilton, Silvermine Tavern
Fri. 7:30 Danbury Sunrise, The Club at WestConn, Westside Campus

Rotary Club of Danbury Officers 2007-2008

Table with 2 columns: Position and Name. Includes President Allison Fulton, Vice President James M. Gargan, etc.

Directors

Table with 2 columns: Name and Name. Lists directors like Frank P. Acquanita, Robert J. Vetter, etc.

Spoke Editor: Ralph S. Welsh
203-938-2820 / rswelsh@mail.com

(below) Eleanore and Miguel Espinosa listen to Allen Hinden who expressed unusual pleasure over the fact that his son has now been working for the past 3 weeks. We definitely need more info regarding this important milestone in Allen's life. Next week we will hear about Miguel's trip to Harlem with the Women's Club.



(right) Frank Aquanita, center, has just told Jim Cooper and Jim Gargan he will be a grand dad in July—an adopted 18 mo. old grandson.



