

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org 2 Years Best in District April 7, 2008

PO Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

President Allison's Corner



In 1985 RI made a pledge to rid the world of polio by the end the 2000. We came close, but four endemic countries remain (India, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria). Progress is being made in all 4 countries, including northern Nigeria that, for political reasons, suspended vaccinations for approximately a year, but things have now turned around there, and the vaccinations have resumed. In just one state in India,

Uttar Pradesh, there are 5 million births a year, and it is hard to keep up with such a large population.

In Afghanistan and Pakistan, the problem is the fighting so the committee is forced to negotiate with the warring factions. In other warring countries such as the Congo, local Rotarians have been extremely helpful with the negotiations.

In 2006, Dr. Robert S. Scott, an RI Foundation Trustee, became chair of the International Polio Plus Committee, and insisted that the ultimate eradication of polio is possible, but we must keep at it. When we give to the Foundation, Polio-Plus is only one of many programs we are supporting, and much of those funds return to the District in matching grants.

Let's hit that 100% mark. As president Miguel repeatedly pointed out, a \$100 pledge only comes to 27 cents a day. More than half the club has yet to commit.

Have a great day!

...And another Note from Larry Andrea:

As you might know, the GSE (Group Study Exchange) Team from the Philippines is coming to visit us on Wednesday, May 14. I have their schedule all worked out, and I'll share that with you all at our next meeting. But I could use one more Driver/Guide to help me out that day. Plan 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.

Joe Pepitone, Yankee superstar, will be the showcase celebrity at the 14th Annual Celebrity Showcase Breakfast, at Ethan Allen, June 6th. For reservations, go to: www.Danburywesterners.com, or www.NECBI.com or ask Frank Aquanita.

Amber Alert-

6/7, 10 am-4 pm, Frfld Middle Schl, Ffld
6/7, 9 am, Danbury Ball Park
6/28, 10 am- 2 pm, Oneco, CT
7/25, 11 am-4 pm, Village Fair Days, New Mlfd
7/26, 10 am-4 pm, Village Fair 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:

5/14 GSE Phillipines Team
5/21 Open
5/28 Scholarship Luncheon, WCSU, Westside Campus

April 7th, Meeting- Club Assembly-

Larry Andrea, Chairperson of the GSE Team Committee, indicated that everything is set for next week, but anyone who wants to tag along would be welcome. The group is an outstanding, mix of business and professional people, and we are extremely fortunate to have people of such high caliber selected for our teams.



Caryl Lucchesi gave us a heads up on the Passing of the Gavel Dinner Dance. It will be held at the Ridgewood Country Club, \$50 per person, June 20th, 6:30 pm (black tie optional). It will be a terrific night. Don't miss it. Carol Giannico is our incoming president. Let's all give her our support.

Marvin Paige echoed Pres. Allison, on giving to the RI Foundation. We're only at 41%. Let's make it 100%.

Paula Greenberg, our newest member, has dug right in and is Chairing the Card Raffle. She indicated that the Raffle is moving ahead at full steam. The tickets are printed, team captains are needed, and we hope to see 10 tickets per member sold. It's our major fund raiser, so let's make it a winner



Bob Vetter needs help for the Amber Alert program; there's a double booking June 7th, so he needs all the help he can get that day. At this point 50,000 children have been processed in the District, and 17,000 were from Danbury, alone. The Danbury-New Fairfield Women's Club has had 83 Amber volunteers, putting our Club to shame.

Nels deAlmeida talked about getting a matching grant for school supplies in India, and continuing assistance for the water treatment projects in India.

Tom Tazza indicated that the Rotaract and Interact clubs would be the linchpins of Vocational Service this year.

We were also favored to have a visitor extraordinaire,



George Camp, District Governor designate for District 7230, 2010-11, who talked about his involvement with a GSE Bangladesh Team this past December. He will be heading to Nigeria in October or November. He also gave us a great primer on the Rotary Foundation.



Tom Tazz, (left) and Anita Ragona, (right) talk to future NY District Governor George Camp. Notice Anita's hands (very Italian). District Gov. Ernie's filter pump sits in front of Tom.



The GSE Team: A Terrific Group of People. Reprinted for Your Pleasure.



Catalina Hilario is the Team Leader, and is the Charter President of the Rotary Club of Paranoque 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 outstanding 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.



Following her induction into the Club, Paula Greenberg exercises her right, as a new member, to have the largest piece of the birthday cake. Bob Vetter and Doug Mann allow her the privilege.

(Left) Rich Godfrey takes a picture of your Editor with the intent of embarrassing him in next week's Spoke. Rich will be the Editor for a day, a task he has accepted on numerous occasions. Thanks Rich.

(Right) We are happy to see John Lucchesi catching up on Club news, as he looks over last week's Spoke. We aren't sure John owns a computer, or knows how to use one. It is fortunate we have hard copies of our newsletter on the table at every luncheon. We assume Marvin Paige is looking around the room for our Webmaster, Will Houston, who can introduce John to the computer.



And the Winner of the Weekly Drawing is:

Doug Mann- You really drew a great card, Doug. It was worth \$405.00. Great fishing expedition, Will Houston's wish that he would fail, didn't materialize.



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

President	Allison Fulton
President- Elect	Carol Giannico
Vice President	James M. Gargan
Treasurer	John Barbosa
Secretary	Douglas Mann
Sergeant at Arms	Michael Searing

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Frank P. Acquanita	Robert J. Vetter
Frank X. Hauser	Caryl Lucchesi
Silas Avila, Jr.	Wayne B. Curtis
Thomas Tazza	Nels deAlmeida
Will Houston	

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Thought for the Day-

For those who do not think, it is wise for them to at least rearrange their prejudices once in a while.

Luther Burbank