

# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

[www.danburyrotary.org](http://www.danburyrotary.org)

3 Years Best in District

May 14, 2008

PO Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

### President Allison's Corner



One of the highlights of our year is when the GSE Team comes to town. This year was especially great because the group from the Philippines was so terrific. They were smart, convivial and everything we could hope for from our visitors. My personal thanks to Larry, Anita and Marvin who all volunteered to help make their sojourn to Danbury a success.

I missed the District Conference this year because my oldest child is graduating from college, but I am sure the folks from our club who attended will come back with much enthusiasm about our potential to reach out and contribute to our world. Next year the conference is scheduled for Newport, Rhode Island. I hope at least 50% of the club will attend. Maybe if we start planning now, we can all get there next May. Start packing your bags.

Have a great week!

#### Amber Alert-

5/25, 3 pm-6 pm, Burnham Schl, Brdgwtr

6/7, 10 am-4 pm, Frfld Middle Schl, Ffld

6/8, 12 noon-4 pm, Union Savings Bnk, Stny Hill, Bethel

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:

5/28 Scholarship Luncheon, WCSU, Westside Campus.

A great chance to see what a terrific group of kids we are supporting with our scholarship program; **A MUST.**

*Talk- Norwalk River Watershed Association [NRWA], during its upcoming Annual Meeting at 7:30 PM on May 22 at the Georgetown Firehouse, is offering an informative program by Danbury Landscape Architect Jane Didona, who will show how "rain gardens" and other devices can be both functional and attractive. Contact Jane for details.*



President Allison takes the banner from the GSE Team sponsoring Rotary Club in the Philippines.

### May 14th, Meeting-

### The GSE Team from the Philippines-- A Remarkable Group of People:



Larry Andrea, our GSE man-on-the-ground in Danbury, said the opening prayer with a very moving message for our wonderful guests from District 3830 in the Philippines.

The team leader is the Charter President of Parenoque Metro Rotary Club, Catalina Hilario. The additional Team members are: Angelina Legaspi, Entrepreneur, Marielle Nadal, Writer and Designer, Sol Racelis, Media Strategist, and Lloyd Lim, Attorney at Law.

Initially, Team Leader Lina founded an all women club, and through her success, encouraged her husband, and the other husbands to initiate another club. Not being enough, they formed a third club which included their sons and daughters. As far as they know, theirs is the only District with three levels of family members in three different clubs, all of which are chartered. Lina is now starting a fourth club. Great job, Lina!

Miguel asked if Spanish is still spoken in the Philippines. Apparently this is true in some areas and in one city, in the south, Spanish is the dominant language but different dialects are spoken throughout the Philippines. The Philippines are a remarkably diverse people, with 86 or more different ethnic groups, each with its own unique culture.

Frank Acquanita was curious on which side of the road they drove. The "Right side" was the response. We're sure Frank was pleased with the answer. He respects all things that tend to lean to the right.

It was interesting to learn that Timex has their headquarters in the Philippines and the country has quite a number of economic zones to encourage foreign investments.

**Luncheon Tidbits:  
Amazing News from the District  
Conference! The Spoke has Won Again:  
They Seem to Like Us in District 7980 –**

They say that the third is the Charm (oops, that's the name of one of the newsletters that lost). Your Editor is amazed and humbled that we scored three years in a row being judged to be the best newsletter in the District. I could not have done it without news that showed our Club was a mover and a shaker. Hosting the GSE Team this week was an example, and our upcoming Scholarship Luncheon will underscore



*Colin Gershon , District 7980 Governor Designate, 2009-10, from the New Haven Club, presents the Newsletter Award to Bob Vetter in the absence of your Editor who was in Salt Lake City at conference time. I thank Bob for picking up the certificate.*

another one of our prouder accomplishments—of course, the shining jewel of Danbury Rotary, Bob Vetter's Amber Alert, had to be impressive to the District judges—then there was Larry Andrea's Katrina fund, not to short change all of the other charities we are supporting in the community, and internationally.

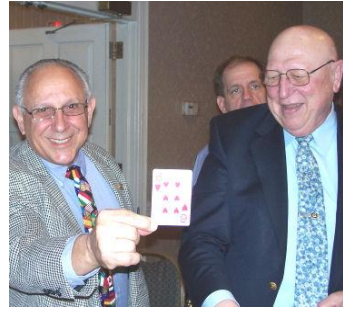
We all won this award. These things are never done alone. Also, I must thank Rich Godfrey for stepping forward and providing me written material and photos when I am forced to miss a meeting, as was the case with this issue.

Finally, I must thank Randy Lindel, again, for his patience tutoring me in how to "do" the Spoke right, preparing the cover page for the entry, and being the person who first informed me of the "win."

**Check out the Editor's Blog-** More Rotarians are now represented:

<http://rotariansjesusandtalkingplants.blogspot.com/>

**And the Small Winner Was:**



*Nels deAlmeida. Even if Nels had drawn the big one, which he didn't, the pot would have been small having been drained by last week's big winner. Bob Vetter shows glee over the "win" knowing the pot will be bigger next week--for all. Tom Tazza stares over Bob's shoulder, pleased with the outcome as well.*

**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
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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-** The opportunity for Brotherhood presents itself every time you meet another human being. *Jane Wyman, Actress*



President Allison, and Larry Andrea with the GSE Team