

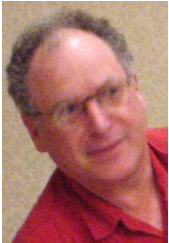
# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

[www.danburyrotary.org](http://www.danburyrotary.org) 3 Years Best in District August 13, 2008 PO Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

### A Note from the Editor:

Several members commented on the poor turnout at our last few meetings. Not only is this a financial concern for the Club as a result of the number of meals we contract for, but it limits the fellowship opportunities, and the ability of the Club to function as a complete and viable entity.



Next week we are going to have a speaker who has a story you must hear. **Dr. Allen Hindin** will be talking about his work with a group of Alaskan natives, and the story is fascinating. Allen has been a maverick, of sorts, in the dental community and how he brought dentistry to a remote village in Alaska is right out of the storybooks. Bring a prospective Rotarian; bring a member of the family. Let's fill up the room for Allen.

...And speaking of attendance, R I does have rules on that. According to the R I Assistant Governor's Training Manual, each member is expected to attend a Rotary Meeting worldwide, and this must include 30% attendance at one's own home club. If your years in Rotary and age equal 85, you can be excused from the attendance requirement. A club has the option of terminating a membership of anyone missing 4 consecutive meetings in a row. One can make up numerous ways, including R I functions, community projects (like Amber Alert), Rotaract Meetings, and any Rotary related function. Illness is also an obvious excuse. If someone you expect to be at the luncheon, failed to show up give him/her a call. We all appreciate it when someone misses us.

Come on folks. Bring a friend to lunch next week.

### The RI Foundation, one of the Four Avenues of Service:

Have you contributed your \$100 as a RI Foundation Sustaining Member? It would be great if we ended up with 100% participation during Carol G's watch, as we have in the past. If each of you tossed a buck in a cookie jar each day, you would have your \$100 in less than four months.

### Amber Alert-

8/23, 11 am to 6 pm, best buy, Orange  
8/31, 11am to 3:45 pm, N. Britain Stadium  
9/6, 12 noon-7 pm, Taste of Dbry, Cty Cntr  
9/7, 12 noon-7 pm, Taste of Dbry, Cty Cntr  
9/20, 12 noon to 4 pm, Kids Day America, Sndy Hook  
10/4, 10 am to 4 pm, Sheppard Meadows, Bristol  
10/5, 11 am to 3 pm, Sheppard Meadows, Bristol  
10/11, 10 am to 4 pm, Fairfield Middle School  
10/18, 10 am-4 pm, Reed Mdl Schl, Newtown

### Speakers:

8/20- Allen Hindin, My Alaskan Indian Adventure  
8/27- Cheryl Reedy - Waste Management  
9/3 - Larry Gardner - TAB Board & Newtown Rotary  
9/10 - District Governor Rick Benson-Be there!  
9/17 - Nick Kaplanis - Parks & Recreation  
9/24 - Danbury VNA flu shots  
10/1 - Dr. Jeremiah Lowney - Haitian Health Fund  
10/8 - Meg Sweeny; Best buddies  
10/15 - Brett Raphael, CT Ballet, Stamford  
10/29-Katherine Deshenes and Robin Reimersma, Interlude

### August 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting- Michael Searing: Musings of a Former Federal Bank Examiner-



**Mike Searing** stepped forward, and filled in for our missing speaker, and introduced us to the life of a bank examiner. Rather surprising was his story, involving days and weeks on the road, and a job requiring the navigation of constantly changing rules and regulations, and minimal federal pay (phone calls were not even allowed on bank lines because of

the expense).

Initially, when Mike entered the federal banking system in 1978, he found an old fashioned military type structure, which is now more flexible and more "user friendly." He admitted that there exists an internal "bank rating" system. Being ranked number one is best; two is O.K. Below that---look out.

The Federal Bank Examiner looks at risk management, whether the bank has enough money to do what it wants to do, whether it is over-inflating its earning, and whether it is basically financially sound. In reality, the bank examiner is not an auditor, but a person who looks carefully at the internal audits, and generally how the bank conducts its business. He talked briefly about the various problems in the banking business, past and present, and pointed out how important legislation is in keeping our banking system healthy.



*Mike used his moment in the sun, to show us the "glorious" trophy he brought back from his golfing competition at the recent R I District Conference. Apparently this award is a traveling piece that each "winner" must add on to before passing it to the next recipient. It should come as no surprise to anyone that it is, in reality, the prize for the highest score—not the lowest. Finally, Mike told us he spent several days in the hospital, recently, but is now fine.*

**Breakfast-** Catholic Charities is having a breakfast on October 21st at the Amber Room and we are getting a table. The guest speaker is Joey "Pants" Pantoliano from the Soprano's. Please let me know if you can attend. I would like to have a full table at this event if possible and your help is always appreciated. Carol G.

**Luncheon Tidbits:**



**Paula Greenberg** again reminded us to get those Card Raffle tickets sold, and the information and cash handed in. The raffle will be Friday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at the Amber Room. Remember, a second person is \$50.00, but where do you get an evening of dinner and dancing to a live orchestra for that? Let's get busy and sell those tickets.

**Erratum and Winner:**



*Jim*

Last week we mentioned that **Ray Kish** had a 38 year wedding anniversary on 8/08. In actuality that date belongs to **Jim Gargan**. Rays is 7/27/68. We stand corrected, and congratulate both men and their wives.



*Ray*

...and we congratulate Jim on pulling the winning card. Unfortunately, it will only buy him two and a half gallons of gasoline. He missed the big one. Finally, it should be mentioned that Jim conducted the meeting, today, filling in for our president who could not attend, today. You did a masterful job as the MC, Jim. Thanks.

**Recovering: Russell Coonrod, 27**, your Editor's nephew was notified 2 days ago he had a perfect match for a new kidney, waiting to be flown here from Florida. It was implanted a day later at Westchester Medical Center. He is a shining example of why we all should sign our organ donor cards. Russ has been on dialysis, at Danbury Hospital's dialysis unit for 7 years.

**Make Ups:**

- 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**  
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**Carol G on Candlewood Clean Up, October 4<sup>th</sup>.**

We still need more help for the Candlewood Lake Cleanup. We do not want to be the club with the least number of members participating. I have not heard from many of you and would appreciate an e-mail to let me know if you can help. We will have a nice lunch afterwards at Two Steps.

**Pam Burdett-Miller Just Applied for Membership:**

This is the first posting of her request to be a member.

**Thought for the Day; the Dangers of Excessive Exercise-**

My grandmother started walking five miles a day when she was sixty. She's 97 now, and we don't know where the hell she is.

*Ellen DeGeneres*

Visitor **Katherine Purchase** is greeted at the door by Bob Vetter, chats briefly with Frank Consadine, jokes with Pam Burdette-Miller (who just applied for Club membership), and listens intently to our speaker, sitting next to Paul Palanzo. We hope you had a great time visiting our Club, Katherine. See you soon, we hope.

