

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org 3 Years Best in District February 4, 2009 PO Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

A Note from the Editor:

This month is R.I.'s World Understanding Month. The emphasis will be on the importance of worldwide goodwill and the importance of promoting peace. This, of course, is within the confines of the Fourth Avenue of Service. We ought to look for a speaker in coming weeks that could talk on the issue of world peace and understanding. Perhaps we could find someone in the WestConn History Department who might fulfill this need. It is at times like this we all miss Eric Roman who did such a masterful job in tying history to what we are attempting to accomplish in our worldwide Rotary efforts.

It is interesting to note that on February 23rd, in 1905, Paul Harris and 3 friends met in Room 711 of the Unity Building in Chicago beginning what was to flower into RI. A small but very important meeting, indeed.

Our Polio Plus program continues to save lives, and is one of our Worldwide success stories. With the help of RI's Foundation, 2 billion children are living free of polio, and more than 250,000 deaths have been prevented. While your editor was growing up, his beautiful, vibrant second cousin Marilyn Bills died of the disease at 15, and the neighbors down the street became pariahs when their 7 year old daughter caught the disease, and was paralyzed from the waist down. No one wanted to go near a family that had polio in its midst. We can all be very proud of what Rotary has done to eradicate this terrible disease.

The RI Foundation

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.

Speakers and Events:

Speakers to be announced

2/22 Chili Cook off, Noon to 4 pm

3/5 Shelter of the Cross, Bft, Amber Room

3/18 Amos House Bkfst, Amber Room

4/25 Abilities Beyond Disabilities Bfst, Amber Room

3/27-28, RI Membership Meeting, Baltimore

Amber Alert-

2/22 Danbury Arena 12 noon -4 pm

3/28 Kids Day, Dbry Hospital 10 am-2 pm

4/11 Prospect fire Dept 10 am-3 pm

6/6 Teddy Bear Family Craft Fest, N.Mfd, 10 am-3 pm

7/7 Brookfield Fire Dept 10 am-3 pm



Jim Gargan confers with Paul Palanzo in tallying up a number of items in the budget.

February 4th Meeting- Lisa Scails, the Executive Director of the Heusatonik Valley Cultural Alliance Speaks on the Importance of the Arts to our Community:



Our speaker explained that the HVCA is a regional network working toward the connection, collaboration and conversation within the arts and the cultural communities. HVC works closely with artists, business people, WestConn, and other groups that have an interest in the arts. It also provides awards, has conferences, conducts workshops, and was involved in Danbury's First Night and Danbury's Arts Festival.

The HVCA is sponsored by a number of organizations, including the Danbury Chamber of Commerce the Union Savings Bank, the Fairfield County Community Foundation, and the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism.

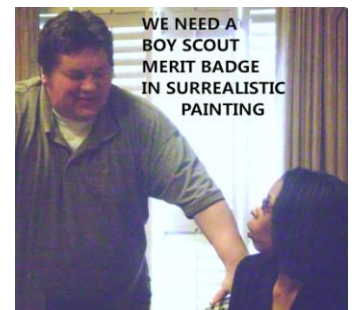
Rotarians were encouraged to offer any unique expertise they have that would aid the organization, including legal advice.

The HVCA works with 400 area artists, and is constantly looking for more and better ways to further the arts.



President Carol G. informs the speaker of an artistic need the Club has.

Boy Scout executive Frank Consadine asks the speaker her opinion on involving the Boy Scouts with HVCA. He also suggests the possibility of a new merit badge that would fall within the confines of the arts.



News from the District--

Our Valentine's Day Ball is only 9 days away. We only have reservations from 4 clubs (Plus the DG and DGN)-- - 38 people confirmed. The North Branford club, with only 14 members, has 20 people coming! Score Points With your spouse or partner. Take them to an elegant dinner dance. This is a GREAT Value - \$125 per couple. Flowers and Chocolates for the ladies; 5 Hours of open Bar. A huge appetizer buffet, and a dinner choice. If you want to have a great time, click here: http://www.rotary7980.org/Content/Valentines_Day_Ball_1.and do it asp.

Congratulations to Didona Associates. Twenty Years in Beautifying our Community:

When Jane Didona started Didona Associates in 1989 she wanted to develop a company that created incredible outdoor places, and she has succeeded in this endeavor admirably, recently garnering 2 awards from the Connecticut Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects for her work at Wooster School and the Stanley L. Richter Park project. Her company was the one in Connecticut selected to participate in Extreme Makeover, Home Edition when the TV program came to Bridgeport, and she did a marvelous job bringing the Rogers Park project to fruition. Thanks Jane for the beauty you have brought to our community.



Make Ups:

- Mon. 12:15 pm, Norwalk, Silvermine Tavern
Mon. 6:00 pm, Newtown, Inn at Newtown
Mon. 6:00 pm, Brkfld, Mario's Pasta Garden, 174 Federal Rd., Brkfld
Tues. 12:15 pm, Westport, Inn at Longshore
Wed. 12:15 pm, Danbury, Ethan Allen Inn
Wed. 6:00 pm, Ridgefield, Parks and Recreation
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

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When 2 News Items Fit—We saw this on the TV while having breakfast, and just had to pass it along.



And the Winner Was-- Paula Greenberg, who then promptly tore up the card when she missed the jackpot; we assume this was an absent minded accident, having lost the 'big one,' and intending to tear up the lowly winning/losing ticket. Vince Misca was bemused. Frank Acquanita reflected on his past administration. The keeper of the cards, Bob Vetter, decided to have another cup of java.

