

# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

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

2 Years Best in District

January 9, 2007

PO Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813



### President Allison's Corner-

We had another good turnout at our Board of Directors Meeting last night. We addressed a variety of issues that now require action! Here is a summary :

- Membership recruitment stood at net zero as of last week. ---who can you bring to our group?
- Fiscally, we are solvent, but we have come up short of expected

profits in both of our fund-raising endeavors this year. Your support is needed.

- We have a fellowship opportunity coming up on February 7th. Find out when and where so you don't get left out.
- We need to prepare for community service events that occur in the Spring (i.e. Easter Baskets for children at Head Start)—what other service projects do you know about? Tell Allison!
- Tom Tazza was at the meeting, but said he had nothing new to report.-- it is not vocational month.
- We will be setting aside money to participate in a matching grant for schools in India. --Ask Nels how you can find out more about this worthy project so that you can appeal to prospective members who like to do the same type of good work!
- RI Foundation contributions for our club are at 32%--Get your contribution in ASAP!
- The Scholarship Committee is back and so far, with Marilyn at the helm, we have Tom Tazza, Will Houston, Jim Gargan, Fred Kayal and Vince DiGulio. Talk to teachers, students and other school folks you know and remind them to get their applications in early!
- The Spelling Bee will be a huge success if EVERYONE in the club does something, even something small. However, since Rotarians like to think big, it would be great if you would form a team from your place of business and get an associate to do the same.
- A Club strategic plan is being developed by Allison, Jane, Bob, Mike and Will. Give them feedback when they start to formulate their action plan.
- We will plant a tree for past president Richard Hall and Start a fund with matching dollars from our club for donations in Gary's name. Come to the planting and do something special for Gary by giving something in his name.
- The District Conference this year is very close by. It is being held at the Thayer Hotel-West Point. We need to be there en masse. Sign up today!

### Speakers:

#### To Be Announced



*Bob Vetter reminds us that we need to prime District Governor's water pump more. The money will go to saving lives in India, where children are dying every day due to unclean water. Let's help District Governor Ernie out. Each dollar you put in the Happy/Sad bucket could be matched with one you drop in the pump.*

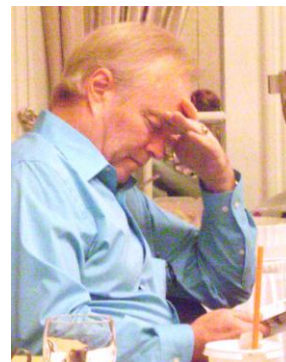
### January 9th Meeting-

### Kay M. Schreiber, of the Midwestern Connecticut Council on Alcoholism-- MCCA'S MISSION:

Our speaker, today, pointed out that MCCA has been in our community for 35 years, and its mission goes well beyond just working with those with an alcohol problem. Perhaps the name should be changed to "...Council on Addiction." All addictions are addressed, from Heroin to gambling. In fact, we were informed that the casinos that were brought to Connecticut have contributed to one of the most serious gambling problems in the United States.



In addition to counseling and assessment, the agency is building a new transitional facility, Sunrise Terrace, which will house 16 people who are in recovery. Currently, the agency also supports 6 residential facilities, they have an Hispanic program, a program for the elderly, they man the city shelter on week-ends, and administer 3 outpatient programs. As our speaker noted, "We are a growing program we fervently wish that the community did not need."



*Jim Gargan (left) decides he is addicted to work. Frank Aquanita (right) believes he is addicted to parsley. We could be wrong on that; we probably are. Just a guess.*

**Luncheon Tidbits-  
An Urgent Message from Marvin Paige:**



We have cancelled the Radio Auction and replaced it with the Spelling Bee. The Spelling Bee Show Time is only 3 months exactly from today. Much has already been accomplished, but there is a lot we have to get done to make this event as successful as the Radio Auction. This should be easy since the Spelling Bee will be held during warmer weather and requires 3 hours of your time in lieu of praying we don't have an ice storm, and working 12 hours--and this does not include the time required to install the phones.

*After pitching the Bee, Marvin fittingly won the \$10.00.*

Last year Allison and Carol put together a number of great Theme Baskets for raffle. What we need from each member is a minimum of 2 gifts for the baskets. Theme baskets will be a Picnic Basket, a BBQ Basket, a Tea Basket, a Gift Wrap and Stationary Basket, a Chocolate and Nut Basket, a Coffee Basket, a Wine Basket, a Spa Basket, a Candle Basket, an Entertainment Basket (dinner and movie certificates) and we even envision a Picnic BBQ Grill. Maybe we could have a Phone Basket; I have several spare phones and lots of wire. Perhaps we could add ethnic baskets, such as Italian, Portuguese, Brazilian, Kansas, Polish, etc.

Some of the gifts placed in the Theme Baskets include an overnight stay at a hotel, complete with dinner and breakfast. In addition we'll have Restaurant certificates, Mall Gift certificates for wine and cheeses, and certificates for massages and nails--- and certificates from jewelry stores.

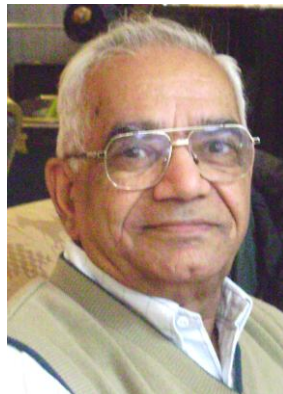
We also need Team Sponsors and team cheerleaders. The Team members really had a great time, especially the Barrett Roofing Team which, as you recall, won in a squeaker.

So THINK Spelling Bee, and please start collecting donations.

*Marvin and Anita*

**Visitors-**

*To the left is our own charming Yara deAlmeida, Nels deAlmeida's better half. To the right is Mohan L. Mehta, a CPA from New Fairfield, Connecticut.*



**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

**Directors**

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

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**Happenings:**

Danbury Music Center invites all of us to a Donor Appreciation Reception, at Alumni Hall, WestConn, 181 White St., 5 pm to 7 pm. Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments served. Hizhonor the Mayor will speak.

The Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce invites all of us to an "Eggs and Issues Breakfast for Business, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am, at the Best Western-Stony Hill Inn, in Bethel; \$25 per person. Call 794-1439 for particulars.

**Thought for the Week-:**

Astronomer Seth Shostak, on the basis of planetary finds outside our solar system, estimates there are probably 100 billion trillion worlds in the visible universe capable of supporting life. One wonders if there are a lot of worlds out there fussing over problems similar to those of Paris Hilton. Also, just think of the number of aliens who could be potential Rotarians in our Rotary District, let's say, Andromeda alone, for example.



*The speaker gave us all food for thought. Dr. Vince Miscia, (left) and Jane Didona (right) carefully read the brochure so nothing is missed.as our speaker speaks.*

