

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org

2 Years Best in District

April 30, 2008

PO Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

President Allison's Corner



Next Wednesday we have a Club Assembly. We will be inducting our new member, Paula Greenberg, and announcing some Paul Harris Awards. We will also be discussing the next steps of the strategic planning committee. This will include, but not be limited to, the solicitation of your suggestions towards developing an action plan for the long-term goals we have identified.

In addition, if you intend to make a contribution to Rotary Foundation and have not yet done so, please use this Club Assembly as an opportunity to get your check to John Barbosa. It is almost the end of the year, and we are quite a ways from fulfilling our 100% participation pledge to Rotary International.

I am really looking forward to this Assembly. It is shaping up to be a mixed bag of some positive elements of Rotary: increased membership, recognition, fellowship, vision, and service above self. I hope everyone can be at this important meeting

Amber Alert-

5/3, 12 noon- 6 pm, Eastfield Mall, Sprfld, MA

5/3, 11 am-3 pm, So. Church, Hrtfld

5/4, Eastfield Mall, Sprfld, MA

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:

5/7 Club Assembly

5/14, GSE Team from the Philippines. **DON'T MISS!**

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; also a **MUST**.



Bill Lerchen, of Children First, and a thoughtful crowd listen to our speaker.

April 30, Meeting-

Linda Kosko, Executive Director of Children First: Helping Parents to Help their Children--



Our guest speaker today, **Linda Kosko**, represents an agency that has the welfare of the children of our community at heart. Children First is designed to be a parent-led organization that focus directly on the parents because parents are the individuals who want the most for their children, and it is well known that parent

involvement is the key to school success. The agency provides information to parents, runs workshops, and is an advocate for children from birth to 8. Events are held throughout the year providing activities for children and programs providing information to parents.

The agency also provides one-time workshops to 6 months programs helping parent to gain skills and experience in becoming leading advocates for children. These programs are also offered in Spanish and Portuguese. The attempt is to target children who are not doing well in the schools or the community, and they work with many agencies in the community. We are lucky to have so many programs, like Children First showing that Danbury is a community that really cares about its people



Paul Palanzo, Mike Searing, and Alan Hindin pay close attention the speaker's message. Helping people, of course, is what Rotary is all about.

**Luncheon Tidbits:
District Conferenc: Day Tickets Still Available—**

You can still attend the Saturday session at the District Conference, in West Point which is scheduled from May 16th to the 18th. Overnight accomodations are filled, but you can enjoy the events for a day—and the experience is well worth it. Five of our members are going to the conference, and any additional members would be welcome. The fee is \$150, for one day, but the Club will pay half. If you haven't attended a RI or District function in the past, you are missing out on half the Rotary experience. We hope to see more of you in West Point

The WestConn Rotaract Club in Action-



The word is that the WestConn Rotaract club is making a nice donation to District Governor Ernie's bio-sands clean water project. Kudos to the club. We have also been doing fairly well, priming the little green pump, but we need to keep those dollars flowing, to insure that the families in India we are helping out get the clean water we are promising them.

Future Rotarian?



Will Houston chats with Randy Friedman, a hypnotherapist and possible future Club member. It would be nice if she could hypnotize the entire Club so they would feel compelled to attend

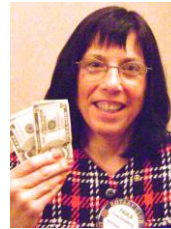
the luncheon each week

Check out the Editor's Blog- More Rotarians are now represented:
<http://rotariansjesusandtalkingplants.blogspot.com/>

Levels of awareness vary, during the meetings. Here we see a microcosm of attention during the presentation. Of course, our snoozing member might have been waiting for a projector to be plugged in, or our speaker to show up. In any event, there is a story here only the participants can really tell.



And the Winner of the Weekly Drawing was-



Paula Greenberg. How fitting. She will be inducted into the Club next week, so this is a nice little send-off. It wasn't the big one, but it is enough to pay half of her meal for next week's meeting.

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
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Vice President	James M. Gargan
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Thought for the Day- If nature is left to its own devices, about 7.59 billion years from now Earth will be dragged from its orbit by an engorged red Sun and spiral to a rapid vaporous death. Talk about global warming. Wow!