

# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

[www.danburyrotary.org](http://www.danburyrotary.org) 3 Years Best in District February 25, 2009 PO Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

### A Note from Larry Andrea:

Over the past few months I was unable to attend the Club's weekly meetings, so it has been a great pleasure to attend the past two weeks. This past week's meeting reaffirmed why I value my Rotary membership and made my absences all the more regrettable.

While I enjoy the varied and talented outside speakers we host, I must say that the most satisfying and interesting meetings are those where we members discuss issues among ourselves. This week's collective discussion on our scholarship program was fantastic! As a younger (hah!) member, I learned a great deal from everyone who voiced opinions. The discussion was lively, intelligent and, most importantly, beneficial to the Club's goal of best providing service to the community.

I therefore respectfully suggest that, at least monthly (if not more frequently), we have a member make the featured presentation to the club and that we have an open club assembly so that other issues and aspects of Rotary can be openly and freely discussed. Such an arrangement would not only make the task of procuring outside speakers less onerous, but it would afford the membership the opportunity to know each other better and thereby foster closer camaraderie.

#### Some dates to remember:

March 5, 2009, Thursday – Shelter of the Cross breakfast at 7:30am at the Amber Room; please let Carol G know if you are able to attend.

March 18, 2009, Wednesday – Amos House breakfast at 7:30 am at the Amber Room; please let Carol G know if you can attend.

April 25, 2009, Saturday – Gala dinner at the Amber Room, more info to follow

#### Speakers-

March 4 Club Assembly  
March 11 CT Ballet  
March 18 Well Path  
March 25 Americare

#### Amber Alert-

3/21 AITE, Stamford, 9 am-3:30 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

Allison Fulton thought Larry's hat was so adorable, she wanted to be photographed with him.



### February 25th Meeting- Club Scholarships: A Discussion--

As most of the Club knows, our Scholarship Program is the pride of the organization. We dispensed \$38,000 last year, with a total of \$30,500 coming out of Club funds. The Union Savings Bank, the Danbury Savings Bank, and the Sunrise Club contributed the remainder.

This year we will be a bit short (around \$4,000) but the Scholarship Committee believes that the difference can be made up.

A lively discussion developed over the selection procedure, which has been a bit problematic. There is a feeling that the guidance counselors of the area schools are not letting enough students know of our scholarship program, and this needs to be addressed.

In addition, there is the problem of who is eligible. Do we reach outside of our traditional area (including the adjoining towns of Ridgefield and Brookfield, both of whom have their own Rotary Clubs) or do we stay within the area we have traditionally drawn our students from? In any event, we have done well in the past, and our former scholarship recipients have done very well. This is our premier program, and we intend to keep it that way.

Frank Acquanita and future Rotarian Jason Castaldi listen carefully to the message.

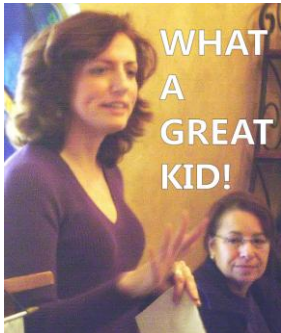


### And if you Leave Early--



Marvin Paige displays the fine he intends on paying for leaving early. Thanks, Marvin. The Club can use the cash.

**Student of the Month: Sharhonda Perkins--**



**Laura Blake**, teacher at ACE, introduced the Club to our Student of the Month. She described **Sharhonda Perkins** as a very special person, more than deserving



of the award. Sharhonda has always been available when duty calls, and is involved in a number of community programs, including the Community Action Committee. When a volunteer is needed, Sharhonda is there. In accepting the award, Sharhonda remarked, "I am very proud to receive this honor. I thank all of you so much."



*Michelle Ross, Sharhonda's Godmother, Aire Moore, Sharhonda's mother, and Kevin F. Moore, Sharhonda's father.*

**And to our Club Members-** If you know of a deserving student in our community, let Allison Fulton know. There are many young people out there deserving of the honor. Let's find them, and honor them.

**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

**Rotary Club of Danbury  
Officers 2007-2008**

President	Carol Ann Giannico
President- Elect	James Gargan
Vice President	Paul Palanzo
Secretary	Douglas Mann
Treasurer	William Houston
Sergeant at Arms	Frank Acquanita

**Directors**

Frank X. Hauser	Michael Searing
Marvin Paige	Caryl Lucchesi
Elaine Malgieri	John Lucchesi
Anita Ragona	Nels deAlmeida
Paula Greenberg	Robert Vetter

Allison Fulton

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**Erratum:** Last week we spelled Tary Tarlton's name wrong. Our most humble regrets, Tary. The options Tari, Terry, Terri, and Terrie do not fly.



*(Left) Dentist Nels deAlmeida confers with Eleanore Espinosa about husband Miguel's dental health. (Right) Joe Bolduc drops by for his monthly luncheon visit.*



**An 8 of Spades is not Enough:** Will Houston shows Pres. Carol G the money Allison Fulton can win if she can pull the King of Clubs. Alas, she failed, and Will initially displays the money she had lost in back of her, then informs her, face to face, of the bad news while Doug Mann looks on with appropriate pathos.

