

# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

[www.danburyrotary.org](http://www.danburyrotary.org) 3 Years Best in District March 18, 2009

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

### From the Editor's Desk:

The problem of recruiting new members, keeping them, and giving them an incentive to come to the luncheons each week remains a perennial problem. Materials on these problematic issues are available through RI, but it seems that there are simple things each one of us can do before re-inventing the wheel. The following ideas of your Editor seem to be obvious:

- 1) The meetings need to be interesting, and the speakers appealing. It is unfair to expect Jane Didona to find and schedule all of the speakers. The entire Club needs to be on "speaker watch," and make recommendations to Jane when they find a speaker in the community that would bring out the membership.
- 2) Members need to make an attempt to find potential members. It would be reasonable for each Rotarian to bring at least one member into the Club each year, at the very least. Such an approach would double the membership in one year.
- 3) When a prospective member comes to a meeting, all of us should greet that member, and get to know him/her. If and when that person is inducted someone (preferably the sponsoring Rotarian) should stick by that person, and shepherd them through the next several months or so.
- 4) More socials need to be planned. These are good occasions to bring friends who are potential Club members—and they're fun. In the past we had groups of Rotarians involved in special activities, such as stock buying groups, and bridge partnerships. All of these interactions foster fellowship.
- 5) Finally, we need to become more public. We need to advertise ourselves to the community, and the News-Times is only one of many ways of doing this. We do a lot of good things. People like to belong to organizations they admire and respect. We are a special group. The community needs to know this.

### Some dates to remember:

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

### Speakers-

March 25 Americare

### Amber Alert-

3/21 Aite High School, 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

4/18 YMCA, Brkfld, Health Day for kids- TBA

5/16 Orange Community Ctr, 10 am-4 pm

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

6/7 Brookfield Fire Dept 10 am-3 pm

6/13 Stony Hill Fire Dept, 10 am-3 pm.

### March 18th Meeting-

### Dr. Digby Barrios, of Wellpath: A Comprehensive Program to Promote the Well-being of Children and their Families--



Our speaker today was **Digby Barrios, Psy.D.**, the Director of Residential Services at Wellpath. Dr. Barrios gave a moving, and spirited discussion of the work Wellpath is doing in our community. From the humble beginnings of a Child Guidance Clinic in



Our MC Paul Palanzo is Perplexed

*Digby Barrios*

Waterbury, Wellpath has grown to service the entire catchment area, including 2 group homes, and offices throughout the area (the 9<sup>th</sup> office was recently established in Danbury).

From 100 kids being served at the beginning, 9,000 children are now seen each year with a staff of 180 people. One third of all of the children being helped have a history of abuse, and 80% of their families are at the poverty level. They have a group of outreach counselors on 24 hour call, and have a medical director from Yale who is known nationwide for his research on children.

*Jackie Post  
of Wellpath*



Referrals come from area doctors, schools, hospitals, and the DCF. As our speaker put it, "We deal with the kids nobody wants, and we do our job well." We are, indeed, lucky to have this dedicated organization in our community.

### Our Club Members at the Amos House Charity Breakfast--



Tary Tarlton, Pres. Carol G, and Bob Vetter



Paula Greenberg and two unidentified guests.

Photos Courtesy of Pamela Burdett-Miller

**Luncheon Tidbits:**

A group of us were discussing the recession and Frank Acquanita pointed out the Lottery collections are 17% up. It seems that if the Stock Market tanks, people turn to betting on a much less likely winner, but with a much larger potential return. Go figure.

**Thank you Wayne Curtis:**

Wayne Curtis and his wife Chris have stepped forward, and offered lodging to one of our GSE Team guests from Germany. Larry Andrea has invited any and all members who are interested to join him, and the group we are hosting, the morning of May 13<sup>th</sup>. There will be a walk in the park, and beer, or a trot around the Mall, and beer, or something else, and beer. It should be a great time for all.



**A Phantom Contribution:**

Jane Didona drops some imaginary money into the pot. How is it to be counted, Jane?

**Luncheon Guests-**



*It was nice to see Nick Hoffman, again, from the Sunrise Club, and we were happy to welcome his guest, Dennis Bieder (to the left).*

**Passing the Basket-**

Competition is the hall-mark of the Club. We see Mike Searing in fierce competition with Frank Acquanita for the honor of being the best Sgt. at Arms. Of course Mike only handles substitute SAA duty, but he takes the job seriously.



**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 2008-09**

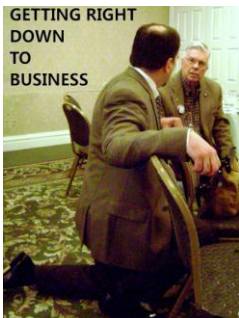
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| <b>Elaine Malgieri</b> | <b>John Lucchesi</b>   |
| <b>Anita Ragona</b>    | <b>Nels deAlmeida</b>  |
| <b>Paula Greenberg</b> | <b>Robert Vetter</b>   |
- Allison Fulton**  
**Spoke Editor: Ralph S. Welsh**  
 203-938-2820 / rswelsh@mail.com

**Regarding Ben Franklin's 12 Virtues--- I do not do well:**

- Temperance- I like a good wine with dinner.*
- Silence- I enjoy a good, spirited argument now and then.*
- Order- You should see my desk! Wait. No you shouldn't.*
- Resolution- I do procrastinate a lot.*
- Frugality- The house is full of a lot of stuff I shouldn't have bought.*
- Industry- I do spend too much time laying around, watching the tube.*
- Sincerity- It's hard to be honest when you are talking to an idiot.*
- Justice- I really try with this one.*
- Moderation- I need to lose 30 lbs. Enough said?*
- Cleanliness- I'm good here.*
- Tranquility- It's hard being tranquil in house with a thoughtless teen.*
- Chastity- At my age, no problem.*

**Getting Good Professional Advice:**



Our speakers have a wealth of clinical experience, and our members, Mike Searing, Frank Considine, Pam Burdett Miller, and Bob Vetter immediately tried to draw on that experience. The four photos presented here,

show how some of those conversations played out.

