

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org

May 13, 2009

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

Again, we have had the pleasure of hosting a remarkable group from overseas. We were able to meet five out of the six team members from Germany, at lunch. They included Hartmut Weddige, the team leader; in addition were Oliver Eiland, Felix Stein, Goenuel Oezcan, and Stefanie Winterberg. Annette Deutskens was on a site visit, and unable to attend the luncheon.

Oliver has been in the banking industry 13 years, and hopes to gain insight into his field, especially how Americans pick their stocks.

Annette is currently a broadcasting editor for a nationwide radio station with a focus on politics for young people. She would like to learn more about our media, especially from the editorial perspective.

Felix is a doctoral candidate in communication science, and would like to share the experiences of others in on-line journalism and on-line campaigning.

Goenuel is a medical doctor whose family originally came from Turkey. She has a sister suffering from kidney failure, and would like to know the treatments being utilized in this country for her sister's problem. She is also interested in how medicine is practiced here, and what kind of equipment is found in the typical community hospital.

Stefanie Winterberg is a banker, working in the area of process and project management. She came here hoping to find out a bit more about her banking specialty.

Last, but not least, was the team leader, Hartmut Weddige, a retired CEO, a many honored Rotarian from Germany District 1870, and the owner of an MBA and PhD. He has been an active leader and participant in numerous Rotary functions in his club in Germany

Some dates to remember:

5/26 GD Chamber of Commerce Annual meeting luncheon, Amber Room

6/13 Westerners Golf tournament, The Golf Club, Oxford Greens; \$190 a golfer, \$40 dinner only

6/15 Ann's Place Ladies Golf Classic- \$175 person for foursome, Richter Park

6/22 Hanahoe Clinic Dinner honoring Dr. Hines, Amber Room, cocktails at 6:30 pm. **IT IS IMPORTANT WE SHOW OUR SUPPORT FOR THIS MOST REMARKABLE WOMAN!**

6/20 Great Duck Race, Wpt Sunrise, 11 am to 3 pm-2,500 ducks launched into Saugatuck River, at Parker Harding Plaza, \$20.00 a ticket—can win \$5,000! www.westportsunriserotary.com

6/ 23, Visionary Meeting, Pamela Burdette-Miller, Chair. Note Change. Place is yet to be determined.

Speakers-

6/3 Scholarship luncheon, Ethan Allen

Amber Alert-

5/31 Brookfield Fire Dept, 11 am-3 pm

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

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

6/14 Burnum School, Bridgewater, 2 to 6 pm

6/20 Westerners, Rogers Park, Dbry 9 to Noon

7/24 and 7/25 Village Fair Days, N Milfd.

10/10 Trumbull Mall TBA

10/17 Reed School, Newtown, 10 am to 4 pm

May 13th Meeting-

GSE Team Visits from Germany:

Larry Andrea has done it again. He has chaired the GSE Team visit admirably, and it went off without a hitch. The Team members were all impressive, and were quite complimentary of our country, and our hosting of their visit.

The Team leader, Rotarian **Hartmut Weddige**, briefly introduced the Team members, and provided some information about Annette Deutskens who was busy with other matters, and unable to attend the luncheon.

Each member told a bit about themselves, and each had prepared a visual presentation of their lives back in Germany which included something about their professional lives, family lives, and recreational interests.



Their tour, here, was rather comprehensive. They were on the coast, then travelled up to Norwich, down to the District

Conference in Newport R.I., back North to E. Haddam enjoying sights along the Connecticut River, east to the Sikorsky Plant in Stratford (at least Hartmut did getting dunked in a fake helicopter) and then came to Danbury. Five host homes participated.

Goenuel, the physician in the group, was amazed at the medical equipment she saw at New Haven Hospital, St. Rafael Hospital, Middlesex Hospital, and Danbury Hospital.

Hartmut talked about the financial problems in Germany, indicating that the recession is worldwide, and the unemployment rate in Germany is now 10%.

However, this may not be comparable to our figures, since they count the workforce differently there.

To the Editor's delight, he found that 4 out of the 5 Team members ski, or have skied. In Germany, skiing is a must.

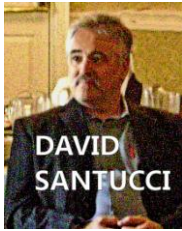


Luncheon Tidbits:

We had a good representation of guests, including guests of Caryl Luchessi, Marnie Teatro, and Susan Almeida, guest of Ralph Welsh, Dave Santucci, wife of Wayne, Chris Curtis, wife of Miguel, Eleanore Espinosa, and visiting Rotarians Bob Hodge from Colchester, Bob Chandler from Darien, and George Linabury, from Brookfield. Glad to see all of you folks. Hope to see you all again, soon--



BOB HODGE



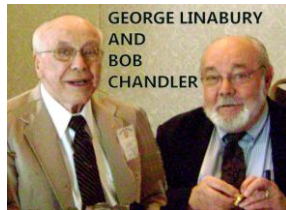
DAVID SANTUCCI



SUSAN ALMEIDA MARNIE TEATRO
CARYL LUCCHESI SPONSOR



CHRIS CURTIS



GEORGE LINABURY AND BOB CHANDLER



ELEANORE ESPINOSA

The Exchange of Banners--



TAKE OUR BANNER, PLEASE---

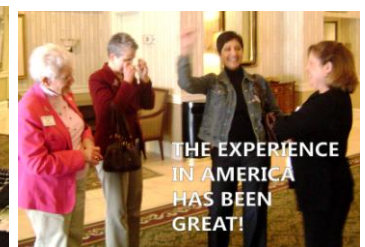
President Carol G. gives Dr. Ocscan our banner. We need a new banner. A contest, perhaps? We have been talking about doing this for years. Maybe now is the time.



IT'S TIME TO REDESIGN OUR BANNER. JUST LOOK AT THESE!



YES, WE CAME ALL THE WAY FROM GERMANY TO ATTEND YOUR LUNCHEON, TODAY.



THE EXPERIENCE IN AMERICA HAS BEEN GREAT!



MICHAEL SEARING HIT THE BIG ONE AND IS \$160.00 RICHER. IS HE HAPPY? IT IS YOUR CALL.

And the Big Winner of the Weekly Raffle Was—
Michael Searing. As one would suspect, Mike was overcome with joy. He won enough to fill up a Hummer with gas. All he needs now is a Hummer. Good going, Michael. It pays to buy that \$5.00 ticket each week, and it helps the Club, too.

Make-ups:

- Mon. 12:15 pm, Norwalk, Norwalk Inn
- Mon. 6:15 pm, Newtown, Inn at Newtown, 19 Main St.
- Mon. 6:00 pm, Brkfld, Mario's Pasta Garden, 174 Federal Rd., Brkfld
- Tues. 12:15 pm, Westport, Inn at Longshore, 260 Compo Rd, So
- 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, Trakside Restr.
- Fri. 7:30 Danbury Sunrise, The Club at WestConn, Westside Campus

Rotary Club of Danbury Officers 2008-09

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|---------------------------------|--------------------|
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YOU DID A GREAT JOB WITH THE GSE TEAM, LARRY!

Future DG Julie Reppenhagen works the crowd. As we have said before, she will be a great District Governor. We hope her enthusiasm is infective.



THAT VISIONING PROGRAM IS ESSENTIAL!



WHEN THE FUTURE D.G. SPEAKS-- PEOPLE LISTEN!