

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org

June 17, 2009

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

Our Visionary Meeting is scheduled for June 23rd and your Editor may be unable to attend, so he is offering some suggestions in advance. These are some issues he feels need to be addressed:

a) Speakers: We know how difficult it is to find a speaker every week, but lately things have gotten to the critical stage. We probably need a better way of finding, and attracting good speakers. They are a both a draw to new members, and they keep the old members interested. Perhaps each member could be assigned the job of finding a new speaker 3 or 4 times a year—and the member steps up to the plate himself/herself if a speaker is not available. We also ought to comb the News-Times for interesting personalities, and ask them over for lunch. There are numerous ideas to ponder, but ponder them we must.

b) Socials: Socials are an important way to meet new members, and to enjoy an evening of fellowship. My wife and I had a St. Patrick's Day party last year, and it was great fun. We don't need a day to celebrate, though. Any day or evening is fine.

c) Fund Raising: We didn't have a major fund raiser this year. Amber Alert was essentially it. We need to get serious about fund raising, and soon.

d) Community Action: We need to have more activities involving community out-reach. The Salvation bell ringing is fine, but we need to do more than this. The more the Club does things together, the more the Club members are connected to each other.

Lets hope the Club has vision. So far, it has been a bit myopic, according to several members.

Some dates to remember:

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 Saugutuck River, at Parker Harding Plaza, \$20.00 a ticket—can win \$5,000! www.westportsunriserotary.com

6/23, Visionary Meeting, Pamela Burdette-Miller, Chair. 4:30 pm, Armando's Restaurant, 47 Stony Hill Road, Bethel.

6/26 Dinner Dance, Ridgewood CC, cocktails at 6:30 pm, \$50 per person. Send money to Caryl soon.

Amber Alert

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



Incoming President, Jim Gargan, instructs our two newest members, Susan Almeida and Marnie Tetreault, on the Objects of Rotary. Sponsor, Caryl Lucchesi, looks on (left)

June 17th Meeting- Club Assembly

Our speaker did not show, so the Club discussed a number of issues that needed some airing, but more importantly, we inducted two new members, **Susan Almeida** and **Marie Tetreault**. Susan is a Registered Nurse, and a Customer Care



Susan Almeida

Specialist working at Glen Hill and Pope John Paul II extended care facilities. Marnie is an Administrator at Glen Hill. They were sponsored by Caryl Lucchesi, and will undoubtedly be real assets to our Club.



Marnie Tetreault

Doug Sherman, the incoming President of the Sunrise Club, invited all of us to attend their meetings, when possible, which start at 7 am, and end promptly at 8:31 am. He also dropped a book of raffle tickets



Incoming President of the Sunrise Club, Doug Sherman (left) listens to our speakers along with Peter Darling, and Tary Tarlton

on each table, hoping to sell some to our members. The funds will be used for the Danbury Rotary Sunrise Foundation. A grand prize of \$1,000 can be won, with seven additional awards possible, including a \$700 gift certificate, and \$250 gift certificate. The cost of each ticket is \$10, and the raffle will be held June 26th. Contact Doug for additional information, and tickets.



Caryl Lucchesi (left) invited us, one and all, to attend the Passing of the Gavel Dinner Dance at the Ridgewood, June 26th. Black tie is optional. Cocktails are served at 6:30 pm. Whether there

will be an open bar or not is still under discussion—but who cares. Come and have fun.

Pam Burdett-Miller (right) invited all to attend the Visionary Meeting, June 23rd, at 4:30 pm. It will be held at Armando's Restaurant, in Bethel. We have 20 signed up. There is room for more. We need everyone's input. It will be charting the course of the Club for the next three years.



Luncheon Tidbits:

Sitting next to Ray Kish was an interesting, and



Ray Kish tells guest, Eleanore Espinosa, how cold he got in the meat locker in South Dakota. Miguel Espinosa looks on with appropriate sympathy.

informative luncheon pleasure.

We were all talking about where we were the day Kennedy was assassinated, and everyone remembered exactly where they were at (your Editor had just handed in his PhD dissertation and was heading home from the University of Denver). Ray then remarked, "The date reminds me of my first job in 1965, a year later. I was sent to Connecticut for what I expected to be a 3 year assignment, and here I still am." Ray was working for the Borden Chemical Company at the time, was the youngest person assigned to a regional sales position, and ended up consistently in the top 5 out of 26 salespersons. He also ended up spending days in a meat refrigerator working out how to pack the stuff, in Huron, South Dakota, and was part of a team that created the cryo-vacuum bagging of meat and later a glue material for packaging that did not harm the product (staples had been used with chicken often producing rust stains on the meat). We're glad Ray made it out of the food locker in on piece. He's really a warm guy for having been so cold.

Anniversary:

Golden Anniversary, Jane and Ralph Welsh, June 20th. They will be in the Poconos with their family the 20th.

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, Trackside Restr.
- Fri. 7:30 Danbury Sunrise, The Club at WestConn, Westside Campus

Won the Small One— Missed the Big One:

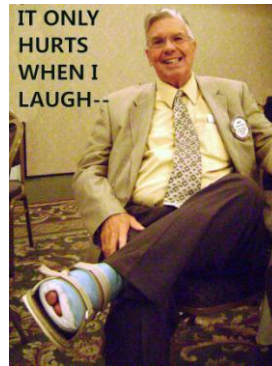
Jim Gargan won \$10 but missed the big one by a single suit. Such is life, Jim.



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| Spoke Editor: Ralph S. Welsh | |
| 203-938-2820 / rswelsh@mail.com | |



A Fallen Comrade-

Michael Searing went out on his porch, was trying to talk on the phone, and retrieve a flag at the same time, lost his step and fell down four stairs into his wife's garden, fracturing 3 bones in his foot. He now has to use a blow-dryer on the foot a half hour each night, and hobbles around with a plastic cast. I guess Mike can't walk or talk and chew gum (or grab a flag) at the same time.



(Left) Being the substitute Sergeant at Arms is often a difficult task. (Right) One of our newly minted Rotarians finds the antics of the Club hilarious. At least that's our take on it. We'll ask Susan what broke her up so much, for future clarification.



