

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org

July 22, 2009

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

President Jim's Corner:

At our meeting on Wednesday, we were fortunate to have our District Governor, Colin Gershon, whose objective is to visit all 63 clubs in district 7980. Colin gave us some good insights as to Rotary and upcoming events, which should be of interest to all Rotarians. The meeting was well attended, with over 30 members and guests. Thank you for the large turnout, and I hope it continues.

Next week is our first Club Assembly; we will be discussing the results of our Club Vision meeting. If you did not attend the Vision meeting, try to attend this week's luncheon. We will be going over the club's 5 year strategic plan. We will also entertain suggestions from the members. If you want to be heard, come to the meeting.

The picnic is scheduled for Sunday, August 16th at Caryl and John's. If you plan on attending, please let Caryl know. Also, if you plan to go, I am asking that each member contribute \$10.00 a couple so we can provide the wine, beer and soda for the picnic.

I am off to do an Amber in New Milford. Don't forget to sign up for a future Amber session to help Bob and the Club

Some dates to remember:

Amber Alert

7/24 Village Fair Days, N. Milford 11 am to 4 pm
7/25 Village Fair Days, N. Milford 10 am to 4 pm
8/8 Harford 10 am to 2 pm
9/8 to 10/4 Big E, 10 am to 6 pm
9/12 and 9/13 Taste of Danbury, 12 pm to 7 pm
9/19 Munson Funeral Home, Woodbury, 2 pm to 6 pm
9/27 Berkshire Shop. Ctr. at Once Upon a Child, Dnbry
10/10 Trumbull Mall TBA
10/17 Reed School, Newtown, 10 am to 4 pm

Speakers and Events:

July 29 Club Assembly, Club Vision Report
August 16 Picnic at Lucchesi's, 1 pm -Bring food; \$10.00
June 20-23, 2010, RI 101st Annual Convention, Montreal



July 22nd Meeting-

Colin Gershon, District Governor of Rotary District 7980, Charges up the Troops—



Our Club was delighted to host our new DG, Colin Gershon. Colin has been a member of the New Haven Club since 1982, and was its president in 1999-2000. He has held numerous positions in the District, and is a seven sapphire Paul Harris Fellow.

Colin received his BA with honors from Colgate, and his law degree from Washington and Lee University School of Law. Coming from a long line of military people, he served in the Judge advocate General's Corps of the U. S. Naval Reserve, from 1971-76.

Colin was born in Yorkshire, England. He has been married to his wife, Millicent, for 37 years and they have three sons (one with the Harford Courant, one working in public health in Tanzania, and the third a classics teacher in Massachusetts).



Sue Horton introducing our

our new DG
Our DG invited us to a number of Rotary District activities, but emphasized two: The Rotary Leadership Conference, October 31st in New Haven, and the RI Convention, next year, in Montreal. He said the latter is a must for any Rotarian who really wants to know what Rotary is all about.

Colin thanked President Jim for attending his inauguration, and Bob Vetter for his untiring efforts with Amber Alert. He told us how proud and impressed he was meeting the incoming president of RI, Scotsman John Kenny. He reminded us of President Kenny's new motto, The Future of Rotary is in Your Hands, and pointed out how much this is due to good leadership and Club involvement. He outline five pillars of leadership he will subscribe to this year: Membership and membership development; public relations; the support of the Foundation; the commitment to service projects; and an emphasis on "green" and attracting young people who care about the environment, poverty, clean water, and want to serve. He told us that the district is now putting spots on two radio stations, and will be sending 2 GSE teams abroad. He talked about District matching funds going unused, and invited our Club to come up with a matching grant project. He fired us up. Lets go!



President Jim (right) welcomes DG Colin Gershon to the Club. He will be visiting 63 clubs during his Rotary year, and most of them will be visited more than once. We hope he enjoyed our bill of fare.

Luncheon Tidbits:

We heard that Past DG Ernestine “Ernie” Louise and her husband, Nicholas, have been inducted into the Arch C. Klumph Society, an exclusive group of members who have donated a quarter of a million dollars to the RI Foundation. Our current DG, Colin Gershon, indicated that he would probably never rise to such a lofty status. Nicholas is a retired vice president of UPS, and sits on several boards. Ernie is an educator. We are impressed.

Erratum- We wish to apologize for spelling Tary Tarlton’s name wrong for the umpteenth time. It will happen again, Terry, Tarri, Teri, Terri—oh, forget it.

Visitors:



In addition to our District Guests, we were happy to see Edward Espinosa again, along with his mom, Eleanore. We are glad to see Eleanore is doing so well following her cancer treatments.

And the Winner of the Weekly Raffle was-

Immediate Past President Carol G. Still, she failed to pull the King of Clubs, but seems to be unusually happy with the \$10.00 consolation prize. Just putting on a brave face, we assume.



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

*Rotary Club of Danbury
 Officers 2009-10*

<i>President-</i>	<i>James Gargan</i>
<i>President- Elect</i>	<i>Paul Palanzo</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>William Houston</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Pamela Burdette-Miller</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Frank Acquanita</i>
<i>Sergeant at Arms</i>	<i>Michael Searing</i>
<i>Membership Chair</i>	<i>Paula Greenberg</i>

<i>Directors-</i>	
<i>Anita Ragona</i>	<i>Allison Fulton</i>
<i>Marvin Paige</i>	<i>Bob Vetter</i>
	<i>Carol Ann Giannico</i>

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Like Obama has Found out, You Must Speak Carefully About Controversial Issues--

More than 400 years ago, Giordano Bruno, an Italian monk, wrote that “In space there are numberless earths circling around other suns, which many bear upon them creatures similar or even superior to those upon our human Earth.” Bruno deserves to be remembered in the millennium year—he was burnt at the stake, in Rome, in the year 1600. *Sir Martin Rees, Astronomer Royal*



Fireworks, July 4th, 2009, at the Danbury Mall. The moon (left) competed favorably with them.



(Left to right) Caryl Lucchesi invites the Club to the Picnic, August 16. John Lucchesi is praying there will be no rain that day. Bob Vetter implores the Club to get involved in Amber. Paula Greenberg prepares us to get ready, for the Card Raffle, and finally Tary Tarlton asks Paul Palanzo if his name will be spelled correctly this week in the Spoke.

