

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org

November 4, 2009

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

Word of the Day is Sell, Sell, Sell! A Note from Richard Godfrey:

As a member of the Danbury Rotary Club, I feel that it is my responsibility to impress upon all of you the importance of our 23rd Annual Raffle on Friday, November 13th. That's right, Friday the 13th. It will certainly be someone's lucky day. The Grand Prize is a \$20,000 gift card. Three other prizes include two \$500 Gift Cards and one \$1000 gift Card. With the purchase of a raffle ticket, one receives an invitation to attend our gala party at the Amber Room Colonade in Danbury. The party includes dancing, food, food, food, and an open bar, but better yet, fellowship, and a chance to go home with a pot of gold. You can bring a guest for \$50. The bad news (well it's really not that bad) is that a ticket cost \$100. The good news is that we only print 850 tickets, and with the economy in its current state, you would reasonably expect us to sell far less. However, the odds are great, and a number of our members have won the grand prize. You could be the next big winner! All of the proceeds go for scholarships to local high school students. We are all volunteers, and this is our main fund raising event. Please don't let the Club down. If you are able and want to help support our community, contact me for a ticket, or better yet, a number of tickets.

President Jim will be returning in one week from vacation, and will take over this space, again. Let's greet him with a large pile of sold raffle tickets.

Dates to Remember:

11/7 UN Day, NYC
 11/13 Card Raffle, Amber Room, 7 pm; second person, \$50.00
 Next year, June 20-23, 2010, RI 101st Annual Convention, Montreal

Amber Alert-

12/5 Edmond Town Hall, Newtown 8 am to 5 pm
 12/12 Trumbull Long Hill Fire Dept. Noon to 7 pm
 1/30/10 Stihbry Ambulance, 68 Georges Hill Rd 11am to 4 pm
 1/31/10 Snow Date, Stihbry Ambulance, 11 am to 4 pm
 2/21/10 Chili Winter Warm Up, Dbry Ice Rink 1 pm to 4 pm



November 4th Meeting-

Elaine Mintz and Casey Levene: GDNRC; The Greater Danbury Non-Profit Resource Center:



Elaine Mintz needs. They provide information, Casey Levene planning services, help with website development, and work to match volunteers who have unique skills with local non-profits.

In helping to develop the management skills of executive directors, managers, staff and board members, the GDNRC provides board

Our speakers today were Elaine Mintz, Director of the GDNRC, and GDNRC's Volunteer Coordinator, Casey Levene. They reported that the vision of GDNRC is to bring together, engage, and equip local nonprofit organizations to increase their ability to respond to our community



development, organization planning, funds development, marketing and communications skill building, personnel management, financial management and control, technology and website building, outcome management and legal assistance.

The GDNRC has an active volunteer program, and one of the projects involved a group of business majors at WestConn who developed and integrated a marketing plan for the Brookfield Craft Center as part of a course project. Workshops and focus groups are available that bring various non-profits together, and Strategic Planning for the various agencies is offered.

The GDNRC was set up under the auspices of the United Way, and they feel they accomplish a great deal with a modest budget. The speakers indicated that many of the programs that serve the poor have been badly hurt by the recession; giving is 30% lower than a year ago, and the need is up 30% (particularly with food pantries). The GDNRC is trying to help the various organization in belt tightening and increased efficiency. They appear to be the type of organization that reflects the goals and philosophy of Rotary.

The Club Elders Can be Critical-



Fred Kayal, John Lucchesi, and Caryl Lucchesi react to Will Houston coming in late, but Will has the perfect rejoinder. He is on the Board.



THE WORDS FOR THE DAY ARE SELL, SELL, SELL!



Raffle Chairperson, Paula Greenberg echoes the above thoughts of Rich Godfrey. We must sell as many tickets as possible. The Trust has shrunk during the economic downturn, and we need to make up the losses, if we are to fully fund all of the scholarships we normally give.

Seen at the Hospital- Your Editor and his wife had a nice chat with Miguel Espinosa, at Danbury Hospital, several weeks ago. Miguel was waiting for Eleanore, who was in having an MRI as a follow up for her lung cancer treatment. We learned last week that the tumor was no where to be seen. Great news! Your Editor was there for his yearly treadmill check up, and also was told everything was fine (19 years after a quadruple heart bypass). It looks like more scuba diving, and high altitude skiing--- maybe.



Luncheon Tidbits:



Potential new Members-- We have four potential new members, Jennifer Tauber, (left) Joyce



Sixsmith, (center) Hilda Deluca (right), and Heather Sadler (with the card, below). Heather, Joyce and Hilda came to the Club at the invitation of Allison Fulton. Jennifer was invited by Jim Gargan. We hope to see all of the above ladies at another future luncheon.

As a bonus, Heather won the \$10.00 weekly raffle. It wasn't the big one, but it was enough to buy one tenth of a Card Raffle ticket.



The Singing Has Improved- Sunrise Rotarian Karen Tracy (left) visited the Club today, and her melodic voice vastly improved God Bless America. She said she would help our singing, and she did!

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, Greens Conval. Home, rear, Wilton
- Fri. 7:30 Danbury Sunrise, The Club at WestConn, Westside Campus

Rotary Club of Danbury Officers 2009-10

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|-------------------------|------------------------|
| President- | James Gargan |
| President- Elect | Paul Palanzo |
| Vice President | William Houston |
| Secretary | Pamela Burdette-Miller |
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| Membership Chair | Paula Greenberg |
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| Directors- | |
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| Marvin Paige | Bob Vetter |
| | Carol Ann Giannico |

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Thought for the Day: Sometimes Good Ideas are not Well Received—



Happy Birthday, Guys—

Only two of our three November birthday folks showed up to celebrate their transition to an older state of being, Paul Palanzo (our MC for the day, also) and John Lucchesi.. Al Hindin, missed the fetivities. Both Paul and John could have had the cake to themselves, but kindly decided to share. We appreciate that, guys, and the cake was quite tasty.

