



Rotary Club of Waterbury, Connecticut

Founded 1917

District 7980

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The eCritique

October 23, 2007 Meeting



2007-2008 Officers

Susan Sprano, President
Scott Griffith, President Elect
Bernie Dzinski, Vice President

Ralph Richard, Sergeant-At-Arms
Clif Cotter, Secretary
Dan Donato, Treasurer

NEXT MEETING: November 6, 2007 12:15pm
Board Meeting at 11:15am

From Our President...

Happy November All -

Hopefully you have survived All Hallows Eve relatively unscathed, and maybe just a little lower on the candy supply.

For those of you who missed our October 23rd meeting... you'll want to get some information from someone who was there. It was a fact filled event with several guests that were highlighted by Bob Smith's very enthusiastic **speaker John Lounsbury of International Monetary Systems**. John explained the nuances of the International Monetary Systems, a barter system that he works for and with.



For those of you with your own businesses, there are some very interesting advantages to operating partially with a barter system for goods and services. A side note -RALPH...as a member of that organization, Bob may have to be fined if he benefits from recruitment of Rotary members. Bravo Bob - excellent choice, and those of you who missed the meeting might get another opportunity to speak with John, as Bob will be recruiting him for membership- we'll consider refunding your fine if you get John to join the Rotary fold. His enthusiasm and can-do attitude is just what we need - be careful...it may be contagious.

John let us in on a little known fact about Bob Smith and the YMCA... apparently Bill Conda is not the only member who enjoys the adult swim (nudge, nudge - wink, wink) except Bob isn't in the pool!!!! I guess the men's locker room is a very "free" place... remember gentlemen - streaking went out in the eighties.

On the topic of **MEMBERSHIP**... Ellen Pollack and Cathy Fairchild were also in attendance at our meeting and will be proposed for membership. Membership chair - Bob Smith will get that process started immediately. Reminder - we love to have guests attend our meetings, so bring your business acquaintances, friends & family... especially those who would make a great addition to our Rotary family.

The Rotary Leadership was canceled due to lack of attendees signed up. This is truly an excellent opportunity to learn more about Rotary and the important part that you can play, as well as getting some GREAT leadership tips that you'll find yourself using everyday. And honestly, who can't use a little help with organization and rallying our troops... There are other courses scheduled throughout the year (Calendar and registration details available on line at www.rlinea.com/Calendar.htm) - take a look through and find one that will work for you -registration is on the club!

Because some **Piggy Banks** proved illusive and could NOT be corralled for counting, an extension was granted. For those of you with extremely difficult PIGGYs, an alternative to dragging them in is offered...you may write out a check to the Rotary Foundation on November 6th and avoid a fine. A donation of \$125, per person is our goal, but any donation will get you off the hook!! And Foundation dollars go to directly support our projects locally and globally - how can you beat that.



The Pancake Breakfast with Santa is beginning to fade into a dream... Several locations have been approached (St. John's Episcopal Church, Our Lady of Loretta, the Elks, and The First Congregational Church), but due to prior commitments that they had, we are still unable to secure a home. Unfortunately, it looks like the pancake man will be sent the way of the gingerbread man (*come on, you remember him...run, run as fast as you can...*) gone for now... Actually there is one more location to contact (Bunker Hill Church) and if any one has a suggestion please make the call or let Scott know and we'll get right on it. We'll ALL have to pitch in VERY QUICKLY - I know we can do it!!!

This also means that we need to secure a spring date now, and hopefully the Elks will be available then - it is a great spot. Scott can give us an update in the next few weeks.

The Andy & Elmer Children's Books will be available for sale at the Holiday Party - we'll do a little promotion within the other clubs prior to the party to make sure that sales go well.



About the **Holiday Party**... Ingrid has some great news and will give us a full update at the November 6th meeting, it sounds like a good time is planned for all (with all the essential...food, cocktails, friends, Christmas music and yes, Bill

Conda...mistletoe) The best news is that Ingrid actually has made contact with Roberta (that's a feat in itself... Ingrid was beginning to feel like a ghost hunter). Good work Ingrid... and whatever you said even prompted a Roberta sighting... she was in attendance at the November 1st Social Hour. Excellent - I knew Ingrid was more a sleuth than a party girl... our own Mata Hari - and Dan can be play the role of Lancelot Link-secret chimp... he's pretty cagey too.

Our **PINK WATER FILTER** has been accumulating some serious money... an update will be announced at the meeting. You don't want to miss it! Who would have thought that a little pink filter could work miracles... but it did.

Ingrid was a BIG help with fines and was very clever in coming up with some new ones. Word had it that Bernie had an inside track on Ralph's disappearance and came without a tie, counting on the fact that he would be asked to do the fining and he would skip that one... now Bernie -you may be able to pull a fast one on the IRS, but the Rotarians have eyes and ears EVERYWHERE... right Don?

Scott may have the record for the latest arrival to a meeting this year - it was a title that I previously held - proudly (*sniff, sniff*). He redeemed himself by making it in time to hear John's presentation, and gained a few extra points for attending the Tri-Club Fellowship evening, and staying late there.

The Foundation Dinner will be help November 7th - All members are encouraged to attend - it's a great way to stay in touch with the District and to connect with some other clubs. You may even run into some familiar faces. Bring a spouse or get another member to join you. It's kind of like swimming; things go better with the buddy system. No, no, no Clif - it's swimming, not skinny dipping. We need to keep you away from Conda, he's rubbing off on you.

We have extended an invitation to the **Salvation Army** to have a representative attend a meeting and share with us how we can help with their **Angel Tree Project**. It's a good community service initiative and we are planning to help, so pick up an extra toy while you're out shopping for those Christmas gifts or other holiday presents. There are no Grinch's here ...right?

Our **Where's the Rotarian** column has too many among the missing, so we'll just highlight a few...

Pat Moran - the city seems to be working her ragged after her dance of danger with the computer- we'll have to get Ted Martland to speak with Dr Sneed... and that won't be good. (*Ted was a principal, and nobody wants a stern talking to by a principal-not even the superintendent!*)

Ralph Richard - Ralph, Ralph, Ralph... you are not exempt from fines just because you're the finer... and yes - we'll take \$5 that you volunteered for missing last meeting. We do owe you a huge shout out for securing the commitment from the Savings Bank of Danbury as our second sponsor for the Dictionaries... and for actually getting a check - Dan says to fork it over now! (just kidding - I have mine too)

And of course the usual suspects... Bill Conda -who PROMISED to make the Nov. 1st meeting - the throngs of beautiful women who were disappointed will never recover; - Rose Marie Belo -our own Greta Garbo - "*I want to be alone*"...! Rocco Corso - *he's still sitting in Yankee Stadium waiting for the World Series... it's over Rocco, and yep - the Sox took the whole thing! Come back, Bob Smith needs someone to cry with.*

The Tri-Club Fellowship Evening was a whole lot of fun for all those who made it. We were joined by dignitaries such as Rick Benson - incoming District Governor 2008-2009 (I'm not sure that a word associated with dignity is appropriate for Rick - His motives for joining us were a little suspect... as it turns out he's looking for help with ad sales for the next district directory... I think I was set up!); Roberta & Bill Massey (I told you there was a sighting); the illustrious hostess MaryAnn Cipriano - Don why haven't you asked her to join, she's a lot of fun!!; Ellen Pollack - hopefully a new member, whom Scott & Cliff were doing their best to impress with the history of BOWLING and actually trying to list all of the bowling alleys in Waterbury!! Fascinating, Actually gentlemen, I think you all peaked her interest - either that or Bob was whispering something else in her good ear. Rotary Royalty, Pat & John Goggin also made a cameo appearance - it is always a pleasure to see them - but no baby pictures this time. Michael Steir from the Naugatuck club was there...still inquiring about Dennis Wolff and Cathy Fairchild - I had to taser him back...those are our new members!!! It's a good thing that Ingrid was there punctual as usual - who better to have meet & greet at the door! And Ben Ebner...now there's a friendly face we always enjoy seeing!

The next fellowship evening we'll all try to bring one friend or guest - it's a great introduction into the BIG world of Rotary... okay into the bigger world of our area rotary clubs.

Invitations to send prospective members have gone out and will continue to appeal to area businesses. Your help in identifying these folks is greatly appreciated.

(folks?...it's time for me to stop typing...)

Susan

Inspiration:

Let Your Actions Speak

Below is an Excerpt from Change is Good...You Go First.

"You can't teach culture. You have to live it. You have to experience it. You have to share it. You have to show it."

These are words from Brent Harris, a top executive for Nordstrom, the retail chain known for legendary service.

To change any culture, in any company, the people at the top have to show it! Because words without deeds mean nothing!

When Dave Neeleman started the airline, Jet Blue, he knew the importance of leading from the front, and letting his actions speak. His mission was to create a customer service culture, and he knew all eyes would be watching.

Norm Brodsky wrote about being on a Jet Blue flight when Neeleman was on board...

"As we were buckling up to take off, Neeleman stood up and introduced himself. 'Hi, I'm Dave Neeleman, the CEO of Jet Blue. I'm here to serve you today and I'm looking forward to meeting every one of you before we land.'"

"As he was handing out snack baskets he would stop to chat with everyone. When he came to me, I told him I thought it was a great idea to serve his customer first hand, and asked him how often he did it. Expecting him to say once or twice a year, he said, 'Not often enough...I get to do it about once a month.'"

"Out of curiosity, I watched him interact with other passengers. In several instances, I saw him taking notes and listening intently to what passengers were saying. In a few instances when he couldn't answer the question, I watched him take a business card and say, 'Someone will be in touch with you in the next 24 hours.' Even at the end of the flight, there was Neeleman, in his blue apron, leading the charge collecting the trash from the seat pockets."

Now, here's a question for you... Is there any doubt that Jet Blue employees knew that their leader was willing to walk the talk when it came to serving the customers? And, is there any doubt that the front line knew he was on their team?

When asked if he thought leading by example was the most important quality of leadership, the great humanitarian, Albert Schweitzer thought for a second, and then replied, "No, it's not the most important one. It's the only one."

Change is Good...Which one of You Will Go First

LEARN AND TRAVEL IN ARGENTINA FOR: u\$s 830* (regular price U\$S1.100)
ONLY FOR ROTARY, ROTEX & ROTARACT MEMBERS (18 to 28 years old)

For more information visit their web site at www.spanishinargentina.org

INTENSIVE SPANISH PROGRAM: ONE MONTH - u\$s 830* (JANUARY 2008)
includes:

- 80 hours of Spanish in-group classes
- 8 cultural workshops
- Study material
- Certificate
- Lodging in family house (other options available)
- Breakfast
- Transport from and to the airport
- Emergency telephone available 24 hours a day
- Guided tour around the city of Córdoba
- A trip to the hills of Córdoba
- Typical Argentine barbecue in the field
- Psychological counseling
- Tourist information, entertaining, and cultural topics

INTENSIVE SPANISH PROGRAM: ONE MONTH - u\$s 500* (JANUARY 2008)
includes:

- 80 hours of Spanish in-group classes
- 4 cultural workshops
- Study material
- Certificate
- Transport from and to the airport
- Emergency telephone available 24 hours a day
- Guided tour around the city of Córdoba
- A trip to the hills of Córdoba
- Typical Argentine barbecue in the field
- Psychological counseling
- Tourist information, entertaining, and cultural topics

*Conditions: (ARGENTINA SUMMER TIME)

1. Send this number RY-50/08 to this e-mail info@spanishinargentina.org
2. AGE 18 TO 28
3. FOR JANUARY 2008 only by showing this e-mail number

Note: This promotion is possible because of the money exchange rate (dollar / peso)

Dr. Carlos Giavay Weiss
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Rotary exchange student in Alaska (Rotex) (Interact-Rotarct)
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Projects

Remember to keep Sue updated on the progress of your projects. As soon as you have an event scheduled be sure to let Sue and Teri know so that it can be added to the web site and newsletter calendars! You can email: info@WaterburyRotary.org. Download the list of [Project Assignments](#).

Speakers

We each must arrange for a speaker - let Teri & Sue know who you have lined up for your day **as soon as possible** so the information can be added to the calendar... there will be fines for duplicate topics... so be creative!! You can email: info@WaterburyRotary.org. Download the list of [Speaker Assignments](#).

Prayer Assignments

Please share some words of inspiration with us...and yes even a prayer... If you are not going to make a meeting please be sure that you switch with someone! Download the list of [Prayer Assignments](#).

Full list of all assignments is also available for [download](#).

Upcoming Meetings

November 6	Board Meeting, 11:15am Meeting, Waterbury Club 12:15pm Speaker: Chief Neil M. O'Leary
November 20	Meeting, Waterbury Club 12:15pm
November 28	Monthly Fellowship Cocktail Hour with Naugatuck & Tribury Rotary Clubs ; Time and Location TBD
December 4	Board Meeting, 11:15am Meeting, Waterbury Club 12:15pm
December 18	Meeting, Waterbury Club 12:15pm

[Download the full year Meeting Schedule](#) - updated 10/16/07

This is your newsletter - please contribute news, events, photos and other articles that would be of interest to our members. Send your submissions to info@waterburyrotary.org by the Monday before each meeting to make that week's edition.

Waterbury Rotary Club

www.WaterburyRotary.org

info@waterburyrotary.org

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