



Rotary Club of Waterbury, Connecticut

Founded 1917

District 7980

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The eCritique

February 12 & 26, 2008 Meetings



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

From Our President...

February's meetings were power packed and productive - yeah! Although the month had an extra day due to 2008 being a leap year (you all knew that - right?), our first meeting of the month was abbreviated. Plans were in the works to induct a new member or two, and celebrate one of our own for his dedication to Rotary and the Foundation, but we had to reschedule to accommodate some technicalities. Not to be dissuaded we regrouped, crossed our t's (some of us crossed our eyes...not nice Dan) and dotted the appropriate i's and the mission was eventually accomplished (more on that later).



Prior to the meeting, the Board met and a suggestion for a very lucrative fundraiser was brought up for consideration by Chuck (who knew that mild-mannered Chuck may be actually turn out to be our superhero! His name is actually Nick - that should have been a tip off...but please Chuck...Nick whoever you are ...you can wear the cape but no tights!!) Scott agreed that the idea was good enough to merit an exploratory committee checking out the feasibility of running a cash only raffle. Sounds great to me and many members of the board. More on that at the next meeting.

Bill Conda has gone missing AGAIN...and the buzz is that he has hopped the next plane to Florida - intentionally missing out on his prayer assignment. Come on Bill - you're still in sales so public speaking isn't a problem for you...and anyway...most of the females that have had the pleasure of chatting with you are convinced that you are a god.

The Danbury Club that is scheduled to assist the Grace Baptist Church with registering children in the Amber Alert program at their Health Fair on April 26th has notified us that a \$500. processing fee is required. They suggested that we inform the church (and we have) that they need to find a sponsor (or two). Up to two sponsors can have their logos on the cards that each child receives. If anyone has a suggestion for a company that this project may appeal to please contact Teri Smith. We are scheduled to have volunteers sign up to help - stay posted for time slots. **PLEASE keep your schedules open - the more of us who sign up the shorter the time slots!!** We're checking with Seymour to see if Kate can provide those amber alert services for less.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST UPDATE! We are on for April 27th - Tickets are printed and will be distributed at the next meeting. Everyone is responsible for 10 tix \$80. (\$8 adults/\$4.kids) Do the math ...**if you sell kids tix, you'll need more than 10!** John Cookson (yep...rumor has it that he's 'son of Ed' Cookson... for all of you old timers in the club) and Rocco (remember him?! He's finally given up the quest to get Joe Torre to return to the Yankees and has gotten back to business - that's just DUCKY!) have volunteered to cook - **Scott and Ralph are putting together a sign up schedule - please make yourselves and your families available.**

Posters will be distributed to all - please put them where we can generate some ticket sales! Scott is our official 'god squad captain'. He says he has connections and can get us in every church bulletin from Waterbury to Thomaston, and Watertown. Lets give him a hand by contacting our own places of worship (yep - the YMCA will count for Bill - actually he's a very devout guy...you know what they say about when people start getting closer to god ... and he's YOUNG by our club's standards!)

The Wine Tasting/Dinner Project has recently been under re-construction. Bob Smith, Ellen Pollack and Ralph Richards are re-working and re-vamping the project as the Naugatuck Club seems to have decided to pursue a different solo project. (A development that was unearthed at the Tri-Club social...yes some members posed as sleuths [Scott -aka Boris] and Ellen Pollack [Natasha] and wrangled

the info out of them! I'm sure I heard Scott or Ellen say something about "getting moose and squirrel") Updates will follow in separate emails. Knowing the Naugatuck Club, they'll still support our event...they can't pass up a good wine (any alcohol-related) event!?! especially when beer and cocktails will be available as well!

The meeting of February 26th was well attended and thanks to **Ted's guests**, the average age of the club that day dropped dramatically. **His granddaughter and her friend attended** - and were welcomed by all.

Our speaker was Dr Andrews from the Yankee Institute who gave a very interesting and thought provoking presentation regarding public policy and how the institute rethinks the general policies of Connecticut's towns and cities. Dr Andrews shared some of the institute's alternatives to current political and government policy which initiated some lively conversations with our members. All in all he reminded us that creative thinking can be contagious!

Ellen Pollack was inducted as our newest member - Welcome Aboard. District Governor Ernie Luise was unable to attend and sent her congratulations and welcoming words. A special thanks to Ellen for immediately jumping into our fund-raising efforts with Bob and Ralph to work on the Wine Tasting! This will be GREAT!!

Don Cipriano was recognized with his third sapphire in his Paul Harris pin for his commitment and support of the Foundation. Don's award, as echoed in the kind and congratulatory words from District Governor Ernie. Don's level of Foundation giving reflects his dedication to the mission of Rotary that best be described as inspirational. We are fortunate to have his as one of our own. A hearty congrats from us all.

We have collected almost enough for another Water Filter donation - for every \$100 we send FOUR Water Filters are sent to schools! We're almost there...again! Bring your extra \$\$\$.

Ralph was lenient on the fines - although he and Bob seemed to be in a contest to see whose publicity was worth more....A story in the newspaper FRONT PAGE and above the fold!!! Bob that's pretty impressive. Usually it takes a tractor trailer tying up traffic for hours to get that kind of exposure - (no, no Bill...we're talking out exposure in the press...there were no "Brittany" moments for Bob). Now Ralph - a BILLBOARD!!! I don't think I know anyone who's been on a BILLBOARD! (Although we might have to put Conda's pic on an orange juice carton to find him- that way the people in Florida might recognize him and send him back...Florida orange juice instead of a milk carton...oh boy!) Those should have been some pretty big fines!

The duck race is planned and our ducks will hopefully be arriving in time to sell some at the Pancake Breakfast.

Stay tuned - there's a **District Assembly scheduled for Thursday April 17th** at the Sheraton Hotel in Meriden- the club can send representatives...so PLEASE sign up!! I'm out of town, so we need at least one volunteer! These are great events and really are a lot of fun-if you haven't attended one now's your chance! Don't make me get out the short straws!!!

Our Tri-Club event was very successful - we sold three Elmer & Andy books -(if you haven't bought one you will be fined); we sold some Pancake Breakfast tix (to the Naugatuck and Tribury clubs), and several ads in the District Directory were sold! We held a raffle where any participation in these projects was rewarded with a 'raffle ticket' or two. Rupi won a wine basket (he'll have to come to our wine event to collect the bottle...and we'll get him to buy some too!); Chuck won an Easter basket with lots of goodies; and Dan won a ladies watch...guess that's one way to stay out of the dog house. More importantly - we all had a good time and mingled with friends and members we hadn't seen for a while - John Cookson (a potential new member) Ben Ebner, and John & Pat Goggin to name a few were there, as well as Ron from Tribury (an extra hoo-ray to Ron for being the lone ranger from the burbs) It was great to chat with them all!

We will see you all on Tuesday - and check on our members who have missed a few meetings. - Maybe they just need a call!

Susan

Club Assignments

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

March 11	Board Meeting - 11:15am Meeting - Waterbury Club - 12:15pm Speaker: Ede Reynolds, John Bale Book Store
March 25	Meeting - Waterbury Club - 12:15pm Speaker: Carl Rosa, Main Street Waterbury
March 26	Monthly Fellowship "Hoppy" Hour Waterbury Club - 5:30pm Hosted by the Tribury Rotary Club
April 8	Board Meeting - 11:15am Meeting - Waterbury Club - 12:15pm Speaker: Bob Vetter, Danbury Rotary, Amber Alert Program

[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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