



# Rotary Club of Waterbury, Connecticut

Founded 1917

District 7980

If you are unable to view the newsletter in your email please [click here](#).

## The eCritique

May 20, 2008 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: June 3, 2008 12:15pm**  
**Board Meeting at 11:15am**

### From Our President...

#### As we get ready for our big fund-raiser-aptly named by Ingrid...'**Rotarians Turning Wine into Water**'

everyone is a buzz with anticipation! The Wine Tasting details are coming together nicely, Press releases have run...the Wine Notes book has been put to bed (sent to the publisher...not 'put to bed' like after the wine-tasting), and the final details on the auction are in place, which we wisely had put into the capable hands of our own 'Wonder Woman' Ellen Pollack. With Ralph as her side kick (also known as Tonto) we couldn't miss - Ralph could be seen on his trusty steed racing from point to point trying to keep up with Ellen. Better give up on that Ralph (errr - I mean Tonto) younger men have tried and failed! Co-chair(?) Bob Smith sounded like a true politician with his usual...'no comment' when asked how things were going.



We are selling tickets even on the night of the event at the door- so keep selling - we need lots of people tasting wine and then bidding on auction items...see how that works?! Maybe we'll set up a little rivalry to get a bidding war.

Did you donate an auction item? You can ease your guilty conscience by buying an extra ticket and bringing a friend (see the previous comment about tasting wine and bidding high). A little saying I learned at the District Conference (more on that event later)...'If you get an item below its value - you got a bargain...Philanthropy begins when you pay over the stated value!'

**DUCKS, DUCKS and more DUCKS.** We sold a total of 482 DUCKS as far away as Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and New York - yep - we got a bunch sold at the Thayer Hotel at West Point! Teri will have to update us on the biggest sellers - kudos to all - every duck that was sold helped! Those Rotarians who may not be able to make regular meetings really stepped up - Fred Ludke, Ben Ebner, Rocco Corso, Pat Moran, Beth McGrath, Bernie Dzinski, you all came through when it counted. Congrats! Everyone is a winner!

**A close call** - We almost were committed to flipping burgers at the Duck Race - Rocco promises that we will have first dibs on selling them next year. We pay for the booth and decide what how much to charge for a burger, chips & soda AND we get to keep all the profits! We just need enough time to get the stuff donated and we'll be swimming in dough! Some rarely seen members that we miss terribly were actually signed on for this project! Pat, Rocco - don't worry - we're in it next year! Especially if John Cookson agrees to grill! His reputation on flipping Pancakes gives us great confidence. Keep them in mind Scott - they'll be great to chair the project!

**The Chamber is looking for volunteers** for all kinds of things...selling tickets, candy snacks, gifts and MOST importantly...corralling those DUCKS out of the water! Looks like a job for Chuck (you know - with the AFLAC connection and all...come'on he SELLS insurance). Maybe Clif & Bill would be better at that - I hear they've both been know to vacation near the water! Look out ladies - those two rascals will be looking for mermaids as the ducks float merrily away! If anyone IS interested in volunteering - please let me know ASAP - it should be a lot of fun.

*Now for a recap of the past TWO months comings and goings.*

**Thanks to all who showed up for the Amber Alert event** at the Grace Baptist Church. The turnout

may have been small, but it did generate some interest - which may make this a good event to pair with something else...like a pancake breakfast. The church's event coincided with another kid-oriented project that was giving out FREE Frankies Hot Dogs - word to the wise NEVER go up against FREE HOT DOGS when you're appealing to kids! Bob Vetter from the Danbury Rotary Club showed up in force with his team, and trained our top notch Rotarians: Pat & Peter, Teri, Scott, & Ted - These are the folks that do it for the kids!

**Our Pancake Breakfast** was canceled due to some confusion over at the Elks - they double booked TWO pancake Breakfast events on the same day and time...Scott I thought they liked you over there...just kidding - its the Waterbury Rotary food curse. No to worry - we have the inside track on APPLEBY's - they have a great community service program if we can arrange it with them, where all we need to do is sell tickets and serve food! NO SET-UP or CLEAN -UP. Sell tix for \$5 get \$4.00 back or if some are a no-show we get to keep the full \$5. More on that to come when Scott assigns a Pancake chair! Or gets someone to volunteer.

*The Coloring Book is already half sold!*

**The District Conference was a wonderful event** - a great opportunity to meet and greet members of other Rotary Clubs in our District, to share ideas and to have FUN! It was a beautiful weekend - after the initial rain - great food and great fellowship. Awards were plentiful - we got two - A President's citation, and a Governor's Citation! We also got to meet the GSE teams from Mexico AND the Philippines, and the current members of the Youth Exchange. The entertainment was great - yes I mean the scheduled entertainment.... There was Irish music sung with a flair for comedy... and yes he brought us all to tears with his rendition of 'My Son', a song just as dramatic as Danny-Boy. He left us laughing - what a great evening. A Saturday night's line-up (no...not like a police line-up, but with the likes of Don Cipriano and Mac Leese, Chip and Paul ...you never know!) Even our own party planner Rose Marie couldn't stop them if they got started...I know - I've seen them in action! Bill Conda - did you miss out on an evening that had your name all over it! The USO girls entertained Saturday night - dressed in red, white, and blue singing some of those famous USO tunes...trust me when I say - You would have signed up for another stint in the service after meeting these three hotties!! Cute, talented and in short skirts -ohh-la-la! Seriously - it is a great evening and you get to see the great things that clubs are doing all over the district - We looked pretty good ourselves! (Sniff) I was proud to be representing our club.

What exciting groups of young people and how excited they are to be here...and go back home to share their experiences! Make plans to go next year...it will be on Goat Island in Newport Rhode Island - it promises to be an event that should not be missed. I'm ready - who else is with me? They're sailors...we can't do anything to get thrown off the island...is it REALLY an island?

**There will be no Tri-Club event at the Waterbury Club this month** - we hosted last month and our Wine Tasting is this week - besides Dan Donato's wife won't hear of two nights out in a row with the Rotary Club ...what do you think we are ...the Elks? Right Scott? Does Bill even remember his way home?

**Don't miss the next meetings - June 3rd we have Phil Benevento the Chairman of the "Board of Agents"**, as they are called, of the Silas Bronson Library and is the "official historian" of the City of Waterbury. He will be doing a presentation focusing on the Green- we can see how far we've come...or gone...and how far we have to go!

**July 1st Ann Feinberg from the Community Foundation** will be giving a short presentation - we recently received a donation from Angie Vine Estates that was facilitated through the Community Foundation.

**Please save the date! June 25th - It's Scott's inauguration!** Yes - I'll be stepping down (actually I am getting pushed out...really...) but it won't be the last you'll hear from me! I like this newsletter thing! A whole new regime is taking over - and they are on a mission to make us THE community service club to join - I have no doubts that they will raise the bar once more! Let's welcome them in with a good turn out! Word has it that Rose Marie is back and she's planning a real shin-ding to get the right foot! An evening you won't want to miss!

So you members of the 'Where's Waldo' group: Rocco Corso, Pat Moran, Beth McGrath, Bernie Dzinski, Fred Ludke, Ben Ebner, and others - come-on out! We miss you and we promise not to put you to work (oh, are my fingers crossed -sorry!)

**REMINDER:** There is less than ONE month left to get your \$100 contribution to become or remain a Sustaining member on the Rotary Foundation roster of giving. These donations eventually can come back to us in a series of grants - if we apply and your donations really do good work - and their tax deductible. You feel good about donating now - don't you?!

*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](mailto: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](mailto: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 & Events

May 29	Wine Tasting Holiday Inn - East Main Street, Waterbury
June 3	Board Meeting - 11:15am Meeting - Waterbury Club - 12:15pm Speaker: Phil Benevento, City Historian, Presentation on Waterbury's History focusing on the Green
June 17	Meeting - Waterbury Club - 12:15pm
June 25	Installation Dinner Waterbury Club
July 1	Board Meeting - 11:15am Meeting - Waterbury Club - 12:15pm Speaker: Ann Feinberg from the Community Foundation
July 15	Meeting - Waterbury Club - 12:15pm
July 29	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](mailto:info@waterburyrotary.org) by the Monday before each meeting to make that week's edition.

### Waterbury Rotary Club

[www.WaterburyRotary.org](http://www.WaterburyRotary.org)

[info@waterburyrotary.org](mailto:info@waterburyrotary.org)

---

You have received this email because you are a member of Rotary, expressed an interest in our club or have requested to be added to our list. If you would like to be removed from our mailing list please reply to this email with the word "Remove" in the subject or send an email to [info@waterburyrotary.org](mailto:info@waterburyrotary.org) requesting removal.