



Rotary Club of Waterbury, Connecticut

Founded 1917

District 7980

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The eCritique

June 17 , 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: July 15, 2008 12:15pm
Board Meeting at 11:15am

From Our President...

Well - this year was certainly exciting, and I am still humbled that you chose me to steer us into some new uncharted territories. Happily - I can report that we did not run aground, nor did we become ship-wrecked - although there were some close calls (not really!). **Some of our crowning glories for this past year include the following achievements:**



1. We changed our meeting structure - from weekly to every two weeks. Figuring out the calendar was the biggest challenge there! (whew).
2. We successfully hosted and participated in a monthly tri-club social hour (try to get people excited about attending any reoccurring function - jeeez... and we served alcohol and food!)
3. We not only didn't loose any members, we managed to have a net gain of 2! Ellen Pollack and John Cookson (Now that's exciting!) These aren't just any members... they are two very active 'can-do' types that will be our next leaders - you'll see (I sound like 'Karnac" or the 'Schwami").
4. We continued our tradition of making the delivery of Dictionaries to the third graders a spectacular event that they will not soon forget... and created a new precedence of donating a book to each library for the second year in a row... and what good books!
5. We made a connection between the Grace Baptist Church, the Waterbury Crime Stoppers, and Amber Alert (via Danbury Rotary)- all very active service organizations that address the needs of their communities.
6. We sold DUCKS!!! and lots of them.
7. We hosted a successful wine tasting event that featured a silent auction!
8. We awarded two college scholarships, and renewed some previous ones.
9. We played "angels" for the Salvation Army by donating Christmas Presents to needy children and we earned our wings by 'Ringing the Bell' - (receipts were down here, because I wasn't teamed with Bill Conda - but Ralph & Bernie made a go for the record).
10. We met the criteria for and received the Governor's Citation and the President's Citation.
11. We donated over \$300, to Ernie's water filters! That's incredible.
12. We continued our annual pilgrimage to Camp Mattatuck for a brief commune with nature
13. Participated in 'The Big Read'
14. ... and not that we had anything to do with it (no really Bill - you really had nothing to do with this), but I think this is only our second rotary baby on its way! Congrats to Rose Marie & John!

We had some wonderful speakers... Tina Agati-Literacy Volunteers "The Big read", John Lounsbury - international Monetary Systems, Major Ingar & Bill Furman-Salvation Army, Selim Noujaim - State Representative, Ede Reynolds - John Bale Bookstores, Carl Rosa - Main Street Waterbury, Bob Vetter - Danbury Rotary Amber Alert, Dr. Andrews - from the Yankee Institute, Dr. Paul Sequeria from The City of Waterbury Education Department, Keith Barbiera with NBC on the HD Television transition; Sal Agati - judge and husband of the aforementioned Tina, and others I am certain that I missed.

As you can see, **our club has accomplished some incredible goals together this year.** Although there have been some strange twists and turns that we've encountered along the way, we have come through it all with some really great ideas for the future. We are poised for some huge successes under the guidance of Scott Griffith our 2008-2009 President. This is going to be FUN!

Some scary moments could include the curse of the 2007-2008 Pancake Breakfast (yep - not a flapjack in sight - I can't even eat them now.); Ingrid's disappointment over missing the wine tasting - will she

ever forgive us? (of course she will - we let her win the raffle)... Andy & Elmer Book sales - Don - can you sell some more????? And we still have the "Most Wanted" list - those Rotarians who we miss, because when they do show up they inspire us all... Rocco - the king of Rotary hide-and-seeek, Bernie (how come his tax season never ends), Pat and Beth and Rose. Their collective creative genius on a regular basis is sorely missed, but we'll take them when we can get them, cuz they are just THAT GOOD!!

Sadly for me, this year has come to an end for me as your President (yes - the reign of terror is over... actually, I now know how Leona Helmsly felt - power can be an intoxicating thing!!!), and it is the time to hand over the helm to the capable hands of... D. Scott Griffith, your incoming President. **I am leaving you all in very good hands - I plan to stick around too!**

See you all on Wednesday!

Susan

Upcoming Meetings & Events

June 25	Installation Dinner Waterbury Club 6:00pm
July 1	No Meeting - Waterbury Club closed
July 15	Meeting - Waterbury Club - 12:15pm Speaker: Phil Benevento, Chairman of the Board of Agents, Official Historian of the City of Waterbury. Speaking on the history of Waterbury with a focus on The Green.
July 29	Meeting - Waterbury Club - 12:15pm

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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