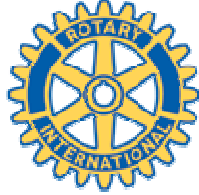


The FAIRFIELD ROTARY CLUB'S DRUMMER

Drummer Notes by: Ben Williamson

Date: June 22, 2009



SERVICE Above Self

Slate of Rotary Foundation Officers 2008-2009

President Walter Leask
Vice President Norma Peterson
Treasurer Richard Huber
Secretary Tim Russell
Trustees: Harry French, Renato Gasparian, Paul Barnes, Doug Williams, Peter Penczer, Marje Tracy, Terry Medlin, Kevin Lesko, Bill Llewellyn
Ex-Officio members: Janet Barillari, Gene Richter, George Markley, Roy Cant, Ernie Karkut,

Fairfield Rotary Officers 2008-2009

PRESIDENT	George Markley
PRESIDENT-ELECT	Norma Peterson
VICE PRESIDENT PROGRAMS	Jim Hughes
VICE PRESIDENT INTERN'TL SERVICE	Christopher Johnson
VICE PRESIDENT COMMUNITY SERVICE	Gary Kealey
VICE PRESIDENT CLUB SERVICE	Steve Elworthy
VICE PRESIDENT VOCATIONAL SERVICE	Mike Pida
VICE PRESIDENT PUBLIC RELATIONS	Ben Williamson
TREASURER	Janet Barillari
SECRETARY	Mary-Margaret Weber
ASST. SECRETARY	Art Grob
VICE PRESIDENT ROTARY FOUNDATION	Renato Gasparian
HONORARY SECRETARY	Bran Shaw
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	Paul Greatsinger & Tony Derbyshire
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT	Bill Llewellyn

MAKE UP MEETINGS IN THE LOCAL AREA

Town:	Day:	Place:	Time:
Bridgeport Sunrise	Thursday	Krazy Joe's Cafe	7:45AM
Bridgeport	Tuesday	Holiday Inn @ 1070 Main Street	12:15 PM
Darien	Friday	Cookhouse Restaurant	12:15PM
Devon	Wednesday	Stonebridge Restaurant	7:45AM
Milford	Thursday	Aldario's Restaurant	12:15PM
Monroe	Thursday	Whitney Farms Golf Club	7:30AM
Shelton/Derby	Thursday	Connie's Restaurant	12:15PM
Stamford	Tuesday	Holiday Inn Select	12:15PM
Stratford	Tuesday	Oronoque Country Club	12:15PM
Trumbull	Friday	Trumbull Public Library	7:30AM
Westport	Tuesday	Inn at Longshore	12:15PM
Westport Sunrise	Friday	Bobby Q's Barbeque	7:30AM
Wilton	Friday	Silvermine Tavern	12:15PM

Check the District web-site for additional Rotary meetings in Connecticut. Check the R.I. website for meetings throughout the world.

VISIT YOUR CLUB'S WEBSITE AT: WWW.FAIRFIELDROTARY.ORG

The Beacon

www.rotary7980.org

Schedule of Events			
Event	Date	Time	Location
Weekly Meeting: No Meeting b/c Pass the Gavel Dinner on 7/1/09	June 29th	12:15 PM	Gaelic-American Club
Pass the Gavel Dinner	July 1 st	6:00 PM	Vazzy's 19 th Hole – Fairchild Wheeler Golf Course
Golf Tournament	July 17 th	1:30 PM	Oxford Greens

Attendance Reminder:

- PLEASE BE SURE YOU SIGN IN AT EACH MEETING.
- PLEASE BE SURE TO GIVE CLUB SECRETARY, Art Gob, ALL MAKE-UPS SO THEY CAN BE INCLUDED IN THE ATTENDANCE REPORTS. THESE INCLUDE:
 - VISITING OTHER CLUBS (near and far)
 - ADDITIONAL ROTARY MEETINGS (e.g. any committee or BOD meetings)
 - OTHER ACTIVITIES RELATING TO OUR CLUB (e.g. Read Aloud, cooking at Prospect House or at the Operation Hope Tag Sale, giving rides for Follies, helping out at our Golf Tourney, to name just a few)

GET YOUR MAKE-UP INFORMATION TO ART GROB BY THE END OF EACH MONTH.

aogrob@sbcglobal.net

You are also encouraged to invite your spouse, partners, or family members to attend Rotary functions, including regular luncheon meetings.

Door/ Drummer Duty		
Date	Drummer Duty	Door Duty
6/29/09		No meeting – Pass the Gavel Dinner

If you have door duty, please show up by 12 Noon or sooner to help set-up.

Opening

The meeting was called to order by President **George Markley**, who led us in the pledge.

Bob Price led us in song *Viva La Rotary*

Jim Hisey provided an inspirational prayer, in celebration of **George's** Presidency

Guests

Guests today included:

Edward Harrison & Myrna Gould-Harrison, visiting from Bridgeport
Vicki Furey
Michael and Ron Knight, Alma Wood Knight
Victoria Fingelly, guest of **Doug Williams**
Allyson Conca, Interact Advisor
Kevin Callahan, Interact President
Lauren Peters, Interact President
Terry Doll, Smart, Penske Auto

Announcements

1. **Norma Peterson** – Met with **Maura Ritz** at the Library. Plaques will go in the Rotary Room – Petingill and Best Float – if you have plaques please let Norma know
2. **Walter Leask** – Golf Tournament – Friday July 17th 1:30 – Looking for sponsors - \$1250 sponsor, 4 some, signage, recognition, at Oxford Greens. Single golfers needed, \$200. \$700 for 4 some, lunch and dinner included (open bar too!), tee sponsors (\$150), raffle prizes.
 - a. Mr. Handyman, Blum Shapiro, People’s Bank, current sponsors
 - b. Contact **Bill Llewellyn, Mike Dolan, Paul Barnes** or **Walt Leask** if you can help.
 - c. This money is critical to raise money for everything we do!
3. **George Markley**
 - a. This Friday at Breakfast 8 AM Circle Diner, celebration of the drivers for Follies
 - b. Help Bridgeport Club collect food at Parade this coming week – e-mail coming from **Chris Gallo** for those who expressed interest
 - c. Pass The Gavel Dinner – July 1st. 40+ Rotarians, 72 people total signed up - \$45 per person.
 - d. Received a check from **Alan Neigher** for \$250 to thank the club for giving him an opportunity to speak.
 - e. **Norma** is working to finalize directory. Changes in information in the last year – let **Norma** or **Art** know.
 - f. Operation Hope Tag Sales – July 25th and 26th – please make your calendars for helping

New Membership

Dennis Oligino. Dennis owns Impressions Services a cleaning service. He lives in Shelton with his wife Sally.

Oscar Recalde. Oscar is a creative director for corporate communications. Lives and works in Fairfield with wife and two children

Student Guests

Interact Club – Advisor **Allyson Conca**

Had a successful year, it was her first year teaching so quite hectic. **Kevin Callahan** and **Lauren Peters** are the Interact Presidents for next year. \$5300 raised at their Harmony concert for Cancer. Kevin spoke about next year being big and Lauren looking to be more involved with Rotary Club. This year’s cause will be working for a third world country.

Just Because

Norma Peterson donated money in honor of George to the Foundation

Ben Williamson for his last Drummer and daughter’s 4 month birthday

Bill Kueffner provided a report on **Lynette Turner** and her project taking 1500 books to Cameroon

Dennis Oligino for youngest son in his third year residency in cardiology at Yale

Bill Llewellyn for his son as a Pitch and Run contestant at Citi Field – placed 4th and for **Chad Stewart's** son and his son's championship and for George's great year. This Wednesday he and his daughter going to Sedona, AZ.

George Longstreth for saying the pledge and thinking of the words when you say them. **Tom Christie** will join him and his wife to go to India. Think of how lucky we are to live where we do. India still has 283 cases of polio, up from 85 the year before. Rural areas there are still a lot of miss information on immunization.

George Markley for **Tom DiMaio** accepting the Wheel, thanked him for a new slogan “*what happens at Rotary stays at Rotary*” (there is a story behind it!), last meeting as President

John Lee for not being able to attend the Pass the Gavel, the grant to Black Rock Food Pantry – formal opening this weekend after 7 months open. You don't have to go to India to see people with challenges. Happy the club has the life it has!

Mike Pida had a dollar for the students being here on summer break

Program

Doug Williams spoke on the ramp program. Started 10 years ago when **Ed Gleason** volunteered him. A beautification project with 10 sponsors now, at 100% capacity. Even a waiting list. A one man committee, has to work with state on permits and location of signs, town contributes thoughts. Signs run over by trucks, ongoing maintenance to the grass and plants. No profit made, about breakeven.

Victoria Fingelly and **Lourdes Florez** (United North Soccer) and **Terry Doll** of **Penske Auto Group** (Smart Car), sponsors. Vicky has been with us from the start. Sponsors include **Tony Hwang**, the Cops, **Wilson's BBQ sponsor**, **Fairfield University** (2 sites), **Peter Penczer**, and **Taco Laco**. Great landscaper – **Connecticut Landscape** – been great to work with.

Vicki Furey & Michael Knight on Bridge House

Michael Knight an accountant in town, involved with Bridge House, a nonprofit for the mentally ill. Michael has been in Fairfield for 54 years, he has been involved with Bridge House for 23 years. His mother suffered from mental illness, lithium helped her live normally, others not so lucky.

Founded by 3 gentlemen who bought the Potter Funeral home and donated it to the Bridge House.

Vicki Furey, Executive Director, said she doesn't get to see people who help so she is privileged to be here. 24 year old Psycho Social rehabilitation program. The big problem with mental illness is that no one comes forward, a secret in many families. The stigma has been due to the silence. The past poor care (electric shock, lobotomies) helped create poor images to the public.

20% of population has mental illness. People she works with are Bipolar and Schizophrenics (these people total 6% of the population) – the public does not consider them people, they are labels. The rehabilitation program is a novelty – most times they get medication and little to no support. Have served over 2500 people, many Fairfield residents. Proud of the work they do, 90 people back to work per day with their help. Mental illness is a disability that must be managed to live.

Work in partnership with Operation Hope. Bridge House needs to serve 15,000 people (300,000 people in greater Bridgeport at 5-6% with mental illness). The cost of hospital stays is higher these days. The state goes to community nonprofits to get first cuts in budgets. People are now going to college with their help. These people live with poverty, homelessness, and other challenges. Living on \$800 per month in Fairfield County.

Told a story of “Judy”. She was found in Branford living in a car, hiding from Police. Transferred from Yale Hospital. Lost her home, job of 20 years, and battling serious psychotic depression (people who do harm to themselves). Vicki helped her clean her house, buy groceries, teach her to drive again, and then got to speak to psychiatrist. She became insulated from the world. Vicky helped re-diagnose Judy and she now is doing well. Normally people developed Schizophrenia at ages 18-25, Bipolar around 35. Both withdrawal from society and often end in suicide. Bridge House gets to restore life to some of them.

Works with YMCA in developing housing now at Fairfield and Cresset Apartments – 72 units. Handle a furniture donation and give away.

Have a boutique, furniture store, free meals and other services. People with mental illness often have high IQs and they work to get them reemployed – companies like Aquarian have been great to help. Modeled after Fountain House in New York City, now being replicated around the country and world.

Pamphlet available, please review. If you want to help go to www.bridgehousect.org or contact Vicki at (203) 335-5339 or via e-mail at Vicki@bridgehousect.org.

Raffle

The raffle, which was a gift certificate from Sweet Basil, was won by **Walt Dunn**.

Mac Leask from memory led the 4 Way Test.