

NEWTOWN ROTARY CLUB

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Quincey Blanchard receives funding for her trip to Ethiopia, from NRC Foundation VP Pat Kelley, she leaves mid month and returns in April. She will be working in Addis Ababa helping the country's growing population to improve rural productivity and become self sustaining, in particular trying to reverse the deforestation problems that lead to erosion issues , drought and famine. Quincey will be reporting back to the Club in April.

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2009.

The dates for the B o Y process were announced this week. We will launch the appeal for nominations at the Joint Meeting with the Chamber on February 1st. nominations can be received during February and the first two weeks of March and the actual awards dinner will be on Monday March 22nd. This Gala event is worth putting on your schedule we will recognize local businesses that have contributed to the Town Community, not measured in taxes more in support for local people and organizations.



Vice President Mike Toll and Past President Alan Clavette congratulate Nicole Vournazos from Newtown High School who is the local winner of the Four Way Speech Contest, Nicole now progresses to the District Play Offs and if successful will be at the District Assembly in April for the Final. As a local winner she received a gift certificate to help her with her study costs.

RYLA CONFERENCE

The Club is working with the High School Interact Leadership to find 2 students to attend this year's Rotary Youth Leadership Awards conference at the Homewood Suites Stratford, February 26/28; contact Alan Clavette if you know of a potential leader who would benefit from this conference.

RED HEARTS & PURPLE PINKIES

**Support this District Valentines at Country House East Haven on Friday February 12, a Buffet Dance in aid of Polio Eradication. \$55 each
Call Brian Amey to sign up for the Club table at this event.**



New First Selectman is first speaker in the New Year.

We welcomed Pat Llodra on January 4, who gave us a review of the topics across her desk during the opening months of her term: Long range planning; Open Space usage; Design Districts such as Sandy Hook; Seniors Population requirements; plus of course the demands placed upon the Town Finances as a result of the current economic conditions.

MEET JOHN ADAMS

**Monday February 15 at the Edmond Town Hall, Alexander Room
The father of American Independence will speak to the Club on Presidents Day; this is a Rotary Area 3 invitation event.**



**George Baker portrays the second President of the United States.
This is a great event to bring guests, sign up with President Bill.**



The Long Term Planning group was briefed by DGE Julie Reppenhagen.

Thirteen Club members gathered on January 7 to develop a vision for the future of Newtown Rotary Club. Plans were projected to 2015, a Visioning Development Board was established comprised of future and past club presidents and this group will be championed and goaded by the Vision Champion Mary Griffin. There will be a Club Assembly to launch the project late February or early March.



The working group covered a four hour program to develop the plan, they were at the Inn and banned from the bar, so there was some sound sense propounded before the bar opened!

ANNUAL RAFFLE

Have you sold your ticket allocation?

Dan Honan needs to know how you are doing!

Remember the Drawing is on Sunday January 24 at the Newtown Country Club, buffet lunch provided.

HOW GREEN ARE WE?

You may recall when District Governor Colin Gershon made his official visit to our Club in August last year, he talked about one of the criteria for the Governor's Citation (which is given annually to Clubs who meet most of the criteria), namely The Green Program. We appear to be doing well with this program; in October we took part in the second Make a Difference Day, collecting six cubic yards of trash from areas around Newtown's rivers. We saw the opening of the Rotary Park at Fairfield Hills, Gary Steel officiated at the Flag ceremony, this project involved the planting of a small forest of new trees. Actually this is the second time the club has been 'arboring' in Paul Lux's year as President we presented a replacement copper beech tree to the Volunteer Ambulance Association to replace the original destroyed in a crash! Continuing on the subject of trees, as reported above the Club is supporting Quincey Blanchard with her trip to Addis Ababa Ethiopia, where part of her work will be helping the locals with their deforestation problems. Coming up in February we have a "Green" speaker!

Phil Clark the President of Claris Construction Inc. will be talking to us about building green. Phil's company were the main contractors for the Newtown Youth Academy, the beautiful fitness facility on the Fairfield Hills Campus. Finally, remember the presentation by Adam Harrison at the December Students of the month, about the then very topical problem of too many catalogues, we will be hearing more about this scheme when the website is launched, save tons of paper, adopt the challenge!

SPECIAL GUEST FOR JANUARY 25th MEETING

We are privileged to be able to welcome CT Attorney General Richard Blumenthal. In the news just last week when he announced his candidacy for the Senate seat being vacated this year by Senator Christopher Dodd.



KYLE LYDDY TALKS ABOUT HIS BOOK "FROM MY SEAT" to the January Students, and his experiences as a UConn Basketball Manager.



January Students display their Awards



Allison Indelicato Grade 5 from Reed School missed the group picture.



Angel Santos 8th Grader from the Middle School hears his citation.



James Cochrane listens to Project Chairman Tony Salvatore, read his citation



Morgan Luzzi listens to his citation, pity he did not bring his drums, watch for Morgan on the music scene in the future.



Jacob Lambert waits for his award is that really me he is reading about!



Sergeant at Arms Mike Snyder entertains those present at the meeting at the Mona Lisa Restaurant. This switch of premises to accommodate the Inn's annual Holiday Party, was a refreshing change. A full house made it a little cozy! The food was acceptable if a little on the cool side but the service was first class. The Board now has some food for thought!

Contributions to the Bulletin are welcome, contact:
griffonspitfire2000@yahoo.co.uk

MAKE UP's!

To the uniformed, a 'make up' is the opportunity to visit another Club to catch up on your goal 60% attendance at Club Meeting.

If you do a 'make up' be sure to advise Club Secretary Duane Giannini, if you pay for a meal, get a receipt, if the Make Up is either two weeks before or two weeks after your missed club date, that meal cost will be offset against your quarterly invoice.

Local Clubs you can visit:

Danbury	Danbury Sunrise	Ridgefield
Wednesday	Friday	Wednesday
at Ethan	at West Conn	At Sagi
Allen Lunch	Lake Rd	Restaurant
12.15	Campus	Dinner
	Breakfast	6.15
	7.15	



One of the trees planted at the Rotary Park, it will look great in the Spring, if the weather is kind!