



Next Meeting: July 3, 2009
Opener: Frankie Smith
Program: Eileen Flug Bio
Greeters: Eileen Flug & Ed Horne
Place: Bobby Q's

July 3, 2009 / Volume 20, No. 1

The Crier

Sunrise Rotary Club of Westport • P.O. Box 43 • Westport, CT 06881-0043 • www.westportsunriserotary.com

June 26 Club Meeting

Opener



Carole Rubenstein opens the June 26th meeting, quoting Mother Theresa

People are often unreasonable and self-centered. Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.

If you are honest, people may cheat you. Be honest anyway.

If you find happiness, people may be jealous. Be happy anyway.

The good you do today may be forgotten tomorrow. Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have and it may never be enough. Give your best anyway.

For you see, in the end, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.

Guests

Nicole Mathias, guest of Mark Mathias
 Rick Jaffe, guest of Bill Meyer
 Tucker Currie, guest of Tom Ayers
 Ed Fitzgerald, guest of Sheila Keenan
 Jonathan Steinberg, guest of Gavin Anderson and Bill Blaufuss

Cathy Alcorn, former member and Guest of Charlie Haberstroh

Helen Garten, guest of Shelly Kassen
 Orin Grossman, Speaker

Visiting Rotarians

Anna Brady-Esteves, New Haven, CT

Program



Orin Grossman, retiring Chief Academic Officer at Fairfield University and one of the world's foremost authorities on American composer George Gershwin, shared anecdotes and played recordings on Gershwin's life

Helen Garten Inducted



Sunrise's newest member, Helen Garten (left) appears with her sponsor Shelley Kassen as she is inducted by membership co-chair Carole Rubenstein at the Club's June 26th meeting

Club Presidency turned over to John Hendrickson



New Sunrise President John Hendrickson

In the annual tradition of Rotary, the Sunrise Club changed over its leadership on June 28th at the home of the outgoing President John Branson. Many club members and spouses attended the event, which combined fellowship and ceremony. The new President John Hendrickson was sworn in along with his new Board of Directors.

Eileen Flug Bio at July 3rd Meeting



Sunrise Rotarian Eileen Flug is scheduled to give her bio at the Club's July 3rd meeting after being preempted twice before, on April 10th and May 22nd.

District 7980 Governor: Colin Gershon • Club President: John Hendrickson

Eileen was inducted on March 6, 2009 and was sponsored by Bill Meyer. She is a member of the Westport RTM from District 9, immediate past-president of the League of Women voters, and active in the Saugatuck Congregational Church. For the Club, Eileen is on the charitable giving committee and treasurer of the Great Duck Race fundraiser.

Member bios are a great way to get to know the new club members.

Westport Septic Study - How can Sunrisers help?

by Bill Blaufuss

Clean water, both in surface water (our streams) and in our ground water (our "aquifer", i.e. the underground geology, which is the source of well water) is not to be taken for granted. In fact, in Westport there are watercourses that are not clean; they are compromised by several factors e.g. excessive nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus), lack of oxygen, bacteria, and even pharmaceuticals.

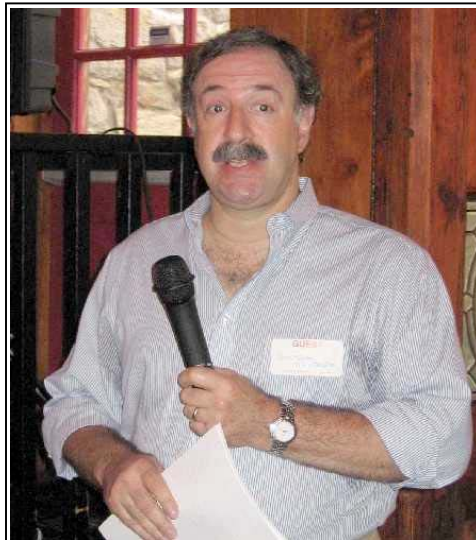
The eutrophic (i.e. oxygen-deprived due to excessive nutrient load) condition of Lee's Pond is a well-known example of one of our town's critically imperiled watercourses. But it is certainly not the only one.

There are many contributors to degradation of water quality. Septic systems that are malfunctioning or improperly used is but one of these contributors. It is believed that not everyone who has a septic system is aware that septic systems not only need to be maintained but they also must not be abused by improperly disposing of certain materials into them (bleach and paint are examples).

Septic systems are wondrously simple in concept, and it is nature—not humans—that provides the beneficial bacterial action in these systems that converts the nasty stuff into the benign. Yet homeowners who move into their first septic-serviced residence may be under the impression that "nature takes care of it all, a septic system is self sustaining, we have to do nothing." Not so.

At the Westport Sunrise Rotary meeting on Friday June 26, RTM Member Jonathan Steinberg spoke of the "Septic System Education Taskforce"—a town committee initiated a few months ago with the objective of abating septic-caused contamination of our drinking water and waterways. The Taskforce is just one of our town's initiatives to improve and protect quality of surface water and ground water (in the end, actually they're one and the same). First stop: find out the extent of existing public awareness via a simple questionnaire-based door-to-door canvassing, and then tailor a full septic educational program to it.

Jonathan enlisted the aid of Sunrisers to assist in the survey. Among all that Rotary is, clean water "runs through it." Rotary's efforts to improve world health are most often rooted in the advancement of clean water.



Jonathan Steinberg visited Sunrise Rotary on June 26th to solicit the Club's help in administering surveys as part of a septic system awareness program in Westport

Bill Meyer and Bob Galan, both fellow RTMers of Jonathan, as well as I, have offered to canvass households.

Nevertheless, more shoulders carrying a load mean a lighter load for everyone. So I volunteered to Jonathan to be the Sunrise Rotary "roustabout," seeking not only additional volunteers to canvass but also possibly having several Sunrisers simply contact people they

already know (e.g. neighbors) to administer the questionnaire to them.

The goal is to get about 200 septic using residents to respond, and complete this effort in the next few weeks.

Just wanted to bring you on board. More to come.

Bill Blaufuss

Westport Sunrise Rotary
Water Projects Chair

Making a Difference

By Dennis Wong

Matching Grants



In the past 44 years, The Rotary Foundation has disbursed more than \$335 million for over 30,000 international service Matching Grant projects in 199 countries.

Through the Matching Grant program, the Foundation provides a dollar-for-dollar match for every District Designated Fund contribution to the project, and a 50-cent match for every dollar of additional contributions. In 2007-08, the Foundation approved \$43.8 million for 2,424 Matching Grant projects in 137 countries.

We (Westport Sunrise Rotary) have been able to leverage our contributions with our recent Matching Grant projects in Brazil, Egypt, and Haiti.

Rotary Fast Fact

Many Rotary projects parallel the U.N. Millennium Development Goals. Rotary service projects worldwide help reduce child mortality (Goal 4) and improve maternal health (Goal 5) by addressing preventable childhood diseases, including polio; providing nutritional supplements and potable water; offering reproductive health education; and donating medical services and equipment. In 2008 and 2009, more than 10,000 Rotary club members worldwide attended child survival conferences, which generated US\$500,000 toward related projects. In addition, Rotary supports the United Nations' new child nutrition initiative, Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger (REACH).

Rumors, Gossip & Innuendo

By Frog Wilson, Parishioner, Church of the Strange Frog



Noted at the Sunrise Rotary changeover party Inspired, Steve Violette, Tom Lowrie and Valerie Austyn have decided to become permanent ducks. John Branson has created a pond in a corner of his backyard where Steve, Tom and Val can float 24 hours a day except when they are racing. Bob Lasprogato has volunteered to monitor them for false starts. When asked if they were really serious about this, Steve accused this reporter of being a "quack".

Dick Eldh became stuck to a chair on the Branson back porch. He goes in Thursday for chair removal surgery.

Sheila Keenan's deviled eggs disappeared between the front door and the hors d'oeuvres table. They were either that good or The Devil didn't want his name used. Anne Beers creative vidalia onion/cheese concoction satisfied dozens of smiling Rotarians. It was an aphrodisiac.

Bob Galan and Dennis Wong join Rick Benson in Haiti next week. They are planning a sequel to a former District Governor's project, *Paul's Potties*.

They intend to name the new project after our new Sunrise President Hendrickson - "Porto John".

Ultimate Party Planner Carole Rubenstein deserves unending "huzzahs" for the ultimate changeover event. Carole will be leaving soon for South Carolina where the governor has offered her the position of Chief Party Planner for the state, including lots of free trips to Latin America.

Litigation pending: Finn Olander, Bill Blaufuss and David Press were deafened by a mysterious backyard cannon blast. A proposed settlement includes converting The Christ and Holy Trinity Church into a permanent Clubhouse for Sunrise Rotary. Bill Meyer has promised to use his influence so that former C & HT members may use a conference

room at The Saugatuck Church for their Sunday services (on Tuesday). In a more serious matter, hundreds of attendees at the Great Duck Race were blinded by the reflection off water maven Eric Zielinski's head. Maggie Feczko has been told to "handle it"

With the patient help of Joe Renzulli, John Branson is still opening his "farewell" gift.

Congrats to Charlie Haberstroh. He spilled no wine before its time.

Hal Levy, Rita Steinberger, Ann Lloyd, Frankie Smith, Jeff Mayer and Jane Ross showed up at Nick and Mary Clarke's home by mistake. Fortunately the door was open and the refrigerator's stock of plum pudding and crumpets provided a great alternate party.

We have so many new members that they sometimes get us old timers mixed up. Eileen Flug asked Pete Wolgast to sing a chorus of "Oh Britannia" and wondered if Mike Keen could get her good seats for the Michigan Ohio State game.

Could this be a scandal? Legendary Rotarian Mac Leask is being investigated by elders at the Church of the Strange Frog. Church bylaws stipulate that commoners cannot be married to a Saint. A side issue - can you be both a Saint and a Realtor? Thanks Phoebe!!

Photo Gallery



A number of Club members who were out front in the Club's successful Great Duck Race fundraiser on June 20th were recognized at the June 26th meeting. Back row: Charlie Haberstroh, Jeff Mayer, Bob Lasprogato, Steve Violette, Nick Clarke & Eric Zielinski. Front row: Carole Rubenstein, Maggie Feczko & President Branson.



Steve Violette accepts an autographed Great Duck Race Poster from Club President John Branson in recognizing him as "father of the Great Duck Race"

Club Announcements

► The application for Avi Kaner (sponsored by Charlie Haberstroh) has been accepted by the membership committee and approved by the board of Directors for membership into Westport Sunrise Rotary. Any questions or concerns regarding this should be directed to Tom Ayres or Carole Rubenstein. Please take this week as an opportunity to get to meet Avi.

► *Tom Ayres:* The film produced by bridge Academy's *The Art of Filmmaking* program is available for viewing on our website on the young voices committee page:

www.westportsunriserotary.com/youngvoicescommittee.html

Submit Club Announcements to:
www.datacut.com/misc/crierinput.htm

The Westport Sunrise Rotary Club meets 7:30AM every Friday Morning at [Bobby Q's Restaurant](#), 42 Main Street in Westport. Meetings are open to all Rotarians and their guests.

Club Meeting Schedule

Sunrise Rotary Club members serve as greeters and deliver the openers at the Club meetings on a rotating basis. If a member is unavailable on the assigned date, it is imperative that he or she find a replacement and submit the name to: www.datacut.com/misc/crierinput.htm

Greeters

July: Eileen Flug & Ed Horne
August: Roy Fuchs & Joe Hawley
September: Ira Bloom & John Branson
October: Anil Nair & Arlo Ellison

Meeting Openers

July 10: Audrey Sparre
July 17: Rita Steinberger
July 24: Bob Lasprogato
July 31: Steve Violette

Programs

July 10: Fairfield U Professor David Schmidt – Ethics
July 17: TBA
July 24 Michael Steinberger – *Au Revoir To All That: Food, Wine and the End of France*

Club Calendar

Jul. 4 Sat. – Rotarians serving meals at the Gillespie Center, 4:45–5:45 p.m.
Aug. 1 Sat. – Rotarians serving meals at the Gillespie Center, 4:45–5:45 p.m.
Sep. 5 Sat. – Rotarians serving meals at the Gillespie Center, 4:45–5:45 p.m.
Oct. 3 Sat. – Rotarians serving meals at the Gillespie Center, 4:45–5:45 p.m.
Oct. 10 Sat. –2nd Annual District 7980 "Make a Difference Day"
Nov. 7 Sat. – Rotarians serving meals at the Gillespie Center, 4:45–5:45 p.m.
Dec. 5 Sat. – Rotarians serving meals at the Gillespie Center, 4:45–5:45 p.m.

Crier Deadlines:

The deadline for all input for *The Crier* is Noon on Tuesday for that week's edition and must be supplied by [web form](#) to the editor.