

FARMINGDALE ROTARY CLUB MEETING – WEDNESDAY, 30 NOV 2005

The Farmingdale Rotary Club held its weekly luncheon meeting at Annabella Restaurant in Farmingdale, New York. President Ruth Betz opened the meeting at 12:10 p.m. Invocation was given by Bob Callahan followed by the Pledge of allegiance.

Secretary Robert Diaz calculated today's attendance at 79%. Guests included Dominick Tesoriero and Maria K. Kalamidas of Atlantic Bank. They were invited by Stu. Bobby Betz was also present.

Yasuo collected the happy bucks. Many of the members were happy for our guests from The Atlantic Bank and also for the successful pancake breakfast event.

Anniversaries and Birthdays: Happy wedding Anniversary to Ben and Nancy Giminaro. (12/1)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENERAL:

Lenny and Mike Muchmore are chairing the Salvation Army fund raising efforts this year at Waldbaum's. Please Sign up to Ring the Bell in front of Waldbaum's.

Our district conference will be held in Montreal, Canada during May 26-28, 2006.

GSE out going team Interviews were conducted and a group leader was selected for visiting four Central African countries including Rwanda, Zaire, Cameroon. Team members interested in the program can contact Barry/Mike/Yesh. Non Rotarians between the ages of 25 and 40 are eligible.

GSE incoming team from India will arrive on 9 Apr 06. Yesh is looking for volunteers to host the members.

Lenny and Yasuo are running a membership drive campaign to increase the membership of our club. Lenny requested all the members to provide suggestions and leads to identify suitable members.

Schools in Mississippi need text books (K -12): Eileen Gentlecore has 1400 school bags. Need supplies to fill these bags. The New books need to be grouped by category and they should be in bunches of 10. Ronald McDonald house is setting up Libraries. The project is going well. Contact Ruth if you can donate books.

FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES:

Yasuo has the history of the Ford motor company books for sale for \$25 Ea. This collectors edition would normally cost at lease \$50. More volunteers are needed to sell these beautiful books, which actually sell themselves. Lou LaRocco was able to sell 30 books. We will donate the unsold books to the district book project.

Casino Night : Early April 2006 on a Thursday evening. Tickets will include chips to play. Volunteers are needed for the Committee. Contact Ted Firetog.

Need Volunteers with SUVs (2) to transport clothing from A1 realty (Chris Simonetti's office on 109) to Salvation Army located between Montauk hwy and Sunrise hwy. Contact Ruth.

KATRINA: Our district is seeking donations to help the hurricane victims. The people are in dire need of help. The District 7250 Foundation is raising funds for the relief effort. All checks should be made to 'District 7250 Foundation'. All donations over \$100 will be acknowledged in writing by the Foundation. Bring the checks to Ruth.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

5 December 2005. 6:30pm (Monday) : Daleview Nursing Home Sing-a-long . First Monday of every month.

7 December 2005. Our holiday sing-a-long. Everyone had fun last year, so don't miss this meeting!! Spouses, friends and future Rotarians are welcome.

28 December 2005. Holiday party during our lunch meeting. Spouses, friends and coworkers are welcome. Cost is expected to be same as usual lunch. Party will last for 3 hours. Annabella's needs a head count to make arrangements for food. Please respond by e-mail or at the meeting. (Ruth)

PROGRAM

President Ruth Betz introduced the guest speaker Eric Alexander, Director of VISION Long Island.
<http://www.visionlongisland.org/>

Eric Alexander is the Director of Vision Long Island, a regional Smart Growth planning and advocacy non-profit organization. This group plans out villages. They figure the best land use taking into account environmental concerns. They decide on land use, focus on main streets and consider access to public grants and resources.

Eric has over ten years experience in housing, community development and coordinating successful community projects. Specifically, Eric has been a proponent of Smart Growth planning and mixed use development through advocacy efforts on Federal, State, County levels while working with municipalities to develop and implement smart growth policies, regulations, and projects.

VISION's mission is to join with others to promote livability and economically sustainable and environmentally responsible growth on Long Island. We believe that through Smart Growth planning concepts, we can reduce the negative economic and environmental impacts of suburban sprawl on Long Island while improving our quality of life and sense of community.

VISION's Goals are to encourage comprehensive land use planning that is consistent with the needs of the local community, adjacent communities, and the region as a whole; and to encourage land use that links economic development decisions to environmental and quality of life issues while ensuring community based planning.

Vision Long Island's Smart Growth Objectives Include:

- Education and Training of municipalities and civic groups
- Smart Growth Advocacy and Policy Development
- Community Visioning and Charrette Planning
- Design and Technical Assistance

This group planned out the Mystic downtown area.

Kevin Bagnasco responded for the club. He thanked the speakers for planning out our villages. Kevin cited that Huntington village as an example of a well planned village.

We closed the meeting with the singing of "God Bless America".