

MANKIND IS OUR BUSINESS

February 26, 2002

Office: 28 W. 44 St., Ste. 1508, NY, NY 10036

Phone: (212) 819-0809 Fax: (212) 819-0763

Web Site: www.NewYorkCityRotary.org

E-Mail: ny.rotary@verizon.net

Luncheons: Tuesdays, 12:15 – 1:30 p.m.

The Princeton Club – 15 W. 43rd Street



POLICE RECOGNITION DAY



FIRST DEPUTY COMMISSIONER GEORGE GRASSO

First Deputy Commissioner George Grasso was appointed to the New York City Police Department in November 1979, and began his career on patrol assigned to Neighborhood Stabilization Unit 18 in southeast Queens. He was promoted to Sergeant in December 1985; Sergeant Special Assignment in May 1988; Lieutenant in June 1989; Lieutenant Special Assignment in August 1992; Captain in July 1993; Deputy Inspector in August 1995; and Inspector in January 1997. That same month he was also promoted to the position of Deputy Commissioner, Legal Matters. He has served in the 63rd and 104th Precincts, as well as the Police Academy, Neighborhood Stabilization Unit 18, the Department Advocate's office, office of the First Deputy Commissioner, office of the Deputy Commissioner, Legal Matters, and the Disciplinary Assessment Unit.

As the First Deputy Commissioner, he serves as the Department's second in command and acts as Police Commissioner during his absence, assists the Police Commissioner in the administration of the Department's business affairs, management, budget, personnel functions, and oversees the disciplinary system.

In his previous position, as the Department's

general Counsel, he oversaw the Legal Bureau, License Division, monitored and facilitated the relationship between the Department, the criminal justice system, and the Corporation Counsel.

First Deputy Commissioner Grasso earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from York College and a Juris Doctorate from St. John's University. He has been licensed to practice law in the State of New York since 1985. He is also a 1994 graduate of the Police Management Institute at Columbia University, and a 1997 graduate of the CORO Leadership New York Program. In December 1997, Commissioner Grasso became the first member of the NYPD to receive the New York City Law Department's Agency Counsel Recognition Award. In June 2000, he was elected President of the Police Management Institute Alumni Association. In addition, he was appointed as a member of the Criminal Justice Council of the Bar Association of the City of New York.

In addition to our guest speaker's presentation, we will be honoring Detective Donald Brown, from the Staten Island Warrant Squad, one of New York's Finest! Police Recognition Day has traditionally been one of the Club's most outstanding programs. What a great day to invite a colleague or a potential new member.



**ADT SECURITY SERVICES, INC. IS PROUD TO SPONSOR
NEW YORK ROTARY CLUB'S POLICE RECOGNITION DAY
AND APPLAUDS NEW YORK'S FINEST'S HEROIC EFFORTS
ON BEHALF OF ALL NEW YORKERS.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



February 26th
POLICE
RECOGNITION DAY

March 5th
Fellowship Day

March 12th
Steve Malanga
City Journal

March 19th
Father Joseph O'Hare
President of Fordham University
IRELAND DAY

March 26th
Dr. Joseph Skelly
ROTARY SCHOLARS DAY

April 2nd
Fellowship Day

April 9th
Walker Todd, Esq.

April 16th
FIREFIGHTERS
RECOGNITION DAY

REPORTER OF THE WEEK

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

President Helen Reisler welcomed all members and guests. Allison Alessi, accompanied on the piano by David Dingle, led us in singing the national anthem. Gamal Badr delivered the invocation.

While we were eating a tasty Veal Marengo, Helen thanked all at the main table for contributing their time. Dr. Paul Schneiderman introduced six visiting Rotarians- five from the U.S. and one from overseas. David led us in our welcome song.

Werner Kobelt introduced two Rotarians from the Weirton Rotary Club in West Virginia who presented our club with a check of \$2,000. He thanked them for their club's generosity.

Our guest speaker was Dr. Frederick Kagan, Associate Professor of History at WestPoint, co-author and co-editor of four books (See last week's bulletin for a list of the books). He stated that he was a supporter of President Bush's actions; however, there were weaknesses in these actions. He felt what was happening was not a revolutionary change, as other countries, such as Russia, France, and Britain, have experienced the same terrorism for a long time. This is not a new problem. We have been fighting a war on terrorism for a decade or longer. This act of terrorism is not unprecedented; however, it is unprecedented in scale. He said we should fight a war on terrorists, not on terrorism. This is complicated. The terrorists did not fly planes because they are poor or they hate us. They want to overthrow regimes in the Middle East. They want a revolution in the Muslim world. They want countries from Indonesia to Morocco to be purely Islamic. They feel the U.S. supports the epitome of evil in the Middle East. Why do we attack Afghanistan? Egypt and Saudi Arabia are also unfair regimes. Should we remain friends with them? We need to solve the problem. We can start by assisting with a stable government in Afghanistan, particularly as if is at the crossroads of countries with nuclear weapons. We need extra defense funds to maintain stability in Afghanistan. We also need to assist other countries. The cost to keep these countries stable is less than the cost to fight them. We are now paying for a decade's worth of back-order problems. Dr. Kagan's talk was followed by many questions continuing after the meeting closed. We were fortunate indeed to have such a knowledgeable and articulate speaker. Helen closed the meeting and thanked us all for coming.

Rotarian, Maye Musk



COURTESY

Please be aware that during the luncheons all cell phones are to be turned off, out of respect for the guest speaker and your fellow Rotarians.

Thank you for your understanding.

-- Andreas Runggatscher

International Service Division Breakfast

Please mark your calendar for the next breakfast of the International Service Division, at the German House on **February 27, at 8:15 a.m.** We will have one speaker from the World Health Organization and one speaker from UNICEF. Desmond Jones, Representative of UNAIDS (joint UN program on HIV/AIDS), New York liaison office; and Matthew Hodge, of the HIV/AIDS Health Section Unicef, will discuss "World Health Problems," with a specific focus on HIV/AIDS.

The German House is located on First Avenue between 48th and 49th Street. Please sign up with the Rotary office for this breakfast at ny.rotary@verizon.net or RSVP to (212) 819-0809.