



MANKIND IS OUR BUSINESS

March 5, 2002

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

The Princeton Club – 15 W. 43rd Street

FELLOWSHIP DAY

Our speaker for this day will be each one of you.

Speak to each other

about yourselves, your businesses, your ideas,
and your committees.

Speak to a new member

Bring a guest and let him/her feel the Fellowship
and meet our members.

This is a perfect opportunity for chair people to meet with their
committees and report committee progress at the microphone!!

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REPORTER OF THE WEEK

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

President Helen Reisler opened the meeting with Rotarian Allison Alessi leading all assembled in "The Star-Spangled Banner." The Rev. Robert Romano, NYPD Chaplain, who gave the invocation, also spoke briefly about the meaning of the 9/11 events to him. He asked that we continue to remember the unsung heroes of the uniformed services who still work at the WTC site, day and night. While many of us have been able to move on with our lives, these heroes are at the disaster site laboring to recover lost loved ones so that the families of victims might be able to get closure and also move on.

Rotarian James Thompson introduced the visiting Rotarians: six from overseas and eight from the States. Jim also thanked his employer, ADT, for sponsoring this Police Recognition Day, and recognized 12 guests from ADT, including General Manager Ken Gould.

Rotarian Dr. Jeffrey Burkes, Chairman of the Day, introduced our honoree: Detective Donald Brown, who was recognized for his heroism on November 11, 1999. On that day, while driving south on FDR Drive, Det. Brown and his partner noticed a commotion by the banks of the East River. Apparently a suicidal woman had jumped into the freezing waters, and a good Samaritan was going in after her. Det. Brown and his partner stopped their car, and crossed the FDR Drive. Det. Brown jumped into the water after both individuals, while his partner fashioned a lifeline out of a garden hose and jumper cables. Det. Brown grabbed the two individuals and his partner held on until help arrived. All required treatment for hypothermia.

Upon receiving his plaque, Det. Brown was most humble and gracious, and said that he was certain that any of the 40,000 members of the NYPD would readily have done the same. Det. Brown jokingly thanked this partner for "pushing" him into the water so that he would have the opportunity to make the rescue, and sincerely thanked his partner for his strength and resourcefulness in hanging on so that he would be alive today to receive the award.

Our speaker of the day, First Deputy Commissioner George Grasso, had two messages. First, he related how the prism through which police departments has changed with the events of 9/11. Prior to the tragedy, there was a crescendo of "law enforcement bashing" which was personally and professionally difficult to endure day after day, and made it difficult for the police to do an effective job in protecting citizens. All that has changed. Second, he spoke of the tremendous courage of the uniformed services on that day. As he was racing to the scene, he was struck by the number of shoes he saw on the streets leading away from the WTC and realized that people were literally running out of their shoes in fear - and that we should keep this in perspective when we recognize the courage of the members of the uniformed services who were responding in the opposite direction towards the horror of the day. Detective Brown, by his actions roughly two years earlier, reacted with the same dedication that members of the department reacted to the WTC - without regard for his own safety and simply to serve and protect his fellow citizens. That is the soul of the department.

President Helen presented First Commissioner Grasso with a package summarizing the details of the program the Rotary Club is coordinating to send rescue workers on well-deserved vacations. She reminded members that the Club is collecting unused frequent flyer miles in this regard and that members may contact the Rotary office if they would like to participate. President Helen closed the meeting by leading all in singing "Happy Birthday" to Joe Sullivan, who is turning 85.

Rotarian - Taylor Gray

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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

MEMBERSHIP PROPOSALS

The Board of Directors has approved the following applicants. Any written objections must be received at the Club office by March 12, 2002.

PETER BRIZARD

Company: Independent CPA
Suggested Classification: Accountant - Trusts and Estates
Sponsors: Steven Goldberg
Allison Alessi

CIGDEM ACAR

Company: Law offices of Cigdem Acar
Suggested Classification: Immigration Law - Turkey
Sponsors: Barbaros Karaahmetoglu
Atilla Macun

RAYMOND AUFFRET

Company: La Petite Auberge
Suggested Classification: Restaurateur - French Cuisine
Sponsors: Helen Reisler
Scarlett Pildes

ERIK ENROTH

Company: Invest in Sweden Agency
Suggested Classification: International Investments - Sweden
Sponsors: David Del Monte
Mats Ingemanson

International Service Division - Breakfast Meeting World Health Problem - HIV/AIDS

If you missed the breakfast meeting of February 27th at the German Mission, you missed the best yet. Two UN speakers, authorities on HIV/AIDS plus Dr. Jacob Sternberg and Mats Ingemanson, led a very spirited discussion; joined by Ambassador Durrant of Jamaica and Joana Betson, First Secretary at the Irish Mission. Next meeting is March 27th. Mark your calendar now.

Rotarian - Sylvan Barnet