



MANKIND IS OUR BUSINESS

May 14, 2002

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

The Princeton Club – 15 W. 43rd Street

ITALY DAY



Roberto Luongo

Italian Trade Commissioner Executive Director for the USA

Roberto Luongo, who assumed his duties as Director of the New York office of the Italian Trade Commission Istituto per il Commercio Estero and Coordinator of its network of U.S. bureau on September 1, 2000, was born June 7, 1958, in Naples.

Prior to his appointment as Italian Trade Commissioner in New York, Mr. Luongo served as Director of the its Department of Promotion and International Cooperation, a position to which he was appointed in October 1997. From 1995 to 1997, he was Director of the International Cooperation Department and, in 1994 and 1995, Director of the Office of Interior Furnishings and Related Products, both at ICE headquarters.

Early in his career (1985-1994), Mr. Luongo headed Istituto per il Commercio Estero offices abroad. His first foreign assignment was in Kuwait, where he was also responsible for promotional activities and assistance to Italian and local companies in Bahrain and Qatar.

Afterward, he headed the Istituto per il Commercio Estero office in Prague for four years. He returned to Italy in 1994.

Mr. Luongo joined the Italian Trade Commission in February 1982 as an official in the ICE office in Florence. In 1984 and 1985, he served in the institution's Office for Internal Training in Rome.

After qualifying as a certified accountant in 1976, Mr. Luongo received a degree in political science in 1980 from the University of Naples.

In addition to Italian, he speaks English, Spanish and German, and has a good working knowledge of Arabic. Mr. Luongo and his wife, Regina, have three children, Marco, Alessandro, and Gabriele.



CALENDAR

May 14th
ITALY DAY
Roberto Luongo

May 21st
Janine Jackson
Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting

May 28th
ARMED FORCES DAY
Tom Ricks

June 4th
UN DAY
Hon. Patricia Durrant

June 11th
TRANSITION DAY

June 18th
John Sexton

June 25th
Abraham Briloff
Distinguished Professor, Baruch College

REPORTER OF THE WEEK

April 30, 2002

President Helen Reisler welcomed all members and guests. Allison Alessi, accompanied on the piano by David Dingle, led us in the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner." Gamal Badr delivered the invocation.

Helen thanked all Rotarians for volunteering their time. She welcomed two new members: Dr. Barry Chuz, a plastic surgeon, and Erik Enroth, an international investor – Sweden.

Craig Penn introduced nine visiting Rotarians – three from the U.S. and six from the following countries: United Kingdom, South Africa, Turkey, Egypt, Holland, and Ireland. David led us in our welcome song.

Werner Kobelt reported on the most recent distribution of 9/11 funds.

Our guest speaker was Dick Morris, author of *Power Play*, and founder of Vote.com who is best known for handling successful campaigns for ex-President Bill Clinton. He said that after 9/11, problems in the U.S. became more severe, truly serious. The legacy of Clinton won't be impeachments, pardons, and scandals, but that he did not take terrorism seriously. Mr. Morris said we should thank the FBI, as there have been no more terrorist attacks since 9/11. During his talk, he touched on many topics: 8-10 million illegal Mexican immigrants; 100,000 visas for two years and expired visas through checking driver's licenses; the U.S. need to go after Iraq and destroy Saddam Hussein; U.S. relations with Israel; a drug-free America; nuclear weapons; new technologies using less oil, such as hydrogen-run cars already used in South America; genetic engineering; and many other topics. If you want to know more details on these topics you will have to purchase his latest book. We were fortunate, indeed to have such an entertaining, humorous, knowledgeable, and articulate speaker. Helen closed the meeting and thanked us all for coming.

-Rotarian Maye Musk

Dear Madam/Sir,

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, May 29th. This will be the seventh of our breakfast series, which is held at the German Permanent Mission to the UN, at the top-floor restaurant on First Avenue (between 48th and 49th Street), from 8:30 to 9:45 a.m.

This month's topic will be "Food and Water Crisis." Our guest speaker will be Florence Chenoweth, UN Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO) presenting a preview of the World Food Summit (in Rome June 10-13). The registration is at 8:30 and the meeting will start at 8:45 a.m. Kindly let us know if you would like to attend the Wednesday, May 29 breakfast by sending an e-mail the Rotary Club of New York at ny.rotary@verizon.net, with a copy to Ms. Allison Alessi, International Events Coordinator, at "aealessi@aol.com" or a fax to (212) 819-0763. The cost of the breakfast is \$15, payable directly to the Maitre d'.

Sincerely,

Sylvan M. Barnet, Jr.
Rotary International / Alt. Representative to the UN

Giorgio H. Balestrieri / International Service Division
The Rotary Club of New York

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM LOU DIPAOLLO CHAIR OF THE ARMED FORCES DAY

Please communicate with the Rotary office if you served either in the U.S. military or in the military of the country of your origin. We would like to honor you during the May 28th Armed Forces Day.