



SOW THE SEEDS OF LOVE

October 1, 2002

Office: 322 8TH Ave., Ste. 1701, NY, NY 10001

Phone: (212) 633-1311 Fax: (212) 633-1954

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

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!!

There will be an open discussion forum from 1:00-1:30 p.m.

ON FELLOWSHIP DAYS LUNCHEONS WILL BE SERVED BUFFET STYLE



GEORGE PICKETT

Invited Speaker

George Pickett is one of the "Most Experienced Fire Officers in the United States" currently on active duty, and his experience, knowledge, and dedication has helped this fine profession grow into what is today. His name recognition is strong throughout many areas of America.

George served almost five years in a Marine F4 Phantom squadron prior to joining New York City's Fire Department in 1968. He served in some of the busiest units in FDNY during his career there, and several of those units he was assigned to were the busiest ever recorded in the world, some averaging over 25 calls per shift. He worked extensively out of the Great Jones Street fire station on Manhattan's lower east side. George worked as a firefighter, Engineer, lieutenant, Captain, and Acting Battalion Chief. Pickett worked in Engine 17 for a short period in the '70s when they did over 10,000 calls in one year. During his 21 years of service he responded to thousands of fire calls and commanded many serious emergencies. He was decorated five times for meritorious acts and life saving acts of bravery.

In 1990, George left FDNY and moved to Scottsdale, Arizona. Since then he has kept busy with the fire service, maintained a close contact and personal relationship with those fire officers.

George lost many friends at the WTC tragedy and responded back to New York to help look for victims at Ground Zero, as a representative of his current fire department in Arizona.

The Rotary Club of New York would like to thank RCNY Past President, Hans Belcsak, and his wife Juliana Belcsak, (Past President of the Montclair Rotary Club) for arranging a beautiful Austria Day. The day was wonderfully executed with raffle prizes and chocolate goodies for everyone.

MEMBERS COLUMN

**Rotary District Assembly –
October 2nd at 6 p.m.**

**Rotary Leadership Institute for future
leaders at Concordia College
October 5th - \$60 per person
Registration starts at 7:30 pm**

The Rotary Leadership Institution offers a leadership course in three all-day parts. Those having completed each part are eligible for the next part. The courses are designed to provide Rotary knowledge and to develop leadership skills for voluntary organizations. Rotary needs a constant influx of leadership as club officers change every year.

*For more information, please contact the
NYRC office.*

OFFICE HOUSEWARMING PARTY

**October 8th, 2002
5.30 P.M.**

**322 Eighth Avenue, Ste. 1701
(entrance on 26th Street)**

Rotarians are invited to attend a housewarming party. Light snacks and wine will be provided for. I look forward to seeing you

Andreas Runggatscher



Happy Birthday Fellow Rotarians

Joseph Mikita – October 3rd

Daniel Zedeker – October 5th

Takahiro Kitano – October 6th

Tim O'Brien – October 9th

REPORTER OF THE WEEK

Austria Day- Tuesday, September 24, 2002

With the room festooned in a red and white sea of Austrian flags, the meeting commenced with the playing of a recording of the Austrian National Anthem. All of the assembled then members proceeded to sing the "Star-Spangled Banner" led by Allison Alessi, and bowed their heads to the invocation delivered by Rev. John Smith. Among those seated on the dais were Hans Belcsak, the Chairperson of the day, with his wife Juliana Belcsak; our guest speaker, Guenter Hude; Sigurd Pacher, Deputy Consul General of the Austrian Consulate General in New York; and Giorgio Balestrieri who introduced eleven visiting Rotarians from six countries and three states.

As we dined on Wiener Schnitzel, Hans Belcsak read a message of greetings from the Austrian Federal President, Dr. Thomas Klestil. Hans then introduced the speaker of the day, Guenter J. Hude, Austrian Airlines General Manager for the Americas.

Guenter Hude delivered a candid overview of the history of Austrian Airlines, the impact of 9/11/01, and the current management challenges facing the industry. While Austria Airlines can trace its history back to 1918, the current organization was founded in 1955, when Austria gained neutral status in the aftermath of WWII and was allowed to form a state-sponsored airline. The 9/11/01 attack has caused significant changes in the demand for air travel, and the airline industry is working to respond in kind. There is significant over-capacity, with a number of aircrafts now grounded and up for sale. Security has increased, and insurance and fuel cost have risen. Guenter believes tough times separate good managers from "sunshine managers," and he has certainly been faced with his share of tough decisions. Guenter believes that there will ultimately be a consolidation of European airlines into perhaps 3-4 major carriers over the next few years, with a number of successful rich players filling in the rest.

Guenter Hude then presented a round trip ticket from Vienna to JFK to the RCNY for use in the Gift of Life program and Juliana Belcsak presented Guenter with a plaque of appreciation. Hans Belcsak then conducted the raffle, which consisted of numerous gifts, including paintings from Susan Orthofer, a noted Austrian artist. The meeting was adjourned, with all attendees receiving a small package of wafers and chocolate wrapped in red and white as a parting gift.

-Rotarian Taylor Gray