

MANKIND IS OUR BUSINESS May 21, 2002

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Luncheons: Tuesdays, 12:15 – 1:30 p.m. The Princeton Club – 15 W. 43rd Street

JANINE JACKSON

Janine Jackson's is Program Director for FAIR (Fairness & Accuracy In Reporting), the national media watch group, and host/producer of FAIR's nationally syndicated radio show, "CounterSpin."



She has appeared on ABC's "Nightline," the "Montel Williams Show" and CNBC's "Inside Business," among other programs, and is host of CUNY-TV's monthly cable TV program, "Labor at the Crossroads." Jackson's is a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College, and has an M.A. in Sociology from the New School for Social Research. Jackson's topic will be "Fear & Favor: How Power Shapes The News." Jackson will discuss the range of pressures on reporters to use

Jackson will discuss the range of pressures on reporters to use something other than journalistic judgment in deciding what goes in the news we rely on, and what gets left out. Recent months have underscored the influence that the government can have in shaping news reporting to suit its aims. Other, more usual sources of pressure include corporate advertisers and media owners. It's a fundamental

journalistic tenet that integrity and independence are a media outlet's main assets, but evidence of the creeping abandonment of such basic premises abounds.

CALENDAR May 21st May 28th June 4th June 11th Janine Jackson **ARMED FORCES DAY UN DAY** TRANSITION DAY Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting Tom Ricks Hon. Patricia Durrant July 2nd June 18th June 25th July 9th July 16th John Sexton NO MEETING PRESIDENT'S DAY Kerry Kennedy Cuomo Pending NYU Law School Silvio Amori

The Rotary Club of New York would like to thank President-Elect Silvio Amori for arranging a wonderful Italy Day and his restaurant IL COVO DELL' EST for providing exquisite and authentic Italian food and wine.

REPORTER OF THE WEEK ITALY DAY- Tuesday, May 14, 2002

President Helen Reisler opened Italy Day with the Italian national anthem, followed by the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" led by Scarlett Pildes. Andrea Boragno gave the invocation. President Helen introduced the people giving service and Giorgio Balestrieri introduced the visiting Rotarians. Susan Mattos from the Newman Rotary Club in California presented a check for \$13,000 for the Disaster Relief Fund. Gerald Kelten from the Rome South Rotary Club, presented a beautiful peace plaque to our club representing the monument to be placed at ground zero and told us of his Club's plan to donate \$90,000 for our Disaster Relief Fund. President Helen introduced her Rotary International Peace Scholar, Danielle Reiff. She is the first of 70 in the world selected by R.I. to study conflict resolution. She told us of her plans to study in Paris.

Chairperson of the day Silvio Amori, who was also responsible for the sponsorship of the very tasty menu, introduced the speaker of the day, Roberto Luongo, Director of the Italian Trade Commission in New York. Mr. Luongo described the purpose of his mission of the economic and commercial relations between Italy and the U.S. He explained that Italy, is the fifth leading industrial power and the world's tenth exporter to the U.S. Although Italy's growth lagged behind the rest of Europe until 2002, in the first guarter of this year, Italy linked itself to the international recovery and did relatively better. They exported more than \$24 billion and imported \$10 billion worth of goods until the end of last year. Traditionally, the majority of the exports from Italy have been luxury consumer goods such as shoes, jewelry, ceramics, food, and wine. Recently, Italy has become a significant producer and exporter of industrial machinery and machine tools. Italian Trade Commission is currently focusing on the needs for industrial machinery in this country and opportunities for direct investment. Currently Parma and Fiat groups, which are primary investors, had invested \$6 billion dollars in the U.S. A total of \$24.2 billion dollars were invested in the petrochemical industry and banking and insurance. The Italian Trade Commission is primarily involved in the area of direct investments and has five offices in the U.S coordinated by the New York office. Finally, he brought to our attention that next June a trade delegation from the State Department was planning to visit Italy to reciprocate the trade relations. At the end of his presentation Mr. Luongo responded to several questions, pointing out that his presentation reflected only the official figures, it was assumed that 15 percent gray or underground economy was present, Italians were proud of their exported culture in Argentina and in the U.S. and the growing expertise in genetics.

The day ended with a customary raffle for giving away gifts from Italy.

-Rotarian Zehra Basaran

The New York Rotary Foundation has disbursed the following 9/11 grants:

 Safe Horizon
 \$150,000

 Seedco
 \$100,000

 YMCA
 \$40,000

 Fraternite Notre Dame
 \$7,808

Report on Child Summit

Last week, for the first time, the U.N. General Assembly held a special session on the Rights of Children and "A World Fit for Children." Head of R.I. delegation was Chair, Rotary Foundation, Luis Giay.

Rotary was honored many times for its PolioPlus work by Secretary –General Kofi Annan at a luncheon, by UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy at a VIP Reception, at a pledging ceremony to end polio (UNICEF, WHO, CDC, and UNICEF Ambassador Roger Moore), and by the Netherlands Mission Reception. I received an award from the NGO Committee for UNICEF. Giay and I attended the UNA-USA dinner honoring Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, a major contributor to our PolioPlus campaign.

-Sylvan Barnet, Alt. R.I. Rep. to the U.N.

International Service Division Breakfast

WHEN: Wednesday, May 22, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

WHERE: German Permanent Mission to the U.N., 23rd

Floor. Between 48th and 49th Street on First

Avenue

TOPIC: World Food and Water Crisis – World Food

Summit Preview

SPEAKERS: Florence Chenoweth, UN Food and

Agricultural Organization (FAO)

Vanessa Tobin, UNICEF Program Officer for

water, environment, and sanitation.

The registration is at 8:30 a.m. and the discussion will start at 8:45. Kindly let us know by Monday, May 20, if you will attend by calling or faxing to the RCNY office or e-mailing ny.rotary@verizon.net, with a copy to Ms. Allison Alessi, coordinator for RCNY, at aealessi@aol.com. The cost of breakfast is \$15, payable directly to the maitre d'.

Giorgio Balestrieri Sylvan Barnet

Chair, Int'l Service Division Alt. R.I. Rep. to the U.N.

Safe Horizon

An organization whose work is integral to the people of New York City

As you know, the Trustees of the NY Rotary Foundation and President Helen have invested much time in researching and selecting the appropriate 9/11 Disaster Relief Fund grant recipients. Hours and hours have been spent in discussing the pros and cons for certain organizations and individuals who had requested funding. There was, however, little doubt about approving an initial grant of \$100,000 for Safe Horizon, an organization that has reacted to the aftereffects of 9/11 in an exemplary way by being on location an providing victim's relatives with immediate financial relief without time-consuming bureaucracy—assistance that was urgently needed. Safe Horizon is the nation's leading nonprofit victim assistance, advocacy, and violence prevention organization.

Founded in 1978, Safe Horizon offers 75 programs throughout New York's five boroughs and has a staff of 900. In the wake of the September 11th attacks, Safe Horizon has distributed over \$88 million in emergency financial relief and provided over 40,000 victims with financial assistance, crisis counseling, referrals and 24-hour support through a toll-free hotline.

I had the pleasure of being invited to a celebration luncheon organized by Safe Horizon to thank the various donors at the Waldorf-Astoria on May 9^{th} and presented the second grant check of \$150,000 to them in the name of Rotary New York.

The Honorary Chair of the event was Mayor Michael Bloomberg, and he congratulated Safe Horizon for its outstanding work in the aftermath of 9/11. He pointed out that Safe Horizon understands the importance of collaboration. Its partnership with the Mayor's Office, as well as many other city agencies, truly has improved the quality of care provided also to victims of crime and abuse. He furthermore said that Safe Horizon's work with many corporations is most relevant, and he saluted the companies and organizations that helped Safe Horizon excel in their mission.

As you know, it has been a very important goal for President Helen to give our Club - as well as the Foundation, under the great leadership of Werner Kobelt-Visibility. During this event, we did receive just that- good visibility among the biggest corporations in New York City and a listing in the event journal under the category of benefactors (see list to the right). I sat next to a woman from a major financial institution and a gentleman from a large computer firm, and both were eager to learn more about Rotary and its mission. I was glad to give them an overview of what we do and what we stand for.

This is how Rotary can and will expand, if we don't hide behind our excellent work. Sometimes it does not hurt to praise ourselves for a job well done.

- Executive Director, Andreas Runggatscher

Since the beginning, Safe Horizon has provided assistance to those impacted by the attack on the World Trade Center: those who lost loved ones, those who were injured, those who lost jobs, and those who were forced from their homes. As our services have evolved, so too have our funding needs. The extraordinary support of \$100,000 or more from the following partners enabled us to offer crucial assistance during the emergency relief effort and to create programs that will serve victims for the long-term:

The Bear Stearns Companies, Inc.
Bermuda American Relief Fund
Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation
Emmis Communications
Entertainment Industry Foundation
Ernst & Young Foundation

Goldman, Sachs & Co. Honeywell International

Johnson & Johnson

J.P. Morgan Chase & Company

Morgan Stanley Foundation

National Automobile Dealers Charitable Foundation

New York Bankers Association/ABA Charities, Inc.

New York Rotary Foundation

New York State Crime Victims Board

The New York Times 9/11 Needlest Fund

O'Melveny & Meyers New York Relief Fund

Philip Morris Companies, Inc.

The Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation

The Robin Hood Foundation

The September 11th Fund

Simpson, Thacher & Bartlett

Toys * 9" Us Children's Fund, Inc.

Warburg Pincus

FOLLOWING REQUEST FOR SUPPORT HAS BEEN SENT TO US BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF FOLLONICA – DISTRICT 2070, ITALY

ROTARY Club of New York

Dear President,

As current president of Rotary Club of Follonica – 2070 District – Italy – I'm delighted to inform you of a cultural initiative, called "cast-iron cities", which, has already been approved by the two Town Councils and is going to involve the city of New York and Follonica.

The reason of such initiative is that Follonica, from 1500 to 1800, had been the most important site of production and trading of cast iron in all of the Mediterranean area and New York – in the area of Soho - has good examples of articles made in cast iron.

Our Rotary club decided to support this valuable project, publishing a catalogue of the local museum of "iron and cast iron".

An exhibition with some iron cast articles and historical documentation will be inaugurated – with the presence of the Ambassador and Consul for Italy and, probably, the major of New York, on June 6th, 6 p.m., at the "Casa Italiana della Cultura Zerilli-Marimò" – New York University 24 West 12th Street; slides and documentaries on the artistic and architectural features of our town will be also showed.

On June 7^{th} – 6 p.m. - a "round table" on "the strength and fragility of iron cast" will be held at the Italian Cultural Institute - 686 Park Avenue; Mr. Riani, Mr. Caroll, Mr. Arrigoni, Mr. Gayle and Mr. Mosette Broderich, experts on the matter, will manage it.

To organize and attend those events a delegation of Follonica Town Council as well as the President and two board members of local Rotary club will pay a visit to New York, from the 3rd to the 10th of June.

Considering the value of this cultural initiative and that your club should be in that interested area of New York, I look forward to the opportunity of meeting you during our visit. Your presence at the opening day of the exhibition, your participation and your involvement, in the way you prefer would be greatly appreciated.

For further details on the program "Iron Cast Cities", you could also ask the Manager of Italian Cultural Institute, Dr. Paolo Riani (RSVP 212.879.4242 - EXT.66).

Looking forward to meeting you My best regards

Davide Lera, President Rotary Club of Follonica