



December 9, 2003

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

GREG PALAST



Greg Palast is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *The Best Democracy Money Can Buy*, a book Michael Moore has called "courageous reporting." He has uncovered fraud and corruption in the highest seats of power, exposing the back-room crimes and propaganda of what he calls the New World Order's robber barons. Written in a no-holds-barred, in-your-face style, *The Best Democracy*

Money Can Buy is a must-read for anyone who believes that the First Amendment should be used and that democracy cannot be bought.

Greg Palast's writings have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Harper's*, and *The Nation*. He has been a guest on *Politically Incorrect*, C-SPAN's *Washington Journal*, and does regular investigative reports for BBC's *Newsnight*. Winner of Salon.com's 2001 "Politics Story of the Year," Greg Palast is a legend among his colleagues and his devoted leadership worldwide. Palast earned his MBS from the University of Chicago, where he studied under the tutelage of ultraconservative Nobel Prize winner Milton Friedman. A native of California, he divides his time between New York and London.

Known in Britain as "the greatest investigative reporter of our time" (*Tribune magazine*), Palast has broken some of the most infamous stories of the past decade, including:

- How the Bush family won the election in Florida in 2000,
- How Bush killed the FBI's investigation into the financing of terrorist organizations by Saudi Arabia, and why,
- How Enron cheated, lied, and swindled its way into an energy monopoly, and
- Groundbreaking reports on the World Bank, the IMF, the World Trade Organization, Wal-Mart, and more.

THE HOLIDAY PARTY, DEC. 16TH, WILL START AT 12:00

INTERNATIONAL BREAKFAST MEETING

Kindly be advised that the next meeting of the International Service Division of the Rotary Club of New York will be Wednesday, December 17, at the German Permanent Mission to the UN, top-floor restaurant on First Avenue (between 48th and 49th Streets), from 8:30 to 9:45a.m.

Our guest speaker will be Mr. Paul Underwood, President of the Business Council For The United Nations. Mr. Underwood's topic will be "Private Sector- Opportunities With the U.N"

Registration is at 8:30 and the meeting will start at 8:45 a.m.. Kindly let us know (before the end of Monday, December 15) if you or any guests wish to attend our breakfast by sending an e-mail to the Rotary Club of New York at ny.rotary@verizon.net copy to Fellow Rotarian Joseph Klee at j.u.klee@att.net or send a fax to (212) 633-1954. The cost of the breakfast is \$18, payable by credit card (via e-mail to ny.rotary@verizon.net) or cash at the entrance. Since seats are limited, kindly be advised that your reservation is not refundable.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
DECEMBER 9TH
ELECTION DAY

December 16th
Louis Freeh
FBI
HOLIDAY PARTY –

December 23rd
NO MEETING

December 30th
NO MEETING

Year end summary and outlook on 2004

It is time again to briefly summarize the first six month's of the fiscal year of the Rotary Club of New York. The goals set by President Greg Lynch at the beginning of the year were high, and we are pleased to announce that, halfway through the year, we are right on target with most of them. The club is financially in the black, and we are confident of maintaining this status until the year's end. The membership numbers are solid, and even though we had some members leave our Club for reasons such as relocation or other professional developments, we were able to attract new members at a similar pace as last year, when we had 59 new members. As of November, we already have 18 new members and have some good prospects as well. The corporate membership concept has been revisited and improved and we are hoping to attract more prestigious firms in the near future. The speakers program has been exceptional, once more to the credit of our Program Chair, Larry Parks. But most of all we were able to provide members with service opportunities and projects such as the Thanksgiving Meals for Veterans, the Fraternal Soup Kitchen, Care Packages for the troops, etc. which have been a great success. We had great fellowship and good cheer during our luncheons and the Eighth Evening of Harmony, an event founded originally by Shigemi Morita and chaired this year by Jim Thompson, also was a great success. The Four Way Test was given the necessary importance and has been cited after every meeting. Paul Harris and donations to the Rotary International Foundation, as well as our own New York Rotary Foundation, have picked up. We hope to reach 100 percent Paul Harris participation and locally to be able to raise \$80,000 for our own foundation in order to continue funding for Gift of Life, Taller Boricua, Fraternal Notre Dame, The Metropolitan Museum, and many more. On a public relations level, we have taped several of our speakers and the tapes are being shown on the Manhattan Network. We hope that this will contribute as well to more people finding us and the concept of "Service Above Self." All in all, let us give a round of applause to President Greg and ourselves without losing sight of the many goals and challenges still ahead in 2004.

-Andreas Runggatscher

Members who have left the Club in 2003-04

Jack Brimberg, Robert Hut, Mozart Ishizuka, Serge Hadjolian, Herb Missry, Henry Kang, Giovanni Vitaloni, Raoul Escuza, Fran Monaco, Zehra Basaran, Thierry Cagianut, Bill Goldman, Claudia King, Irwin Kishner, Peter Kroener, Arthur Lasker, Raymond Otani, Mikhail Petrov, David Serko

Members who joined us in 2003-04

Burkan Beyli, Charles Coupet, Christ'l Dullaert, Andrey Omelich, Dieter Beintrexler, Dee Sottosanti, Funda Bozkurt, Charo De Pretti, Rosemary Maniscalco, Natalie Hahn, Min Sung, Sekov Conde, Matthew Salerno

Addendum

In the last bulletin we described the Gift of Life Program and gave credit to several members involved in the great success this program has had over the past years.

We do not want to forget to mention Past President Richard Sainburg, who first introduced the project to the club during his presidency in 1997-1998.

Thank you, Richard, for your work back then and currently as a Trustee of the New York Rotary Foundation and historian of the Club.

-Andreas Runggatscher

MEMBERSHIP PROPOSALS

The Board of Directors has approved the following applicant. Any written objections must be received at the Club office by December 9th.

<u>Besir Ustaoglu</u>	President
Company:	Masterson International
Suggested Classification:	Marketing Consultant
Sponsors:	Kayhan Civelek

Reporter of the Week
Tuesday, December 2, 2003

President Greg Lynch opened the meeting, and the singing of "The Star-Spangled Banner" was led by Scarlett Pildes, accompanied by Volker Detering at the piano. Paul Schneiderman gave an excellent invocation with his "Blowing in the Wind" poetry. Mats Ingemanson introduced six visiting Rotarians, including three from the United States and three from other countries.

Thanksgiving meals services to the Veterans on November 27 was mentioned and members were encouraged to continue the good work by contributing generously the forthcoming end-of-the-year projects, including the holiday party scheduled for December 16th and gifts to be sent to military personnel serving in Iraq. Rotarian Taylor Gray recalled that gifts wrapped and labeled with age and gender for children ages 4-18 would be distributed by Rotarians at the Fraternite Notre Dame's Soup Kitchen Christmas party for children and at the Harlem Christmas tree. Jim Thompson also updated the Club on the ongoing efforts to forward gifts estimated at \$40 each, plus a goodwill message, to about 80 troops serving in Iraq. Regarding the New York Rotary Foundation Drive, members of the Club were briefed on the distinction between the RI Foundation donations and the need to promote humanitarian activities in the metropolitan area by funding the NYC Foundation, considered to be the "lifeblood" for welfare projects.

Larry Parks introduced the guest speaker of the day, Mr. James Taranto, editor of OpinionJournal.com and former Deputy Editorial Features Editor of *The Wall Street Journal*. Mr. Taranto gave the club members insights into journalism can be a "cool work with a lot of fun." As an experienced independent editor, he communicate his thoughts on various issues ranging from political to social issues, directly with the general public using a creative approach of Web site communications and having continuous contact via e-mail networking, with about 200-300 e-mails received daily. The editorial features are posted regularly for perusal on the OpinionJournal.com and are accessible to several thousand readers. He explained that his writings on numerous issues are satires, and humorous concepts, with contributions from several researchers who flag issues to be considered for each edition.

Tom McConnon initiated this week raffle drawing and one golf ball was awarded. The luncheon closed with the Four Way Test recitation led by Lillian Coury.

Rotarian- Kola Badejo

**A MESSAGE FROM –
FRATERNITE NOTRE DAME
GIFTS FOR UNDER-PRIVILEGED CHILDREN**

PLEASE GIFT-WRAP AND LABEL WITH AGE AND GENDER. IT WILL BE APPRECIATED IF THE
GIFTS ARE FOR AGES 4-18. PLEASE BRING TO THE LUNCHEON ON
DECEMBER 9TH OR ON OUR
HOLIDAY PARTY ON DECEMBER 16TH.

THESE GIFTS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED BY FELLOW ROTARIANS AT THE FRATERNITE NOTRE
DAME'S SOUP KITCHEN CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR CHILDREN AND AT THE HARLEM
CHRISTMAS TREE.