

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org ,

District 7980

September 20, 2017

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

The hurricane losses continue to escalate. First it was Houston, then Florida, then an earthquake in Mexico, and now Maria who has done terrible damage to the islands in the Atlantic. The human toll and loss of property is staggering. We are starting to provide support to one worthy program in Miami (Shake-a-Leg) with our Happy/Sad dollars, but this is only a drop in the bucket (pardon the pun). We will have to do more. We can send a lump sum to a charity such as the Red Cross, or target our giving. Everyone needs to think this one through.

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

Tary's Rotary Minute:

When we had exchange students from other countries, they stayed in the United States for one year. During the summer our district had over one hundred students, they were bused through 22 states, and the trip lasted one month. It was a great project. Any takers who would like to revitalize a foreign student exchange program?



Area Make-ups

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|-------|-----------|---|
| Mon. | 12:15 pm, | Norwalk, Norwalk Inn |
| Mon. | 6:15 pm, | Newtown, Newtown Country Club |
| Mon. | 6:00 pm, | Housatonic Valley Bkfld Town Hall, Rm 129 |
| Tues. | 7:15 am, | Ridgefield Sunrise, Prospector Theatre, 25 Prospect St. Second Floor |
| Tues. | 12:00 pm, | Westport, Branson Hall at Christ and Holy Trinity Church |
| Wed. | 12:15 pm, | Danbury, Ethan Allen Inn, Danbury |
| Wed. | 6:15 pm | Ridgefield Dinner Club, Stonehenge Rest., 35 Stonehenge Rd (off of Rt 7) Ridgefield |
| Fri. | 7:30 am | Westport Sunrise, The Westport Inn |
| Fri. | 12:15 pm, | Wilton, Marly's Bistro |

Amber Alert

- 10/7/17 Home Depot, Danbury, 9 -1 pm.
10/14/17 Reed School, Newtown, 10-4 pm
10/15/17 Parmalee Farm, Killingworth, 11-3 pm.
10/15/17 Backpack Program, Haddam/Ellington 11 -3 pm.

Speakers:

- 9/27/17 Dinner at Chuck's, 5:30 pm

Club President Frank Scahill Addressed the Club About His Business this Week, That of Helping Others with Their Computer Networks:



Yes, Pres Frank is a guru, a computer guru. His business involves helping small business owners and residential customers with their computers and their networks. Frank discussed basic security precautions for passwords and how to safeguard against clicking on the wrong web sites when searching for help. Be careful. Look at the website first.

Frank also went over basic disaster recovery implementations using a simple reserve drive back-up combined with a subscription to an offsite back-up program such as Carbonite. Frank emphasized the importance of anti-virus software whether you own a MAC or a PC. Equally important is availability of protective software no matter what operating system you are using. Malware and spyware can significantly compromise your computer. Periodically clean out your computer with the anti-malware programs. In this day and age, you have to be constantly alert to outside mischief.

Sell your raffle tickets—sell, sell, sell.

Requests for Funds:

Recently a WestConn student made a request for travel expenses. We will review that request for its merits, but normally we do not fund these types of individual requests unless they are Rotary related in some way. Still, we encourage those in the community to present their projects to us, and we will evaluate them regarding their individual merit. In the past we have provided funding to numerous organizations and individual projects such as the Hanahoe Children's Clinic, Shelter of the Cross, Adopt a Home, the Danbury Y, RYLA, and Katrina Relief just to name a very few. We are a Service Club. Giving is what we do.

Rotary Club of Danbury Officers 2017-18

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| President- | Frank Scahill |
| Pres. Elect: | Dr. Fredrick Kayal |
| Vice Pres. | Tim Seibert |
| Secretary- | Dr. Mark Havira |
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| Dr. Mark Havira | Tim Seibert |
| Tary Tarlton | Dr. Fredrick Kayal |
| Allison Fulton | Dr. Ralph S. Welsh |
| John Murphy | |

No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06
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SERVICE ABOVE SELF



A number of years ago, Jane and I spent a wonderful week in San Juan (see top photo of Old San Juan before the destruction). While there, we visited the remarkable Arecibo Radio Telescope, and listened to its eerie steady hum as it searched the heavens for information from outer space. Sadly, it was badly damaged in Maria's 155 mph winds, and a 39 foot dish was destroyed that was critical in doing Very Long Baseline Interferometry.

The situation remains dire for the scientists left there. They have food and water for a week, but access to the observatory has been cut off. The National Science Foundation isn't sure government funds will be available for all of the repairs needed, leaving the observatory's fate in limbo. The only certainty is that the people of Puerto Rico are badly in need of help. They are, of course, Americans. It is sad that PR was already in serious debt. Is there something Rotary can do?

