

# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

[www.danburyrotary.org](http://www.danburyrotary.org) ,

District 7980

May 9, 2018

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

### From the Editor's Desk:

Today we heard from two members of the Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project while at the same time our government is starting negotiations with North Korea over their looming nuclear threat—and just this week we heard that North Korea has just released 3 American detainees. It is all breathtaking news, but our South Korean guests ignored all of this political info—which in a sense was a relief. We heard of South Korea's remarkable leap into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, and the noble history predating it. Refreshing. Refreshing, indeed.

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

### Tary's Rotary Minute:

How many of our Rotary members have honestly spent 5 minutes reviewing the names of friends and business associates as possible new members? Even if half of our club found a new member, that would be approximately 15 new Danbury Rotarians. Think about it. The lifeblood of our club depends upon a constant refurbishing of our club membership, and only our current membership can do anything about it.



### Area Make-ups-

Mon. 12:15 pm, Norwalk, Norwalk Inn  
Mon. 6:15 pm, Newtown, Newtown Country Club  
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:

6/3 11 am to 3 pm Brookfield FD  
7/27 11 am to 4 pm N. Milford Fair Days  
7/28 10 am to 4 pm N. Milford Fair days

### Rotary Sponsored WestConn MIS Club Honored:

The Rotary Sponsored WestConn MIS Club was just selected by the Student Leadership Council to be the best Business Student Organization of the Year. The club was founded by the grandson of your Editor, and brother of Rotarian Joshua Gregorio, and is now one of the most active clubs on campus. Jason will graduate from WestConn in just a few days.

### Kyung Pak and Younhee Shin Visited the Club from the Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project, and We Were Impressed:

It has always been a pleasure to hear from the spokespeople from South Korea. The speech is always something new, and quite remarkable. Two messages stand out pertaining to the veneration given to their past history. This time the focus was their national treasure, the great bell of King Seongdeok, and secondly the unbelievable commitment of the Korean populace in freely donating their gold to pull the country out of a major financial crisis in 1998. Nearly



a quarter of the selfless population contributed enough gold to pull the country out of the debt (an average contribution of \$640 per person).



Today, South Korea has a thriving economy, is an industrial leader in ship building and electronics, and pays their elementary teachers better than any other developed economy in

*Pres. Frank with Speakers* the Western World. Crime is low, and tourism high. Their success echos the words of 15<sup>th</sup> Century King Sejong, who said, "If the people prosper, how can the king not prosper with them? And if the people do not prosper, how may the king prosper without them?" Words well spoken—more than 600 years ago.

### Luncheon Speakers:

5/16 Linda Banker, Supportive Systems  
5/23 Dinner at Chuck's at 5:30 pm  
5/30 TBA Probable visit to the Police Station.  
6/6 C.D. Peterson, Fly Fishing we assume  
6/13 Tess Goldhagen, Research and Bus. Development

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### Rotary Foundation Reception in Ridgefield--

DG Trish Pearson is encouraging us to attend one of 3 area RI Foundation Thank You receptions. The closest is at the home of Allison Stockel, 78 Olmstead Lane, in Ridgefield, on May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Jeff Kass attended last year, indicated no one asked him for money, and the fellowship was great. RSVP by May 13<sup>th</sup>, by calling Colin Gershon at 203-782-7798 or emailing him at:

[cmg@gershonlaw.com](mailto:cmg@gershonlaw.com).

### Visitors:

Todd Grady, a guest of Vicky Applegreen, and Ed Walsh, who works for Leahy's, were guests for lunch,



today. We expect that both gentlemen will return in the future, and hope they will consider future membership



### District 7980 Changing of the Guard:

Our former ADG Larry Gardner will be inducted as DG Tues., June 19<sup>th</sup>, at Anthony's Ocean View, 450 Lighthouse Road, in New Haven. Cocktails at 6 pm. Larry was one of the best ADGs we've had. Let's give him our support. RSVP required, [larry@jgardner.com](mailto:larry@jgardner.com).

The Annual District Conference is being held in Burlington, VT, June 1<sup>st</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Try to attend. This is Rotary at its best.

## Service Above Self

### Stuff We Really Don't Need

Did you know you could buy a Yankees cremation urn? Or maybe you would rather have a Boston Red Sox urn. Still my favorite is the Bud Light cremation "can." A shoebox (for designer shoes) would be cheaper and have more class, though. I wonder if there is an urn for Rotarians? A classy blue and yellow vase with a large gear for a lid, perhaps? What will they think of next?



\$569--Cheap at the price.

### Rotary Club of Danbury Officers 2017-18

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Pres. Elect:	Dr. Fredrick Kayal
Vice Pres.	Tim Seibert
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Tary Tarlton	Dr. Fredrick Kayal
Allison Fulton	Dr. Ralph S. Welsh
	John Murphy
	<i>No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06</i>
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