

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org ,

District 7980

June 20, 2018

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

A small contingent from our club attended the District Gavel Dinner in New Haven, this week. Our own PDG, Larry Gardner, became our new District Governor and the new officers for the coming year were introduced to the crowd. It was festive, it was long, but it was impressive. As is my practice, I took a few shots at the event, several of which follow:



PAST DG SELLS TARY TARLTON A BOOK OF RAFFLE TICKETS



LEXIS SORRELLIS INDUCTED TO BE PRESIDENT OF THE CHESHIRE ROTARY CLUB AND IS THE YOUNGEST PERSON TO BECOME A CLUB PRESIDENT



ABE GORDON PAST ROTARY INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT GIVES OUR NEW DG SOME NEEDED ADVICE



LARRY GARDNER BECOMES THE DISTRICT GOVERNOR AND GIVES A BRICK TO THE NEW DISTRICT GOVERNOR

Tary's Rotary Minute: In 1980 we purchased a new van for the Red Cross, with nothing more than a Small sign on the side to indicate that it came from our club. In the future, we ought to emblazon any such purchase with our logo, front to back (just a passing thought).



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

Juan F. Tapia Tells the Club Why He Believes in the Dreamers:

Our speaker, a 2013 Danbury Rotary Scholar who joined the USAF after graduating from college, told us why we need to understand the plight of the many undocumented aliens in our state. As a member of C4D, CT Students for a Dream, he has courageously been fighting to give the undocumented youth and their families visibility in our society, and wants them to be given some basic rights that they have been denied. One of the most recent victories of C4D is getting the legislature to pass a bill that would allow them state level tuition in our local colleges and universities.



He told us of his own scary childhood living in Mexico, and insisted that every child who can profit from a higher education should be able to get it...and a college degree not only benefits the student who receives it, it ultimately benefits society as a whole. He explained, "Education was a passion to my mother. She was the inspiration that pushed me to where I am today." He encouraged the club to provide financial and moral support for a recent detainee, Eduardo Perez who fled to Connecticut to escape gang violence in Gutamala. Eduardo was a productive member of our community for 18 years until he was arrested and placed in detention a month ago. Juan insists he is not political; he is only acting on a humanitarian basis, and challenges us, "Isn't this what Rotary is all about?"

Ray Kish, Jim Gargan and Kristen Keil take in, and contemplate the message of our speaker.



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Erratum:



That young man to the right is Tary Tarlton's grandson, Lars Wallis, not his son. We regret this error that occurred in last week's Spoke.

We Have a New Member:

Ed Walsh, of Leahy's Fuel, is our newest member, and will be passing the Happy/Sad Dollars bucket, shortly. Get to know Ed. We believe he will be one of our best members in years to come. He did not join the club on a whim. He carefully checked us out before hand. Good job, Ed. You chose well.



Dr. Regan J. Welsh, Daughter of Ralph Welsh, Chosen their Favorite Mentor by Graduating Yale OB/GYN Residents:



The graduating class of Yale OB/GYN resident physicians has selected attending physician, Dr. Regan J. Welsh, to receive the Nathan Kase Award at a recent honors banquet in New Haven. The message, reads in part, "To our Teacher, Counselor and Friend, from the 2018 Graduating Chief Residents."

A Message from our Outgoing Chief:

I would like to thank all of the members of our club for making this such a rewarding year. Everyone helped out in both small as well as major ways. Acting in our spirit of service, we supported many organizations including the Nambale Magnet School in Africa, Ann's Place, the Women's Center, HVCASA, the Shake a Leg Foundation in Florida, the Regional Hospice, and the Danbury Westerner's - just to name a few. Through a single fund raiser, we helped 13 students with scholarships. With the help of two of our generous banks, we gave out more than \$40,000 this year which helped ease the financial load of many remarkably capable young men and women struggling to pay for their educations. Rotary works, and with just a little effort on our part we are able to make a huge impact in the lives of others. We made



great strides in promoting Rotary and helping our local youth through RYLA and ROTARACT as well as honoring our Student of the Month.

I sincerely hope everyone is proud of what we achieved, and that we all look forward to continuing our work with Fred during our next Rotary year. And don't forget our need to build our membership. Please continue to invite people to the meetings, and get them involved with Rotary. Look for people who want to give back to our community and help others, people who have no idea of how to do this. Rotary gives individuals seeking purpose to their lives focus, a sense of belonging, and a deeply rewarding experience. That's why we are Rotarians, and that is why people want to join Rotary--- we just have to ask them. There is a Rotarian in every person out there waiting to come out! We just need to grab that inner Rotarian, and get them on board.

Yours in Rotary Service, Frank Scahill

Rotary Club of Danbury Officers 2017-18

President-	Frank Scahill
Pres. Elect:	Dr. Fredrick Kayal
Vice Pres.	Tim Seibert
Secretary-	Dr. Mark Havira
Treasurer-	Tary Tarlton
Sergeant at Arms-	Dr. Nels DeAlmeida

Directors-	
Anita Ragona	Kristen Keil
Dr. Nels DeAlmeida	Robert J. Vetter
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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Some Win, and Some Lose-

Global warming is causing the Alps to grow. How might you ask could this happen? Well, the melting of the massive glaciers on these peaks is causing them to gain altitude, with a staggering loss of 1.5 billion tons of ice each year. That's a lot of weight loss. This Editor wishes that his simple exposure to heat could do the same for him. Maybe that should be our next Rotary health project...encouraging our chubby members to spend more time in the sun or the sauna.



Speaking of winners/losers, Bob Vetter did just that. He held the winning ticket, and pulled a losing card for the big one. He lamented the fact that he frequently has the winning ticket, but just can't find that winning card.

Speakers:

- 6/27 Passing the Gavel Dinner, Ridgewood CC, Cocktails 6:30 pm, Dr. Fred Kayal to be inducted as our president.
- 7/18 Keith Wolf, Junior Achievement.
- 7/24 Off site, Westerners Baseball, Rogers Park, playing the Keene Swamp Rats, 6:30 pm.