

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org,

District 7980

August 8, 2018

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

It would be nice if a sizable group attended the Newtown Labor Day Parade. Newtown Rotary was one of the founders of the parade, and we have contributed \$200 for ad space. Our DG, Larry, is a member of the club, and we ought to show him our support. If you can't walk, you can sit in the reviewing stand—and they are still negotiating for a flat bed truck for all non-walkers. If you plan on attending the party following the parade, access their website and tell them you are coming. They would obviously like a head count. With the lousy weather we have been having, pray for a good day. Also, we want to remind you of Anita and Andy Ragona's pool party, **August 22 at 4 pm**, Bring the whole family--- weather permitting..

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

Tary's Rotary Minute:

In 1960 our club met at the Ridgewood Country Club, but in January the Club is closed. During that month, the club would meet at the Danbury High School which was on White Street at the time. It was felt that we needed a more permanent place to meet, the club had a vote, and the Eldorado won primarily because it had a bar. Go figure



Yours in Rotary Service, Tary

Speakers:

- 8/15 Ralph Welsh, My very excellent teen-age Alaskan adventure.
- 8/22 Pool Party at Andy and Anita Ragona's, 4 pm
- 8/28 Stew Leonard tour, Off-site visit. Be there at Noon, upstairs.
- 9/5 Mayko and Chris Lucksey, AAA, Danbury.
- 9/26 Dinner at Chuck's, 5:30 pm
- 10/24 Dinner at Chuck's, 5:30 pm
- 11/21 Lions at Ethan Allen

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, Bernard's, 20 West Lane, Ridgefield
- Fri 7:30 am, Westport Sunrise, The Westport Inn
- Fri. 12:15 pm, Wilton, Marly's Bistro

Another Important Scholarship Program is Alive and Well in Danbury—Brave Enough to Fail:

The founder and Executive Director of BEF is Wayne Winsley. You might have heard him on the air, while he was a broadcaster, but he now feels he has a more important calling.

Wayne grew up in an orphanage, dropped out of school, and was heading for a dead end life on the street, when the father of a friend admonished his son over the importance of an education telling his boy "Strive for excellence no matter what you do." A light went on, Wayne returned to school, spent 2 tours of duty on the SS

Enterprise, had a talk show for many years, was even a candidate for Congress in 2012, and he has never looked back.

Realizing the vast number of troubled but capable kids in the community, he dedicated the rest of his life to helping



as many as he could to also strive for excellence. He firmly believes that striving will overcome poverty and prejudice, He explained, "Being brave enough to fail means having the courage to risk failure in anything you are striving for, and use failure as a learning experience to move on."



Wayne with Pres. Fred

This year BEF has given out 8 individual \$1,000 scholarships, and 40 \$1,000 scholarships to the schools in the area.

You can contact Wayne either through his website, or email, wayne@braveenoughtofail.org.



We like what he is doing.

Weekly Raffle? Nope. Bob left the tickets home, but then his recent cataract surgery may have deterred his ability to read a winning ticket—if he pulled it again—only Bob knows the truth.



Michele Geffert tells John Lucchesi, "I believe Bob's story."

Don't Say You Weren't Warned:

During our flu epidemic, stay away from your mailman. He's a carrier



Rotary Club of Danbury
Officers 2018-19

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| President- | Dr. Fred Kayal |
| Pres. Elect:- | Jeffery Kass |
| Vice Pres.- | Tim Seibert |
| Secretary- | Dr. Mark Havira |
| Treasurer- | Frank Scahill, Jr |
| Sergeant at Arms- | Edward Walsh |
| Directors- | |
| Anita Ragona | John Murphy |
| Robert J. Vetter | Jeffery Kass |
| Dr. Mark Havira | Tim Seibert |
| Tary Tarlton | Frank Scahill |
| Allison Fulton | Dr. Ralph S. Welsh |

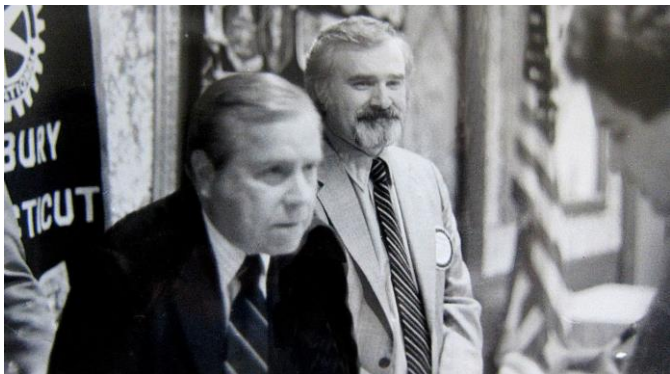
No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06
Spoke Editor: Ralph S. Welsh
203-938-2820 / rswelsh@mail.com



Our newest member, Michele Geffert, congratulates Chris Hoeffel as our new ADG. We're happy to have them both aboard. Chris is a member of the Newtown Club.

Blast from the Past:

Befitting our Tuesday election, it would seem appropriate to look back in time. Were the good old days better? Not so much. On August 7, 1974, House Minority Leader John J. Rhodes, along with Senator



Barry Goldwater and Senate Minority Leader Hugh Scott entered the oval office and informed Pres. Richard Nixon he would be impeached if he didn't step down. He left the office of the presidency two days after the meeting. In 1983 Rep. Rhodes spoke to our Rotary Club, and told us that his trip to the Oval Office was one of the saddest and most difficult things he had ever done during his lifetime. With the current situation in Washington, could we see a repeat of this event? Only time will tell. Anyway, don't forget to vote, Tuesday.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF