

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org ,

District 7980

November 14, 2018

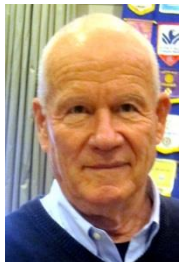
P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

Thanksgiving is only 8 days away, and we all need to count our blessings. The Rotary Club of Danbury is financially healthy, but we could do a whole lot better. With our new president this upcoming Rotary Year, Michele Geffert, we have a seasoned Rotarian who along with our current remarkably able President Fred Kayal, will get things done. At the board meeting this week, she and President Fred assured us we will increase membership significantly this coming year but everyone has to pitch in and do their part. We once had more than 60 members, but we remain thankful for the loyal, capable group we now have today, and believe they can make things happen. So let's appreciate the club we have, and make it even better for the future. We can do it. It just takes a little effort and faith, but membership is the life blood of a club and can't be ignored. Also, the Raffle tickets are not selling as fast as they should. The second most important element of a club is its finances—and the Raffle is our primary fundraiser. LET'S GET THOSE TICKETS SOLD. We only have the remainder of this month to do so. A 100% sale would be something we could really be thankful for .

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

Tary's Rotary Minute: Three weeks ago I was going to surprise



Editor Ralph by bringing Leo Metsavaht to the luncheon, one of our former exchange students we both hosted, who is now an outstanding surgeon in Argentina. Dr. Leo is a member of an elite committee that meets annually at Harvard (Warren Buffet and Bill Gates are long standing members of the committee) to discuss a myriad of world

problems, and would be passing through Connecticut on his way to Boston. Unfortunately, I had an emergency trip to Florida and we were unable to connect. Maybe next year.

Yours in Rotary Service, Tary

Speakers-

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, Wpt, 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

No Speaker Today: We Had a Club Assembly:



We had a good, round table discussion, at lunch today, and the emphasis was on fundraising. Going on right now we have:

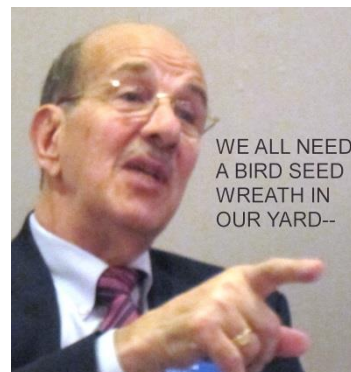
The sale of the bird feeder wreaths, and the Card Raffle. We need to support both, of course, and Bob Vetter noted that we are only a quarter of the way to our quota with less than 3 weeks before the drawing.

President Fred also encouraged the club to buy at least one bird seed wreath at a mere \$20. We keep half of the proceeds. President-elect Michele Geffert briefly discussed her experience at P.E.T.S., a District training program designed to prepare all incoming presidents for their year in office.



We also discussed the upcoming meeting with the Lions next week.

We have a tentative speaker who is apparently funny and motivational. We hope we land him. Finally, we mentioned our interest in the Christmas Party at Tim Seibert's



December 6th. Bring an inexpensive Chinese auction gift and either hors d'oeuvres or a desert. The club will fund the event, so it is a baragain for all of us.

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Finally, don't forget that the December 20th Christmas visit to the Lions Club is a Thursday. Every year a member or 2 forgets where to go.

Above all, **SELL THOSE RAFFLE TICKETS.** The drawing is December 5th.



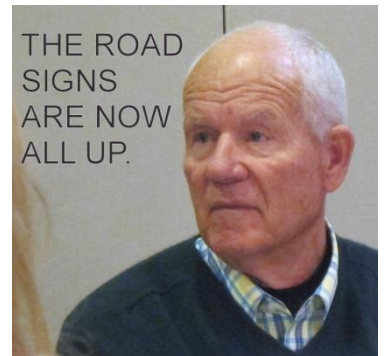
Spoke Editor Ralph holds the winning ticket, but pulls a losing card. Maybe next week will be the charm.

Our Trust can make money every time you buy something from Amazon. Here's the link to show how you can be a contributor to our Scholarship Program: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/06-6098669>. Speak to Frank Scahill if you need additional help in setting up your account.



Jim Gargan explains why so many Rotarians flee Danbury during the winter for the confines of the warm South—as if it needed an explanation.

In a thankless task, Tary has finally replaced and added all of the needed road signs to our luncheon. We really appreciate the effort, Tary. So will our future guests on wheels.



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

This Is a Banner Year for Us: On Christmas Eve, fifty years ago a spacecraft orbited the moon for the first time. Its commander, **Jim Lovell** who is now 90, sat down with an editor for the December issue of Astronomy Magazine, and described his feelings of awe as he looked back from the moon and noticed he could cover the image of the earth with his thumb. According to Lovell, "I suddenly realized that behind my thumb, on this little planet, was about 5 billion people. Everything I ever knew was behind my thumb, and I suddenly got a different perspective of my position in life...it was a mere speck in the Milky Way Galaxy, and it was lost to oblivion in the universe."



Danbury has a special tie to our magnificent space program having had our own Perkin-Elmer grind the remarkable mirror that is on the Hubble space telescope, a program considered one of the most important the space program has ever done. That telescope, we might add, is memorialized on our Danbury Rotary banner.

