

# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

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

District 7980

February 6, 2019

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

### From the Editor's Desk:

I was saddened to hear of the death of John Dingell who served in the U.S. Congress for 59 years. While attending a leadership conference a number of years ago with a delegation from the CT Psychological Association, I met Congressman Dingell and had a memorable chat with him. I complained about the divisiveness in Washington, and expressed my fear that in the future nothing credible was going to come out of the two legislative bodies. He chuckled and offered me this sage advice. "In this business you need to learn how to be patient, learn how to compromise, and in the end things have a way of working out. You just have to learn how to be patient, young man." Of course, I hadn't been called a young man for a number of years which was rather nice. So was the advice. He was right. If we just wait, things seem to work out in the end. Compromising is the hard part.

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

### Tary's Rotary Minute:



Some time ago our club decided to have a different (off site) agenda for the 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, and our visits have clearly acquainted our member with organizations in the community that are often unfamiliar treasures. Many years ago, the club did different things. One of those Wednesdays away from the restaurant, we all got on a bus and went to the Jai Alai Fronton

in Bridgeport. The bus had refreshments on board, and we had dinner at the fronton. Ralph Welsh informed me that he held two bets for one game, his and that of Don Stone's who is blind. Don's ticket won over \$200 (a switch was never even considered, but would have been easy to do). Everyone had a great time although the net accounting was in the red as is usually the case with gambling.

Yours in Rotary Service, Tary

### Speakers-

- 2/13/19 Wayne Leiss on the use of essential oils
- 2/20/19 Carl Bailey on his latest mercy medical mission to South America
- 3/6/19 Carol Freud Spiegel; history of the Palace Theatre and how it can be a club fundraiser

### 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

### Student of the Month, and Some Stories from the Crowd:

Since our Student of the Month presentation was rather brief, and our speaker could not make the luncheon, several of our members stood up and told some rather interesting tales from their past. Steve Kahn told about a young, troubled young man he mentored some years back, how they had stayed in touch and the lad is now successfully employed and



*Steve Kahn (center) told a heart warming tale* is the father of 3 healthy young children. Your Editor recalled volunteering for a fire brigade on a forest fire in Idaho, then returning back to town in an old Buick with no brakes—backing all the way down from the top of a mountain around hairpin curves. He recalls that the old jalopy went remarkably fast in reverse—not safely slow like the driver insisted it would be.

### The Cell Phone Prevails:



What did we do before the advent of the cell phone? I believe we talked to people more, face to face. Now one can't leave home without it. Isn't technology wonderful? Or... is it so wonderful? You be the judge.



THE PHONE IS NOW MIGHTIER THAN THE FACE TO FACE SPOKEN WORD--

I CAN NOT LIVE WITHOUT MY CELL PHONE. THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS--

**Happy Birthday Mr. President:**

*Fred Kayal celebrated his birthday this month. We hope he has many more to come.*



**Winner/loser:** Your Editor held the winning ticket, but pulled a losing card. An ace is no better than a two; the King of Clubs is the target card.

**Contribute to our Club:** 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.

**Rotary Club of Danbury  
Officers 2018-19**

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| <b>President-</b> | Dr. Fred Kayal     |
| Pres. Elect:-     | Michele Geffert    |
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| Treasurer-        | Frank Scahill, Jr  |
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| Dr. Mark Havira   | Tim Seibert        |
| Tary Tarlton      | Frank Scahill      |
| Allison Fulton    | Dr. Ralph S. Welsh |

*No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06*  
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**Paper Shredding Fund Raiser, May 4<sup>th</sup>.**

Tell all of your business friends about our Paper Shredding Day. It will be held in the parking lot of Chuck's, 9 am to 12 Noon on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Come one, come all.

**Our Student of the Month, Annie Rodriguez—**

Abbot Tech School Social Worker, Fran Chappa has brought us another outstanding scholar in Annie Rodriguez. Annie is a 4.0 honor student who Fran described as, "One of the sweetest, most giving, all Fran Chappa, Pres. Fred and our SOTM around special persons in the school." We are lucky to have these remarkably fine young men and women in our community. They are our leaders of the future.



*(Upper left) Fran Chappa introduces our SOTM. (Upper right) Annie and her mother, Anna. (Lower left) Pres. Fred thanks Fran Chappa for her fine work.*