

# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

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

District 7980

March 13, 2019

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

### From the Editor's Desk:



The Board is open to all Rotarians, and it is very active the second Wednesday of the month.

If you think the cell phones are busy at our Noon luncheons, you have never been to a Board meeting.



This week we discussed everything from the upcoming District Conference-Assembly to the Paper Shredding fund raiser at Chuck's, May 4<sup>th</sup> and a lot of other issues in between, including Ryla, the new June Board, club membership (always a must) and whether or not to pursue the rental of the Danbury Palace Theatre (it was a pass). If you really want to understand how Rotary works, become a Board member. It's both a fun and an educational experience.



Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

### Tary's Rotary Minute:



We held our annual Golf District Outing in June of 1965 at the New Canaan Country Club, and it was a huge success. Green fees were a modest \$6.50 and the dinner and awards ceremony that followed was another \$6.50. (in today's dollars it equals about \$104.00—Mmmm. Not so modest). Many of our members participated in the event, but the winners was not recorded.

Yours in Rotary Service, Tary

### Speakers-

- 3/20/19 Corrienne Gagliardi, CT State Gift Officer
- 3/27/19 Dinner at Chuck's
- 4/22/19 Mike Anderson, Ridgefield Rotary's Flag Fundraiser
- 4/22/19 Dinner at Chuck's
- 5/29/19 Family and Children's Aid-- Off Site Visit

### 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



### Caitlyn Landry, Regional Manager of the Guiding Eyes for the Blind Puppy Program, Opened our Eyes on the Remarkable Work that is Required to Create a Guide Dog:

Guide Dogs for the Blind do not just happen. The training of a Guide Dog begins with a puppy, who is given a training harness and groomed for his/her entire life to become a reliable companion to a blind person lucky enough to be given one. The recipient is never charged a dime, but the cost from puppyhood to Guide Dog is \$50,000 and the training is life-long. The Canine Development Center in Patterson, NY, is the dog training facility in the area. Although there used to be a mix



Caitlyn with Casper

of breeds, the Center prefers Labs and Shepherds (92% and 8% respectively). The Center has its own "Elite" breeding program, and fully realizes that not every dog has a temperament or ability to ultimately graduate as a Guide Dog. Some of the dropout become successful drug sniffing police dogs, and others become someone's pet.

The Center has graduated more than 7,000 guide dog teams, have 1,000 guide dog graduates, and places 165 plus guide dogs annually. The employ 150 individuals, and have more than 1,400 volunteers. They are funded

by various people, organizations, and corporations, and the Lion's Low Vision Program has be a reliable friend. If you wish to know more about the program, you can contact Citlyn at: 914-523-7394

### Keeper of the Cards Does it Again: Bob Vetter holds the Winning Ticket, but Alas, He Can Not find the King of Clubs!

Suspicion always arises when Bob Vetter holds the winning ticket, but it is always laid aside when he pulls the losing card. Good luck next week, Bob. It is only a matter of time.



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**Paper Shredding Fund Raiser:** We will be shredding paper from 9 am to Noon May 4<sup>th</sup> in the parking lot of Chuck's. Bring your own boxes to be shredded, and tell all of your friends. It should be a productive morning as well as a fine fellowship event.

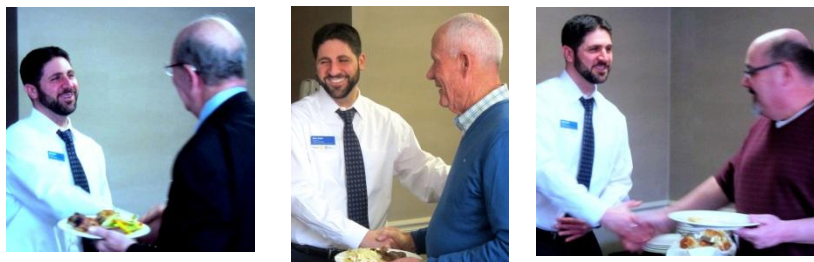
**Amber Alerts:**

- 3/31 10:00 am-5:00 pm, Stepping Stones Museum, Norwalk
- 4/20 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Prospect Fire Dept.,26 New.Haven Rd.
- 5/5 11:00 am-4:00 pm, Danbury Sports Dome
- 5/19 11:00 am-2:00 Hawleyville Fire Dept, 34 Hawleyville Rd.,Newtown
- 6/9 10 am-2 pm, Southbury Ambulance, 68 Georges Hill Rd.

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

<b>President-</b>	Dr. Fred Kayal
Pres. Elect:-	Michele Geffert
Vice Pres.-	Tim Seibert
Secretary-	Dr.Mark Havira
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Anita Ragona	John Murphy
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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*  
Spoke Editor: Ralph S. Welsh  
203-938-2820 / rswelsh@mail.com



It was great to see Caryl Lucchesi again (center)---who reminded us all to attend the Gavel Dinner coming up June 19<sup>th</sup> at the Ridewood Country Club.



*We treat our guests with warmth and friendship, as is the case, here, with visiting Rotarian Alon Sapir.*

As with our Board meeting, the cell phone dominates everyone's free time. The darn thing has a tendency to interrupt meeting, as we saw today with Pres. Fred. Even our speaker and our guest Rotarian, Alon Sapir, were fully equipped with their multi-purpose communication devices. What did we do when they did not exist? Think about it.



**SERVICE ABOVE SELF**