

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org ,

District 7980

May 29, 2019

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

In addition to our current financial support of Family and Children's Aid, our club has had connections with the organization going back to the time it was a small, specialized agency providing counseling and guidance to a limited group of people in the community. More than 30 years ago, as the Chief Consulting Psychologist of the Dept. of Children and Families (DCYS at that time) I sat on a panel of community clinicians asked to select the first PhD Director of the psychological services of Family and Children's Aid. We selected Dr. Marc Gershowitz, who is still in the community—and who gave an emotional speech to our club a number of years ago on the discovery that his wife had cancer. Tary Tarlton's Construction company had a major part in the building of the "Structure with the Hands," and a former Rotarian, Jack Tyransky, is their Treasurer.

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

Tary's Rotary Minute:

When Ralph Welsh was our President ('82-'83) he was always emphasizing member participation. His motto at the time was "Don't be a RINO" (Rotarian in name only). That year's International Theme follows this admonition: "Mankind is one. Build bridges throughout the world." Of course these bridges can't be built without club involvement. We reasoned that we could do this by making a commitment for the club to find projects that addressed all four of the avenues of service: Club Service, Vocational Service, Community Service, and International Service. We also had District goals then. They are more specific but quite ambitious. The District had charged all of its members to: Make sure their club grows by at least two more members; we should all work toward an increase in District membership of 1,400; the District should name at least 70 new Paul Harris Fellows; we should add 2 new clubs in the Rotary Years 1982-'83, and add ladies to Rotary membership. I believe most of the above was achieved, and Danbury Rotary was a part of it.

Yours in Rotary Service, Tary

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

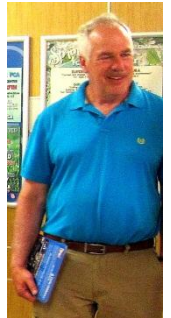
Dana Hillman, Director of Specialized Training, and Kevin McNellis, Director of Operations, took us on a Tour of the Disney Land-like Family and Children's Aid Center, in Danbury:

Yes, it is indeed Disney Land-like, with a Mock Subway, a place to toss a basketball, a Play Therapy Village, creatively decorated Breakout Rooms, Books and Supplies, Art Room, and a whole lot of other



Dana Hillman

remarkable features. They cater to the most needy children and families in the community, and they have a physical plant that beats all. It is a therapeutic environment serving



Kevin McNellis

7,000 children in more than 100 cities and towns in CT, with over 20 programs focused on behavioral health. Family and Children's Aid is a community based, non-profit organization serving families that have experienced, abuse, neglect or trauma since 1809. It currently has locations in Danbury, New Milford, and Waterbury—and will be expanding to more. It is a remarkable place. We were all impressed.





Chick Fil A Donated lunch



Rotary Club of Danbury
Officers 2018-19

President-	Dr. Fred Kayal
Pres. Elect.-	Michele Geffert
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

Next Speaker: June 5th, Ethan Allen, 12:15 pm, TBA

Wednesday, June 19th we will pass the gavel at the Ridgewood Country Club. A tux is optional. Cocktails are at 6:30 and dinner will be served at 7:30. Bring a guest but let **Caryl Lucchesi** know if you do when you inform her of your own attendance. It is the event of the year, so mark it clearly on your calendar



Amber Alerts:

6/9 10 am-2 pm, Southbury Ambulance, 68 Georges Hill Rd.
7/27 and 28 Village Fair Days, N, Milford, CT
10/5 9 am-1 pm Home Depot, Danbury

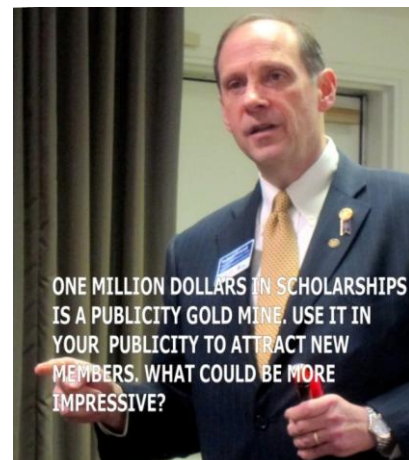
Our Scholarship Giving can be a Gold Mine for the Club:



When Wayne Curtis was recently informed that Bethel High was having their Scholarship Night, and our \$1,000 Service Above Self scholarship winner would be one of the honorees, he made sure he was on hand to

recognize Amanda McCarthy at the event.

We can be justifiably proud of our scholarship giving, and I was recently made aware of how important this program is. I attended the Public Image Breakout Session at the District Assembly, and announced that over the years our club has handed out more than one million dollars in scholarships. One of the two presenters, Robert Friend, described this level of giving as a media gold mine. I hadn't thought of it that way, but it clearly is. *The Editor*



Sad Loss Just Reported: Our Sgt at Arms, Ed Walsh, just lost his father, Edward F. Walsh. Apparently he was a remarkable man—WW II Navy Vet, Danbury High School educator, coach, guidance counselor, past football star, and beloved by his students and friends. You can visit the family at the Green Funeral Home at 57 Main Street, this coming Sunday, 1 pm to 4 pm.