

# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

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

District 7980

September 4, 2019

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT

### From the Editor's Desk:

Perhaps I sound like I am beating a dead horse, but we really need to work harder on membership. Look around, and see if there is anyone in your sphere of life who would make a good Rotarian. Family and friends are a good pool, but your auto body repairman, local grocer, or family doctor are worth looking into. Also, Bob handed out the raffle tickets for our largest fund raiser at the meeting today. Sell as many as you can—even one at a time can mount up. You don't have to sell books of tickets, only. Good luck. We need your help. Finally, should we help the hurricane victims in the Bahamas? I think we should.

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

### Tary's Rotary Minute:

While scanning over past Spokes, I came across the Spoke of April 11, 1984. It noted that we had eight visiting Rotarians that day, and dutifully summed up the comments of our speaker who discussed the fine points of Labor Law. Suddenly one item caught my attention. In the last paragraph of our newsletter, it mentioned a new member, Robert Vetter! That was clearly one of our most important red letter days.



Yours in Rotary Service, Tary

### 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

### Luncheon Events:

9/11 Al Smith, No Labels; Let's unite a divided country.  
9/18 Jim Crossett, Synergy Home Care.  
10/9 P. Scott Valley, Charter Oak Brewing.  
10/16 DG Jack Solomon, Rotarian Heroes and Interact.  
10/30 Ability Beyond, Off-site, 4 Berkshire Rd., Bethel.  
11/13 Steven Harding, State Representative.  
11/27 Thanksgiving Lunch with the Lions.  
12/19 Christmas Lunch with the Lions, Thurs. off-site at the Lions.

### Amber Alert

9/8 11 am to 3 pm. Brookfield Fire Dept.  
10/5 9 am to 1 pm, Home Depot., Danbury.

**SERVICE ABOVE SELF**

### Duane C. Barney, of DC Builds, Warned us Today of the Dangers of Selecting the Wrong Architect, and Wrong Builder in our Major Home Construction Projects:

Our speaker, today, told us a story about a Redding, CT couple whose dream house turned into a nightmare.



The situation began when the couple purchased the perfect fixer-upper in the right neighborhood, with the potential they had been long looking for.

After hiring an unlicensed architect, they accepted his recommendation for a builder, and commenced on a major home renovation. The results were a disaster, and the bank ultimately ended up taking the home.

Mr. Barney likened the building or major renovation of a residential property to that of opening a small business. Most people don't have the background in doing it right, or worse just take the lowest bid. Even people with good business experience fail, and it isn't surprising that home owners who are naïve about building frequently end up with disasters.



*The Club received a hard lesson in home repairs*

The moral of the story is clear. Make sure your architect and builder are highly qualified professionals. The homeowner who fails to do his/her homework is flirting with trouble. Duane Barney can be contacted at: 203-917-7574

**The Weekly Draw:**

Tary holds the winning ticket, but pulls a losing card. Oh well, there is always next week. Still, he has six more shots at the big one. That's still a winner in our book.



**Happy Birthday, Ray Kish ...and may you have many more in the future**



**The Devastation in the Bahamas: Rotary is Stepping up to the Plate—**

The East Nassau Rotary Club is organizing relief trips and help to the hurricane stricken communities in the Bahamas,



many of whom also have Rotary Clubs, also. Should we help? Of course we should.

Perhaps we should pay for a Shelter Box. Let the Board know how you feel about this.

**Jeff Kass** reminded us to contribute to the RI Foundation. It does so much good worldwide. A \$1,000 gift will make you a Paul Harris Fellow.



*Thanks, Delia, for stepping in for Pres. Allison who could not be here today. You actually looked very presidential.*

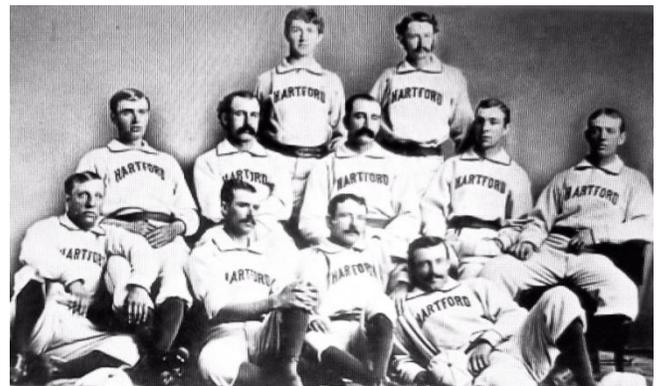


**Jim Gargan** was our Substitute Sgt at Arms today. He did the job well. More \$5.00 bills are showing up!

**A Little Known fact about Major League Baseball**

Did you know that Hartford had one of the first baseball teams in MLB? It was the Harford Dark Blues that played for two years, in the National league. They folded in 1877, even though they earned 3<sup>rd</sup> place in 1876. The American League was founded sometime later, in 1901. Most of those 1901 teams still exist today.

We were rained out for our yearly Westerner game. Maybe next year will be better. *The 1876 Harford Dark Blues*

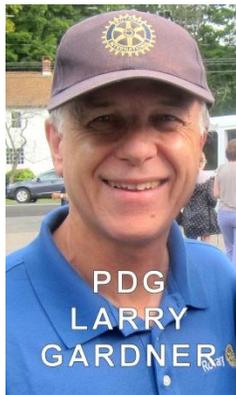


*Boston vs Cleveland, 8/13/19. Boston won 7 to 6. This was only my second visit to a Major League ball game. The previous game was at Yankee Stadium. Those tickets were purchased during one of our Radio Auctions!*

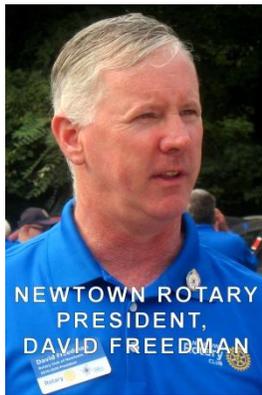


The Newtown Labor Day Parade:

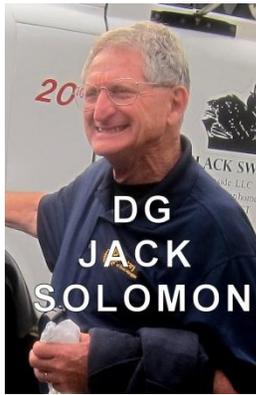
The Rotary Club of the Newtown was one of the founders of the only Labor Day parade in Connecticut, years ago, and it remains a staple item in the fall. As in the past, the Rotary Club of Danbury was there in presence, if not numbers. The following photo record is presented with minimal comment:



PDG LARRY GARDNER



NEWTOWN ROTARY PRESIDENT, DAVID FREEDMAN



DG JACK SOLOMON



ADG CHRIS HOEFFEL



OVER \$1,000,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS GIVEN!

Check for the Rotary

- 1. IS IT THE TRUTH?
- 2. IS IT FAIR to all concerned?
- 3. WILL IT BRING GOODWILL, AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS BY?
- 4. WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL to all concerned?



HELLO! I'M MAYOR BOUGHTON!



I DIDN'T GET ANY CANDY!

Rotary Club of Danbury 2019-2020

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Dr. Fred Kayal

No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06  
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