

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org ,

District 7980

September 18, 2019

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT

From the Editor's Desk:

I just returned from my 65th high school reunion, held at South High School, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Surprisingly, over 150 classmates attended, two of our former cheerleaders led the class in a rousing cheer, and having been one of the editors of the yearbook, I had two of them, one signed and the other unsigned. I took the latter to the reunion and obtained 37 signatures from my former classmates. Many recognized me as the "guy who carried around that big camera" but I did not recognize a single classmate until I looked at their badge. Among the group was a former jet pilot with the National Guard, one of my best friends who is now an attorney, and the former class president who remembers being hidden, at an outdoor theatre, in the trunk of a car filled to capacity with fellow students all of whom were financially short for that last ticket.

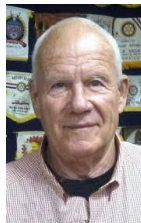


There are two Rotary Clubs in SLC, but they were on the day before I arrived, and the day I left. I hope I can return for a longer trip, and attend both of them. The week, though, was one to remember. No more South High reunions. This is the last one.

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

Tary's Rotary Minute:

Many years ago, our Danbury Rotary Club softball team played a group of inmates who had reached the age of 40 or above. We surprisingly won, with the help of a few players from some other service clubs. Over 400 guests filled the bleachers. According to live witness accounts, the game was the most hysterical seen in the history of FCI games. Every man in the bleachers stayed until the last inning. Of course they had nowhere to go, anyway except back to their cells.



It was such a blast many of the members were hoping to be invited back for another game of laughter and fun.

Yours in Rotary Service, Tary

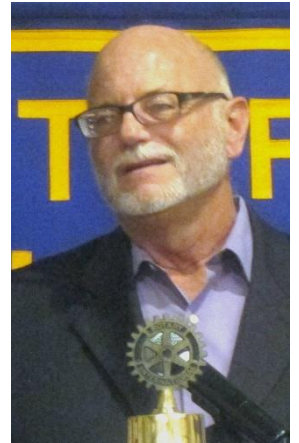
Make-ups-

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

Peter Crossett, of Synergy Home Care, Discussed the Pros and Cons of Non-Medical Care at Home:

Peter Crossett came with his son, Jim, who is also a member of the Synergy team.

According to Peter, private duty care is cost effective alternative to a nursing home, and often is the best for the elderly loved one who no longer can care for their own needs. Synergy provides carefully selected, well



trained caregivers who can be hired for 4 hours a day



Jim Crossett

to 158 hours a week. The cost varies from \$25 an hour to \$30 an hour based out what is required of the caregiver. The average daily cost is \$450 for a nursing home bed in CT, so the savings are considerable to keep the loved one at home.

Your Editor, of course, recently went through the ordeal of finding caregivers, and ultimately found that an agency had the only reliable people to provide reliable care--and Hospice was there in the end with home care, but their ability to take people into the facility requires a set of criteria my wife did not fit. Hospice is a very specialized program, but don't sell their home care short. It was wonderful.

I solute all of those who opt to work as caregivers. They are a special group, underpaid, and caring, and all of the women who assisted me with my Jane, were warm, kind, and helpful—and it made my wife's last days much easier for her and me.

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Tary Tarlton did not hit the Jackpot, but he has 7 more Chances next week--

The pot was drained last week, so this week would only be \$100, but that isn't bad. Just look at it this way, Tary. Your loss will be someone else's gain.



Barry Rickert came to Lunch again. We assume Barry will become a member, soon. Get to know him. He will be a great asset to the club.



...and MC for the Day--Again: Delia Espinal presided again this week in the absence of our president. Thanks Delia. You do continue to look presidential.

Luncheon Events:

- 9/25 Dinner at Chuck's.
- 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

10/5 9 am to 1 pm, Home Depot., Danbury.

The Rotary Club of Newtown would like us all to attend a special meeting for all members in our Area 3 Clubs, at the **NEWTOWN COMMUNITY CENTER, 8 SIMPSON ST., NEWTOWN, CT, SEPTEMBER 30 AT 6:00 PM.** For the modest fee of \$20, you will be served hors d'oeuvres and soft drinks; it will be a BYOB affair so be prepared if you like other than soft drinks.

This program was expressly designed to build membership, and they will be able to show us their

Rotary Club of Danbury 2019-2020

President-	Allison Fulton
Officers:-	
Pres. Elect	Delia Espinal
Secretary-	Dr. Mark Havira
Treasurer-	Frank Scahill, Jr
Sergeant at Arms-	Edward Walsh
Directors-	
Anita Ragona	Delia Espinal
Robert J. Vetter	Jeffery Kass
Dr. Mark Havira	Tim Seibert
Tary Tarlton	Frank Scahill
Allison Fulton	Dr. Ralph S. Welsh
	Dr. Fred Kayal

No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06
Spoke Editor: Ralph S. Welsh
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It was great to see John and Caryl Lucchesi again...and it is just a few days after their 67th Wedding Anniversary. Caryl told us she will try to bring John to the Chuck dinners as much as possible in the future.



Two Outstanding Rotarians Visited, today.

Alon Sapir, President of the Tribury Club, and Larry Gardner, our PDG. He informed us of an important meeting coming up...see below.



Left, Larry; right, Alon, with Past Pres. Fred Kayal



new Community Center that features 3 swimming pools, and numerous community rooms for town activities including a special meeting room for Seniors. We are told that those outside of the community probably can purchase membership in the Center and therefore have access to the facility and the pools, although that was not confirmed. The important message, though, is that **each attendee bring a prospective Rotarian to the meeting.** It's all about membership. Try to be there.