

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org ,

District 7980

November 6, 2019

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

We need to get going on the sale of our raffle tickets. The drawing will be soon.

We also have bird seed wreaths for sale—just \$20 a wreath, and the birds love them.

It was nice to hear that Tary is doing fine, and is now enjoying the sun in the blue Atlantic. I suspect the trip to Danbury Hospital was a warning, however.

It was nice to hear that Michele Geffert is back in town—now with People's Bank working with Kristen. Good to have you back, Mechele.

Finally, Bob Vetter is selling Poinsettias for the Women's Club. They have been helping us with the Amber Alert Program for years. The plants are healthy and beautiful. Buy one or two and show that we appreciate all that they have done for the club.

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

Tary's Rotary Minute:



In February of 1976 our Danbury Rotary Club met at the Downtown YMCA for lunch to hear about a very special initiative called the "YMCA Youth Riders." The program uses mini motor bikes as a means of reaching and

communicating with problem children. The program was started in 1968 when Honda donated 10,000 mini bikes to start the project. It now has 353 groups throughout the USA.

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

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

PDG Larry Gardner Brings the Club up to Speed on the Rotary Foundation:

News about Polio Plus--We have good news and bad news about our fight to eradicate Polio worldwide. Apparently there are 3 strains of the virus. Two and three have been eradicated, but one stubbornly hangs on, largely due to conflict at the Afghanistan and Pakistan border. Ninety four cases were reported this year, down from 50,000 a year when the program was started. Not bad, but we will not rest until we have zero cases confirmed worldwide.



News about Membership Requirements—Rotary has totally relaxed its stringent membership rules. All clubs are encouraged to develop their own guidelines, and we are no longer just a “business and professional” organization. Attendance requirements are encouraged, but no longer mandatory. Rotary has gone inclusive instead of exclusive.

News about Vision: As we look to the future, we are encouraged to keep four priorities in mind:

- 1- We need to find more ways to increase our impact, measure it, and do more good in the world.
- 2- We need to expand our reach, by sharing our values, inspiring more personal action, and develop new models.
- 3- We need to enhance participant engagement, ensuring Rotarians to discover a long term value in membership, and find ways of developing better leadership.
- 4- We need to continually adapt, recognizing we live in a changing world, and develop new ideas that have lasting change.

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Larry also surprised us with a Foundation Award for our club's contribution the RI Foundation through the Paul Harris Fellow program. Thanks Larry. We were happy to contribute.



Guests:



Our speaker, PDG Larry Gardner, and former but now returned member Michele Geffert were on board today. Welcome home, Michele. We missed you.

Selection for Our New DG (two years out)—

A group of past Club Presidents will be selecting our DG designate 2 years out, November 14th. If you are interested in participating in this very important meeting, let Allison know as soon as possible.

New England Autumns: Nothing Like Them!

We live in a beautiful area. No doubt about it. The photo to the right is in Redding, on the way to a Rotary meeting.

The big blow ended most of the display, but a few stubborn leaves linger on.

If you have out of town friends or relatives who are interested in visiting Connecticut, invite them for Halloween—fun for the kids, and our brilliant display of Autumn beauty. I love those trees. *Your Editor*



Luncheon Events:

- 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.



Weekly Draw:
Mark Havira had the ticket, but not the card. Better luck next week, Mark.

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
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Larry likes our food. We do too.