

# The Spoke

## Rotary Club of Danbury

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

District 7980

November 13, 2019

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

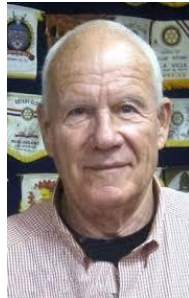
### From the Editor's Desk:

Sell your raffle tickets, buy a couple of bird seed wreaths, make a generous contribution to the sad/happy bucket, make a contribution to the RI Foundation, pay your reverse birthday donation, and support the weekly card draw. Every little bit helps.

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

### Tary's Rotary Minute:

One of the more unique projects our club took on occurred in 1936, a year involving a massive catipillar infestation. The Board authorized a number of \$25 awards for the collection of masses of catipillar eggs. The child who had the largest mass (or mess as it were) won first prize. Now that's the joy of being a kid. They will do practically anything.



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:

11/27 Thanksgiving Lunch with the Lions.  
12/19 Christmas Lunch with the Lions, Thurs. off-site at the Lions.



### Rep. John J. Rhodes Spoke to our Club after Watergate:

He was one of a contingent who had to tell Pres. Nixon it was time for him to resign. He claims it was the toughest thing he had

do do during his political career. Could it happen again? Time will tell.

### Attorney and Connecticut House Member, Stephen Harding, Addressed the Club with a Largely Q and

#### A Session:



This is the second time Rep. Harding has addressed our club over the years. He was elected to District 107 which involves Bethel, Brookfield, and a sliver of Danbury (the area will be redistricted after the Census by a committee from both parties).

He believes that Government is not doing that bad, and along with his

Republican colleagues apposed both an increase in the payroll tax and an increase toll initiative, believing that Connecticut did not needs these taxes. The Governor is still mulling over 14 tolls including one before Exit 11 on I-84. Harding has a 78% rating in the business community (CBIA).

He emphasized the importance of small business, and the importance of good financial planning. He admitted that Connecticut was one of the highest taxed community in the country, agreed that state spending was just too high, but



claims that the spending problem *Mark Havira asks a question* goes all the way back to the Roland administration.

Roland's 10 year union contract sent the state toward fiscal trouble.

Still, there is some daylight on the horizon. The state has been able to put 2 billion into a rainy day fund, and there is improvement with the state deficit, largely helped by the stock market. He also sees improvements in the overall fiscal situation by not continually filling positions following attrition, and cutting government waste. He also suggested that some of the agencies might well be administratively top heavy.

All in all, Rep. Harding believes that the State Government is doing fairly well, and he hopes to continue to work with the other party.



**Your Editor held the winning ticket, but pulled a losing card.** Still I have 7 more chances next week if I use the entire \$10 win. I need to emphasize the value to getting that one additional chance when you buy 2 tickets instead of one. It could be the winner, and we appreciate the extra donation.

**Rotary Club of Danbury 2019-2020**

**President- Officers:-** Allison Fulton  
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Dr. Fred Kayal

*No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06*  
Spoke Editor: Ralph S. Welsh  
203-938-2820 / rswelsh@mail.com

**Carl Bailey is Impatiently Awaiting the Global Grant:** Progress continues in our attempt to secure a large Global matching Grant for Carl Bailey's work in South America. He has an upcoming medical mercy trip to Bolivia in spite of a rather dreadful and dangerous political situation that exists there.



**After Tary's Medical Scare, He Checked Out Fine at the Hospital, then Hopped a plane to St Maarten—** We are all advising Tary to take it easy, and are happy to hear his medical glitch is nothing more than that.

**The 4 Way Test Message from an Old Cherokee Legend:**

The early psychologists were the tribal mythmakers, often of whom were remarkably astute. There is an old Cherokee legend, that all of us possess inside a good wolf and a bad wolf fighting for dominance. It is our own choice to decide which one predominates. Feed the good wolf but don't ignore the bad wolf. That only makes it more vicious. We need to re-direct our more negative proclivities in positive ways (sports, perhaps a martial arts class, or maybe an aggressive bridge club contest). A good Rotarian knows the importance of feeding the good wolf—we need to be the ones in the pack that carefully select the honorable path leading to trust, fairness, good will, and better friendships. *(I need to thank my son, Todd, who recently informed me of this wonderful ancient legend).*

