

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org ,

District 7980

January 19, 2020

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

We all have stories to tell, but we rarely hear them at a formal Rotary presentation. Also, I would like to start a regular column in the Spoke telling an unusual, interesting, or heart warming story from each member, on a weekly basis. The time is wasting. Get out the pen and start writing things down. It is remarkable how much all of us forget during our lifetime that would be interesting to other.

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

Tary's Rotary Minute:

In the past, our club used to be involved with Big Brothers and Little Brothers. Initially there was some enthusiasm for the program, but over time the interest dwindled. Being a Big Brother can significantly change the life of a child. Its closest office, today, is in Newtown and if you would like to be involved give them a call at 877-3999-2570 and tell the staff Rotary sent you.



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Fri	7:30 am	Westport Sunrise (no longer active)
Fri.	12:15 pm,	Wilton, Marly's Bistro

Speakers:

2/5/20 Michael "M. J." Durkin
 2/19/20 Robert Ronan, Control Systems Sustainability

Rotary



In Response to Carl Bailey, Frank Scahill Surprised us on the Impressive Gift our Club is giving to help out the Burned and Cleft Palate Children of Nicaragua:



We promised Carl Bailey we would secure him a District Grant, and with dedication and many hours of work later by

Frank Scahill, he has made it a reality.

Not only did our club make a contribution, so did the Rotary Club of Ridgefield, and the Rotary Club of Derby-Shelton, and with a matching grant we were able to hand over \$83,764 to the project. Of course, they don't just write a check and that is it, the District requires a full accounting of how the money will be and is spent.

Frank presented a heart warming video produced by the Burn and Cleft Palate Center in Nicaragua where the funds are going. A cleft palate repair costs \$300 in Nicaragua; a similar surgery would be \$35,000 in the states, so it's very cost effective to do it there.

There are some risks, though for the doctors and nurses. This is a very unstable and dangerous country to visit. but the Minister of Health has guaranteed protection for Carl's next medical team flight to Nicaragua. He said he is willing to take the risk.



Wow! Amazing--

The gift to the Burn Center may not seem much for a medical program, but the number of lives it will change is beyond measure.

The Weekly Raffle:



Rotary Club of Danbury 2019-2020

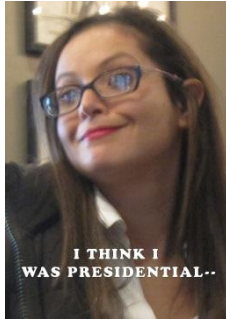
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No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06
 Spoke Editor: Ralph S. Welsh
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Delia Espinal presides again today.



Mark and Michele keep their cell phones on high alert--

Service Above Self

Sad Epilogue to my 65th Class Reunion in SLC Just a Scant 4 Months Ago--

Several weeks ago, I made a presentation to the club outlining a series of personal life altering events including a brush with death stepping between two box cars just before they coupled up. Key life events just don't stop. They continue. I just received word that one of our senior high school icons, a former prominent Utah environmental attorney and church leader, had died from a fall on the ice in his driveway, Richard Sager. Dick was to South High what Tary Tarlton is to the Danbury Rotary Club. He was made president of nearly every club he joined, was active in numerous school organizations and sports including being one of our two Sr. Class Vice Presidents. He also consistently beat me at table tennis.



He was there, cheerfully signing people in and participating as one of the 3 reunion M.C.s. Characteristic of his remarkable memory, and graciousness, he announced to an assembly of more than 150 elderly attendees, my not-so-recent appointment to the South High Alumni Honor Roll as a result of my work with children. He wanted everyone to wear a baseball hat of their choice at his funeral.



Barbara, who still can wear her cheerleader uniform, auctions off a South High blanket with Richard.

