

From the Editor's Desk:

The entire impact of the virus scare can't be felt until it comes close to home. That has now happened in our family. I just discovered, indirectly, that my Cleveland Clinic daughter-in-law ER physician Dr. Judy Welsh is one of 25 medical personnel who, at a desperate request from NY Presbyterian Hospital, volunteered to work a month at that facility. According to NPR it is at the hotspot bullseye of the COVID-19 war.



Clearly, her selfless act goes well beyond **Service Above Self**. I am so proud of her. My son, ER Dr. Todd Welsh, remains in Ohio fighting the virus from there. Their daughter, Sammi, is with her grandparents in a gated Florida community. Todd apologized for not telling me, explaining to me that he just didn't want me to worry, and expressly indicated that I not inform her parents. She doesn't want them to know. That's fully understandable. Fortunately, they don't read the Spoke.

Here are three **Zoom** addresses to remember: **Danbury Luncheon, 621257872; Danbury Board, 467979495; and for District 7980 events check their website.**

Yours in Rotary Service, Ralph

Tary's Rotary Minute:

I would like to add to last week's Rotary Minute mentioning that John and Caryl Lucchesi went on that cruise to Bermuda and had a wonderful time. The next year our Danbury Rotary, with the help from the District and International, sponsored a wonderful trip for 100 handicap youngsters to London. We can always dream of a time in the future when ocean cruises are routine again. Of course it will happen. We just need to be patient.



Yours in Rotary Service, Tary

Folks Who Showed up, On Line, with minimal comment:

Of course, the pandemic was the object of discussion. It continues to ravage the nation, and the peak for Fairfield County is not apparent. The grocery shelves are nearly bare, but we understand Costco has toilet paper and gas is really cheap.

Barry Rickert offered a brief story of how he initially joined the Fire Department, later to become Fire Marshall. He and a group of friends went to the fire department for a summer job, and were given a few gallons of orange and green paint to paint the fire hydrants around town. The paint ran out quickly, so they were given various tasks around the firehouse to do. The following year they were given paint for the fire boxes, but unfortunately painted most of them shut, which presented a problem for those attempting to report a fire—so the next task was to “unseal” all of the boxes. It was a lesson well learned, especially when painting windows after that. Following 3 years, at \$2.00 an hour, he liked being around the firehouse so much, he joined up.

Below: Attendees, Left to Right-- Barry Rickert, Marvin Paige, Chris Hoeffel our ADG, Caryl Lucchesi, Frank Scahill, Ralph Welsh, Ray Kish, Fred Kayal, Bob Vetter, Peter Maier, Jeff Kass, and Tary Tarlon. Mark Havira was voice only.



SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Stuff to Ponder:

- Never argue with a fool. Those who are listening often can't tell who is one and who isn't.
- The best state to live in is a healthy state of mind.
- If you don't wish to be envied, turn your successes into failures.
- If Christ were living on Earth today, he would probably want to relocate.
- The sheer magnitude of the universe, and the short time man has lived on Earth should make one fully appreciate a well mixed martini. .
- During an election, the politician who tells the truth will surely lose.
- A good house guest makes the bed, and asks where the dishwasher detergent is.
- If a cluttered desk is evidence of a cluttered mind, what does an empty desk signify? *Albert Einstein*

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No Spoke issues missed since 1/4/06

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Bubbles are Magic—Try Making Some!

Bubbles are fun. You can make them yourself, or find them pre-made by the elements around you. The latter make great photo ops of which I have tried to reveal. The 4th pic is a colorful reminder that our hot tub needs cleaning. Photos 5 and 6 are of my granddaughter, Samantha Welsh, who is now 10 years old, and yes, that is me and my wife Jane diving in Key Largo.

The last and biggest bubble shown is the Bubble Galaxy, which is 10 light years in diameter—a really big bubble! For comparison, the nearest star to us, Proxima Centauri, is 4.22 light years away.

As a kid I loved making bubbles which are fragile, delicate, and ephemeral like the mystical Japanese sand Zen gardens that need to be renewed, daily. I also found that one can go on the net, and find several formulas for making giant bubbles---a really fun thing to do, and due to the prolonged confinement we are all experiencing with the virus, what could be a better use of your time? If any of you decide to take on this challenge, I will make sure that pictures of your creations will be printed in the Spoke, a Zen garden included if you prefer.

