

The Spoke

Rotary Club of Danbury

www.danburyrotary.org ,

District 7980

May 13, 2020

P.O. Box 788, Danbury, CT 06813

From the Editor's Desk:

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR ALL CLUB MEMBERS: A REPLY IS REQUESTED—

We had a good Board meeting this week, with one of the main issues being the Passing of the Gavel. The Board was unanimous in a venue change, which would require the support of the entire club. The option suggested was an outdoor fellowship event in a large area, with everyone bringing their own lunch and drinks. Masks would be optional, but provided if wanted. Distancing would be suggested, and the event would be time-limited. The third Wednesday of June seemed like a good time slot, but we need to know if the entire club would like the idea. **Please let Frank Scahill know by email** if you would attend, and how many people would be in your enterouge. Frank's email is info@frankit.com. We need to know soon. Time is of the essence.

Ralph

Tary's Rotary Minute:

Attendance has always been a problem, and in September of 1979 our club had the worst attendance of all the clubs in our district. However, there were long lines at the pump due to the Iran oil crisis, and we were in the beginning of a bad recession. Joe Bolduc was our president at the time, and he was a champion of both attendance and membership. Since many of our members have longer commutes than many of the other clubs, the problem could have been external. Joe ultimately brought many new members into our organization.

With Zoom it should be easy to join in and show your loyalty to our club. We hope to see and hear from most of the membership these coming weeks, **but above all, let us know if you like the idea of an outdoor Gavel-Passing event (see above).**

Tary



Folks Who Showed up Today, On Line, for Virtual Lunch. Our Speaker was Carl Bailey who gratefully Thanked us for the Nicaragua Aproquen Grant, providing a Heart Felt Special 'thanks' to Frank Scahill who Tirelessly Championed the Grant Through--



As we should all know by now, the District finally gave us our grant for the Nicaraguan Aproquen project, and no one was more grateful for it than **Carl Bailey**. He talked about the many hurdles Frank Cahill had to jump over, hours and hours of paperwork being exchanged, and the hundreds of email shared between all of the involved parties necessary to make

it happen.

Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, with 42% of the population living in poverty, and 15% in extreme poverty.

Aproquen is the brainchild of Vivian Pellas and her husband Carlos who were 2 of the few survivors of a plane crash both of whom were terribly burned. Vivian pledged to her father she would establish a non-profit burn center in Nicaragua if she survived—and she did. Aproquen was established in 1991 providing free medical services to children suffering burns most of which are due to pulling over large pots of scalding liquid on them. As the hospital expanded, cleft palate and lip surgery were added in 2010. All services are free. Carl is our club's angel of mercy.

Below: Attendees, Left to Right-- Marvin Paige, Tary Tarlton, Frank Scahill, Mike Kan, Ralph Welsh, Jeff Kass, and Jim Gargan. (Page 2) Peter Maier, Wayne Curtis, and Delia Espinal. Mark Havira, Bob Vetter, and Sharon Gialo were voice only.





...and a good time was had by all.

Zoom Address Is: 621-257-872

On Getting Old:

- If I had known I would live this long, I would have eaten less free range chicken.
- After a certain age, if you don't wake up aching in every joint, you're dead. *T. Mein*
- You know you're getting old when you bend down to tie your shoes, and wonder what else you can do while you're still down there. *George Burns*
- My grandmother started walking 5 miles a day when she was 60; she's 97 now and we don't know where the hell she is. *Ellen DeGeneres.*
- If you don't go to people's funerals, they won't go to yours.

Change is in the Nature of Things:

When things change, they seem to change dramatically. Such has been the pandemic, and also the weather. I took these four accompanying photos all in the same week of May—and they appear to represent winter, spring, summer and fall all within a 7 day period. Life can change rapidly, as the weather does. Hold on to your hat. It's going to be a bumpy ride, but like the weather, things always get better.



Rotary Club of Danbury 2019-2020

Officers:-

President- Allison Fulton
 Pres. Elect Delia Espinal
 Secretary- Dr. Mark Havira
 Treasurer- Frank Scahill, Jr
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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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1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?