

# Rotary

## Club of Fairfield



### Club Leaders



Douglas Williams  
President



Stephen B. Layton  
Secretary



Janet Barillari  
Treasurer



Gina Giannone  
Public Image Chair



Deborah Clancy  
Rotary Foundation Chair



John Hoover  
Youth Services Chair



Alon Sapir  
Membership Chair



Jeff Warren  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Beverly Ann Balaz  
Fellowship Chair



Steve Elworthy  
Programs Chair



Barbara Welles  
Community Service Chair



William Lewellyn  
International Service Chair



Patricia Matteson  
Vocational Service Chair



Sean Flynn  
iPast President

Crystal

## Drummer Notes

### Fairfield Rotary Club

Drummer Notes – June 9, 2025

**Call to Order** by President **Alon**

**The Pledge of Allegiance** was led by: ?

**Invocation** given by **John Hoover** with recital from St Augustine's "Confessions."

**Our song-leader Bob Price** led us in two harmonious stanzas of "America the Beautiful"

**Guests:** **Brandon Gaydorus** (Speaker), guest of **Mark Perlman**

**David Deluse**, guest of **Tom Sansone**

**Visiting Rotarians:** **Phil Dwyer** (Bridgeport Club); **Crystal Engram** (Assistant District Governor)**Announcements**

1. On behalf of our District Governor, **ADG Crystal Engram** presented our Club with the Governor's Achievement Award for the Rotary year 2024-2025. A proclamation was presented to President Alon. (*Note to Bruce: If you can obtain a copy of the proclamation, it might be nice to list a few of the achievements mentioned.*) Additionally, ADG Crystal informed us that the Rotary motto for 2025-26 as chosen by our incoming RI President will be "United for Good."
1. **Pat Matteson** informed us that there will be two events coming up where we can directly observe the result of our Club's financial support of Habitat for Humanity. On July 12<sup>th</sup>, there will be an Open House to celebrate the completion of 4 housing units in Fairfield. Then, on July 26<sup>th</sup> there will be a kick-off event for the construction of the next 2 units. Further details of time and place will be forthcoming.
1. **Sheryl Shaughnessy** announced that she noticed a wild turkey sitting on top of a car in our parking lot. No one seemed to be very concerned about this news. One of our lunch choices today was identified as chicken sandwich. Turkey in the parking lot? Suspicious?
1. President **Alon** urged all of us to make our annual Rotary International contribution. Make sure to earmark it to the "Share" category, which means that a substantial percentage will be returned to help fund



Engram  
Assistant  
District  
Governor

projects undertaken by our Rotary District 7980.

## Birthdays

Sheryl A. Shaughnessey  
October 31st  
Renato Gasparian  
October 31st  
Douglas Williams  
November 1st  
Timothy G. Russell  
November 4th  
Peter A. Penczer  
November 5th  
Gina Giannone  
November 5th  
William Llewellyn  
November 7th  
Tom Kelty  
November 9th  
Steven Heffer  
November 13th

## Wedding Anniversaries

No Wedding  
Anniversaries Found

## Years of Service

Douglas Williams  
11-01-1993  
30 Years  
Thomas J. Walsh Jr.  
11-01-1999  
24 Years  
Robert B. Price  
11-01-1999  
24 Years  
Deborah Clancy  
11-07-2005  
18 Years  
Chad Stewart  
11-07-2005  
18 Years  
Ben Williamson  
11-22-2005  
18 Years  
Robert D. Russo  
11-10-2014  
9 Years  
Noor Deeb  
11-16-2021  
2 Years  
Wadie Boutros  
10-31-2022  
1 Year

## Just Because

1. **Mike Pita** ... daughter just graduated at Hobart College. But that's not all: she graduated Summa cum Laude and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa!
1. **Sheryl Shaughnessey**, was happy because she just returned from a delightful vacation in Portugal and Spain. She was sorry that she missed the Memorial Day parade but she counted on her "parade-teammate," John Beckmann, to pick up the slack. (John says: not possible to duplicate Sheryl's effort, but at the end of the parade his bucket contained \$108 + 2 lollypops.) Sheryl also reported that her anxiety of leaving her elderly mom alone while on vacation was unfounded as her mom is doing well.
1. **Phil Dwyer's** grandson turned 10. He's a good golfer and recently was "robbed" of scoring a "hole-in-one" when a squirrel got in the way (I made that up!)
1. **Crystal Engram** expressed her thanks for the hospitality she found at our Club. She also was proud of her 18 year-old grandson who just graduated Fairfield Warde HS and will be heading to college in the fall.
1. **Jennifer Farrington** spent 2 weeks in Chicago, where she visited her father, attended her niece's 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation (she graduated #1 in her class of 11 classmates). She also spent time with her sister and her new husband and their blended family.
1. **Brenden McKeon** ran and survived a bunch of marathon races.

## Installation



Today we had the pleasure of inducting **Jennifer Jennings** as a new member of Fairfield Rotary. **Dan Walsh** was her sponsor.

Jennifer currently serves as the Special Events & Development Coordinator at the Norma Pfriem Breast Center, part of Smilow Cancer Hospital and Yale New Haven Health. She leads community outreach and fundraising initiatives. She has also served as Hospitality Director for the Gathering of the Vibes music festival and General Manager of Yoga for Everybody in downtown Fairfield. Jennifer is a certified yoga teacher, animal lover, outdoor enthusiast, and competitive table tennis player.



**Tom Sansone** congratulated the members of our Club for a net gain of 5 members during this Rotary year. We now stand at 65 members. Alon followed up by encouraging us to continue the search for quality new members who might add vitality and innovation to our Club's activities and service projects.

### Program

**Mark Perlman** introduced our guest speaker, **Brandon Gaydorus** who is a 5x author and founder of **Warm Heart Life**. He focuses on helping

individuals execute personal, professional and financial goals. He asked for a volunteer from each table to come up and express their unfulfilled goals and the hurdles they face.

The brave souls who complied where **John Lee** (needs more time to devote to his “Casual Civics Conversation” program), new member Jennifer (hopes to meet more people, expand her network), **Pat Matteson** (hopes to devote more time to resolve some family issues), and **Bob Price** (craves for patience as he recovers from serious back surgery). Brandon then went on to share some of the techniques and experiences that help people achieve their aspirations. For example, he recommended that each day we make a list of 5 things that we would like to accomplish and ask ourselves: “What do we have; what do we need?” to achieve these goals. He also advocated the benefits of being confident public speakers through practice and more practice (sort of like “getting to Carnegie Hall”).

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During the Q&A, **Bruce Carter** spoke about the importance of goal setting, while **John Lee** commended the speaker for expressing his experiences with humility as it is more important for people to “work on their weakest trait, rather than always repeating what we’re good at.”

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In any case, the foregoing is what your Drummer editor gained from the presentation today; on the other hand, you may have heard something completely different.

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### Raffle & 4-WAY Test

Despite the usual two chances, no one picked the winning card today. The pot keeps growing and the number of cards keeps shrinking.

John Beckmann led us in reciting the 4-Way test before the gong was sounded adjourning another very informative meeting.=

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**Next Week** A Local Business Panel