

Milford Rotary Chat April 4, 2024



Meeting Minutes: 3/28/24
Kimberly Diner
12:15PM



CREATE HOPE
in the **WORLD**

Welcome:

Jill got us started with the Pledge.
Win did a fast Prayer.
Greg did the 4-Way-Test (but out of order).

Guests/Speaker:

Speaker for the day was our own Dick Pop who is going to give us a thumb nail sketch of his life story and a bit of what is happening at Beth El.

Do Good:

Win said most Smith's won't be here next week, as there are 32 of them going up to Vermont to see the eclipse and stare at the sun.
Phil said his daughter went to New Orleans with the band and had a blast.
Carrie said thanks for a day off from doing Sargeant-at-Arms. Keeping with the underwear theme with her granddaughter, Do leprechauns wear green underwear? Elsa from Frozen wears blue.
Dick said his birthday is coming up and he will be 39 (again).
Don was happy to see Dick was the guest speaker but Dick is lying (about his age).
Tad said he set for himself a level 10 goal at work and he was happy to say he reached his goal.

Speaker:

Dick Popolowski gave us his life story and an update of what is going on at Beth El. He was born in Patterson NJ and was there until age 16. He was 2+ pounds at birth and kept him warm in the oven. He spoke Lithuanian as a child and had trouble with English. He moved to New Milford to a dairy farm at age 16. He went from college prep to college where he double majored in History and Poly Science.. He had various jobs and was in the service where he was an aid for a general. After the service he had jobs in Bridgeport Hospital, Hartford Hospital, Milford Hospital, CT Burns Foundation, United Way and the Ronald McDonald House. He estimated over his career he has raised over 380 Million Dollars for charities and institutions. He is happy to be back in Milford, the Best Club in the District. He is happy to be working with the Beth El Center. The impact report he showed us the people they help. This winter they had a no freeze program which could handle 85 individuals overnight. There is still a lot of food insecurity. Upcoming events include Birdies for

Charity, there will be a concert in the Parsons Complex, A Pass the guitar and hat fund raiser and Trick or Trot on 10/26. There is a new building planned for Bridgeport Ave and they hope to break ground early next year.

Announcements:

- 4/5 is the Norm Parcels Luncheon in Fairfield from 12-2. It is at the Gaelic Club at 74 Beach Road, Fairfield. If interested contact Tad. It is \$50/person.
- 4/11 is the next board meeting. It is possibly at the Chamber’s Office at the Mall.
- 4/16 is the next Lobster bake meeting. It is at Win's office at 6PM . Station heads please attend.
- 4/18 is the Boys and Girls Gala. There are people in the club going and putting together a table.
- 4/20 Beth El service day. We need a couple of people to show up at 9 and a couple more between 10-10:30. Talk to Ray.
- 4/21 Next Shred Event at Spectrum setup at 8:15 Event is 9-12. We have signs to advertise the event.
- 4/27 is our 100 Year Gala at Grassy Hill Country Club. There will be a band. – 6-10PM Devon and Orange Rotary have committed to a few tables each. Looking for gift baskets or bottles of booze for the silent auction. Please bring bottles of wine or other ‘gift basket’ items to the meeting to fill gift baskets. Cheri has several baskets if you want to take one and fill it for the silent auction. Please help out in some way!

[Purchase Tickets Here](#)
- 5/18 is the Rotary day of service. It will be at the Stop and Shop by the Mall. Proceeds will go to Food 2 Kids. Phil will get T-shirts, contact him if you want one.

Greg Schmitt

Board Meeting the second Thursday, 5:30 PM social, 6 PM meeting – every month unless noted otherwise

[Who’s Who for the July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024 Rotary Year](#)

Officers:	Sergeant-At-Arms: Carrie Reed	1 st Year Board of Dir:	2nd Year Board of Dir:
President – Tad Smith	Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms: Mike Granata	BJ Frazier	Gary Johnson
President-Elect – Phil Ucci III	Treasurer: Adam Kasowitz	Mike Granata	Dracy Lapp-Rabinowitz
Vice President – Lorna Sura	Asst Treasurer: Tracy O’Brien	Jill McGoldrick	Bill Parry
Secretary – Bill Parry	Don Wetmore (Immediate Past President)		Frank Perry
Club Historian- Ken Hawkins	Beth-El meal leaders- Shaileen Landsberg and Lorna Sura		Don Wetmore (IPP)

Your Rotary Chat Team: Scribes: Greg Schmitt & Win Smith, Jr Setting/Editing/Circulation: Tom Margius

Milford Rotary, PO Box 381, Milford, CT www.milfordrotary.org

Most events recorded in history are more remarkable than important, like eclipses of the sun and moon, by which all are attracted, but whose effects no one takes the trouble to calculate.

-Henry David Thoreau