



NAIRATOR

(That's Rotarian Spelled Backwards)



New Milford Rotary Club
Chartered January 12, 1960



District 7890

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April 2021

April Birthdays

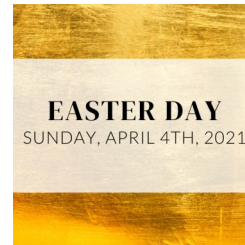
Apr 13 - Cathy Setterlin

April Anniversaries

Apr 10 - Carl & Josephine Dill

Apr 12 - Glenn & Gretchen Reynolds

Apr 23 - Rob & Irene Belden



Upcoming Meetings All via ZOOM

HAPPY



PASSOVER!

In-person lunch meeting Tuesday, May 4th

Russell has formed a committee to work on both Tick Kits and Tick education, as it is getting to be the season when those nasty little deer ticks will be waking up. Please let Russell know if you would like to work with him on this project. These tick kits can save someone's health and at the same time earn money for the Club. Passing out information to the community on ticks, and staying healthy is the perfect Rotary Community Service project.

We are looking for a history buff to help put together Club historical items and data – a timeline for us all and the website and anything else that strikes your fancy in a historical sense.

Cathy Setterlin is spearheading our Rotary efforts with the Great Brook Clean-up - The Housatonic Valley Authority and Sustainability CT project. They will be cleaning up and planting trees at the Hulton Meadow Park on Grove Street, on **April 10th**. Work begins at 10:00 am, but Cathy will have all sorts of times for Rotary members to sign up, come out and help. This is a wonderful Rotary project - especially in view of a Rotary challenge to plant a tree for every member. We can plant these trees and send pictures to the district.

Remember that this is the New Milford Rotary Club's 60th year and we are tracking our volunteer hours. Please send your volunteer hours in to me and we will record them. Melissa was doing a good job of tracking them on a spreadsheet for us.

Please note in your calendars Thursday, April 29th, Friday, May 30th and Saturday May 31st is the District Conference – this year it is (of course) Virtual – which is a wonderful opportunity to experience some of the conference without having to travel somewhere and stay overnight. Please consider checking in for some of the conference online. Go to the District Conference link and check out the interesting speakers and sessions:

<https://clubrunner.blob.core.windows.net/00000050079/en-us/files/homepage/2021-district-conference-brochure/District-Conference2021b.pdf>

The Saturday after the District Conference is our first Shredding Day! Pull your accumulated paper overload together and plan to support the effort!

We are now officially in to the season of Spring and as always it is a time for hope. We in the Rotary world are living in a Zoom world and we have to make do until we get to some sort of herd immunity.

At our March 2nd meeting, we heard from DG Elect Randy Chapell. He was warmly ensconced in Florida (another benefit of Zoom). Randy talked about the fact that Rotary clubs in America are losing members and in our district the loses have been dramatic. All that bad news got me thinking about our club and membership numbers. It is very difficult to bring in new members when there is no social contact. And it is also difficult to hold onto members.

Looking back over 25 years of membership in the New Milford club, I am always struck by how some people stay and some people quietly just drift away. The two biggest appeals that our club offers, is a sense of camaraderie and a chance to be of service. Our club has always had a great sense of fellowship and it always has been a welcoming place. Hopefully when we get together in live situations, that will again be present. Another thing that motivates a person to continue their membership is the value of service. Dan Rather has written a book “ What Unites Us”. In it he touches on many aspects of American life. One chapter is devoted to Service.

He mentions, as a young boy, he saw men line up to volunteer after Pearl Harbor. And he writes about what makes America great ... all those who volunteer for the military, the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, social services and the like. He ends the chapter with this “We either choose to be part of a community that stretches beyond ourselves, our material needs, and our creature comforts, or we do not. In our society, it is possible for the selfish and the self-centered to live at the expense of the rest of the population. We live in an age where such attitudes are conspicuously apparent. Thankfully, most people I have met have chosen to give back to their communities, in ways big and small. On a personal level, service may be considered a virtue. But in a democratic society such as ours, we must consider it a necessity”.

There have to be folks in our community who share these same values and somehow we have to reach out to them. We have to tout the value of service, show how that motivates us, how it sustains us and how as other people see service for what it is they will join us.

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW ROTARIAN - Cathy Setterlin

Where were you born ? Columbus, Ohio

Who introduced to Rotary ? Linwood Gee, when I was director at The Pratt Center

Your favorite sport team ? Hmm, don't really follow sports, grew up on Ohio State Football

Your favorite dessert ? A hunk of dark chocolate

Your dream vacation ? Some place where I'll see the Northern Lights

If I won a million dollars, I'd Invite friends and family to join me on an adventure trip and give the rest away

Where do you hope to be 5 years from now ? At home in New Milford

Do you have any hobbies ? Kayaking, veggie and flower gardening, reading library books, spinning yarn and knitting

How did you get your current job ? I said yes to volunteering around town