

Milford Rotary Chat June 11, 2026



Meeting Minutes: 6/4/26 SBC Restaurant 12:15PM

Welcome:

Phil Ucci lead us in The Pledge of Allegiance.

Chaplin Dick Popolowski gave us the prayer:

Gracious God, As we gather in this month of June, we thank You for the spirit of growth that surrounds us. Graduates step forward into new chapters, families prepare for summer's rhythm, and our communities open their doors to possibility. In all these transitions, remind us that services remains our steady calling.

Bless this meal and the fellowship we share today. Bless the graduates in our lives—young and old—who are discovering their gifts and seeking their pace in the world. May they be guided by courage, compassion, and a desire to lift others as they rise.

*As summer begins, renew our energy for the work of Rotary. Let longer days inspire longer reach, let warmer weather open warmer hearts, and let every project we undertake reflect the spirit of **Service Above Self**.*

Strengthen us to notice who need encouragement, who needs a hand, and who needs hope. And may our service plant seeds that continue to grow long after this season has passed. Amen.

Don Wetmore read from the banner - The 4-Way-Test.

Guests/Visitors:

Andy Greenawalt, retired Software Engineer, was a guest of Dick Popolowski.

Samantha Mola, Kevin Mola's wife and business partner was a welcomed guest.

Oni Unal, an upcoming Graduate of Jonathon Law High School joined us. He was a guest of Dr. Gary Opin as he is interning in his office.

Brendan Auscaavitch, an upcoming Foran High Graduate going to SHU in the fall, was a guest of Phil Ucci and is interning in his office.

Do Good:

Dave Adams was happy about his wife's Birthday today and his daughter's Birthday next week – they were in NYC today to see The Great Gatsby on Broadway. He also gave happy checks for his business (ABC – Adams Benefits Consulting) for the upcoming 5K Race and the Lobster Bake.

Dick announced a Beth El evening event at Gary Opin's House near Gulf Beach on June 11th from 5:30-7:30Pm with Jay Rowe performing an "Evening of Excellence". He was asked if someone could bring a fishing pole to the event and Gary happily smirked!

Ray Carissimi had Lobster Bake Post Cards that Kevin Mola had printed up to announce the Lobster Bake.

Tracy O'Brien was saddened by two recent accidental deaths: Rich D'Amoro Sr in his Ford Model T and Nate Bazuto, a motorcycle accident. She is happy that in two weeks she'll be leaving for Iceland (without family!). Dave asked the Capital of Iceland – Reykjavík.

Carrie Reed had lovely words for Ted Goodwin. He was very special to her. In fact he was the reason she joined Rotary. She actually felt joy at his wake as her memories of him replayed in her mind.

Frosty Smith was happy he and his wife had a chance to go to the Good Speed Opera House. It was a great building. He was a bit more lukewarm on the show they saw. He had a suggestion. The Glastonbury Rotary had an ad in the Rotary Magazine, maybe we should do the same for The Lobster Bake.

Win Smith said he was looking forward to enjoying Frosty's wake.

Dave Adams asked if you heard about the Irish wake? There was a \$20 cover and a 2 drink minimum.
 Dan German said his girlfriend ran in another marathon. She pulled a muscle about 10 miles in but she still ran the last 16 miles. She still; finished in about 5 1/2 hours. Amazing! He informed us that on Fridays at 5:00 there are bands behind the Library. This week Hawkins Band is performing.
 Don Wetmore asked what is the difference between an Irish wake and an Irish wedding? One less drunk.
 Phil said next week they will be going to Platt Tech and he will be handing out Rotary Scholarship Awards.
 Tom Margius said Electric Boat is expecting to be hiring between 6000 and 7000 people. On a sad note his brother-in-law who is 5 years post treatment for colon cancer has a new obstruction and he is diagnosed with liver cancer. Tom was out on a bike ride and his chain broke. Thankfully Sue was around and could pick him up. Dave thought that was an unlikely “chain of events”.
 Joe Barnes said he watched his first NBA game in 40 years. He had to see a new physician and a new cardiologist. His previous 2 had died.
 Lorna Sura just adopted two 6 week old kittens.

Announcements:

6/10 is the installation of Bill Parry as the new Rotary president. It is at the Yacht Club at 6:00.
 6/14 is the Run in the Park. The run starts at 9:00. We need volunteers there at 8:00 to help with registrations. Still looking for sponsors.
 6/15 is the next Lobster Bake meeting at Lise's office
 6/17 is the next Chamber business after hours meeting.
 6/18 is the next board meeting which is being held at Carrie's home at 50 Hobson Ave. Food at 5:30 and meeting starts at 6:00
 6/20 is the next Beth El service. This is a correction of date as previously recorded.
 6/25 Devon Rotary instillation at Yacht club
 6/27 3-7PM Orange Rotary Summerfest at High Plains Community Center. They have Lobster rolls, cheese steaks and will have 3 bands performing. You can get tickets at Milford Performing Center.Org
 8/01 The Lobster Bake, with Live Bands 4-7PM Whabendos and 7:30-10PM Hype
 We now have physical tickets and online tickets went live 2 weeks ago. We need to start selling tickets, so far only 7 online tickets have been sold. Lobster roll has been added to the menu for a slightly different price. There will be 2 bands: 4-7PM Whabendos and 7:30-10PM Hype. Food served 4:00 -7:00 and after 7:00 is drinks only. We need everyone's help to push out content online and to push tickets. With Angel's help we are hoping to increase sponsorship. He will increase visibility of our sponsors so their sponsorship should improve their business

Scribe:Greg Schmitt/Tom Margius

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

Who's Who for the July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026 Rotary Year

Officers:	Sergeant-At-Arms: Dave Adams	1 st Year Board of Dir:	2nd Year Board of Dir:
President – Lorna Sura	Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms: Joe Barnes	Matt Fama	Gary Johnson
President-Elect – Bill Parry	Treasurer: Tracy O'Brien	Evelyn Karam	Cherie Malona
Vice President – Lise Robinson	Asst Treasurer: Adam Kasowitz	Joe Barnes	Bob Bogert
Secretary – Dick Popilowski	Phil Ucci III (Immediate Past President)	Carrie Reed	Dave Adams
Membership Chairman – Gary Johnson	Beth-El meal leaders- Dave Adams		Phil Ucci III - IPP

Your Rotary Chat Team: Scribes: Greg Schmitt & Win Smith, Jr Setting/Editing/Circulation: Tom Margius
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*Winners focus on opportunity. Losers focus on obstacles.
 Leaders focus on solutions.*

— Maxime Lagacé