



Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut

www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

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Editor: Stephanie R. Barksdale

ATTENDANCE: 32 of 50 (64%)

Guests/Visiting Rotarians

Marissa Lilliedahl from the Wilton Teen Center, potential member; Jim Deese, President of Wilton Kiwanis Club.

Announcements

1. President Frank hoped everybody had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
2. The upcoming events for 2007 include the Craft Show in May; Rose Sale in June and the 25th anniversary of the Wilton Rotary Club which is May 2007. Bill Glass and John Lemke are working on a celebration and you are invited to help them if you so desire.
3. Bill Meehan said the plaque is in for the Steve O'Sullivan memorial post office bench, if the weather holds, the bench will be installed soon.
4. The Dictionary project proved very successful and thank you notes have been coming in from the 3rd graders. PR went to both papers so hopefully we'll get some good publicity from this.
5. Bill Glass announced that the Interact Club has collected soccer balls and sent them to a brother of one of the Interact Members who is serving in Iraq. They have been received and delivered to Iraqi youngsters.
6. The Senior Fire Protection Program should be wrapping up – we were scheduled to do 26 installations but more have come in after the original signups. If you have not done your installations or have left over equipment, please call Patrick Russo.
7. President Frank thanked Pam Lucas for her diligent efforts on the Rotary Foundation and reminded folks that the Wilton Rotary Club gets credit for all member donations to the Foundation.

8. A carnival decision is due soon on the location for 2007. Tufano is still booked for the first full weekend in September and hopefully we'll have a location set by that time.

9. President Frank said a shipment will be sent to the Center of Hope in Haiti soon and so office supplies could definitely be sent in the container. Please bring them to a future Rotary meeting if you have a closet waiting to be emptied.

10. Mark Kolier announced that Melissa Ray, a Wilton High School Senior, will be participating in a 4-way Speech Contest. Sounds like she has had some difficulties in her life that she has had to overcome. Mark will try to bring her to a future meeting.

11. Karen Strickland announced that the news recently had a story about 2 children operated on at a Hospital in Long Island through the Rotary Give Life program. A good plug for Rotary in general.

Fun & Fines

Paul Hafter was pleased to have his new printing press in the shop, will hopefully set it up for use soon. Paul Burnham said he was going to Florida next week as is Victor Tenore. Mark Kolier was happy that USC vindicated itself in football. President Frank was pleased to have run a profitable business. Ron Barlow was simply happy to wake up this morning! Charles Jones can't wait for tennis season to begin. And there were lots of Happy New Year's!

Program

President Frank introduced Jim Deese, President of Kiwanis who spoke about the similarities of the two clubs including the box of badges at the front door; happy dollars; service to the community; similar high school clubs; and similar meeting styles. Wilton Kiwanis has 140+ members (several are reportedly still breathing) making them the largest Kiwanis Club in New England.

President Frank introduced Joan Monty from the Voluntary Action Center and Cecilia Kemp, a volunteer with VAC who spoke about what VAC is all about. The mission is to get volunteers matched up with volunteer opportunities including the disabled, young, seniors, etc. VAC collaborates with many Wilton organizations (they service Wilton, Weston, Westport and Norwalk) and wanted to let us know they could be available to collaborate with Rotary. For more information on VAC go to www.communityplanning.org/hsc.

See you next Friday at the SilvermineStephanie