



Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut

www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

January 15, 2010

Vol. 29, No. 26

Editor: Stephanie R. Barksdale

Attendance: 28 of 48 (58%).

Guests/Visiting Rotarians

Emmanuelle St. Juste, Director of Center for Hope, Haiti; Mark Newton, President of Center for Hope, Haiti; Elina Feliu of Woodbridge Rotary; Sarah Depthereos, David's daughter.

Announcements

1. Bud B. announced that Ridgefield Rotary will do their 11th annual Taste of Ridgefield on January 31st.
2. Ray D. announced the Amber Alert will be held at the Winter Carnival on March 6th – volunteers always needed and appreciated.
3. Richard K. announced craft fair is coming up and a mailing will be done soon.
4. Ron B. suggested fun and fines be given to Haiti for relief efforts for the earthquake.

Fun & Fines:

Everyone gave dollars to the Haiti Earthquake cause. Charles J. added he was soon to become a professional tennis spectator again. Judy W. said she had surgery with the Davinci robot and was quite fascinated. Matt C. was cheering on the J-E-T-S (unfortunately for Matt the Editor is a Colts fan so – C-O-L-T-S!). Kathy L. had her donation already made out to Americares which is already down in Haiti trying to help.

Program

Mark Newton of Center for Hope, Haiti, the orphanage we have worked with for several years, said the orphanage is about 80 miles outside of Port-au-Prince in Hench and did not seem to be impacted by the earthquake. Mark is the president of Center for Hope. The orphanage will house 100 kids and the school will help 200 kids. He said the construction has slowed because the organization wants to assure that the dollars raised will be used by the orphanage. The orphanage will be surrounded by a 12' perimeter wall to keep kids safe. They are trying to become an NGO so that the grounds cannot be taken away but since the government was nearly destroyed by the quake, all paperwork will probably have to be resubmitted.

Emmanuelle St. Juste is the Director of Center for Hope. He was born in Hench and moved to Stamford in 1974. He starts churches which will help Haiti – specifically the orphanage. He said the biggest problem in Haiti is the government corruption and lack of stability. The unemployment rate is upwards of 60% and climbing.

The Wilton Rotary Club, Frank Spencer in particular, presented a \$4000 check to Center for Hope to assist with the purchase of a generator for the orphanage.

If you'd like to give to help the victims of the Haiti earthquake:
www.americares.org; www.redcross.org; www.clintonbushhaitifund.org – among others I'm sure.

See you next Friday at Portofino's..... (Stephanie)

Upcoming speaker schedule:

January 22, 2010	Hon. Michael Shay Senich, James
January 29, 2010	Alon Marom Kids In Crisis
February 5, 2010	Allyson Halm Adopt a Dog