



Wilton Rotary Drummer
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Editor: Mark Kolier



Guests: None
Announcements

- There was as board meeting Thursday 1/15 and the board approved \$ 30,500 to be distributed. Includes Trackside, Interfaith Housing, Nursing & Home Care, Wilton Playshop, Emergency Housing & Wilton Commons commitment of \$ 10K over 3 years.
- Larry Schloss reported that the Senior Fire Protection plan had already received 9 responses for help.
- Past President Bill Moros fund has \$ 1,455 in collections. The Board voted to add a one-time special \$ 1,000 scholarship to be presented in Bill's name at the WHS end of year awards program.
- **CRAFT FAIR** - Richard Kent is having an envelope stuffing party at his office Monday (tonight) at 5PM at his office. Please come and help!

- Fun and fines – Matt reported that Ray DiGiorgio saved him \$ 2,400

Program: John W. Seiler, Vice President, Premier Relationship Manager HSBC USA NA(30 Danbury Road Wilton, CT 06897) addressed the club.

John's focus was on how can HSBC help the Rotary club of Wilton serve the community. More than \$ 20,000 was contributed to Wilton in 1008 – 2009 may not be quite as robust in terms of contributions but there are other ways to help and John is considering Richard Kent's request for a venue for a club sponsored summer concert. HSBC already donated \$ 500 to our last Amber Alert program.

HSBC was founded in 1865 in Hong Kong (stands for Hong Kong Shanghai Bancorp). The bank is HQ'd in London now. 82 countries and 12,000 locations. It appears that HSBC will not be opening any new retail branches in Connecticut in the near future given the overall financial climate.

John's focus is on retail banking. International presence offers products that not all banks can offer. HSBC is one of the largest insurance providers in the United States. Forbes ranked HSBC as the largest corporation in the world.

John has personally committed to helping our club and has in fact put in a request for membership so we all hope to see him inducted soon.

See you next Friday at the Silvermine Tavern..... Mark