



Wilton Rotary Drummer
Wilton, Connecticut USA District 7980
www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

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Editor: Paul Burnham

Frank Spencer presiding

Guests and Visiting Rotarians: D. Spadaro, a chiropractor colleague of Keith Overland.

Frank noted that our scheduled speaker, First Selectman Bill Brennan, had begged off, having a case of laryngitis.

Bill Meehan and Mark Kolier reported from the PETS conference. Alyssa Ray, a Wilton High School student, was one of the three finalists in the four way test competition. She finished third, but did a fine job. She chose to speak on the need for stem cell research, a topic that is still somewhat controversial, and that may not have caused her to lose some votes. Alyssa suffers from lupus - and evidently it was quite an uplifting sight to see her make her way to the podium

The bench for Steve Sullivan will be installed when it is warmer. The post office has agreed to store it until then.

Chris Lavin and Pat Russo are to get together about installing the wheelchair ramp.

Bill Glass reported that Interact=s next project is sponsorship of a Haitian girl - Sandra Garcon, who is eight years old. We have two students going to RYLA, one of whom is Bill=s daughter Virginia.

Fun >N Fines: Keith and Lori Overland celebrated their 25th anniversary, Keith Gilmartin was thanked for answering a call for help, and giving a needy Wilton resident a ride to her doctor, Charles was gung-ho on Serena (but not particularly Roger), and Robert Mills is Wilton=s newest driver.

Dues are due. So are Christmas party charges.

Judy White reported on Speak-Up Wilton. The dog park and the private castles were two of the big issues, the other was the lighting in the center. Evidently this is going to be a public-private fund-raiser, with naming rights for donors.

In the absence of a speaker, our president gave us his bio. Fifth of seven children born and raised in Wilton, Frank went to U. Virginia undergrad and Georgetown for graduate work. After a few corporate jobs, including one with a household name that need not be repeated, Frank returned to Wilton to open up his private CPA firm. A few years ago he added a financial planning practice. Frank has continued his passion for lacrosse developed under Guy Whitten and has coached Wilton youth in that sport for about ten years. (Most parents can fake it in soccer - lacrosse is something else. Hats off to Frank!)

I flew to Seattle on Saturday morning (1/27) to visit a cousin. It's a beautiful city - I wish I'd had a chance to explore it, unfortunately my destination was a hospital room. Deb had three significant strokes during emergency cancer surgery, and now has no discernible cognitive function. Three weeks ago she was one of the foremost in her field - bizarrely, neurosurgical nursing - nationwide. She is younger than most of us.

She is receiving extraordinarily good care.

As one sits with and talks to a life-long bud who happens to be on a respirator, who may or may not be able to hear you, and who is not responding in any way - one must ponder the linkage between the mind, the body and the soul. Deb and her body are no longer one. What has now become is the fundamental mystery of life. Primal issues - that need to be confronted and considered every so often.

On that happy note -

See you Friday

Paul