

Rotary



Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut

www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

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Editor: Phil Sharlach

Today's attendees: Along with our guest presenter, Fran Norman, Executive Director Housatonic Habitat for Humanity, there were 15 joyful club members when Chris dutifully selected a worthless card from the loaded deck managed by Bud. Going into our next meeting, there are not enough cards left for a single hand of seven card stud. Other than an unnoticed observer from the CT State Department of Revenue Services, looking to pounce, there were no visiting Rotarians this week.

WINTER CARNIVAL Post Mortem:

With great weather, and as noted in the Wilton Bulletin, there were over 400 town participants. Our BLOW UP wheel and notice at the Gazebo for s'mores and fire pit on Schenck's Island were effective attention getters. To this editors knowledge no ROTARY members were arrested for disorderly conduct or inebriated behavior. While there may have been some concern regarding excessive smoke, it was only from Paul's personal hand rolled Cuban stash.

Christene was unable to deliver her Foundation Minute. Rumor has it she was practicing for her upcoming Swap Romp. No one today proposed donating water wings, buffalo wings yes, water wings no. Good Luck with that Christene.

Upcoming dates:

Feb. 7 meeting at the Y, tour of the new facility,

- Lunch price will be the same.
- A waterlogged Christene will meet us at the Y's front entrance.

Feb. 14 No meeting, Presidents' Day Weekend

Feb. 21 meeting at Marley's

Fran Norman - Housatonic Habitat for Humanity

Since 1991, the focus of the Western Connecticut branch of Habitat for Humanity has been providing new and rehabilitated affordable homes and zero percentage first and second mortgages for working, qualified first time homeowners. The organization is

privately funded through donations of land, materials and labor, not through government sources.

Empowering families to help themselves

Habitat for Humanity is **a partnership, not a giveaway program**—Habitat's homeowner families buy the houses that Habitat builds and renovates. Habitat homeowners also invest hundreds of hours of their own labor working alongside volunteers. As a result, Habitat for Humanity houses are affordable to low-income families around the world.

In fiscal year 2017, Habitat directly helped 3.5 million people secure decent, affordable housing, and an additional 2.6 million people now have the potential to improve their housing conditions through a range of indirect services.

ReStore is the resale operation of Housatonic Habitat for Humanity. Donations are sold to shoppers at discounted prices – typically 50-75% below retail. It is "**Better than a tag sale**"; open to the public for gently used furniture, building supplies, appliances, cabinets, windows & more. Housatonic Habitat for Humanity generates over \$500,000 annually from the sale of these items. Their address is 15 Austin Street, Danbury (Phone: 203-744-1340). Their hours are Tues, Wed, Thurs, 10am-5pm; Fri-Sat 10am-4pm; CLOSED Sun, Mon and Holidays

Veterans Home Program, sponsored by **Gridiron Capital**, a private investment firm focused on creating value by building middle-market companies into branded organizations, is a house sponsor for building a new Habitat-built home for a veteran and his/her family. Nationwide they employ 500+ veterans.

A substantial quantity of Housatonic Habitat for Humanity information material was distributed. For more information please go their website www.housatonic.habitat.org and www.Facebook.com/danburyrestore.