

Rotary Drummer 2/9/07 Volume

Guests: Michelle Kolier, Bob Crosby and Chief Ed from the Wilton Police Dept.

**Announcements:**

The club sent 2 students to RYLA last weekend in Hamden, one of them Ginny Glass—who reported to her dad that it was a good time. Both students will join us soon for lunch and let us know about their learning experience.

**Dues, \$80, are due.** Leah will put together an invoice and email to all. Also, don't forget if you have not paid for the Holiday party, \$15/person, please do so also.

Norwalk shelter is still collecting clothing especially with this cold spell. If you have any items, bring them to lunch next week, 2/16, and Frank will deliver them to the shelter.

Silvermine is up for sale, but we will still be having lunch here---we hope.

Larry would like to take the dictionary project to Fatima but had trouble finding the right person to speak with. Please help him if you can...

**Tues, Feb 13, 5-6:30pm** will be the envelope stuffing extravaganza for the Craft Fair at Richard Kent's office. Please try and help, even if only for an hour, as the more hands the quicker it will go. Help us make our event successful.

2 birthday's today—Paul Burnham's dad, 78, who is also a Rotarian, and Don Grunewald, age unknown. Don was excited that when he went to the YMCA for his morning swim, the card scanning machine played Happy Birthday for him---the little things in life...

Rotary will be sponsoring the annual awards for the police department—Awards for Above and Beyond and Officer of the Year. We would like to make this a community event, so please attend the ceremony on March 13, 6:30 pm in the Brubeck room at the Wilton Library.

**Speaker:**

Diane and Frank from the American Red Cross joined us with general info about the Red Cross and to demo an AED machine.

The Red Cross is a government chartered agency, but not a government agency—it is private, not for profit with 183 societies around the world. The Red Cross will step in and help whenever asked around the world and is often the first to respond locally. In the US there are 775 chapters, down from 3000 just a few years ago—consolidation due to finances mostly.

The Red Cross not only collects blood, responds to disasters—both major such as hurricanes and tornadoes, but smaller such as house fires, assists with getting messages to and from troops overseas, but may be able to find family members during disasters. They have Disaster Action Teams who receive extensive training and are ready to help with as little as 3 hours notice. Most notably, the Red Cross will stay in a disaster area long after the initial event is over—to make sure all is well. Diane did comment that the Northeast is quite unprepared for a major disaster—guess we don't think it could happen here—so make sure you have an emergency kit at home.

Frank spoke about Sudden Cardiac Arrest—different from a heart attack—and how this could strike anyone at any time with no warning. He demonstrated the use of a fully automated AED, defibrillator, and how easy it is to use if there is one available. Just \$2000 can get one and maybe that should be something for our club to think about donating to ????

See you 2/16 Pam