



Wilton Rotary Drummer
February 27, 2009 **Vol. 28, No. 31**
Editor: Mark Kolier



Guests: Dave Gednick and John Seiler – prospective members – soon we hope.

Announcements

- There was as board meeting Thursday 2/26 at which the primary discussion was where the club will lunch now that the Silvermine Tavern has closed. Tiburon, Marley's, Portofino, and Tuscan Oven are the top four options. Annual awards were also discussed. Victor is going to PETS and we have another potential Ambassadorial scholar – Taylor McCurdy's sister Molly. For 2010-2011 school year.
- Larry reported that the Senior Fire Protection Plan project is at the stage of ordering the smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors. Then appointments will be made by the teams that are going to install the devices at the homes of those seniors that have indicated interest.
- Amber Alert – Matt Castaldi said we need two or three more people to help at the Miller/Driscoll Winter carnival Saturday 3/14 around Noon. Please let Matt or Ray D. know if you can help out.
- WRC sponsored Police awards will be March 16th in the Brubeck room at the Wilton Library. Usually about 6PM and please let Stephanie know if you can help but all are welcome to attend.
- Richard Kent has worked out summer concert series with Wilton Corporate Park. They have generously offered bathrooms and an auditorium in case of inclement weather. The venue will be the parking lot of 50 Danbury Road this coming summer 2009.
- Richard also mentioned that 22 booths had been sold for the upcoming craft fair (to be held Memorial Day weekend for those that do not know) and we have taken in \$ 1,400 in advertisements.
- Wilton Social Services has asked our club for whatever financial assistance we can offer as the need is greater than ever.
- Teens for the Troops collection being held – you can drop off at either the Wilton Library (2nd floor) or Trackside.

Program: Kevin Lembo – Office of Healthcare Advocate (860) 297-3989 – Kevin.Lembo@ct.gov

The Office of the Healthcare Advocate is dedicated to serving Connecticut's health insurance consumers by resolving conflicts with their insurance plans. They take a multifaceted approach: direct consumer advocacy with insurance companies and education, interagency coordination, and a voice in the legislative process. It is a free service of the state of Connecticut. <http://www.ct.gov/oha/>

Kevin detailed that this office is an essential function of government and was started in 1999. The office is instrumental in acting as an advocate for insurance claims that may have been denied for one reason or another. They counsel the insured to be certain a strong case exists and then work on behalf of the insured to recover lost coverage. The office may lose state funding as Governor Rell had it on the list to cut but that has not yet occurred. The insurance budget for the State of CT is \$ 24MM and the office of Healthcare Advocate has a budget of \$ 1MM.

- The office operates as a consumer advocate for either self-insured or non-self-insured individuals.
- 2,100 cases processed in 2008
- Education, advocacy and public policy are their three pillars.
- 52% of people in Connecticut are self-insured.

See you next Friday at the Trackside..... Mark