



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

March 4, 2011

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Editor: Bill Glass

President Luis Garcia presiding at Marly's, with 23 Rotarians in attendance.

Guests/Visitors: Rev. Steve Goldstein and Jim Booth of People's United Bank (both prospective members)

Announcements:

1. **2011 Red Sox-Yankees Rivalry:** Begins tonight in Spring Training (Ed. Note – won by the Red Sox!)
2. **Upcoming Dates/Events of Note:**
 - a. Rotary Sponsored Wilton Police Awards: March 21st , 6:30 PM, at Wilton Library's Brubeck Room
 - b. No meeting: April 22nd – Good Friday
 - c. Town Meeting/Budget Vote: May 3rd
 - d. Rotary Arts and Crafts Show: Saturday, May 28th
 - e. Rose Sale: June 17th
 - f. Installation Dinner: late June
3. **Drummer Editors Needed:** Please contact Bill Glass, nu76@sbcglobal.net; great benefits!
4. **News from One of Our Outbound Rotary Youth Exchange Students:** Please see attached email Karen recently received from Danielle Noonan, who is in the 7th month of her year in Brazil. She will give us presentation about her experiences after she returns home this July.

Today's Program

Luis led us in an Annual Club Assembly – an opportunity to hear from Committee Chairs and learn about the accomplishments and plans of the various functions of the Club.

Key Highlights:

- *Treasurer's Report*: Wendy presented a 3 year comparison of income, grants/sponsorships, and fund balances;
- *Fundraising*: Frank provided an overview of past, current and planned fundraising programs and asked members to suggest other fundraising ideas;
- *Community Service*: Patrick discussed Club efforts to help Wilton Social Services (food pantry, Thanksgiving baskets); the Senior Protection Program (installation of smoke detectors and CO detectors); issue of Homefront was raised by Chris Lavin – do we want to partner with Kiwanis and other organizations on a project in early May?
- *Youth Services*: Matt Castaldi reviewed activities in this area, including the High School Interact Club, Youth Exchange Program, High School debate club, scholarships and the 'Service Above Self' Award;
- *Membership*: Matt continued with a discussion of the importance of sustaining and growing membership – this is every member's responsibility! there are currently 3 prospects awaiting induction;
- *Rotary Foundation*: Frank and Karen gave us an overview of the Foundation at the District and R.I. levels
- Luis concluded by introducing the slate of officers for 2011-12:
 - o President: Frank Spencer
 - o President-elect: Wendy Macedo
 - o Co-secretaries: Larry Schloss and Carol Johnson
 - o Treasurer: Patty Sweeney, assisted by Tom McManus
 - o Membership: Matt Castaldi

See you Friday at Marly'sBill

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Email from Danielle Noonan:

Hi everyone,

I'm sorry I haven't forwarded anything to you in a while but i'm still updating my blog a few times a month. I gave a presentation to my rotary club about myself, wilton, CT, and the USA last week. I also prepared it for my school as well. It went really well and I

managed to answer the many questions that came my way. (Our large american breakfasts were quite fascinating to everyone.) I've also done quite a bit of cooking in the past weeks determined to share chocolate chip cookies with my entire city.

I went back to school again 4 weeks ago and I like my new classmates very much. I'm studying in "senior year" again but this time around I can really participate and take much more away from the classes. I'm treated just like every other student and the attention of being "the american" has finally worn off. I study in the same room with the same 19 kids all day long so it is quite the change from wilton high. I've grown to love uniforms and their practicality when it to walking to school every morning.

I spent the summer vacation with my second host parents in Palotina and also went on an incredible vacation. I went with Terra Brasil Turismo and 100 other exchange students to visit the Northeast of Brazil. We visited all the beautiful beaches and tourist attractions along the coast. I fell in love with the amazing other exchange students from 23 different countries, and am looking forward to staying in touch with my new friends.

My portuguese has really improved in the past few months as well. I go through the school day, run errands, answer the phone daily without any problems. There's still a ton to learn, but conversation wise i've figured it all out pretty well.

Palotina has turned out to be a great little city for me. My friends from september already began university but I still speak to them weekly. They really are great kids and i'm so rewarded by their friendship. I am still getting along great with my second host family and will be staying with them until the end of march. March 6th marks my 7th month in Brazil and time has truly flown down here. I've already met my third host parents and look forward to living with them from april-july. I love walking from place to place and seeing the friendly, generous faces that are very familiar to me now. With only 4 and a half months left here i'm throwing all my effort into making the most of my time. So far so good, and I hope to keep it that way. I can't wait to share more stories with you in july. Hopefully another happy email will be coming your way next month. Thanks again for everything, hope all is well, Danielle.

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