



**Wilton Rotary Drummer** Wilton, Connecticut  
USA District 7980  
[www.wiltonrotaryclub.org](http://www.wiltonrotaryclub.org)

**March 6, 2009 Volume 28, Number XXXII**  
**Editor: Paul Burnham**

Guests/Visitors – Gloria Bass, co-ordinator for those with special needs at the Wilton Y, a guest of Karen and Pam.

Meeting held at Trackside – thank you Bill. A good showing – maybe 25 members.

Announcements – President Pat announced that we have another Amber Alert program being held on Saturday at Miller-Driscoll. Ray needed a few more volunteers – hope he got some, unfortunately your editor found himself on his way to California the day of, so could not help out, and which explains why this edition of the Drummer is late.

Carl Tolonen, a member of our club for many years, passed away recently. All of us will remember Carl as the proprietor of Wilton Photo for many years, and then as he struggled to attend meetings as his health declined. Carl's widow Carol remains, as far as I know, an honorary member of the club.

Contact Richard Kent if you can help out with the Summer Concert Series.

If you bought an ad for the Arts and Crafts show program last year, you bought one for this year too, unless you opt out. Directions for opting out were not provided.

Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors will be here next week for those able to assist with the installations.

NEXT WEEK we will be meeting at Tiburon (the old Three Bears) on Newtown Turnpike. We have been promised a choice of entrees – at our normal \$14.00 lunch price – but be on time please.

Today's speaker was Eve Kessler, a Wilton resident of perhaps 15 years who is the President of Sped.Net, a local 501©(3) devoted to providing information for parents of children with learning challenges. Professionally she is an attorney, working in the Public Defender's Office in the City, concentrating on appellate work for juvenile defendants.

Eve's younger son was diagnosed with autism when he was 3. At the time one in 10,000 was diagnosed with autism. Nowadays, thirteen years later, it is closer to 1 in 125 children who are found to have a place on the autism spectrum.

Intense early intervention helped here, and he is living a normal life as a teen-ager. Nonetheless Eve's passion to provide assistance for those parents and children less fortunate continues unabated.

One of Sped.Net's greatest achievements to date has been the compilation of a handbook setting forth all the services available for the families with these challenges. It is perhaps the most comprehensive resource available for these Connecticut families. In addition Sped.Net sponsors two or three programs/presentations each year for the parents – and then some for the children as well – there is co-ordination with the Wilton Y in this regard.

We in Wilton are very, very lucky to have neighbors such as Eve working tirelessly for the betterment of all of our children (Sped.Net's programs have assisted many teachers in becoming more aware of the various learning methods each child uses) and our neighbors and perhaps us, who face the challenges of raising children with challenges.

See you Friday.

Paul