



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



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Editor: Kathy Leeds

A small but hardy group of Rotarians met on March 16th to enjoy meatloaf and mashed potatoes at the Silvermine Tavern.

Guests: Jessie Martinez from Westy Storage and Bill Brennan, Wilton's First Selectman

Announcements:

- The Wilton Police awards ceremony was sponsored by Rotary on Tuesday night at the Library and went very well. We will make this an annual Rotary event and may include the Wilton Firemen's ceremony as well.
- The Board meeting on March 15th included discussion of several items:
 - We need to take a more active role in improving the Oldies Show if we are to continue using the same organization to mount it
 - Pat Russo is in charge of the installation of two ramps for handicapped individuals.
 - We got the \$3,000 check (finally!) from District and will move ahead (adding our \$4,000) to purchase the generator for the school and orphanage in Haiti.
 - The Craft Show is proceeding according to schedule and Judy White will fill in for Richard Kent while he is on vacation.
- We'll present the \$500 check to the YMCA for mannequins next week
- Our 25th anniversary celebration will be held on Monday, May 21st from 7-9 pm at Silvermine Tavern and Selectman Brennan was invited.

Guest speaker:

Wilton First Selectman, Bill Brennan

Bill addressed several issues of interest to the group:

- The carnival will most likely be held on the old Gilbert and Bennett School grounds the first week of September. Bill said that the Lions Club has worked with Georgetown neighbors and will hold their carnival there in June. He asked Frank to call him with dates we'd like and promised to confirm them after making sure they don't conflict with other town events.
- Route 7 widening is going well and there will be a public information session at 7:30 pm at Cider Mill School to present the next phase scheduled to start in April. He discussed the recent hearings on "Super 7" and suggested that, at the very least, it was appropriate to wait and see how the widening and improvement of mass transit help before proceeding with further plans to improve traffic.
- The lamp post project for Wilton Center is intended to both light the sidewalks at night and to unify the area with a common architectural element. 75 posts are needed and a number have already been funded by companies, organizations and individuals. Donors

are being asked to contribute \$5,000, which will enable a personalized bronze plaque to be placed on the lamp post. . Those who give less will be put on a separate plaque mounted on a stone, where the crèche used to stand. He would like Rotary to consider donating to the project.

- Three signs welcoming folks to Wilton Center will be erected at the entrances (Horseshoe Road, Ridgefield Road and Old Ridgefield Road) and he would like Rotary to consider helping fund one sign as well. Each sign will cost approximately \$3,000. Installation will follow current construction activity.
- Our 2007-08 budget is in process and it looks as if our mill rate will come in lower than last year's. Issues under study by the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen are the unfunded pension liability and recognition of the liability of OPEB (other post employment benefits). Measures will probably be taken to reduce underfunding in these areas.
- In answer to a question about the opening of Memorial Stadium, Bill said that construction will continue on the home bleachers, team rooms, a concession stand and rest rooms, but the stadium will be available for use as publicized. He noted that it will be a great facility that Wilton citizens will be proud of for many years.