



**Wilton Rotary Drummer**  
**March 19, 2010**  
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***Guests:*** Samantha Mann from Wilton Meadows – 2<sup>nd</sup> visit – prospective member

***Announcements:*** On this March 19<sup>th</sup> day the Swallows annually fly back to Capistrano, CA – a sight to behold

- There was a board meeting on 3/18. The date and location for the installation dinner is being planned. Paul Harris fellow candidates are being reviewed.
- Chris Lavin was contacted by Dr. Kevin Crow (Kiwans) regarding the possibility of a joint project between the two service clubs via HOMEFRONT. HOMEFRONT has been disassociated from Americares and thus is looking for more help from the community. May 1<sup>st</sup> is the date with more information to follow from Chris on interest from our club members. This is a great way to make an impact in just one day.
- Bud Boucher also added the OLF is working with HOMEFRONT as well via Pet Helbeck – more information to follow on this as well.
- The Wilton Rotary sponsored Wilton Police Awards dinner was this past Monday March 15. Arranged by Stephanie Barksdale with help from several other Rotarians at the event itself.
- Past club President Nigel Mumford is not well but can be contacted via email through Bud Boucher if you like.

**Program:** – Murdock (Mac) MacGregor – Houses for Haiti - <http://www.boxhouse.org/>

As a longtime entrepreneur with strong ties to the construction industry Mac started Boxes for Haiti 2 years ago to build shelter for the most truly disadvantaged from unused 20 foot shipping containers. The containers have doors and 'windows' cut and a bamboo and thatch roof constructed on top in order to maximize airflow.

- The focus began in Bangladesh and Mac has a key team member who is Bangladeshi.
- Then the Haiti earthquake happened and the need for housing is so dramatic. And there will be 15,000 20 foot containers with supplies sent to Haiti. Nearly all will end up abandoned and unused.
- These boxes have a 'life' of 8 years. Most today are made in China since China is the world's leading exporter (formerly the United States held this position).
- There are 17 million containers in the world in active service. 3 million are 'underutilized'.
- These containers cost \$ U.S. 2,300 - \$ 2.800 apiece.
- GE is the largest container leasing company in the world and often the write off of an unused container is more valuable than the asset itself.

Mac is asking the club will to continue our support of the situation in Haiti in any way possible. Haiti is not a rollout model for Box House as problems of land and making these container houses safe make it extremely difficult. Other areas of the globe fit the ideal profile much better.

**Meeting next Friday at Marly's and no meeting Good Friday ..... Mark**