



Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut USA District 7980

www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

Our 31st Year of Service!

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Editor: Bill Meehan

Nearly a full house of Rotarians, soon-to-be Rotarians and a visiting Rotarian from Guernsey, U.K., gathered on a glorious spring afternoon for some exquisite cuisine and to hear historian extraordinaire Ed Hynes (by day, Financial Advisor with Merrill Lynch in Westport) tell the story of the British raid on Danbury and ensuing battles in Ridgefield and Westport.

Announcements:

- May 3 – Homefront – help needed at 124 Dry Hill Road, Norwalk 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- May 4 – Wilton Go Green Festival – gather at 4:00 p.m. for a quick festival take down.
- May 8 – Wilton Rotary Golf Outing @ New Canaan Country Club – contact Paul or John for more information – proceeds to benefit polio eradication effort
- May 3 – District 7980 Assembly – Mystic
- May 15 – Deadline for grant applications.
- May 24 – Wilton Arts And Crafts Fair – Silent auction donations needed. Plenty of opportunities available to help with one of our biggest fundraisers.
- We are pleased to announce that Ray Alarcon has submitted his application for membership. The application will be acted on at the next Board Meeting.

Program: Ed Hynes – General Tyron's Raid On Danbury

Had President Paul been gazing from his office window on a day in April, a mere 237 years ago, he might have caught a glimpse of a confident General Benedict Arnold stepping out of Vintage Fine Wines. With a fine pinot under each arm to ease the pain from a bruising day in Ridgefield, Ben admired his formidable patriot militia blocking what is now known as the Bridge To Nowhere. The rain swollen Norwalk River stood between harried British troops scrambling down Ridgefield Road, retreating to the British fleet at Compo Beach. If Arnold had his way, that day would forever be known as the Battle of Wilton. Alas, it was not meant to be. Loyalist locals tipped off British General Erskine about Arnold's plans as well as the pretty town park known as Merwin's Meadow just north of Arnold's position. While General Erskine too appreciated a fine wine, on this day he chose the meadow. There, the British force safely crossed to the east side of the river and continued on to Compo. While Arnold and Wilton were denied a claim to fame, maybe it worked out for the best.

NEXT MEETING – Friday, May 9 at Marly's in Wilton