



Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut

www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

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Editor: Karen Strickland

President Frank presided today over the meeting which was attended by 20 Rotarians plus guests: Paul Hafter's wife Diane, and Lois Amador who will be a host for our inbound youth exchange student.

Announcements:

- President Frank thanked everyone who helped with **hot dog sales** at the Library Book Fair last Saturday. Rotary donated the proceeds of \$409 to the Library and also funded the cost of the food and beverages which totaled \$250. We collected \$17 in the donation box which went to the Club.
- This year's **Rose Sale** can be scheduled on any date that is convenient for the Club. The consensus was that Thursday is a better day than Friday for picking up and distributing the roses, so it was agreed to hold it on June 14. Frank will advise Bob Mills.
- Richard Kent and Bill Glass reported that ad sales for **Craft Show** program are going extremely well, but we only have 25 crafters signed up to date. Hopefully more will come in over the next couple of weeks. Patty reminded everyone to be on the lookout for items for the Silent Auction that day.
- Chris Lavin announced that **HomeFront** is tomorrow 5/5 at 19 Oak Lane in Westport starting at 7:30 am. 4 Rotarians and about 12 Kiwanians are signed up for this joint project, work is primarily painting and some repairs.
- Bill Meehan reported that the **Tree Festival** is scheduled for the weekend of 5/19-20 at Cranberry Park in Norwalk and Rotary volunteers are needed on Friday 5/18 directly after our meeting to help with set up for about 1-2 hours. Please contact Bill if you can do it.

Program: Wilton Volunteer Ambulance Corps

Representatives Chris Gardner and Ron Hitter thanked Rotary for our donation towards purchasing their Power Stretcher, which cost a total of \$15K. The ambulance the stretcher rides in is a \$200K vehicle and was parked near Marly's so club members could go out and see the equipment and how the stretcher worked. The WVAC is not funded by the Town, so they need donations and do charge fees for their services. Their volunteers put in over 18,000 hours a year answering about 1500 calls from residents. They offer free CPR classes at the Library and 250 citizens have been trained so far. They also teach the Abdominal Thrust (formerly known as the Heimlich Maneuver) that saves lives from blockages and choking. A local family donated \$1300 so the Corps could obtain a Lucas Chest Compression Device which automatically performs rapid chest compressions to deliver CPR. During the outdoor demonstration with the ambulance and the power stretcher, our own Ron Barlow cheerfully agreed to be the "patient" and was strapped down and automatically lifted out of the ambulance, thus making it much quicker and easier for emergency personnel to attend to the needs of people of all sizes and weights. Thanks to these volunteers who save so many lives in the course of their work!

NEXT MEETING: Friday, May 11th