



Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut

www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

May 16, 2008

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Editor: Stephanie R. Barksdale

**ATTENDANCE: *Approximately 50 with New Canaan Rotarians included
Guests/Visiting Rotarians***

Jorge Pimental, Deborah Castro, Maria Cristina Mata, Maria Jose Hernandez, Gladys Gonzalez, all visiting GSE members. Fraser Wright, guest of Randy Mineo.

Announcements

1. Past President Frank, noting that President Bill was unavailable, introduced Amy Wilkinson, President of the New Canaan Rotary Club
2. President Elect Pat noted that the Rotary Carnival has been given the appropriate blessings to go back to the old location next to the tennis courts
3. Wilton Rotary Board meeting is Thursday, May 22nd at 8 AM

Fun & Fines

Today's fun and fines were combined together and will be given to Americares.

Program

Jorge introduced the GSE team from district 4150 – Colima, Mexico. He said Colima is made up of 4 states – Sinaloa, Nayarit, Jalisco and Colima. The economy is ranching, electricity and forestry. Jorge's family includes a special child for whom Jorge does all his Rotary work. Deborah is from Sinaloa. Her family owns a pharmacy – Farmalon – which has 100 pharmacies in Mexico. There are lots of churches in Sinaloa and it is an agricultural state. The coastline is about 600 km long and the temperatures range from 80 degrees to 120 degrees! Marie Jose is from Nayarit. Her name is a combination of her mother's

and father's names – Maria and Jose. Her state is known for the Marietas Islands with protected wildlife such as whales and plants. The native cultures make money from making arts and selling them. The economy is agriculture and tourism and is improving due to major government projects. Marie Jose is working on obtaining her Ph.D. Cristina is from Jalisco and she works for the Canadian Consulate in Guadalajara. The population of Jalisco is 7,000,000 people. It is known as Mexico's Silicon Valley. Tequila, the drink, is also a town in Jalisco which just so happens to grow the agave plants needed to make good tequila! Puerto Vallarta is part of Jalisco as well. Gladys is from Comala, Colima. The economy is based on exporting. 44% of the people here live in poverty and there are 4 active Rotary Clubs that offer assistance to these people. Mexico's cities have benefitted from Rotary Clubs from the US, Canada and Australia.

After an exchange of Rotary flags, Jorge led us in a very familiar song on the guitar!

Next meeting Friday May 23rd. Upcoming speaker list:

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| May 23, 2008 | Susan Hill & Ted Rose
Project Amigo |
| May 30, 2008 | Kim Crandall
Dominican Republic |
| June 6, 2008 | Roger Szafranski |
| June 13, 2008 | Ed Kulhawik & the officer of the
year |

See you at the SilvermineStephanie