



**Wilton Rotary Drummer**  
Wilton, Connecticut  
[www.wiltonrotaryclub.org](http://www.wiltonrotaryclub.org)



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**Editor: Karen Strickland**

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**ANNUAL DINNER**

Wilton Rotary's Annual Dinner was held at the rustic Red Barn Restaurant in two charming cocktail and dining rooms beginning at 6:00 pm. Silent auction items donated for the Craft Show were on display for guests to bid on.

After an hour of socializing and fellowship, Rotarians and their guests recited the pledge of Allegiance, heard a thoughtful invocation by Steve Goldstein, repeated the Four Way Test, and sat down to a wonderful dinner served by Red Barn's attentive staff.

Introduction of guests came next, with 27 Wilton Rotarians in attendance with 15 spouses, our incoming District Governor Rick Bassett, Assistant Governor John Hendrickson, and Paul Harris Fellow community recipient Don Hazzard and his wife. Brian Sweeney was a special guest of the club.

President Karen began the program with a review of the Club's accomplishments in 2012-13, which were quite extensive. All Avenues of Services had been addressed with projects, as well as fundraising and District obligations. Club members should be very proud of these contributions to the local, district and international communities.

Karen thanked each club member for their contributions during the year and gave a small token reflecting the measure of her appreciation.

Pat Russo presented a Service Above Self plaque to Brian Sweeney who has given significant help to club work projects over the years and also to the community as the youngest member of CERT. Brian will be heading off to college this Fall. Brian thanked Rotary for the recognition, saying it was very meaningful for him to be part of our family.

Bill Glass then presented a Paul Harris Award to our community recipient Don Hazzard, Commander of Wilton's American Legion Post and a leader in making possible the veteran's memorial which was erected in Wilton Center. Don gave a heartfelt thank you to Rotary for the award. Bill then presented a second Paul Harris to club recipient Dave Dephtereos for his longtime service on the Board and as PR chair, as well as all his help on work projects. Dave thanked everyone for the honor.

Governor Rick gave a brief talk on how much impact the work of Rotary has on both a local and international level and the importance of the Rotary Foundation in perpetuating these humanitarian projects. He commended Wilton Rotary for all that has been accomplished this past year and looks forward to working with Paul Burnham and his leadership group in the coming year when he is Governor. He then administered the oath of office to incoming Wilton Rotary President Paul Burnham who takes office July 1, and then to the Officers and Directors of the Club for 2013-14.

Assistant Governor John Hendrickson said a few words about how much he enjoys attending the meetings of Wilton Rotary and working with our members. He encouraged us to continue to be a "great" club.

Incoming President Paul thanked Karen for a terrific year after stepping in when Wendy Macedo had to abdicate due to a job change and presented her with a beautiful bouquet. Paul talked about many of the plans and goals he will be pursuing this year with the help of everyone in the club. He thanked all for their current and future support during his term and indicated the possibility of District service after his presidency.

Paul adjourned the meeting, final bids were accepted on silent auction items, and Wilton Rotary's 2013 Annual Dinner concluded as a big success.

***NEXT MEETING: Friday, June 28, 2013***