



Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut USA District 7980

www.wiltonrotaryclub.org



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Editor: Bill Meehan

Thirteen Rotarians, including repeat-visiting Rotarians Walter and Carol Smith of Lubbock, Texas, gathered on a sleepy summer afternoon for another fine lunch at Marly's and to hear speaker, BT McNicholl, Producing Artistic Director of Stamford's Palace Theatre bring us up to date with developments at the theatre.

Announcements:

- Beth Edwards is still seeking a host family or two for the incoming exchange student from Japan. Please contact Beth if you can help.
- August 31 – Membership Committee Meeting in New Haven – join Janeen, Bud and Richard for dinner at the Graduate Club for a district meeting focusing on membership issues.
- Carnival – Pat announced that Fairfield County Bank has agreed to be the Premier Sponsor for the Carnival. Plenty of additional sponsorship opportunities remain.

Program: BT McNicholl, Producing Artistic Director of Stamford's Palace Theatre

Where do you find the longest running theatre in Fairfield County but just a hop down the Merritt Parkway at the beautiful Palace Theatre. Opened in 1927 while vaudeville was king, the 1,580 seat theatre presents performing arts of all genres - music, dance, theatre and comedy. The Palace and its sister facility, the nearby Rich Forum, operate under the umbrella of the 501(c)(3) Stamford Center for The Arts. In the midst of a prolific career as a director and writer in the U.S. and internationally, BT joined the Palace Theatre as its Producing Artistic Director. Under BT's watch, the Palace has continued to bring high quality performing arts to the area. The theatre is perfectly sized for large Broadway productions, the symphony and ballet. Diverse musical performances can be found at the Palace ranging from Songbook Cabaret with artists such as Harry Connick, Jr. and Steve Ross, to opera and jazz. You can also see a show such as *Beauty and the Beast* or *Mark Twain Tonight! with Hal Holbrook*. There are regular performances by the Stamford Symphony Orchestra. The Palace features a speaker series – "The 92nd Street Y Talks" and the Laughtrax comedy series. And if the stage is your true calling, there are plenty of theatre arts education programs offered at the Palace.

NEXT MEETING – Friday, August 21 – 12:15 at Marly's