



Wilton Rotary Drummer
Wilton, Connecticut
www.wiltonrotaryclub.org



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Editor: Andy Mais

As the morning temperatures drop back into regions unseen in months, reminding us that, as Shakespeare said, summer's lease hath all too short a date, 15 Rotarians joined President Richard and a guest speaker from Sacred Heart University to share the warmth of fellowship that never fades.

Announcements:

- Dues are overdue. If you have not yet paid, your house will be papered with pictures of [Paul Burnham](#). You have been warned.
- PDG Rick Benson is leading a service trip to Kenya, Oct. 20-30, to build a school. Cost is \$2,650. This includes two days at the beach and a three day safari. See the District home page for details. Contact President Richard ASAP if you are interested.
- A membership meeting will be held in New Haven on Aug. 31. Cost for the meal is \$25, well worth it if it helps us bring in new members. See President Richard if you would like to attend.
- Beth would like to remind all the good people of Rotary (meaning not me) that she still needs host families for our exchange student. Thanks to Bud and anyone else who's stepped up.
- There will be a Board meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 25 at the Fairfield County Bank 2nd floor conference room, 190 Old Ridgefield Road, at 5 p.m. All are welcome.
- Carnival banners are still for sale. We need the money. We also need workers. Please see Pat Russo to help, and read [his interview with Good Morning Wilton](#).
- Bud reports his better half had a chance to see Ron Barlow at Waveny. If you can help get Ron to a meeting, please let Bud know. Ron's also happy to receive visitors.
- New Canaan Rotary is holding its [annual Lobsterfest](#) Sept. 25-26. See Paul B for details.

Program: Jon DeBenedictis, Admissions Recruiter & Academic Advisor, Sacred Heart University

Our speaker, a double graduate of [Sacred Heart University](#) (SHU), spoke of the growth and change in the area's non-Jesuit Catholic university over the past few years. Its reputation as a commuter school has given way to a more traditional residential structure, and it has grown in size to be the second largest Catholic institution of higher learning in New England after the (Jesuit) Boston College. Jon works with the part-time undergraduate program, which offers, among other things, a second chance for a degree to working adults and others. The median age of students in the program has dropped dramatically since 2008, from the mid-30s to the mid-20s. This may reflect its value as a less expensive option for all, not just those returning to school. SHU works to forge partnerships with area businesses, offering employees a path to a reduced cost degree with flexibility including credit for previous college experience and for knowledge acquired in the real world. Athletics, performing arts, and other top-notch extracurriculars are available, although Jesuits are not. SHU also offers Master's programs as diverse as film production and computer science in Stamford. AMDG.

NEXT MEETING: Friday, August 28, 2015 at Marly's