



**Wilton Rotary Drummer**  
**October 17, 2008**                      **Vol. 28, No. 15**  
**Editor: Mark Kolier**



***Guests: Ed Nordgen (sort of a guest!), Craig Johnson – prospective member***

**Announcements**

- There was as board meeting Thursday 10/16 and the board reviewed requests for project funding. President Pat noted that there is \$ 16,000 to be doled out this Rotary year from our club.
- District 7980 Make a Difference day had a number of Rotarians participate on Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup> and nobody got poison ivy.
- Richard Kent presented that the first Rotary club of Wilton sponsored summer concert is on the fast track complete with a sponsor for \$ 5,000. The venue will be the parking lot of 50 Danbury Road this coming summer 2009. How our club is to fundraise from this event is still under consideration.
- Coat drive (and jackets, comforters, blankets and linens) on behalf of Wilton Congregational Church is underway with collections 11/2, 11/3 and 11/5 at the church.
- Wilton Social Services has asked our club to put together two Thanksgiving baskets instead of the usual one. There is great need for obvious reasons and hopefully the Wilton High School Interact club can even put together a third basket.
- Social Services also would like donations of paper towels and laundry detergent – speak to Cliff Jewelson.
- John Lemke is spearheading a membership drive. More to follow.
- The Halloween Hustle is October 26<sup>th</sup> at 9AM – Noon. Please come and help dole out water. Speak with Stephanie for more information.
- Victoria Koch our Wilton High School exchange student from Germany has returned to Germany. Apparently there was some miscommunication during the interviewing process overseas on the level of her participation as a student at WHS. Taylor McCurdy (our WHS exchange student) does not have to return from Argentina it was duly noted.
- The Rotary club has been awarded a district matching grant of \$ 2,500 grant for Kick for Nick. The website [www.kickfornick.org](http://www.kickfornick.org) is up and running and does even have a link to a picture of club members. Thanks to Karen and Ray for doing all the hard work.

**Program:** Susan Garland and Kathy DeCesare from the United Way of Norwalk/Wilton/Darien

Kathy began the presentation noting that it is at times difficult to explain exactly what the United Way does. We Rotarians can relate to that. Connecticut United Way's immediate goals are to close the achievement gap. There are three primary needs as described by Kathy:

Please visit [www.unitedwaycfc.org](http://www.unitedwaycfc.org) for more information (the new United Way of Coastal Fairfield County)

- 1- Education
  - 2- Income for those in need
  - 3- Health
- Kathy also noted that there is a merger of sorts about to occur where 11 towns in Fairfield County will pool resources and efforts to become the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County.
  - Familywise is a well working prescription drug program sponsored by the CT United Way.
  - The Norwalk Shelter has seen a dramatic increase in use of their meals service – 46% more meals served in 2008 vs. 2007. They can use help in so many ways – come down and help serve a meal to the needy!
  - Food drive 10/25

**See you next Friday at the Silvermine Tavern..... Mark**