



Wilton Rotary Drummer
Wilton, Connecticut USA District 7980
www.wiltonrotaryclub.org
Our 32nd Year of Service!

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Editor: Elaine Tai-Lauria

Announcements:

Carol Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed guest speaker Edward Schenkel of Gregory & Adams, P.C.

She noted the following:

- RYLA is scheduled for the last weekend in October. Two high school juniors will be able to attend this leadership program.
- Pam Brown has been working on reviving the Interact Club at Wilton High School.
- Our student from Chile, Lucy, will be joining her second host family and will speak at a Rotary meeting in the near future.
- Trading flags have arrived and are available for exchange with visiting Rotarians.
- Household Hazardous Waste Collection will take place at Miller Driscoll – no house paints.
- Rotary will be assisting in the upcoming road race; a sign-up sheet for volunteers was circulated.
- The ribbon cutting for the second phase of the Norwalk River Trail will take place on Saturday at *Park and Ride* lot by Wolfpit Road.

Pat Russo discussed a new non-weather related fundraising idea. He requested that the suggestion remain within the club. He also asked for assistance to remove the aluminum handicap ramp from a home which was recently sold.

Paul Burnham thanked volunteers who signed-up for the "Stop Hunger Now" event. Although Rotary reached our quota, other volunteers are welcomed.

Program:

Susan Goldman introduced her colleague Ed Schenkel. Ed described his summer vacation in Cusco, Peru -- the site of the historic capital of the Inca Empire. During his visit, he volunteered at Asociacion El Arca, an orphanage owned and operated by two Americans, Alan and Laura Lenz. While well-regarded by all, the orphanage had to rely on support from churches, friends, medical doctors, and private school scholarships. The Peruvian Government appreciated the work of the orphanage but funding was not available since the orphanage did not meet requirements such as hiring a social worker. Adoptions were allowed, but rarely to Peruvians in order to ensure the safety of the children who ranged from 1 year to 18 years old. Interestingly, many graduates of orphanage returned to work there. Most of Ed's days were devoted to gardening and carpentry; however, he also tutored the children in math and English when they returned home after school. Ed said he learned a lot from the 40 children who had so little, yet were so happy!

In keeping with the mission of the worldwide Rotary organization to promote world peace through understanding, Ed was presented with a country book in honor of his visit. The book will be donated to the Children's collection at Wilton Library.

NEXT MEETING – Friday, October 24, 2014 at Marly's in Wilton