



WILTON ROTARY DRUMMER

October 21, 2011

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19 members took part in our Club Assembly on Friday, October 19th. Several Board chairs spoke about issues and progress in their specific areas:

Community Service:

Pat complimented Frank on his presidency. Pat explained that as Community Service Chair, he is our point person for Wilton's Department of Social Services where we are known as a "can do club." Working with Wilton Social Services, we are continuing the **Senior Protection Project**: (Dec-Mar) smoke & fire detection for those on the tax deferral list; **Adopt a Spot** (Wolfpit & Horseshoe) where Patty will spring into action in the spring); **Thanksgiving baskets** (2) to be assembled and delivered on November 21st; **Homefront**: we will be working with Kiwanis going forward. Recently we were asked to be present at the **Energy Audits** for seniors to make sure that they are not confused by the process. Pat asked our members to give him new suggestions for community service.

Treasurer:

Patty serves with Wendy in this position. She reported that the **Carnival** netted \$16K (our highest ever!). The food vendor was happy and we may bring in a second vendor next year for variety. Our Club's staffing was great - 90% of the club took a shift. The **Craft Fair** is coming up and we may change the location and format to generate more revenue; The **Rose Sale** is considering a change of pickup day to improve distribution. Only 2 members have not yet paid their annual dues. We give \$50 to our District and \$68 to RI from the \$185 collected. Guest lunches, PETS, holiday parties and Club awards come out of the balance. Fun & Fines go to the trust fund for a specific cause or as general donations.

Membership:

We have 38 solid members at this point and we're about to send out a form letter to local businesses inviting them to come to a lunch meeting. The list can be parceled out for personalization and follow up. We all should be looking for members.

Other Business:

- **Wine Tasting Fundraiser**: Bud Boucher noted that February 11th has been set aside for the Vintage Wines Fundraiser at Trackside. He noted that the Knights of Columbus recently held a similar event and netted \$5K, getting the music and food donated and making a great deal on their auction.
- **Annual Holiday Party**: Our annual holiday party will be at Kathy's house in Rowayton on Saturday, December 10th, at 7pm. Parking is tough, so we are asked to bring flashlights and carpool as possible. Directions for both parking and getting to the house will be sent ahead of time. We will contribute hors d'oeuvres, side dishes or desserts; Kathy and Gary will provide the main course and drinks.

- **New Fundraising Idea:** Frank spoke about the possibility of putting on a show with the Harlem Ambassadors in April. There was a mixed reaction to the sentiment that we should partner with others to muster the manpower for such an effort.
- **Changemaker Award:** Frank mentioned that some members were upset that we didn't compete for or win any district awards last year and this one may provide an incentive for us to compete.
- **International and Local Grants/Donations:** Bud explained how the Foundation donations work and about the ways that individuals can become Paul Harris fellows. He urged us to become sustaining RI Foundation members (\$100 per year). It was mentioned that our ability to secure District Managed Grants is influenced by the amount we have given to the Foundation. Chris noted that we need to do more publicity about the money we have given to local organizations.
- **Members Survey:** Bill said he imagines that we are all happy at Marly's after many months of calling it "home." Still, there was support for a simple survey of our members might be appropriate – not only about our meeting place, but also concerning ways in which we can improve and revitalize the Club.

Please check your membership information online or send corrections to Ed. The link to the roster is <http://www.wiltonrotaryclub.org/Directory/directory.htm> (you will need the ID and password). Ed's email is ed@ashway.org.