



Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut

www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

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Editor: Paul Burnham

Eleven members of Wilton's finest service organization (Boucher, Burnham, Edwards, Freedman, Hafter, Johnson, Kent, Meehan, Nigro, Russo) gathered for lunch on a fine mid-October Friday – we missed the rest of you.

Let Bud know if you have a preference for the date of the Rotary Christmas party – which will be at the Boucher abode on either December 9 or December 16 depending upon your responses.

On November 4 our meeting will be held at the Library, not at Marly's.

Pat suggests we put together a Fat Tuesday fund-raiser at Marly's for February 28.

The Board met on October 20. Bud reports we have at least one potential new member. Also, we will go back to the Community to solicit more grant applications. (The Board was reported to have a "lively" discussion regarding the grants committee's report. What "lively" means only the Board knows.)

If you are interested in attending the Foundation Dinner (actually a late Brunch, on Sunday November 6 in Branford, let Bud know. A good chance to meet many Rotarians from around the State.

Alas, your editor failed to pull the Joker – increasing the odds that next week, someone will win more than the \$228.00 now in the pot.

Our speaker today was Wilton Fire Chief Ronald Kanterman. Ron reported that one of the Rotary Clubs of Houston Texas was sponsoring a temporary home for firefighters (and their families) to reside in while seeking treatment at Houston medical facilities for cancers contracted in the line of duty – with the same idea as the Ronald McDonald Houses.

It is not well known that firefighters have a significant risk of developing cancer due to the chemicals that are always a part of smoke, particularly in structure fires. When Ron started out in firefighting, one could always tell if a fire was started by arson because the petrochemicals normally used to start such a blaze caused the smoke to be black – now, due to the fact that so much of today's building materials, furniture, etc., are made from plastic, almost all structure fires have the same black smoke, and the firefighters themselves are at significant risk from exposure to the toxicity of the smoke, let alone the fire itself, in every structure fire. Ron's thanked Rotary for being aware of these issues and providing this assistance to our bravest.

See you Friday.