



**Wilton Rotary Drummer**  
**November 6, 2009**  
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***Guests:** Cliff Juleson's wife Valerie, Brewer Newton from Texas who is a member of a virtual Rotary club with 35 members nationwide, David Santucci from the Danbury Club*

**Announcements**

- Past President Frank Spencer presided for Victor Tenore and noted that the Rotary sponsored Water Station at the Halloween Hustle last weekend.
- The doling out of dictionaries for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade dictionary project this past Wednesday November 4<sup>th</sup> at Cider Mill was a terrific success and all members that participated enjoyed the experience. Put it on your calendar to do this next year.
- Clean up day (pulling vines up along the river) has yet to be rescheduled.
- December 12<sup>th</sup> will be the holiday party at past club President Paul and Diane Hafter's house. If you would like to help out please let Paul know.

**Program:** – Our own Assistant district governor Phoebe Leask stepped in at Victor's request and engaged club members in a discussion regarding club membership and the district's desire to partner with individual clubs like ours.

Among several items Phoebe mentioned (in a particularly noisy dining room as other restaurant patrons were seated amongst we Rotarians) –

- 1) Club Visioning – strategies for our club on how to increase membership are available and there are people from the district who will facilitate the discussion by meeting one night per month. We would need to arrange this.
- 2) Where does our club want to be in 5 years? Perhaps not back at the Silvermine Tavern as offered by past President Hafter, but more in terms of what kind of membership both in number and age do we want? Future (and present) membership Phoebe noted was deemed to be #1 issue facing our club (and many clubs for that matter). Avenues of service, fundraising and all thing that make the club work should be explored.
- 3) What is the district and do we know where our district money actually goes? These are questions our club has every right to ask.
- 4) Phoebe also offered to do a membership workshop and mentioned that Public Relations can be an important component to recruiting new members.
- 5) We should consider putting an article in the newspaper regarding Rotary's commitment to Polio plus, the Gates Foundation \$ 355 million gift (RI has to raise \$ 200 million to match) and that many clubs are pledging \$ 2,000/year toward the eradication of Polio.

Much to consider to be sure.

**See you next Friday at Portofino's ..... Mark**