



**Wilton Rotary Drummer**  
Wilton, Connecticut USA District 7980  
[www.wiltonrotaryclub.org](http://www.wiltonrotaryclub.org)

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**Editor: David L. Dephtereos**

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Fifteen Wilton Rotarians, Assistant Rotary Governor Tony McDowell, our speaker Eliot Russman of the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, and Kane, a large German Shepherd Guide Dog, gathered at Rolling Hills Country Club.

**Announcements:**

1. Volunteer opportunities are still open for Rotary's distribution of atlases at Cider Mill School on Wed. Dec. 5 at 9:15 am. On Tues. November 20, Rotarians will affix the individual labels for the students at Paul's Prosperous Printing. Paul has promised that wine will be available, and if everyone does a good job, McCallan's Single Malt.
2. The Wilton Rotary Holiday Party will take place on Thurs. Nov. 29 from 5:30 to 7 at a location to be determined. The collection of donations from Club members for gift cards for Thanksgiving dinners for two Wilton families was completed. The Wilton Rotary has entered into a contract with a firm to redesign the Club website.
3. The deadline for entries to the Wilton Library Gingerbread House contest is Dec. 3. Pam is looking for a Rotary baker to prepare an entry, perhaps based on the Rotary Gazebo on the Town Green.
4. Tony was lucky enough to hold the winning ticket for the lottery, but he drew the Ace of Spades on not the winning joker. The big winner of the day was Jay Dulberg, who won the two bottles of Chilean wine raffled by the Fidelco Foundation.

**Program: Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation**

Elliot Russman, President & Chief Executive Officer of the Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation, spoke about its mission of providing specially-bred and trained guide dogs to the blind and visually impaired individuals in the US and Canada. The Foundation has offices in Cannondale, and it has developed a breed-within-a-breed of German Shepherds for specialized guide work. Every guide dog requires an investment of two years, 15,000 hours, and \$45,000 to breed, raise, train, and place. Dogs are provided free of charge to clients. There are opportunities to volunteer for the Puppy Raising Program and at the Cannondale facility. Fidelco is 501(c)(3) charity, and its website is [www.fidelco.org](http://www.fidelco.org). Kane was available after lunch for a meet and greet.

***NEXT MEETING – Friday, November 18 at Rolling Hills Country Club***