



Wilton Rotary Drummer
Wilton, Connecticut USA District 7980
www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

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Editor: Bill Glass

Eleven Rotarians met at Marly's to enjoy fellowship, a taste of an early Thanksgiving dinner, and a day off for some (yours truly for Veterans Day observed), with President Christene Freedman presiding.

Guests/Visitors

Dr. Ed Paul, president, Norwalk Rotary, and Lydia Gajdel, Director of Youth Ministry at Wilton Congregational Church.

Announcements:

1. **Happy Veterans Day:** In some quarters, Veterans Day is observed today as a holiday (lucky me), but the real event is tomorrow, 11 November. Wilton's American Legion Post 86 is sponsoring its annual Veterans Day March and Remembrance ceremony, commencing at 10:20 AM with a parade of vets followed by a program at the Veterans Memorial. The Legion invites Rotarians to join vets there and then at the newly renovated Legion Hall where an Open House will be held from 12 noon to 4 PM. Special thanks go out to our veterans Bud, Richard, and Bill Glass.
2. **Cooking for Charity:** Ed Paul spoke about the Norwalk Club's unique fundraiser at Aitoro's on 30 November. The store will be closed, and local chefs will take over the appliance department to cook up their favorite dishes from 6-9 PM for attendees to sample. All for \$50 per person, beer and wine included. Proceeds benefit Norwalk Rotary, JDRF and the Human Services Council. For tickets, go to cookingforcharity.eventbrite.com.
3. **Social Services Support:** Based on a recommendation from Wilton Social Services, the club will be donating two \$150 gift cards to their Thanksgiving food drive (rather than us putting together two food baskets). This will allow two Wilton families to purchase items they want for their holiday meal given personal and dietary preferences.
4. **November is Rotary Foundation Month:** The Rotary Foundation is one of the largest and most successful charitable foundations in the world. Since its founding 100 years ago, it has raised and awarded more than \$3 billion to life changing, sustainable projects. Its primary focus for the last 20 years has been the eradication of Polio through the highly successful Polio Plus program. Be sure to include the Foundation in your charitable giving plans.
5. **Cider Mill Atlas Project:** The fourth graders at Cider Mill were thrilled to receive their atlases a couple of weeks ago. Many thanks to all who helped organize and distribute. Geography question of the week: where is the Afro-Asian Ocean? (see answer on next page).

6. **Save the Date for Annual Holiday Party:** Pearl Harbor Day, Thursday, 7 December, 5:30 – 7 PM, Cactus Rose in Wilton Center. Official invitation and further details to come.

Today's Program:

Amanda Lord is the National Park Service Ranger at Weir Farm (aka, the Weir Farm Park Ranger!). Amanda is a Wilton resident and has been associated with Weir Farm for many years as a volunteer and now as its Ranger. She gave a very insightful and thorough presentation on the history of the site (the only one in the NPS system dedicated to American painting), its features, and how it celebrates the intersection of nature, creativity and art. Weir Farm is located on the Wilton-Ridgefield border at the corner of Pelham Lane and Nod Hill Road. It's buildings recently closed for the season but will reopen on May 1st. For further information, visit www.nps.gov/wefa.

Answer to this week's geography question: *The Afro-Asian Ocean extends from Durban to Perth, touching the entire eastern coastline as well as parts of northern and southern Africa, the western shores of Iran, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Indonesia and numerous island states. This Ocean is also/formerly known as the Indian Ocean.*

NEXT MEETING – Friday, 17 November, 1215, at Marly's. I'll miss that, so I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving!