



Wilton Rotary Drummer
Wilton, Connecticut
www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

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Editor: Andy Mais

16 Rotarians (including our incredibly dapper ADG Coordinator John) and prospective member Pinaki Vazarkar joined Guest President Frank (filling in for President Richard) and our guests — our Rotary Exchange student and speaker Elise Spykerbosch, and her wonderful host mother Ema Whittaker — at lunch on Friday.

Announcements:

- Foundation Chair Carol reminds you of the goal of "[Every Rotarian Every Year](#)." That's a donation to the Foundation of \$100 from each member each Rotary year (July 1-June 30). But why wait?
- The Cider Mill dictionary project presentation headed by Elaine was Tuesday at 9. Congratulations.
- Grants Committee Chair Frank notes we have received five grant requests. The committee is scheduled to meet on Dec. 16 at 5 p.m.
- December 11 is our holiday party. It will be at Marly's at 4:30 p.m. (according to former President Carol) and is \$35 (not sure who told me that). I have no clue who's taking reservations, but let President Richard know if you'll be coming anyway. I'll be there, but don't let that keep you away.
- Given that, there will be no lunch meeting next week. Means Jay won't have to do the Drummer. There will be no Drummer for the party. What happens at Marly's stays at Marly's.
- The Dec. 18 meeting will be the grab bag meeting. Gifts should be \$20 or less, unless you're bringing [single malt scotch](#). If you are, please drop that off at the Treasurer's table.
- We will not officially meet on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1, so our next meeting after Dec. 18 will be Jan. 8. But if you miss the fellowship of Rotary, feel free to stop by former President Carol's house either day. No need to call ahead.
- Bud Boucher's 50/50 raffle continues to roll. ADG John won the right to play this week, but picked the wrong card, so we'll have even more money next meeting.

Program: Rotary Youth Exchange

ADG-C John Hendrickson opened with moving comments, congratulating both the club for its participation in the [Rotary Youth Exchange](#) program and Ema and Adam Whittaker, the host family who so graciously opened their homes and their hearts to Elise. I would be remiss in not also thanking Beth Edwards for all the work she's done for this program, as Elise moves on to a new experience with another family.

Elise shared a slide presentation of her home, school, friends, and family in Japan, as well as of her experiences here in Wilton. Amusingly enough (and I can say this as an old blue), she thought Yale football players were huge. If only! She's had a number of great experiences in Wilton and on her travels to meet other Youth Exchange students as close as New Canaan and as far as Philadelphia. Yes, they did go to the Rocky statue. She plays the piano, and interestingly, her father, a Kiwi, does not speak Japanese.

As this is my last Drummer for the year, I hope you have a happy holiday season and a wonderful new year. Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, Merry Festivus — God bless us every one.

HOLIDAY PARTY: Friday, December 11, 2015 at 4:30 p.m. at Marly's
NEXT MEETING: Friday, December 18, 2015 at Marly's