

Wilton Rotary Drummer

Wilton, Connecticut
www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

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Editor: Paul Burnham

Twelve members of Wilton's finest service organization (Boucher, Brown, Burnham, Dephtereos, Freedman (presiding), Goldman, Johnson, Mais (left before he arrived), Russo, Smith, Tai-Lauria, White) were joined by prospective member Phil Sharlach and presenter Toni Boucher on this fine day in October.

After guzzling his McCallan 18, Andy reported on his way out the door that the final results of the Carnival are in and it appears we made a bit more than \$15,000 – about 2/3rds from ticket sales and the balance from sponsorships. This is a bit down from last year but in line with the results of prior years – Wilton does have several more carnivals than in the past but we seem to have the same number of ticket sales anyway. A little more was lost in operator error with the new credit card machines than previously and Pat will be talking to Tony Tufano about this. We did not have a bike raffle this year, which cut down on our profits a bit.

Christene advised that she hopes all Wilton Rotarians will contribute \$10 to the Social Services funds for needy Wilton families - this in lieu of the two full Thanksgiving dinners we have provided in years past. Send your checks or cash to Andy (or me) and preferably before Friday, November 9.

Grant requests are due by November 15, and will be awarded on or shortly after November 30.

Wayback Burger day is October 25. We are out of luck in November because our day happens to be Thanksgiving, so this is your last chance to eat lunch and benefit the club at the same time before Christmas. Bud also reported that there will be a beer truck at the food truck festival at Miller-Driscoll on October 28 - selling O'Doul's I do hope.

Carol is arranging with the Schools to schedule Atlas Donation Day at Cider Mill. Stay tuned.

Christene reported that the Board has decided to offer membership in the Club to Phil Sharlach. Although a Wilton resident, Phil is a member of Westport Sunrise – and so is as familiar with Rotary as the rest of us. Also, there WILL be a Holiday party this year.

Christene also reported that she had reason to look again at the Rotarian Code of Conduct – and to help us out she distributed it to all. It reads as follows"

As a Rotarian I will:

1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
2. Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
3. Use my professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and in the world
4. Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians.

Properly cowed by Christene's forceful message, the east side of the table had nothing to say about the results last night in Houston.

Our speaker today was Toni Boucher, Bud's better half and our state senator for many years. Toni, as we know, is a Valley girl ... Naugatuck Valley that is ... She arrived with her parents in this country at the age of 5, speaking only Italian. The lessons of her childhood remain – she is a champion of education and the immigrants seeking to make new lives in this country (little known fact – more than half the undocumented immigrants in Connecticut live in Fairfield County).

Toni advises that Washington DC and Connecticut are different places and she is as upset with what is now happening in the former locale as any of us. She says many people who know her think her views are more in line with those of the Democratic Party. But I believe it is fair to say that she feels making meaningful progress in efforts to bring back Connecticut's prosperity of thirty years ago demands a wholesale change in political leadership.

See You Friday.