



Wilton Rotary Drummer
Wilton, Connecticut
www.wiltonrotaryclub.org

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Editor: Andy Mais

Eighteen souls joined in fellowship at Rolling Hills, including three visitors, three prospective members, and one Rotarian doing triple duty — serving also as speaker and World Series celebrant.

Announcements:

- If you haven't yet given to the collection for Social Services for the Thanksgiving Basket, [please see Paul B](#) ASAP. Minimum donation is \$10. Let's bring some joy to a family here at home. If you have already given, thank you.
- The Council of Presidents Conference was in New Haven. Madame President attended and will share the deck next week.
- The NRVT will officially take over maintenance of our Adopt-A-Spot in accordance with the terms of our agreement. Work should start in the spring, and the site will be added to Wilton's pollination pathway.
- We need volunteers to distribute atlases on Dec. 5. [Reach out to Carol J](#) if you can help.
- Pres. Christene told a sweet story about her kids' intention to donate their allowances. Please join them in [donating a portion of your allowance to the Rotary Foundation](#). This is Rotary Giving Month, and the club's goal is 100% participation — Every Rotarian Every Year.
- Paul B had the right raffle ticket but the wrong card for the 50/50. The \$76 jackpot will climb to new heights next week.
- Visitors Gustavo and Marina from the Portuguese-speaking Boca Raton club exchanged flags with us.



Program: American Legion Post 86

The Commander of the [James B. Whipple American Legion Post 86](#) was our featured speaker. Some of us recognized him as Eric Glass' father. Once he got up from the Red Sox side of the table, the rest of us welcomed Commander Bill Glass.



Photo 1: Courtesy Wilton Bulletin

Bill is the commander of the Wilton American Legion Post this year, which is mostly positive, but does mean he has to speak to Kiwanis this week. Feel free to stop by and hear Bill's talk if you couldn't make it Friday. The Wilton Post is one of 13,500 worldwide. The Legion was founded in France in 1919, and Post 86 applied for a charter in April 1920. It is named for James Whipple, the first Wiltonian killed in action in the war to end all wars. It meets monthly, and all who served even for one day in combat periods are invited to join.

Major Legion accomplishments include establishing the flag code and helping get the GI Bill passed. Currently, among other national issues, the Legion helps veterans get treatment for service-related disabilities and has pushed the VA to recognize Agent Orange related issues.

The Legion is reaching out to more young people as wars continue and younger veterans return. It works in veterans' affairs and for rehabilitation, education, and employment. The Legion provides children and youth programs. Its lobbying arm supports national security issues. It works for patriotic values, and also works in crisis control in natural catastrophes, e.g. As generations pass, the Legion works to help preserve memories that otherwise might be lost.

Wilton Rotary partners with Post 86, most notably for the Memorial Day parade. Post 86 is involved in a wide variety of community issues. Its website notes, "We are active in many endeavors, including Homes for the Brave, Kick for Nick, Female Soldiers, Forgotten Heroes, Memorial Day, Flag Day and Veterans Day; a Flag retirement ceremony, Flag etiquette classes; The American Legion Oratorical Contest and Boys State; providing a Color Guard for various events including funerals, dedications and various ceremonies. We sponsor a High School graduate with a scholarship towards college. We also sponsor a Student School Award for two High School and two Middlebrook eighth grade students."

NEXT MEETING: Friday, November 9 at Rolling Hills.