



The Guilford Rotarian

Published weekly by The Rotary Club of Guilford, CT
Chartered April 12, 1954



Henry Whitfield Museum

P. O. Box 32
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Meeting – March 24, 2010

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District 7980

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"One Earth,
One Humanity"

Area 8 Assistant Governor

Charles "Chip" Marsh

Pledge of Allegiance

All, led by president Paul Heeren

Invocation

By Maryann Bracken

Visiting Rotarians & Guests

No visiting Rotarians (*unless one counts Justin Wyatt*).

Guests: Peter Butler and his uncle, Don, with Bob Hartmann; Scott Stachke with his father Wayne, Stephanie Jacobs with her father Al, and Donna Signere with Paul Heeren

Rotarian Anniversaries

None

Rotarian Birthdays

Ed (can you believe he's 60?) Walker was feted by a rollicking Happy Birthday song led by Bill Stableford.

Announcements

Paul Heeren had a bundle of interesting things to report this week:

- A check for \$275 was received from a group of Ed Walker's friends, sent to the **Rotary Foundation** in honor of Ed's 60th birthday. Wow!
- The **Rotary Leadership Institute** will be held on March 27 at the Graduate Club of New Haven; Donald Baechler will attend.
- The **District Assembly** is coming up in April—at the Meriden Sheraton. Guilford members attending will include Donald Baechler, Evelyn Atreya, Bob (and Bea) Shepard, and Katherine Canipelli. Any members interested in attending should let Paul Heeren know.
- A **GRC Board meeting** will follow the weekly meeting today.
- **Thank You's** have been received from recipients of GRC funds, including:
 - o *Community Dining Room*, for the \$1,085 donated for a commercial grade washing machine and a commercial coffee maker
 - o *Guilford Food Bank*, for the \$417.50 donated from a recent King of Clubs winning card draw.
 - o *Agras Negras* in the Dominican Republic, from Bob Hildreth, for the \$500 donation (which was matched dollar for dollar by Bob Shepard) for replacement mattresses following the recent flood disaster.

Guilford Rotary in the Community

- The **2010 Dictionary Project**—through which GRC donates dictionaries to third grade students in the Guilford school district—was approved by the Board of Education. Nancy Bishop coordinates this program for us.
- **2010 LobsterFest** planning is underway. Co-chairs Ken Wilson and Ralph Schiani –who are at the helm for the last time this year—will be kicking off the action at a planning meeting at the Guilford Community Center on Wednesday, March 30 at 7 pm. We've got a new band ("Timeless") and are organizing to kick up the event marketing a few notches (spearheaded by Katherine Canipelli, Maryann Bracken, Betsy Hodgson and more!). If you're interested in learning the ropes or stepping up to co-chair for next year's big event, raise your hand! Sponsorship recruiting is steaming – John Stax is spearheading, but others are signing up new and returning sponsors (Ed Walker reported that Quality Propane of Clinton has signed up again).
- March has 5 Tuesdays this year, which means that it's our **Community Dining Room** time again. Janie Patrick indicated that, due to a social event scheduled for the early evening, the lunch on March 29 would be served early at 11:30. Volunteers needed for moving tables and clean up.
- **The Interact Club** is on the march!
 - Al Jacobs reported that Rotary International has authorized **a new junior high / middle school Interact Club level**, which we hope to launch in the coming months. Advisors needed! If you're interested, talk to Bill Stableford or Al.
 - Bill followed up to announce that the Interact Club would be donating a half-day of labor to **Habitat for Humanity** this weekend and all Rotarians are welcome!
 - And the **Interact Club's Pasta Night II** will be Monday, March 29 from 5:30 pm to 9, with take out options available, according to Al Jacobs. Proceeds go to Haiti relief programs – 50% to the HHF and 50% to a food donation program.
- Continuing our support of **Haitian Health Foundation**, Larry Appleton described a special contribution opportunity through which we'll make a donation of shelf stable food (Spam, etc.) to be packed on the container being loaded on Saturday, April 10. Through a retail food business contact, Larry has negotiated to get case lots at the wholesale price. He'll 'pass the hat' at next week's GRC meeting and the Board has agreed to make a matching contribution.

King of Clubs

With \$141 in the pot, the right card still eluded Donald Baechler, Gene Bishop, and Wayne Stachke. Who's feelin' lucky?

New Member Induction

Two new members were introduced and inducted by Andy "D" Stephens. He reiterated the benefits of Rotary membership—the professional networking, opportunity to give back to the community, and a chance to develop new friendships—and asked "what more can we do?" to attract new members. Things like targeting specific professional categories or industries – to find leaders who are ready to do more. And actively promoting not only Guilford Rotary Club but also Rotary International, to raise awareness of what we're achieving here in Guilford and around the world.

Welcome to:

- **Peter Butler, printer**, who spent many a childhood summer hangin' at Guilford's beaches and docks visiting his uncle's family, and moved to Indian Cove six years ago.
- **Donna Segnere, physical therapist**, who harks from Pennsylvania, opened a practice in Guilford three years ago, but has lived in Madison with her family for 11 years.

The Guilford Rotarian Committee Members

Weekly Editor: Katherine Ventres Canipelli

Maryann Bracken | Terri Bryant | Katherine Canipelli | Janie Patrick | Michael Negron | Michael Sinclair | Pat Todd

Happy Dollars

Ed Walker – thanks for the rousing song! 60! And very Happy for the surprise birthday party that his family threw for him, and for some recent road trips with his son and by his daughter, and for surviving some nasty falls on the ski hill, and, especially for the Guilford Volunteer Fire Department dousing of his chimney fire. And happy to hand over a check to the Rotary Foundation -- \$100 as the ante plus an additional \$60 for every year he's celebrated his birthday.

Bill Stableford – thanks to the top tier Rotarian (Justin W will go unnamed, but acknowledged!) for 4 great tile jobs completed.

Sandy Ruoff – Welcome to Peter Butler and Donna Signere as new members!

Maryann Bracken – Welcome new members and glad to be back from a marvelous trip to Argentina!

Katherine Canipelli – Happy that her brother has been awarded a Fulbright fellowship to develop a family practice medicine teaching curriculum in El Salvador in 2011.

John Murphy – Happy to tell yet one more really hilarious and randy Irish joke in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

Stephanie Jacobs – Happy to be flying off to Italy in April for a week with the GHS Wind Ensemble!

Mike Negron – thanks for the donated food – and for the Peace Jam affiliate this Friday

Jonathan Christoph – Happy for son's 3 A's and a B grades from his 2nd semester at UConn

Speaker: Eric Hammerling, Executive Director of the Connecticut Forest & Park Association

Eric Hammerling gave us an overview of the scope of CFPA, with special emphasis on the New England National Scenic Trails (NENST) and the Blue Blazed Hiking Trail System that criss-crosses Connecticut. CFPA is a non-profit organization, staffed by a small team of professionals, with an army of volunteers to maintain the trails and publish trail guides. There are 200+ miles in the NENST network – and more than 825 miles of Blue Blazed trails, with an extension of the Mattabesett and Metacomet trails now being blazed through Guilford's East River Preserve and Guilford Land Trust properties to connect to the trails along Long Island Sound. CFPA also advocates 'good health' Walk Connecticut programs that fight the obesity epidemic that Connecticut's citizens are experiencing.

For more information on the Association and the network of trails, see www.ctwoodlands.org or email info@ctwoodlands.org. For more info on Walk Connecticut, see www.walkct.org. Eric's email is ehammerling@ctwoodlands.org.

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Minutes Submitted by: Katherine Canipelli