

THE DURHAM BULL SHEET

News and Events of the Durham/Middlefield Exchange Club

Happy New Year - 2009

New Year Events

Another new year has begun. I wish everyone a prosperous new year. There are many ways to be prosperous which we should all be grateful for. Good friends and family, good health and the warm feeling knowing that through our efforts we are helping those less fortunate.

We have a very busy Exchange schedule from now to the end of June. At the next meeting on January 8, 2009 we will be having Attorney Martha Stone, the Executive Director for the Center for Children's Advocacy coming to speak to our club about their program. Ms. Stone is a Durham resident who has been running the Center for ten years. The Center is at the University of Connecticut School of Law in Hartford. The

Center represents children who need a voice to ensure their legal rights are met. This type of program fits in with our Mission of Child Abuse Prevention, as many of the children who the Center helps are abused children. Please make this a meeting that you do not miss.

On January 22, 2009 we will be having our annual visit from Eileen Lader from the Middlesex Family Advocacy Program at Middlesex Hospital. We give this program a sizeable donation every year and once a year Ms. Lader comes and speaks to us on how our money is helping their programs. This is always a great meeting as she usually brings a client along to tell us her story on how this program has helped. This is one of our best meetings as it really puts a face to all of our hard work. Put this meeting on your calendar.

On February 12, 2009 we will be having our Valentines Social so keep on the good side of your sweetheart and put this date on the calendar. All sweethearts are invited to attend this event.

On February 26, 2009 we will be hosting our Membership meeting. Plan on inviting a guest to this meeting. Bill Deacy our Exchange Club VFR will be at this meeting to talk to us. Make sure you bring a guest. If you bring a guest to this meeting you will not be charged for your meal for this meeting.

March brings us the Spaghetti Dinner on March 8th, the National Honor Society Dinner on March 12th and Book of Golden Deeds on March 26th. That is just March. As I said we have a busy schedule ahead but this is the fun part of the schedule.

Meetings

January 8, 2009 – 6:30 PM
Regular Meeting – TLC
Eatery- Martha Stone Guest
speaker

January 15, 2009 – 6:30 PM
Board Meeting – Ralph
Chase's Home

January 22, 2009 – 6:30 PM
Regular Meeting- TLC
Eatery- Middlesex Family
Advocacy visit

February 12, 2009 – 6:30
PM Valentines Social- TLC
Eatery

February 19, 2009 – 6:30
PM Board of Directors
Meeting- Rich Astle's Home

February 26, 2009 – 6:30
PM Membership Meeting
with Bill Deacy from
Exchange – TLC Eatery

CTCleanEnergy OptionProgram

In our communities we have the option of helping our environment and our community by enrolling in this great program. This program should help decrease our demand on foreign energy sources and help the environment by increase the demand for renewable sources of electricity. Many families in both Durham and Middlefield have signed up

for this program already. If this program gets 100 families to sign up each town will get a 1 killowatt solar panel which will be installed free of charge. The program is less than 10 families away from getting their first solar panel. With every additional 100 sign ups the towns will be eligible for an additional system. There are two levels which to sign up for. The lower level will cost you about the cost of a coffee and donut per month, depending on your electric consumption. I will be inviting someone to talk to us at one of our upcoming meetings. Until then if you want more information please contact the CTCleanEnergyOptions at www.ctcleanenergyoptions.com or Sterling Planet 1-877-457-2306 or Community Energy at 1-866-946-3123.

Editorial

As president of your Exchange club I have been privileged to contact the wonderful people who are the speakers at our meetings. Most of these people are willing to come out after their normal work hours to speak to our group. Some of them want our financial support but some of them just want us to be informed. At our last meeting Larry McHugh from the Middlesex Chamber of

Commerce came and spoke to us about the state of business in our county. While he is very business minded and may have said some things that the locals did not want to hear I think everyone really enjoyed his talk. For those who did not get the opportunity to hear him speak you missed a great speaker. I try to get interesting speakers to make our meetings more interesting. When I get a speaker I am hoping that there are enough members there to make it worth their while to come out at night when they could be home with their families. Try and make the next few meetings and meet our speakers. I know you will not be disappointed.

Phil Gaudreau