

## **Volunteer Resume of Richard B. Benson**

as of 12/31/15

### **Awards:**

Rotary District 7980: Humanitarian Service Award (2014)  
Westport Residential Developer of the year - 2013  
Westport First Award to Totney & Rick Benson (2/2010, for 25 years of Service)  
James West Fellow of Boy Scouts of America (2009)  
Paul Harris Fellow and Major Donor of The Rotary Foundation (2009)  
CT Yankee Council, Commitment to Community Distinguished Citizen Award, (2007)  
BSA Pomperaug District: District Award of Merit (2005)  
BSA Pomperaug District: Key 3 Award Recipient, (2004)  
Silver Beaver Award Recipient from BSA, CT Yankee Council (2003)  
YMCA Faces of Achievement Award Recipient (1999)  
Olympic Torch Bearer ("Community Hero", 1996)  
Westport Club Rotarian of the Year, 1993

### **Community Service:**

Justice of the Peace (2013-17); Universal Life Ordained Minister (2011-present)  
Town of Westport, CT: Board of Finance (2001-2005)  
    Conservation Commission Vice Chairman (1996-2000)  
    Planning and Zoning Commission (5 years 1991-1996)  
    Revaluation Working Group 3/04-10/31/05  
    Westport-Weston Millenium Committee (99-00)  
    Westport War Memorial Committee - Co-Chairman  
    Westport of the Worlds, Committee Member & Treasurer  
    Westport - Yangsou, China Sister City Committee  
    Westport Republican Town Committee (04-12)  
    Congressman Christopher Shays town coordinator (04-08)  
Founder Westport Rotary LobsterFest (2012) – major community event/fundraiser  
Life member VFW, marched in more than 25 Memorial Day Parades  
Veteran's Day Program participant at Bedford Middle School – 5 years  
VFW - Cannon relocation committee chairman (1999)  
Compo Beach Playground Co-Chairman (1988-2005); Technical Advisor (2006)  
Compo Beach Cannons Restoration Chairman (1999)  
Compo Beach Skate Park Construction Manager (1998)  
Save Elvira's Deli Committee– Chairman (2003)  
United Way (25 yr volunteer, 10 yrs on Board, 5 as Treasurer, 1980-2005)  
Westport Chamber of Commerce - Member & Restored their office building (1999)  
Westport Historical Society tour leader, volunteer, and exhibitor  
Westport Arts Center - Exhibitor and volunteer  
Westport PAL- July 4th Fireworks Vendor Selection & Fundraising Comm. Chair 2002-5  
Project Return – Birdhouse Artist 19 years, volunteer 20 years  
Westport Rotary Club - past president (7/94-6/95), Director 10 years - present  
Westport Rotary Club Foundation - Director 5 years (95-01)  
Westport Rotary 75Th Anniv. Fundraising Co-chair, and Cannon Restoration Chair '99  
(Antique) Pewter Collectors Club of America - National President 2011-13

Member since 1983, New England Region President 2003-2007, National Board Member 2003- present, program Chair 2008-10; Guest Lecturer Philadelphia Antiques Show 4/13; and Yale 10/13

Rotary International District 7980 (4 coastal counties of CT, 61 Rotary Clubs)  
District Rotary Foundation Chair 2013-18; District Governor 2008-09;  
Asst. District Governor (96 & 97), (2002-2006),  
GSE Rep 01-03, Youth Exchange Host Family 01-03, Awards Chair (06, 07)  
Numerous district committees: Finance, Nominating, Planning, Foundation,..  
Hosted 3 international Youth Exchange high school students  
District Web Master and Membership Extension Chair 2009 – 2012  
Rotary Zones 24 & 32 – Assistant Membership Coordinator (09-10)  
Vice-Chair North East Presidents Elect Training Seminar (09-10)  
International Humanitarian Service: 2 trips to Haiti; Lead a Rotary Service team to Mombasa, Kenya (10/15); Polio Immunization Team Member in Kaduna, Nigeria 12/15

#### Westport-Weston Family Y

- Trustee – 2009 – present
- Building Planning Committee 2010-present; Construction Committee -2011-14
- Renovated 8 & 10 Allen Raymond Ln; Built 2 new Camp Mahackeno Pavilions
- Strategic Planning Committee, Site Selection Consultant 1993 –2008

#### World Special Olympics Host Town Committee Chairman - 1995

Host of Tomas Murray, Panamanian Athlete who received Prosthetic Leg

#### Gillespie Center – Westport’s Homeless Shelter volunteer 1992-present

Greens Farms Congregational Church – Trustees responsible for Building & Grounds

Saugatuck Congregation Church - Trustee (1998-02)

Saugatuck Congregational Church- Restored 1809 church parsonage (01), Steeple (05)

Saugatuck Child Care Services - Treasurer (83-87)

Red Cross Blood Donor - 40+ yrs

First Night Westport-Weston, Site Manager - 4 yrs.

Library Riverwalk & Gardens Committee - V.P. Phase I (1996) and Phase II (1999)

Jessup Green Steering Committee

Project Return - Birdhouse Artist, construction volunteer, & fundraiser (1997-present)

Westport Make-a-difference-Day Project manager, many years

Americare’s Home Front House Manager – ‘92-‘93

Little League Baseball - Co-coach, Westport Soccer Association Coach

Cub Scout Pack 39 – Cub Master (1993-1995),

Boy Scout Troop 39 – Scout Master (1998- 2002); Eagle Scout Advisor (1995 – present)

Ast. Scout Master Troop 39 (95-98; 2002 – present);

Westport Scouters Association, Founding President (2003-06)

BSA CT Yankee Council – National Jamboree 1998, Assistant Scout Master

Woodbadge Course Instructor (9/01)

Commitment to Community Event Chair 2009

Pomperaug District Nominating Com. Chair 08, 09,10