

CLUB NEWS

NOVEMBER 30, 2023

Carol Sing



New London Rotarians are known for their love of singing, and there's a great opportunity to demonstrate this love (and their vocal talents!) at an upcoming event. At **3:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 14 at the New London Community Meal Center** on Montauk Avenue, Rotarians will spread some cheer with a good, old-fashioned holiday carol sing. This is the same evening the club prepares and serves the evening meal at the center, so plan to come to the center just a bit early and raise your voices in song. Or, if you can't help out with meal service, but have some time to sing, just come along and raise your voices.

A big shout out to Rotarian Siri Belgium who is overseeing the event for the Community Service Committee. All Rotarians and guests are welcome!

Waterford Rotary

Meetings First and Third **Tuesday** of the Month, beginning November 21, 2023 at Filomena's in Waterford.

Community Meal Center

Our club volunteers on the **2nd Thursday of each month** to serve at CMC. Please let Anna Lathrop know if you can help, anna@gourmet-galley.com. We begin at 4pm and are done by 6:15pm. Your help is always appreciated.

Little Free Libraries

The Little Free Library project is a daily club initiative to locate books, secure, label and distribute them throughout the city. Please bring books to our meetings or let one of our stewards (Gail, Christine, Mel, Ray or Julia) know if you need someone to pick them up. Good sources of material are family, libraries, schools, friends, neighbors, places of worship and workplaces. Contact Julia Kushigian-Secor with questions jakus@conncoll.edu.

Pierce F. "Pete" Connair

February 19, 1926-November 29, 2023



Calling hours will be from **5 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8**, at the Thomas L. Neilan & Sons Funeral Home, 12 Ocean Ave., New London, and a Mass of Christian Burial with full Military Honors will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at St. Mathias Church in East Lyme. Interment will be in St. Mary Cemetery, New London.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Eric Russell

State Treasurer

"Conversation and Updates on Connecticut's Economy"

Weekly Meeting

12:00 Noon

at THE THAMES CLUB

290 State Street, New London

Dec 14 Annual Meeting

Dec 21 No Program

Dec 28 No Meeting

For those unable to attend in person, please join us for our weekly Rotary meeting via Zoom.

Go to [ZOOM.COM](https://zoom.us) and click "JOIN A MEETING" and enter the info below.

ID=895 9471 7490
PW=512184

GREETER

Dec 7 Tracee Reiser

INVOCATION

Dec 7 Tracee Reiser

SONG LEADER

Dec 7 Tracee Reiser

BIRTHDAYS

None

ANNIVERSARIES

None

gotsneakers?

A Sneaker Recycling Organization



GotSneakers Fundraiser Payment & Impact report for OCTOBER 2023

Bags & Sneakers

Bag(s): 13
Excellent Sneakers: 0
Good Sneakers: 33
Fair Sneakers: 70
Recyclable Sneakers: 66
Non-Athletic Shoes: 10

Sustainability Impact

Landfill:
 179 Pairs Displaced from Landfills
Carbon Dioxide (CO₂):
 5,370 Pounds Displaced
Water (H₂O):
 404,003 Gallons Saved

Fundraising Summary

Amount: \$152.50
 Payee Name: *Rotary Club of New London*

Rotary Around the World

United States

Earl Knauss got a lesson in food waste when he received a neighbor's gift of three bushels of red peppers that had been cast aside by a farm because they were misshapen. "I discovered that odd-shaped, blemished, and imperfect vegetables were dumped or destroyed," says Knauss, of the Rotary Club of Hamburg in western New York state.



He asked the farm's owner for more of the unsalable produce and collected 18-gallon totes of vegetables that he sent to food pantries. The Farm to Family project has since expanded to include three farms, and the Hamburg club formally adopted it in 2018. From May to December, Rotary members and friends work alongside Knauss delivering vegetables to about 3,000 families. In 2022, they provided more than 100,000 pounds of vegetables to 23 distribution sites. Among them is the Resurrection Life Food Pantry in Cheektowaga, where pantry director Kim Reynolds says the site would not have many fresh vegetables without the program. "Our clients rely on Farm to Family to fill that gap," she says.

Philippines

With two club leaders being registered nutritionist dietitians, the Rotary Club of Lucena University District takes healthy eating seriously. The club paired with the Quezon chapter of the Nutritionist-Dietitians' Association of the Philippines to offer lessons at a jail on how diet can prevent disease, the importance of exercise, sleep, and drinking enough water, and other topics. Club President Joey Kathlyn Samonte and Past President Bella Castro also explained a food chart on optimal portion sizes for various food groups. And aspiring chefs tested their skills in a cooking contest using the organic vegetables grown at the jail. Club member Jasper Panganiban lauds the pair's devotion. "These types of projects to encourage healthy



lifestyles and diets in the community are close to their hearts," Panganiban says.

Service to others is
the rent you pay
for your room here
on earth.

Muhammad Ali

CLUB REPORT

NOVEMBER 30, 2023

by Todd Gipstein

Ronald Webb, A Connecticut Rotarian since 1992, spoke to us about The Rotary International Foundation. Its goals. How it works. Its relationship to local clubs.



The Rotary International Foundation serves as the charitable arm of Rotary International. It supports Rotary

clubs worldwide by funding humanitarian projects, scholarships, and programs. Local Rotary clubs contribute to the foundation, which then redistributes funds globally, fostering international cooperation and community service. The foundation enhances the impact of individual clubs, promoting Rotary's mission of advancing goodwill and addressing global challenges.

"Every Rotarian Every Year" (EREY) is a Rotary International initiative that encourages each Rotarian to contribute financially to the Rotary Foundation annually. Local clubs receive honors if their clubs achieve this goal. This collective effort helps fund humanitarian projects, scholarships, and other impactful endeavors, aligning with Rotary's commitment to making a positive difference in communities worldwide.

After Ron shared details of the workings of the R.I. Foundation, Ed Kramer weighed in from the perspective of the New London Rotary Foundation. We discussed various ways that our members might make donations to the local and international foundations.

MEETING NEWS

Sophie Gipstein Scirico was inducted as a new member to the club. Rick Gipstein, a club past president and winner of many Rotary awards, introduced Sophie, his daughter. Most of our club, including Todd Gipstein, her uncle, have known Sophie since she was a toddler, and Sophie has grown up with Rotary. She designed our 100th anniversary flag in 2017 and has helped out at BrewFest and in other club activities numerous times. She spoke about her work at the Lyman Allyn Museum, continuing the legacy of her grandmother Fuzzy Gipstein. Sophie wants to continue and expand her involvement in our club's activities. She will add some energetic youth to New London Rotary.

Ed Stoltz was awarded an honorary membership to the New London Rotary Club. Ed has played the piano at our meetings for many years. Previously awarded a Paul Harris Fellowship, Ed has now been further recognized as a vital part of our club. Ed was truly honored and appreciative of his membership.



We all were saddened to hear the news of the passing of the "heart of the club" **Pete Conair**. In his honor, we sang his favorite song "Wait 'Till the Sun Shines Nelly"

The sad news continued as **Jerry Fischer** shared that he had just heard the while his niece Liat, a hostage, was freed by Hamas, the family had just learned that her husband Aviv had been murdered at the outset of the horrors in Israel. It's a sad world desperately in need of the Rotary ethic.

Club Officers, 2021-2022

President	Valerie West
President-Elect	Mel Foti
Vice President	Mary Lenzini
Secretary	Andy Russell
Treasurer	Alan Lyon
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Bysko
Immediate Past President	Brian Cole

Board Of Directors

2024	John Bysko, Kate Lee, Mark Spinnato
2025	Lee Cole-Chu, Pam McNulty Hennessey, Todd Gipstein
2026	Andrew Gilday, Mirna Martinez, Tracee Reiser

Club Committees

Rotary Youth Service Todd Gipstein, Director

Student Of The Year	Barry Neistat
High School Awards	Barry Neistat

Rotary Membership Mel Foti, Director

Fellowship/RAH	Reid Burdick
Classification	Andy Russell
Information	Kris Magnussen
Sunshine	Millie Devine
Diversity/Membership Dev.	Jerry Fischer

Rotary Community Service Gail MacDonald, Director

Camp Rotary	Tracee Reiser
Centennial Playground	Rick Gipstein
Holiday Book Drive	Anna Lathrop
Community Meal	Anna Lathrop
Service Person/ Veteran's Day Program	Mary Lenzini
Little Free Libraries	Julia Kushigian Secor
Yale Harvard Regatta	Lee Cole-Chu
Thanksgiving Turkey Fund	Pam McNulty-Hennessey

Rotary International Service Julia Kushigian Secor, Director

Rotary Club Service Lee Cole-Chu, Director

Audit	John Bysko
Awards	
Paul Harris	
Carl Wies	
Tom Wetmore	
Phil Turner	
Nominating	Ed Cramer
Anchor	Todd Gipstein
Music	Chris Neilan
Program	Mary Lenzini
Fundraising Committee	Mel Foti
Golf	Kate Lee, Alex Marku
Brewfest	Keith Turner, Victoria Mueller
By-Laws	Lee Cole-Chu
Picnic	Val West/Ted Rossi
Anchor Ad Sales	Mark Spinnato
Installation Committee	Victoria Mueller
Public Relations	Brian Cole
Website	Catherine Foley, Gail MacDonald
RI Foundation	Ed Cramer

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