



# CLUB NEWS

## FEBRUARY 29, 2024

### Inter-Club Meeting

Area 12 will hold an inter-club meeting at noontime on **March 13th** at Flanders Fish House in Niantic. Guest speakers from Safe Futures will address the attendees. President Val is accepting nominations for an Unsung Hero award that each club will name at the meeting. This award is for someone that this year has quietly supported the club without praise and deserves recognition.

Send your nomination and RSVP for the luncheon to President Val @ [westv8804@gmail.com](mailto:westv8804@gmail.com) by 3/4.

### 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](mailto:anna@gourmet-galley.com). We begin at 4pm and are done by 6:15pm. Your help is always appreciated.

### Waterford Rotary

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

### Rotary International Foundation

Giving to the Rotary International Foundation is a great way to make a difference in the lives of millions. Programs in the United States and around the world benefit from your generosity. It's easy to give through automatic withdrawals and there is no minimum—every donation matters! To donate to Rotary International, please go to [myrotary.org/donate](https://myrotary.org/donate) or scan the QR code below.

If you have not yet registered, you will need to log in with password. Choose amount of donation and Fund you would like it to go to. Please be sure to include Club number 6741 and your Rotary membership number. If you do not have it, please contact Ed Cramer at [winetalk177@aol.com](mailto:winetalk177@aol.com).

Thank you for supporting the Rotary International Foundation.



## TODAY'S PROGRAM

### Leap Frog Day

#### Weekly Meeting

12:00 Noon

at **THE THAMES CLUB**  
290 State Street, New London

**Mar 7** **Kris Magnussen**  
*Public Health Update*

**Mar 13** **Inter-Club Luncheon**  
*Flanders Fish, East Lyme*

**Mar 14** **No meeting**

**Mar 21** **Rich Lisatano, CEO**  
*LMH Update*

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**  
Feb 29 Mel Foti

**INVOCATION**  
Feb 29 Mel Foti

**SONG LEADER**  
Feb 29 Mel Foti

**BIRTHDAYS**  
None

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
None



**TRI-STATE DISTRICT Conference**



*Together We Are Better*

May 3 – 5, 2024

Districts 7890, 7910, 7950 and 7980

All District Conference events will occur at the **Southbridge Hotel & Conference Center**. Most attendees will stay at the hotel on Friday and Saturday nights. We have arranged a special nightly rate of **\$129 + tax** at this fabulous hotel.

Register today: <https://nepets.regfox.com/rotary-multi-district-conference-2024-final>

Rotary District 7980 ~ Area 12

People of Action



## Area 12 Inter-Club Luncheon / Social



*Area 12 ~ Assistant District Governor ~ Michael Barnett  
Cordially invites you to our joint Inter-club luncheon*

### Area 12 Clubs

Groton

Niantic

New London

Mystic

Waterford

Our Guest Speakers will be Kathy Verano, Marie Kenny, Ken Edwards ~

Safe Futures started in 1976 as the Women's Center of Southeastern CT for Information, referral, rape crisis hotline for women. It has become so much more to this community.

It will become "The Center for Safe Futures" implementing the family justice center model of operation.

Join us to hear their plans for the new center to be built on Route 85 in Waterford and how it will impact the people of Southeastern CT.



Each club in Area 12 will be  
honoring a member from  
their club with the

**"Un-sung Hero Award"**

We hope everyone  
will attend!

**Buffet Lunch will be \$15.00**

RSVP to your club President by  
March 8

Questions?

Call Michael 860.463.7634 or  
Deb Fountain 860.303.0968

Wednesday  
March 13, 2024  
At 12:15 pm  
Flanders Fish  
22 Chesterfield Rd  
East Lyme, CT  
Parking is limited ~  
carpool is encouraged

**All members are encouraged  
to attend. Please try to sit  
with those from other clubs!**

# HENNY: A Legacy of Hope



**February 29, 2024 | 7:30 pm**  
**Garde Arts Center**  
325 State Street, New London, CT

**a new documentary film produced by Jerry Fischer and created by Jerry and Todd Gipstein premieres on the giant screen**

**Henny: A Legacy of Hope** - profiles local Holocaust Survivor Henny Simon and her journey later in life to share her story to combat Holocaust deniers and antisemitism. The evening will be a celebration of her life with performances from internationally acclaimed pianist Emanuel Ax and the Eastern CT Symphony Orchestra and Chorus with European concert pianist Eva Virsik. The concert and Premiere is centered around participants and victims of WWII. The ECSO was founded by Victor Norman, a Jew who fled Nazi Europe and became the organist at Congregation Beth El. ECSO Conductor Toshi Shimada's father was detained in two Japanese internment camps and lost all his land. Toshi's wife Eva Virsik lost 16 relatives in Auschwitz. And we will honor Ben Cooper, a 102 year old WW II veteran and liberator of Dachau who was Henny's companion and love during the last years of her life. They often spoke together in schools.

Purchase tickets at [www.gardearts.org](http://www.gardearts.org).

Our club will have a Rotary informational table at this event.  
If you would like to help with the set up or manning the table let Val know at [westv8804@gmail.com](mailto:westv8804@gmail.com)



# CLUB REPORT

## FEBRUARY 22, 2024

by Todd Gipstein

**L**ee Cole Chu introduced **Emmet Cosgrove**, speaking to us during Rotary's Peace and Conflict Prevention Month, on the cusp of Rotary's 119th anniversary. Emmet was a lawyer for 27 years, a presiding judge for 21 and has been a mediator for 2 years. Emmet told us that conflict is part of a society where we have free people who may have differing views. War, Emmet said, is resolving conflict through violence. Peace is not the absence of conflict but rather resolving it without physical, emotional or economic violence. How we resolve conflict is a vital part of civil society. Indeed, conflict can be valuable in addressing social differences. Emmet said that today we are surrounded by conflict. Just in the legal system in Connecticut, there are 200,000 criminal cases, 60,000 civil disputes and 6,000 family disputes.

The goal is to resolve conflicts peacefully, not through violence. Quoting Einstein, Emmet said: "Peace cannot be kept by force, it can only be achieved by understanding."

Emmet explained there are three main processes of dispute resolution.

Lawsuits usually involve a court trial, either with a jury or before a judge. It is formal and public and involves lawyers. It may increase animosity. Litigation can take time, is often unpredictable, has risks, and can be expensive. And while he said the state's judges are very good, they may not always be experienced in a particular area of litigation.

Alternate dispute resolution processes are also available.

One is arbitration, where those on both sides agree to have a third party resolve their conflict and they agree to abide by the ruling. It is not done in court. Arbitration is often a clause in contracts. In



arbitration, the sides have a choice of who the arbitrator is. It is less formal than a trial, quicker, and is not public.

Meditation is another tool for dispute resolution. A mediator is someone like Emmet who facilitates discussion and suggests creative solutions. Both sides agree on a neutral third-party to hear their dispute and provide guidance towards a resolution, crafted by both sides. It is private and usually quick. Mediation is not a binding ruling, just a way to get both sides to talk substantively and, hopefully, come a resolution that both will accept.

Both arbitration and mediation allow the parties to find someone who is experienced in the subject in dispute. Both methods are efficient and far more economical than a court trial. But, at times, trials are unavoidable.

Emmet cited several cases he had dealt with as a judge and as a mediator. He told us that 95-99% of legal issues do not go to trial but are resolved either by arbitration or mediation. If one is in a situation that involves a legal conflict, Emmet said to consult an attorney for advice on which avenue to pursue to seek resolution.



## Club Officers, 2023-2024

<b>President</b>	Valerie West
<b>President-Elect</b>	Mel Foti
<b>Vice President</b>	Mary Lenzini
<b>Secretary</b>	Andy Russell
<b>Treasurer</b>	Alan Lyon
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	John Bysko
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	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*

<b>Student Of The Year</b>	Barry Neistat
<b>High School Awards</b>	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*

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

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