



THE ROTARY ANCHOR



The Weekly Newsletter of
THE ROTARY CLUB OF NEW LONDON

District 7980 Club 6741

Chartered April 11, 1917

PO Box 654, New London, CT 06320

CLUB NEWS

APRIL 4, 2024

Book Drive

Book Drive to benefit
9 Little Free Libraries in New London

Saturday, April 27, 2024
10am to 1pm
Toby May Park

Drive through book drop off available

We welcome books for all ages,
baby–adult and encourage multilingual
or Spanish language books!

Volunteers Needed

Let President Val know if you can help
at westv8804@gmail.com

DONATION REQUEST

Approximately a year and a half ago,
New London Rotary partnered
with the Waterford Rotary Club
(and other local non-profits) to build a
wheelchair accessible ramp for the Rapollari
family’s daughter Maria. Thanks to our
efforts and the generosity of Alex Marku
(and the staff of A Beautiful Company), this
ramp was built for the family.

Please click on the link below to read the
article about the request for Maria by her
mom Kayla Mullen (daughter of Jeff Mullen,
New London businessman and New London
community supporter). **The Rotary Club
BOD is considering supporting this
request but we also want to make each
of our members aware of the ability to
donate individually.**

Whatever the amount, your support is sure
to make a difference in the life of this lovely
family.

<https://www.mightycause.com/story/Bd1yif>

Instagram

Thank you to new member Sophia Gipstein
Scirico for creating and activating a brand
new Instagram account. Please follow on
your personal and business pages. Find the
account at:

RotaryClubofNewLondonCT

Stay tuned for Instagram activity to
promote our club and our service activities.

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.

Walk To End Homelessness

The New London Rotary is sponsoring the
WALK TO END HOMELESSNESS on
April 28. Our club is sponsoring a team of
5 walkers. Please contact Mary Lenzini to
join the team and represent our club. The
festivities start April 28 at noon on the Par-
ade Plaza with the walk beginning at 1 PM.

The 17th Annual Walk to End Homelessness
is not just a fundraising event but a
powerful reminder that the battle against
homelessness is ongoing. With the
emergency shelter operating at maximum
capacity, our support plays a vital role in
addressing the guests’ financial challenges
and helping them find a way home. The
New London Homeless Hospitality Center
(NLHCC) isn’t just an emergency shelter—it
addresses homelessness from every angle
by connecting people with services and
federal programs, promoting job readiness,
running a housing resource center, and even
providing some permanent housing.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Town Hall

Weekly Meeting

12:00 Noon

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

Apr 11 Doug Thompson

*Challenges of Establishing and meeting
Carbon neutrality on a CT Campus*

For those unable to
attend in person, please join
us for our weekly Rotary
meeting via Zoom.
Go to **ZOOM.COM** and click
“JOIN A MEETING” and
enter the info below.

ID=895 9471 7490
PW=512184

GREETER

Mar 28 Mel Foti

INVOCATION

Mar 28 Mel Foti

SONG LEADER

Mar 28 Ed Stoltz

BIRTHDAYS

None

ANNIVERSARIES

None

For more information about Club happenings, visit our Facebook page, facebook.com/NLRotary

BREWFE**FEST** at the Beach

SEPTEMBER 13
6:00pm – 9:00pm
Ocean Beach

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!

Happy Spring from President Val

It is going to be busy these next few months to close out the 2023-2024 Rotary year. Make note of these “Save the Dates” and stay tuned for further details on each event from President Val. Hope you can attend and/or volunteer most of these events.

- 4/6 Public Library of New London Gala** - a few seats are still available at the Rotary table
- 4/27 Book Drive @ Toby May Park** to benefit the Free Little Libraries - 10am to 1pm
- 5/2 Rotary Night at Lyman Allyn Museum** - 6pm to 8pm
- 5/15 Fundraiser Wine Dinner** at Lighthouse Inn to benefit Safe Futures - 6pm
- 5/16 Student of the Year Luncheon** at Ocean Beach - Noon
- 5/18 Rotary Day of Service** - time and activity TBD
- 6/3 Rotary Golf Tournament** at Great Neck
- 6/6 Yale Harvard Regatta Luncheon** at Coast Guard Academy Noon

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 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.

Thank you for supporting the Rotary International Foundation.



CALLING ALL CLUB & DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAMS

THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY: A LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONVENT



SAT., APRIL 20, 2024
8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

HOTEL MARCEL BY HILTON
500 Sargent Drive, New Haven 06511
(A redux of the landmark Pirelli Building)

Southern Connecticut
Rotary
District 7980



Join us for Rotary Night at the Lyman Allyn Art Museum

We invite the Rotary clubs in Southeastern CT and beyond to join us at the Lyman Allyn Art Museum for fellowship and fun! Spend the evening meeting with fellow Rotarians while also exploring the current exhibitions. On view will be:

- *Beatrice Cuming: American Precisionist*
- *Nathan Hale Arts Magnet School Student Exhibition*
- *Louis Comfort Tiffany in New London*
- *American Perspectives*

While you're here, get creative and stop by the First Thursday artmaking station! All attendees are welcome to make their own still life drawing.

This event is family friendly! We encourage your members to bring their partner, children, or friends!



Date: May 2, 2024

Time: 5 - 8 pm

Location: Lyman Allyn Art Museum
625 Williams St.
New London, CT

Cost: Free for active Rotarians
\$5 non-members

*Rotarians must give their club ID number at check in

Learn more about the Lyman Allyn at www.lymanallyn.org





4TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

TO BENEFIT THE NEW LONDON COMMUNITY MEAL CENTER

**Monday, June 3rd
Great Neck Country Club**

**Registration: 10:30am – Noon Lunch: 11:00 – 11:45 Shotgun: Noon
Post-Golf: Dinner & Awards ~5pm Live Auction / Drawings**

HELP OUR COMMUNITY – BE A SPONSOR!!

GOLD SPONSOR: \$3500.00

Benefits include 1 free foursome, a professionally placed full-page ad in the program booklet, prominent mentions in all advertising media, and 1 FREE tee sign.

BAR SPONSOR: \$750.00

ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

LUNCH SPONSOR: \$750.00

ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

SILVER SPONSOR: \$2500.00

Benefits include 1 free foursome, a professionally placed half-page ad in the program booklet, prominent mentions in all advertising media, and 1 FREE tee sign.

DINNER SPONSOR: \$750.00

ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

PRACTICE GREEN SPONSOR: \$750.00

ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

BRONZE SPONSOR: \$1000.00

Benefits include free golf for 2 players, a professionally placed quarter-page ad in the program booklet, prominent mentions in all advertising media, and 1 FREE tee sign.

Benefits for Bar, Lunch, Dinner, and Practice Green sponsors include large, professionally designed signage displayed prominently, a free listing in the program booklet, 1 free tee sign for each sponsor, and mentions in event advertising media.

CART SPONSOR: \$500.00- ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

Benefits for the Cart Sponsor include professionally designed signs placed in each golf cart (approximately 50 carts), a free listing in the program booklet, and 1 free tee sign.

FRIEND OF ROTARY/CMC: \$250.00

Benefits include a program book listing and 1 free tee sign.

TEE SPONSOR: \$110.00

PAYMENTS MADE TO:

NEW LONDON ROTARY FOUNDATION

BY MAIL: PO BOX 654 NEW LONDON, CT 06320

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS ACCEPTED AT THE EVENT

NEW LONDON ROTARY GOLF TOURNAMENT
Monday June 3, 2024
Great Neck Country Club, Waterford

GOLFER REGISTRATION

1. Team Captain: _____ HDCP _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email (required): _____

2. Player: _____ HDCP _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email (required): _____

3. Player: _____ HDCP _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email (required): _____

4. Player: _____ HDCP _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email (required): _____

Foursome cost is \$200 per person.

**Make all checks payable to New London Rotary Foundation and mail with registration to:
New London Rotary Foundation P.O. Box 654, New London, CT 06320**

Or email form to: nlrotarygolf@gmail.com

CLUB REPORT MARCH 28, 2024

By Julia Kushigian-Secor

Peace Through the Arts

Robert Friend, District Governor Elect, former NL Rotary Club member & Marketing Specialist for the Garde Arts Center, visited our club on Thursday, March 28, 2024. Commenting that he attended his first Rotary meeting when he was ten with his father who was a Rotarian, he recalled not being back to our Club for ten years. He is currently a member of the Madison Club. As a friendly face at many District meetings, Robert is a welcome figure in our district. He remembers fondly working with Barry and others on a Rotary fundraiser with Broadway stars appearing at the Garde, which ultimately raised \$90,000 for the eradication of polio. He began his career in Performing Arts in Boston after receiving his degree from Emerson College and working at the Long Wharf Theater. He has been heavily involved in entertainment technology for 20+ years. As an Assistant Governor of the District for 8 years, he endeavored to open up the District's public image. He and his wife, Maribel, who is from the Dominican Republic, have three children. He is inspired by the concept of leveraging Rotary to raise funds, so he and DG Rick Benson did a Global Grant with Mercy Ships to take medical care to the Dominican Republic. He encouraged all members of our Club to attend the District meeting on April 20 in New Haven where many informative sessions are planned on International projects, technology, and saving lives through Rotary.

During his year as District Governor, Robert will be focusing on the topic of Peace and Culture Building Through the Arts, which will be internationally motivated. There will be Zoom sessions with Clubs around the world including those in Ukraine, India, Afghanistan, the UK, etc. A sample project with Ukraine might be a camp for children in the northern part of the country to give them a sense of peace and normalcy. As peace is the framework for next year with the RI President elect, Stephanie Utricht, who spoke at a district meeting in New Haven last month and at PETS in February about the theme, Robert in support is promoting the concept of "Opus for Peace." He hopes to be able to inspire harmony, wellness and understanding through the arts, with musicians and artists participating in a joyful celebration of peace



and the arts. When asked how he will tie technology into the project, Robert answered that he will have an ongoing video blog and pod casts, where he will interview guests, share videos on Saturday mornings and open conversations on peace through the arts on Friday afternoons. Robert has secured several venues for unique presentations including The Garde, which will sponsor a film festival for peace, and the Bushnell Theater, which will host the Amistad Opera. In sum, this effort will elevate the image of Rotary in the state. The arts bring healing, break down barriers, disrupt complacency, and encourage critical thinking. Before concluding Robert gave us a few dates to keep in mind: April 20, the District Assembly in New Haven, and June 23, his Installation as District Governor at Water's Edge.

Club Officers, 2023-2024

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 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 Classification | Reid Burdick |
| Information | Andy Russell |
| Sunshine | Kris Magnussen |
| Diversity/Membership Dev. | Millie Devine |
| | 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 Awards | John Bysko |
| Paul Harris | |
| Carl Wies | |
| Tom Wetmore | |
| Phil Turner | |
| Nominating Anchor | Ed Cramer |
| Music Program | Todd Gipstein |
| Fundraising Committee | Chris Neilan |
| Golf | Mary Lenzini |
| Brewfest | Mel Foti |
| By-Laws | Kate Lee, Alex Marku |
| Picnic | Keith Turner, Victoria Mueller |
| Anchor Ad Sales | Lee Cole-Chu |
| Installation Committee | Val West/Ted Rossi |
| Public Relations | Mark Spinnato |
| Website | Brian Cole |
| RI Foundation | Catherine Foley, Gail MacDonald |
| | Ed Cramer |

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Edward Cramer
177 Colman Street
New London, CT 06320
Telephone: 860-443-5937
E-mail: winetalk177@aol.com

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