CLUB NEWS

THE ROTARY

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 <u>westv8804@gmail.com</u>

DONATION REQUEST

pproximately 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

APRIL 11, 2024

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, <u>anna@</u> <u>gourmet-galley.com</u>. 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 Parade 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.

The Weekly Newsletter of THE ROTARY CLUB OF NEW LONDON

> District 7980 Club 6741 Charted April 11, 1917

PO Box 654, New London, CT 06320

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Doug Thompson

Challenges of Establishing and Meeting Carbon Neutrality on a CT Campus

> Weekly Meeting 12:00 Noon at THE THAMES CLUB 290 State Street, New London

Apr 18 Victoria Mueller New London Rotary Foundation

For those unable to attend in person, please join us for our weekly Rotary meeting via Zoom. Go to <u>ZOOM.COM</u> and click "JOIN A MEETING" and enter the info below.

> ID=895 9471 7490 PW=512184

GREETER

Apr 11 Julia Kushigian-Secor

INVOCATION

Apr 11 Julia Kushigian-Secor

SONG LEADER

Apr 11 Julia Kushigian-Secor

BIRTHDAYS None

ANNIVERSARIES

Apr 11 Sophia Gipstein Scirico & Adam Scirico



Rotary Sends Spring Greetings to New London Seniors



Cheery, brightly colored "Happy Spring" messages were sent in March to shut-in seniors in the city by New London Rotary. A faux tulip, a card and a foil-wrapped chocolate Easter egg were included in the packages. They were delivered, along with Meals on Wheels, by the Thames Valley Council for Community Action workers. It was the third goody package for

seniors sent by Rotarians. The first two were delivered in time for the Christmas holidays and Valentine's Day.

Rotary Day of Service: Spring Cleanup at Homeless Shelter

This year's Rotary Day of Service will help the New London Homeless Hospitality Center spruce up and clean up for spring. Rotarians are asked to bring gardening gloves, rakes and other garden tools to the shelter, 325 Huntington St., at 10 a.m., Saturday, May 1. Rotary volunteers, with the assistance of a master gardener connected to the shelter, will do some planting, raking and other light yard work. Rotary also will supply the shelter clients with a light breakfast of juice and muffins. Please plan to join us!

CALLING ALL CLUB & DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAMS THE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY: A LEADERSHIP TRAINING CONVENE

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



Upcoming Events for Rotary Club of New London

- 4/20 **District Assembly** @ Hotel Marcel in New Haven 8am-2pm
- 4/27 **Book Drive** @ Toby May Park to benefit the Little Free Libraries - 10am to 1pm
- 4/28 **Walk to End Homelessness** @ the Parade Plaza festivities at Noon, walk at 1pm
- 5/2 **Rotary Night at Lyman Allyn Museum** 5pm to 8pm
- 5/15 **Fundraiser** 5 course 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** Light yard work and gardening at Homeless Hospitality locations 10am-1pm
- 6/3 **Rotary Golf Tournament** at Great Neck Noon shotgun
- 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 diff-erence 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 <u>myrotary.org/donate</u> 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.





TOWN HALL REPORT APRIL 4, 2024

By Julia Kushigian-Secor

Report, International Service Committee

Julia Kushigian-Secor, Chair

Ongoing projects:





Chikumbuso: The goal of the Chikumbuso project is to empower children, widows, single mothers and grandmothers whose lives have been decimated by the AIDS epidemic. HIV/AIDS

is the largest killer in Sub Saharan Africa and the lives of 1.2 million orphans living in Zambia have been affected. The aim of Chikumbuso is to raise the quality of life and change the face of those living in Ng'ombe compound in Lusaka by bringing hope. The Chikumbuso Women and Orphans Project is a community-based NGO that comprises five individual projects: the Orphan's School, Widow's Income Generation, Single Mother Training, Grandmother Outreach and Child Sponsorship.





Our Club's relationship began with a series of district club fundraisers in 2009 and includes ongoing support: Chikumbuso sponsored student; Contribution to

Stoningtons Rotary DMG's sustainable garden for self-sufficiency.

2) **The Eradication of Gender Violence**, Cuenca, Ecuador, María Paz Jara Alvarado, Director, Gender Studies, Universidad del Azuay, Cuenca, Ecuador. We are partnering with this program where I completed a 5-week project on the Eradication of Gender Violence for the Fulbright Specialist program in Cuenca and Quito, Ecuador (Universidad Pontífica; Universidad de Quito). Coinciding with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (November 25) and the 16 following days of activism to mobilize and call attention to the urgent need to call attention to the violence against women and girls, I presented in over 21 events, 4 meetings, and Indigenous celebrations. Speaking to administrators, students, staff, faculty, NGOs, Rotarians and activists from varied disciplines of medicine, law, humanities, social and natural sciences, we discussed the myths that society creates around gender, feminism, human rights, social justice, conflict,

climate change, violence, etc. The NLRC donation will aid in continuing the work of bringing about change in the perception of social roles gender, sexuality, race and ethnicities in Ecuador. It will support the basis for a new



DMG for a project to prevent gender violence in the canton Valle of Cuenca, Ecuador.

3) FAR (Fund for Armenian Relief), Yerevan, Armenia



Since 2000, the FAR Child Protection Center has provided a haven for at-risk children by performing crisis intervention, short-term rehabilitation and stabilization to victims of some of the most horrible predicaments, including abuse, abandonment and neglect. Our donation will help provide winter improvements for the home in Yerevan that houses a great influx of children from Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabagh), who have been abused and displaced in the war between Artsakh and Armenia. FAR transforms young lives through crisis intervention, critical shortterm rehabilitation and stabilization to those who are victims of some of the most horrible predicaments including abuse, abandonment and neglect, and

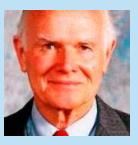
ANCH R

TOWN HALL REPORT APRIL 4, 2024

behavioral, emotional and psychological problems of both Armenia and (Artsakh). We are partnering also on this with the Rotary Club of Yerevan that is also raising funds for the project.



4)



Tom Wetmore International Prize 2024

THE TOM WETMORE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE COMMITTEE AWARD:

Given to a member of the New London Rotary Club or

Community who best exemplifies Tom Wetmore's Service Above Self in the International arena. Tom Wetmore built powerful relationships bridging Rotary International Clubs and the New London Rotary Club. As a result of these relationships, Tom inspired many Rotarians to develop and implement projects that contributed to the advancement and well-being of children, adults and entire communities through international humanitarian matching grants in Colombia and Nicaragua. The recipient will be selected by the NLRC International Service committee and presented at the NLRC Installation Dinner or other similarly designated event *whenever* there is a deserving recipient.

Report, Club Service Committee

Lee Cole-Chu, Chair

Lee reminded us of the importance of the work done by Rotary members that helps folks who are less fortunate. He advised us that the Fundraising Committee has been hard at work planning for their 2 big events, Brewfest (October 15) and the Golf Tournament (June 3, Great Neck Country Club) which generally raises between 15 and 20 thousand dollars for our projects. In addition, there will be a wine tasting dinner at the Lighthouse Inn. Sponsors and volunteers are needed for all events. The picnic in August will be at Rotarian Ted Rossi's lovely home by the beach. Our website has undergone major changes with Catherine Foley beginning the process and Gail MacDonald picking up the charge of the website changeover. The new format lists events and important information but Gail tells us that the site needs more content. Gail asks all Club members to help decide what content we would like to see there and how to make it internet friendly. The Nominating Committee headed by Ed Cramer completed its work in November and presented a slate of nominees for the Board to the Club, which was enthusiastically approved. The Rotary International Foundation has also been ably chaired by longstanding Rotarian Ed Cramer (53 years of service). Ed has offered informative and helpful presentations to the Club about contributions to RI through myRotary. org, explaining how that money is distributed to Clubs to support service to their communities and internationally. Ed encourages every member through myrotary.org to make donations to meet the Club's goal of 100% participation, offering updates periodically on how close we are getting to our goal. Given the huge success of last year's Yale-Harvard Regatta luncheon at the USCGA Consolidated Club, the event will be repeated there June 6, 2024, celebrating the Intercollegiate 147th rowing on the Thames River. The Coast Guard Academy is hoping the luncheon will become a tradition there as 120 community members attended (with many others turned away when maximum was reached). While we partner with other community service clubs as co-sponsors (Kiwanis and Lions), the financial assessment and volunteer coordination rests with the NLRC, so all are encouraged to volunteer to make the event successful. Lee reached out to the Governor's Office to invite state officials to this wonderful community celebration. Wrapping up this year's April and May events, Victoria will give a Club presentation on the NLRF budget, supported by the information distributed by Alan Lyons, treasurer, and John Bysko, Sargent at arms, at the meeting. This information gives transparency for what is happening in the NLRC and how much is available for future projects.

COMMITTEE REPORT APRIL 4, 2024

By Lee Cole-Chu

The Fundraising Committee, chaired by Pres.-Elect Mel Foti, has been busy with our club's two annual fundraising events, the Golf Tournament and Brewfest, but also with several smaller programs such as the "Got Sneakers" campaign and a wine tasting dinner May 15 at Lighthouse Inn.

The Golf Tournament Committee, chaired by Past Pres. Alex Marku and Kate Lee, has been organizing the June 3 tournament at Great Neck Country Club in Waterford to raise \$15-\$20,000 for the N.L. Community Meal Center. The number of golfers is nearly at the maximum. The committee still seeks sponsors and donations for the golfers' raffle. All club members are urged to participate in this event.

The Brewfest Committee, chaired by Past Pres. Victoria Mueller and Keith Turner, is already hard at work preparing for the Sept. 13 Brewfest at Ocean Beach. Brewfest proceeds, from sponsorships and ticket sales, support the N.L. Public Library. Beverage offerings are expected to be more plentiful than usual, the donations from regional distributors being augmented by new spirits and craft beers from Connecticutbased companies. Members are urged not only to work the event but also to recruit sponsors.

The Picnic Committee, co-chaired by Pres. Val West and Ted Rossi, anticipates another successful event in August, thanks to Ted & Ruth Rossi's generosity and graciousness in hosting the picnic again.

The Website Committee, co-chaired by Gail MacDonald and Catherine Foley, has successfully completed a change in website software overseen by Catherine. Gail has become website manager: though she defers to the Club as to the site's evolving purpose and scope, Gail now edits and maintains our club's web "page," streamlining the site and keeping it updated as speakers and programs are scheduled. Gail reports that the site is not as easy to find on the web as she would like it to be, and she is working on that. Club members and officers can help 1) by providing post more stories and news via the "DACdb" software, automatically uploads them to the site; 2) by using DACdb more often; and simply by visiting the site more often: <u>https://www. newlondonrotary.org/</u>

The Nominating Committee, chaired by Past Pres. Ed Cramer, has done the main work for this year in preparing the slate of club officers elected last December for the 2024-2025 Rotary Year.

The Rotary International Foundation (RIF)

Committee, also chaired by Ed Cramer, is more or less constantly in pursuit of 100% participation member by members in annual giving to RIF.

The Yale-Harvard Regatta Committee, chaired by Lee Cole-Chu, will, in cooperation with the New London Lions and Kiwanis clubs, produce the traditional luncheon celebrating the Regatta and its connection to our region and State on June 6 at the Coast Guard Academy.

The Bylaws Committee, also chaired by Lee, will report first to the Board of Directors and eventually to the members – someday, he promises.

The Public Relations committee of the New London Rotary Club is charged with amplifying the message of Rotary International and the good works of our local club as a means of public education about Rotary.

Thanks to the hard work of Gail MacDonald, Julia Kushigian Secor, and others, Rotary events and activities have been circulated on a regular basis to local publications like The Day.

As electronic media continues to increase as a means of public information, Sophia Gipstein Scirico has begun an effort of increased Rotary presence on platforms like Instagram.

The Anchor continues to be a mainstay of internal club and district information for members on a weekly basis. Professionally penned articles by Gail MacDonald (along with various guest authors), award-winning photographer Todd Gipstein's pictures of meetings and guest speakers, and the design expertise of Kirk Felton (Quality Printers graphic designer) combine to make *The Anchor* a model for Rotary Clubs throughout the district and beyond.

Other traditional advertising (billboards, lawn signs, pamphlets, etc) have also been deployed as we increase our support and sponsorship of community events to promote the Rotary image.

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.

<u>This event is family friendly!</u> 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

Rotary

Club of New London

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.

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.

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. BAR SPONSOR: \$750.00 ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

LUNCH SPONSOR: \$750.00 ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

DINNER SPONSOR: \$750.00 ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

PRACTICE GREEN SPONSOR: \$750.00

ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

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 prof<mark>ess</mark>ionally 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. | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | n Rotary Foundation and mail with registration to: n P.O. Box 654, New London, CT 06320 | |

Or email form to: nlrotarygolf@gmail.com



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, <i>Director</i> | |
|---|---|--|
| Student Of The YearBarry NHigh School AwardsBarry N | | |

Rotary Membership

| Mei Foli, 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 | l Pam Menulty- | |
| | Hennessey | |

Rotary International Service Julia Kushigian Secor, Director

Rotary Club Service Lee Cole-Chu. *Director*

| Lee Cole-Cilu, 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 Com | nittee 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 Comm | nittee Victoria Mueller |
| Public Relations | Brian Cole |
| Website Ca | atherine Foley, Gail MacDonald |
| RI Foundation | Ed Cramer |
| | |

