



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 FEBRUARY 20, 2025

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Steve Fine

Melanoma Education Foundation

Weekly Meeting

12:00 Noon

at THE LIGHTHOUSE INN
6 West Guthrie Place, New London

Feb 27 Steven Manuel
New London Historical Society

Mar 4 Sonja Kreibich
German Consul General

Mar 20 Jenn Keatley
United Cerebral Palsy

For those unable to attend in person, please join us for our weekly Rotary meeting via Zoom. Go to [ZOOM.COM](https://zoom.com) and click "JOIN A MEETING" and enter the info below.

ID: 875 1538 8112
PW: 055551

GREETER
Feb 20 Brian Cole

INVOCATION
Feb 20 Brian Cole

SONG LEADER
Feb 20 Brian Cole

BIRTHDAYS
Feb 21 Florence Clarke
Feb 24 Leon Lehrer
Feb 24 Ted Rossi

ANNIVERSARIES
Feb 22 Leon & Jan Lehrer

Rotary Annual Post-Holiday Party

TONIGHT!

The holidays continue thanks to the generosity of the Mueller family!

This year's party will take place on **February 20th** at the **Dutch Tavern**, 23 Green Street, New London.

The action starts at **6 pm** and goes until **8 pm** or whenever the police ask us to leave.

Bring your favorite dish and get ready to party as Rotarians *sometimes* do!

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, Robert Duleau 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.

Golf Committee Meeting TODAY

There will be a golf committee meeting (immediately following the regular club meeting) on **February 20th**. All are welcome....we need your participation...this is one of our club's major fundraisers....do your part to help the club and community...no contribution of time, talent, or treasure is too small. Thank you!

Upcoming Events for Rotary Club of New London

- 2/26 Haitian Dinner + Cultural Awareness event** to benefit the Haitian Health Foundation Favorites Bistro Bar, 171 Bank Street New London, CT
- 3/4 Germany, US & CT: Partners for Peace Luncheon** with guest speaker Dr. Kreibich The Lighthouse Inn, 6 Guthrie Place, New London, CT @ Noon
- 4/25 Peace in Nature Event** on Arbor Day
- 5/3 Opus for Peace** at the Hygenic, a Juried art show opening event Hygenic Art, 79 Bank Street, New London, CT 6pm to 9pm
- 5/17 New London Rotary Club Epic Day of Service**

CLUB NEWS

FEBRUARY 20, 2025

Rotary Assembly, Meeting, Training, Conference, Convention Dates & Links

(Register on dacdb for many events):

March 4, 2025: 12:00-1:30 p.m., New London Rotary Club Peace Event, Lighthouse Inn

Join us for an insightful talk with Dr. Kreibich as she explores how Germany, the U.S., and Connecticut work together as partners for peace and prosperity. This **in-person** event will provide a unique opportunity to engage with a renowned expert in diplomacy and business. Don't miss out on this chance to be a part of the conversation!

Dr. Kreibich took up her post as the Consul General of Germany to the New England States in July 2022. Before arriving in Boston, she served at the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Berlin as the Head of Division for Pan African Issues, Southern Africa and the Great Lakes from 2018-22. Prior to this, she served as the Head of Unit for European Migration Policy from 2014-2018, and as press spokesperson in the Speaker's Office from 2002-2006. Sonja's roles within the Foreign Office have taken her abroad to the German Permanent Mission to the UN in New York as well as to the German Embassy in Bucharest, Romania. She studied law at the University of Bonn and at the University of Edinburgh and obtained a Dr. iur. from the University of Bonn.

Follow this link to purchase your ticket (\$23.18 total), which includes a delicious buffet lunch! <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nl-rotary-peace-event-germany-us-ct-partners-for-peace-dr-kreibich-tickets-1129859443009?aff=eivtefrnd&utm-campaign=social%2Cemail&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-source=strongmail&utm-term=>

May 30, 31 June 1: Magical Mystery Tour Rotary District Conference Southbridge, MA

<https://www.dacdb.com/Calendar/Event.cfm?EventID=77792474&CalClubID=6741&R=0.20222391992683875>

June 21-25 2025: Rotary International Convention, Calgary

<https://convention.rotary.org/en-us/>

Peace Calendar: <https://opus-for-peace-community.rotary7980.org/events>



Rotary Club of New London

To Benefit

HAITIAN CULTURAL NIGHT



Wednesday, February 26, 2025

6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Favorites Bistro, Bank Street, New London

The event will feature a delicious Haitian meal provided by Majan and Ederjson Pierre of Favorites Bistro. In addition, there will be Haitian art on display, entertainment by Haitian folk dancers and singers and signature cocktails made with Haitian Barbancourt rum for sale. Haitian artworks provided through Flavours of Life fair trade store in New London will be available as door prizes.

E. Marilyn Lowney, executive director of the Norwich-based Haitian Health Foundation, and Dr. Jeremiah Lowney, founder of HHF, will be on hand to provide details of the foundation's work and the current dire situation in Haiti. HHF has been providing vital healthcare, education, emergency relief and community development in Haiti for 40 years.

Tickets are \$75 per person,
payable at the door on the night of the event.

Sponsored by



RSVP or direct questions to Gail MacDonald
at gbraccimac@gmail.com no later than Saturday, Feb. 21.



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.



MEETING REPORT FEBRUARY 13, 2025

New London Trees

Reported by Todd Gipstein



Maggie Redfern and Paloma Doyle gave a presentation about New London Trees. Maggie was assistant director of the Connecticut College Arboretum, and Paloma is now a junior at Conn. College studying botany.

Recognizing the environmental and social benefits of a robust urban canopy, New London Trees was co-founded in 2018 by local residents, including Maggie Redfern. Its mission is to increase the city’s tree population through community planting and care, education, and advocacy.

New London scored very poorly in its tree equity score, with a 1% canopy coverage. To improve that, New London Trees promotes an understanding of the many environmental, economic, social, and cultural benefits of trees. New London Trees collaborates with the New London Public Works Department, Connecticut College, residents, businesses, and other organizations to implement sustainable urban forestry programs.

In 2018, a collaborative grant-funded inventory was conducted by the Connecticut College Arboretum and the City of New London. It found only 1,887 municipal trees—a loss of nearly a third of our municipal tree population in just 25 years. Utility companies are sometimes quite aggressive trimming trees back from wires. So planting non-intrusive trees can help. Paloma said New London does not have, but needs, a tree warden, which is required by state law.

A notable collaboration involved Connecticut College students (Paloma was one), who, during internships with New London Trees, updated and expanded the city’s tree inventory. Their efforts documented 2,046 trees, including 107 planted by the organization, and highlighted the removal of over 160 trees in the same period. This comprehensive inventory aids in strategic planning for future plantings and maintenance. With a DEEP grant “Growing New London Trees” the summer intern program will be expanded, and each summer they will continue inventorying new trees planted, trees removed, and checking on existing municipal trees.

In 2024, New London Trees secured a two-yea grant from the USDA Forest Service and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. This funding aims to plant an additional 100 trees and expand community programs, including the student internships.

Education and community involvement are central to New London Trees’ mission. The organization conducts workshops, tree walks, and educational programs to raise awareness about the importance of urban forestry. By engaging local residents, schools, and businesses, they foster a sense of stewardship and collective responsibility for the urban environment.



Future plans include expanding tree planting efforts (they hope to plant 100 in the next two years), enhancing educational outreach, and advocating for policies that protect and promote urban green spaces.

Through its dedicated efforts, New London Trees is playing a pivotal role in transforming New London’s urban landscape. Trees take time to grow and provide their benefits. The work New London Trees is doing now will make for a better New London in the future.

For more information please visit: newlondontrees.org

Club Officers, 2024-2025

President	Carmelo Foti
President-Elect	Mary Lenzini
Vice President	Mark Spinnato
Secretary	Andy Russell
Treasurer	Alan Lyon
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Estelle
Immediate Past President	Valerie West

Board Of Directors

2025	Lee Cole-Chu, Pam McNulty Hennessey, Todd Gipstein
2026	Andrew Gilday, Mirna Martinez, Tracee Reiser
2027	Gigi Gonzalez-Cottrell, Gail MacDonald, Kristin Magnussen

Club Committees

Rotary Youth Service	
Todd Gipstein, <i>Director</i>	
Student Of The Year	Christine Hammond/ Barry Neistat
High School Awards	Barry Neistat
Rotary Membership	
Mary Lenzini, <i>Director</i>	
Fellowship/RAH	Val West
Classification	Andy Russell
Information	Kris Magnussen
Sunshine	Brian Cole
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*

Peace Building	Val West
----------------	----------

Rotary Club Service
Lee Cole-Chu, *Director*

Audit	
Awards	
Paul Harris	Val West
Carl Wies	Anna Lathrop
Tom Wetmore	Julia Kushigian Secor
Phil Turner	Mary Lenzini
Nominating	Ed Cramer
Anchor	Gail MacDonald/Todd Gipstein
Music	Chris Neilan
Program	Mark Spinnato
Fundraising Committee	Mary Lenzini
Golf	Kate Lee/Alex Marku
Brewfest	Keith Turner/Victoria Mueller
By-Laws	Lee Cole-Chu
Picnic	Val West/Ted Rossi
Anchor Ad Sales	
Installation Committee	Victoria Mueller
Public Relations	Gail MacDonald/ Sophia Gipstein Scirrico
Website	Gail MacDonald/ Sophia Gipstein Scirrico
RI Foundation	Ed Cramer

Gordon's Yellow Front
WINES & LIQUORS

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

RE/MAX ON THE BAY

Kathryn L. Schargus, Broker/REALTOR®
61 Pennsylvania Ave • Niantic, CT 06357
Cell: 860 608-6743 • KSchargus@aol.com
CT Magazine Five Star Award 2018, 2019, 2020



BOUVIER INSURANCE

Mark S. Spinnato, CIC
Insurance Advisor
mspinnato@binsurance.com

local 860.859.9821 x313
toll free 877.859.9821
fax 860.561.8778
mobile 860.625.7702

1020 Hartford Turnpike, Waterford, CT 06385
www.binsurance.com
Certificate of Insurance - Submit online www.binsurance.com or Fax 860.561.8778

qp quality printers
It's in our name.

Brian Cole, *President*
P.O. Box 749 • 15 Shaw Street
New London, CT 06320
860.443.2800
www.qualityprinters.us

Marketing Promotions, LLC

Leon Lehrer
860.510.0419
lehrer529@gmail.com

98.7 WNLC

(860) 887-3511
www.wnlc.com
40 Cuprak Road
Norwich, CT

Byles Memorial Home
New London - Groton

WHALING City

EXCEEDING YOUR EXPECTATIONS EVERY DAY!
475 Broad Street, New London, Connecticut 06320

Muddy Waters Cafe

Featuring
Coffees • Hughie's Original Love Salad
Soup & Sandwiches

42 Bank Street, New London 860-444-2232

MUELLER GREENE
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

VICTORIA S. MUELLER

300 State Street, Suite 209
New London, Connecticut
860-442-2252 | Fax 860-442-2253
victoria@muellergreene.com

Barry's
Cleaners and Launderers

Full Service Dry Cleaning & Laundry
Expert Tailoring

~Three Locations To Serve You~

565 Colman St. New London, CT (860) 447-8220
79 Pennsylvania Ave. Niantic, CT (860) 739-7867
308 Flanders Rd. East Lyme, CT (860) 691-1680

www.barryscleanersct.com

Conway, Londregan, Sheehan & Monaco, P.C.

Eric J. Garofano
Attorney at Law

38 Huntington Street • P.O. Box 1351
New London, Connecticut 06320-1351
Phone: (860) 447-3171 • Fax: (860) 444-6103
E-Mail: egarofano@clsmlaw.com • www.conwaylondregan.com

THE DEWART BUILDING
AT 300 STATE STREET
Center for Arts & Business

300StateStreet.com
(860) 443-3545
info@300statestreet.com

Dime Bank
EST. 1869 | MEMBER FDIC

Community Banking Lives Here™

dime-bank.com / 860.859.4300

f t y i n

Proud supporters of the
Rotary Club of New London.

YaleNewHavenHealth
Lawrence + Memorial Hospital

12 Ocean Avenue
New London, CT 06320
860-443-1871

48 Grand Street
Niantic, CT 06357
860-739-6112

Thomas L. Neilan & Sons
Funeral Homes
Family Owned & Operated

Gourmet Galley
CATERING
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

860.415.9589 • www.gourmet-galley.com

www.secorauto.com

SECOR AUTO

Broad Street • New London, CT 06320 • 860.442.3232

SAFARI SUBARU DODGE RAM PLYMOUTH

A BEAUTIFUL CO.
Builders & Remodelers

860-437-3668
abeautifulco.com