



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 MARCH 13, 2025

### Upcoming Events for Rotary Club of New London

- 3/18 Rotary After Hours (RAH)**  
The Tavern, The Lighthouse Inn @ 5pm
- 4/25 Peace in Nature Event** on Arbor Day  
An Arbor Day event in collaboration with New London Trees on The Lighthouse Inn grounds, New London Tree planting and peace pole unveiling @ 9am
- 5/3 Opus for Peace** at the Hygenic, a Juried art show opening event  
Hygienic Art, 79 Bank Street, New London, CT  
6pm to 9pm
- 5/17 New London Rotary Club Epic Day of Service**
- 6/2 5th Annual NLRC Golf Tournament**  
Great Neck Country Club  
Registration 10:30am - Noon

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

(Register on dacdb for many events):

**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 After Hours

Join us for the next Rotary After Hours (RAH) on **Tuesday, March 18th @ 5pm**

in The Tavern at The Lighthouse Inn.

Rotarian Robert DuLeau will arrange for some appetizers to accompany a cash bar.

This is a great opportunity to bring a friend to introduce them to Rotary. Hope to see you there.

### 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.

*“The Rotary way is to light a candle. I light one, you light one, 1.2 million Rotarians light one. Together, we light up the world.”*

– RI President-Elect Gary C. K. Huang, in the April 2014 issue of *The Rotarian*

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

No Program

### Weekly Meeting 12:00 Noon

at **THE LIGHTHOUSE INN**  
6 West Guthrie Place, New London

**Mar 20 Jenn Keatley**  
*United Cerebral Palsy*

**Mar 27 Violet Johnson**  
*New London Landmarks*

**Apr 3 MaryLou Gannotti**  
*Alzheimer's Association*

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**  
Mar 13 Val West

**INVOCATION**  
Mar 13 Val West

**SONG LEADER**  
Mar 13 Val West

**BIRTHDAYS**  
Mar 19 Val West

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
None

# LUNCHEON REPORT MARCH 4, 2025

## Germany Still Working to Form a Government Coalition Following Elections

by Gail MacDonald

World politics is moving at a fast pace, the German consul general on March 4 told a large gathering of Rotarians from throughout the region. As such, fairly major changes are in store for the German government, **Dr. Sonja Kreibich** said.

Kreibich, who has been the consul general headquartered in Boston since 2022, spoke to the Rotary Club of New London in early December and returned for the March 4 Partners for Peace Luncheon. In December, Germany had not yet held its federal elections. In February, elections were held and the three parties that had formed the coalition for the previous government all suffered heavy losses, Kreibich said.

The most extreme right-wing party garnered 20% of the German vote. That represented about twice what that party has tallied in past elections, she said. That party had its strongest showing in the eastern portions of Germany, where there is a stronger allegiance to Russia.

“It’s an issue of concern because the party has a different understanding of the lessons of the Holocaust,” she said. The far-right party also is anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim.

Another surprise in the German elections stems from the relative success of the most extreme left-wing party, Kreibich said.

Two more centrist parties, the Christian Democrats and the Social Democrats will work together to form a new coalition government, she said. The new German chancellor will



be chosen by parliament once a new government is formed. The country hopes that will be in place by the end of April.

“It’s not an easy time in Europe,” she said.

Besides awaiting the formation of a new government, Germany is also working through major shifts in global attitudes about Ukraine. With the war between Ukraine and Russia still being waged, and the U.S. now threatening to eliminate military aid to Ukraine, Germany could become a more

important player in supporting Ukraine.

“Ukraine’s largest military support is Germany, after the U.S.,” she said.

Besides military aid, Germany also has opened its doors to some 1.1 million Ukrainian refugees. These refugees are mostly women and children fleeing the fighting in their homeland, she said.

“There’s been an outpouring of support for them,” Kreibich said, adding that the Ukrainians have full access to healthcare, education and other benefits provided by the German government.

Even if a peace deal is worked out between Ukraine and Russia, Ukraine also will then need other types of support to rebuild from the devastation of war.

“We will continue our support for Ukraine,” Kreibich said. “The war is on our doorstep. We recognize Ukraine’s independence and sovereignty.”



# LUNCHEON REPORT

MARCH 4, 2025



## Unsung Hero Award

Alan Lyon was recognized as the Unsung Hero of the Rotary Club of New London on March 4. This nomination from a club member aptly describes Alan's immense value to the club and why he was chosen for this important award:

*Alan Lyon is a true Unsung Hero. He has been the treasurer of the Rotary Club of New London and the New London Rotary Foundation for years and years. He works numerous hours each week to ensure the financial responsibilities of the Club are accurate and comprehensive. He is at the meeting each week setting up the "bank". He takes in all the receipts and pays all the bills to the establishments we are using for our meetings. He pays all Rotary bills, dues, contributions and payments for grants collaborations. He is at all fundraisers such as Brewfest and the Golf Tournament. He oversees the financial work and deposits all receipts. He is responsible for all of the Club and Foundation finances and completes all financial documents and monitors all of the Rotary accounts.*

*He assists in the creation of all budgets, monitors them and reports on the implementation of the budgets on a monthly basis to the Board of Directors. There are a multitude of other responsibilities he handles each week as Treasurer. Alan does this mountain of work with a genial demeanor and helpful attitude. All as a volunteer. He ensures the Rotary Club and Rotary Foundation function in an optimal manner, meeting all legal, ethical and social requirements as well as working hard to grow and sustain our fiscal well-being and strength.*

Congratulations to Alan Lyon!



**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**

<b>Rotary Youth Service</b>	
Todd Gipstein, <i>Director</i>	
Student Of The Year	Christine Hammond/ Barry Neistat
High School Awards	Barry Neistat
<b>Rotary Membership</b>	
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
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**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**  
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New London, CT 06320  
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E-mail: winetalk177@aol.com

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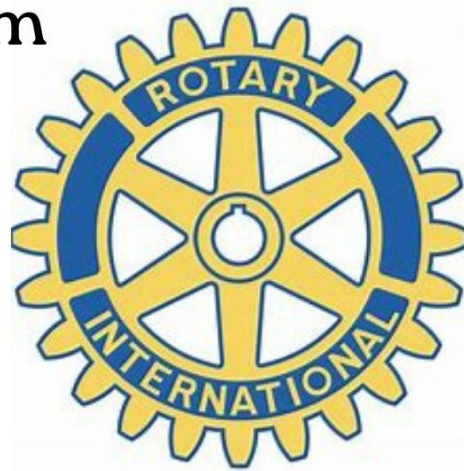
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# HAPPY ARBOR DAY!

You're invited to join  
New London Trees &  
The Rotary Club of New London  
for our April 25th Arbor Day  
planting event  
at The Lighthouse Inn!

10 am

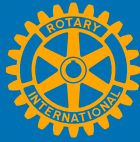


Come celebrate Rotary's Year of Peace by planting 8 native trees and establishing a Peace Pole at The Lighthouse Inn. Help New London Tree's mission of increasing New London's tree population through community planting and care, education, and advocacy! Hope to see you there!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
[HELLO@NEWLONDONTREES.ORG](mailto:HELLO@NEWLONDONTREES.ORG)

ALL ARE WELCOME

**APRIL 25, 10AM AT THE LIGHTHOUSE INN**



# 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

## ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY AND PROMOTING LITERACY

**MONDAY, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2025**  
**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: \$2500.00**

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: \$1500.00**

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 2, 2025**  
**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](mailto:nlrotarygolf@gmail.com)**