



The Rotary Club of the Torrington and Winsted Areas Tuesday's Today!

Last Week's Program:

Last week we were happy to host Kris Griffin, Winsted Health Center Executive Director and John Fiorello, Director of the Northwestern Community College's Entrepreneurial Center who together briefed us on the work that is ongoing at the "old hospital" property on Spencer Street in Winsted.

Many of us were very interested to know that great progress has been made in transitioning the building on the campus there into a 40 unit veterans affordable housing facility and as well by working with the college, a significant expansion of NCCC's Entrepreneurial Center into the same campus. The apartments are of various sizes and by locating these residential spaces near, what is a bit of a vocational incubator where there will exist maker's spaces, studio spaces, metal working and the like, it is thought that the opportunity for deserving vets could be maximized.

As these organizations with assistance from Northwest CT economic development agencies, COG, and UCONN move forward, they're also soliciting community feedback and Kris and John wished to extend an invitation to Rotarians to attend their "Community Design Charrette" on February 15th. (see attached.)

We thank them very much for their very enthusiastic and informative presentation and we thank Doug O'Connell for bringing them to us!



This Week's Program:

Tim Cook will be introducing Tom Bascetta who will be speaking on his work with LIFE STAR. Tom sends along some preliminary info:

“My roots are in the northwest corner - Growing up in Winsted and Colebrook, I was certain I was going to follow in my dad's footsteps and become a firefighter. One day as a volunteer firefighter, I went to a horrific accident, where LIFE STAR came, and in a whirlwind came, stabilized someone I was certain would have a bad outcome and flew them to HH. 6 months later, they came to the firehouse to thank us - and in that moment I knew I wanted to work for LIFE STAR. I went and got my Respiratory Therapy degree from Naugatuck Valley Community College, then went on to work at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, Hartford Hospital, and Connecticut Children's Medical Center in the Respiratory Therapy department, before being hired at LIFE STAR. After several years of flying full time, I started working in leadership roles, going from being a coordinator of workgroups, to a front line supervisor, and now an operations manager. Specifically as an operations manager, my focus is on the quality and safety of operations and care provided to the patients and requestors we serve. While it sounds complicated, my main day to day focus is looking at available resources, comparing what's available to the needs of the department, and moving resources to optimize availability. Whether it is adjusting staffing, moving an aircraft, or shuttling supplies - my focus is to ensure we minimize interruptions in service to help as many people as we can - including covering a shift myself. While I don't fly super regularly, I average 1 to 2 shifts a month which is a nice change of pace. When that's done, I collect and analyze data to

determine where areas of opportunities are for us to make changes in our process to optimize care and safety. If you were to ask me in high school if I would be using statistics in my daily life - I would have laughed (I was terrible at math), but here I am and loving every minute of it.”

This is going to be a great companion piece to LIFE STAR’s landing and visit to our club several months ago and a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the program’s mission!

As a Rotarian, it’s easier to be involved than ever. We are an inclusive club and we’re well positioned now for members to join in the meeting either by their direct attendance or by Zooming in. Feel free to participate either way... and know that not participating won’t fulfill your requirement to attend at least 60% of the meetings of the Rotary Club of the Torrington and Winsted Areas. Being busy is not an excuse to not attend ... Being busy has been an attribute of active, involved, impactful Rotarians from the Northwest corner for more than 100 years.

Members have the option of attending the meeting in person or via Zoom:

Zoom Login:

Time: Tuesday February 7, 2022 12:10 PM

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89424828923>

Meeting ID: 894 2482 8923

Passcode: 702744

Scheduled Committee Meetings:

- Board meeting, Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 8am via Zoom. Board members will receive an email with the contact info.

Torrington/Winsted Rotary News and Reminders:

If you’re a student of history, a voracious reader, or someone who simply cares about our youth, the below email recently received from Irene Machia, School Programs Coordinator, Connecticut History Day at CT’s Old State House is for you!

“I am reaching out on behalf of Rebecca Taber, CT History Day State Coordinator, to ask for your assistance with recruiting judges for the Torrington Regional History Day Contest on March 4, 2023. We are excited to be returning to an in-person contest this year at Torrington High School. We anticipate that 300 to 400 students will be participating at the contest and we are in need of approximately 100 volunteer judges. We currently have 25.

We are requesting assistance with spreading the word about our program and need of judges by sharing some information with your colleagues, students, and social media followers. You can <https://www.historydayct.org/where-to-begin/judges/>

The History Day Regional Contests are culminating events for the thousands of middle and high school students who, right now, are researching topics related to the theme of

Frontiers in History: People, Places, & Ideas. Students use their research to create a project (paper, exhibit, website, documentary, or performance) that is presented to teams of volunteer judges. Judges meet with students, review projects, provide valuable feedback to participants, and choose the projects that continue on to the CT State-wide Contest on May 6th, and the National Contest on June 11-15th at the University of Maryland.

Judges are vital in supporting and encouraging student scholars. Judges don't need to be educators or history experts, but volunteers should enjoy learning new information, meeting amazing young people, and having an incredible day! CT History Day staff prepares you for Contest Day with a pre-contest virtual training session and materials to review. Website and Paper judges review projects in advance of the contest, while Documentary, Performance, and Exhibit judges wait till the Contest to see projects. All judges are required to attend the Contest. Volunteers spend the day meeting students, reviewing projects, and completing evaluation forms for the students. Judges work in teams of 2-3, with an experienced judge serving as captain. Volunteers provide feedback to the students based on National History Day judging rubrics. Evaluation forms are returned to student participants at the end of the day, when students eagerly review the feedback. Judges arrive at 8 a.m. Most judging teams finish between 1-2 p.m. Breakfast and lunch are provided.

Each year over 1,000 students participate in one of Connecticut's Regional Contests. Most contests require between 75-100 judges, meaning a grand total of 450-600 volunteers are needed. We hope you will judge!

Contest dates are listed below. Access the <https://www.historydayct.org/where-to-begin/judges/> and scroll to the correct contest, click and sign up to judge! If you would like to judge at multiple contests, please create an account with one of the Regional Contests and use the Multi-Judge Contest Portal. If you need assistance, please email: info@historydayct.org.

Several of our number, were thrilled to celebrate Doctor Briggs' 94th birthday with him and his extended family at the Colebrook Senior Center yesterday! Happy Birthday Sir, from all of your fellow Rotarians!



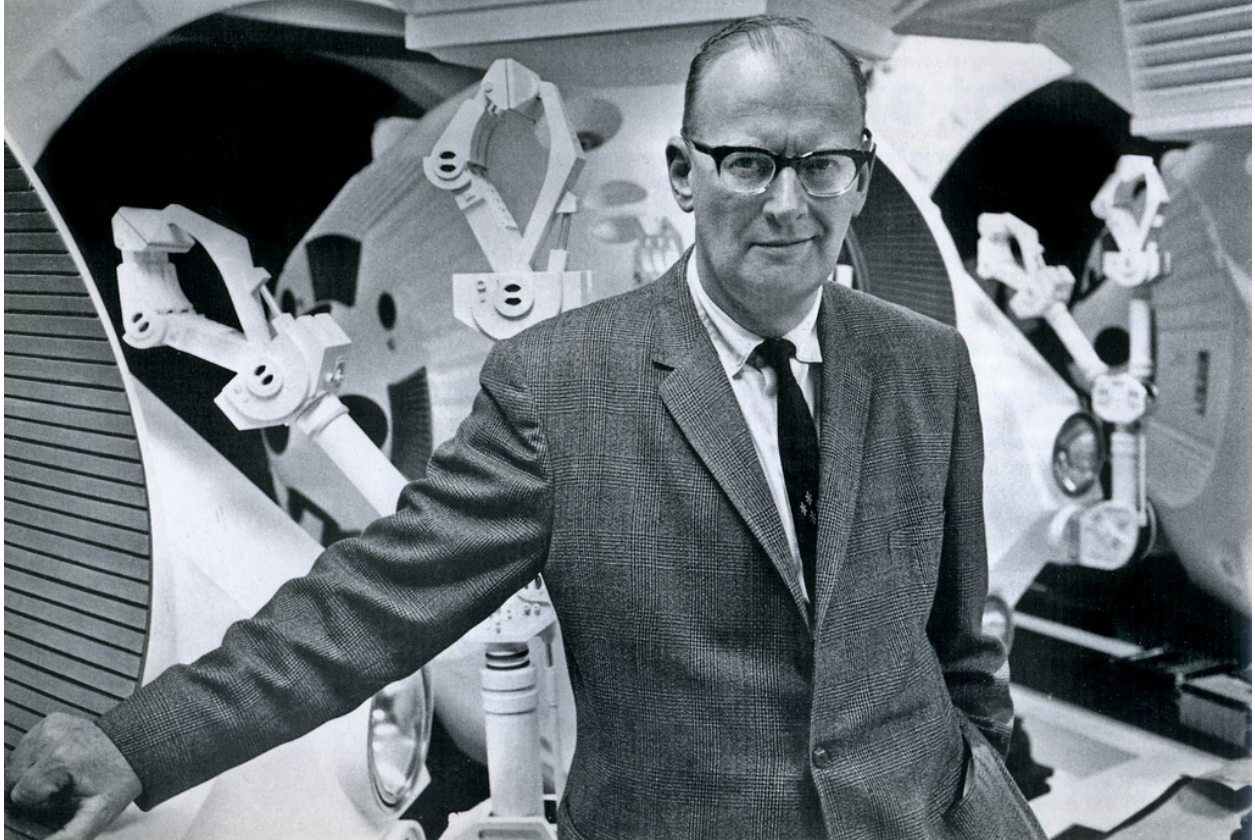
Golf Tournament:

1. The Rotary Golf Committee is desperately looking for additional committee members. We are asking any Rotary members with the ability to please volunteer. We have needs in all areas, but we will be trying to do more social media and email marketing for the event as well as creating back up rolls for the individuals who are currently in charge of specific duties. We are trying to both push the tournament forward as well as set up succession planning. Anyone who has the ability to assist, please reach out to Greg Tonon at tonon@nwcommunitybank.com or (203)768-8172
2. We need a few volunteers (no more than 10) and a pick up truck if available to move the Golf Tournament items in storage at Brooker Memorial to Northwest Community Bank in Winsted. We should be able to bang it out one morning or evening, depending on the availability. If anyone is interested in assisting, please reach out to me and we can determine the best day and time. Thank you- Greg Tonon tonon@nwcommunitybank.com

For Your Edification:

“Before you become too entranced with gorgeous gadgets and mesmerizing video displays, let me remind you that information is not knowledge, knowledge is not wisdom, and wisdom is not foresight. Each grows out of the other, and we need them all.”

— Arthur C. Clarke



Birthdays:

Coyle, Cathy.....03 February
McCormick, Brian.....14 February

Club Anniversaries:

Steck, Jim.....02/22/11.....12 years
Zarella, Steve02/25/14.....9 years
Pagano, Matt.....02/25/97.....26 years
Paradise, Pete.....02/28/17.....6 + 25 = 31 years

Upcoming guest speaker responsibilities:

Cook, Tim.....Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Bielefield, Donna Tuesday, February 14, 2023
Pagano, Matt.....Tuesday, February 21, 2023
Ponte, Tony.....Tuesday, February 28, 2023
Power, Patrick.....Tuesday, March 7, 2023
Quinn, Owen.....Tuesday, March 14, 2023
Ramsey, Frank D.Tuesday, March 21, 2023
Rougeot, Paul.....Tuesday, March 28, 2023

If you've scrolled down this far, you're one of my favorite people! Please remember to watch this space weekly so that you can appropriately plan for when it's your time to provide the club with a program/speaker. All of us working together in this regard makes for more interesting meetings and a better, more informed club!

If your presenter will require the projector and the screen to be set up, please let Matt know ASAP. Also, please let your presenter know that if there's any concerns about the functionality of their presentation, an option is for them to email any presentation they may have to Matt ahead of time who can install their presentation on his laptop to minimize potential complications.

It is your responsibility to introduce your speaker.

Please inform the speaker of the following guidelines of The Rotary Club of the Torrington & Winsted Areas:

- They will have at most ½ hour to do their presentation. Including time for questions.
- It is not the policy of the Club to donate funds raised from the Sergeant-at-Arms presentation to the organization represented by the speaker on the day of the presentation.
- Further, an invitation to make a presentation to The Rotary Club of the Torrington & Winsted Areas does not suggest that the Club endorses the presenter's views - political or otherwise.
- The Rotary Club of the Torrington & Winsted Areas does not provide an honorarium or reimburse a speaker in any way and a presentation to the Club should not be made with an expectation of financial support.

Torrington/Winsted Rotary Links:

Website: <http://twrotary.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TWRotary/>

Rotary Web-Photo Albums: [Web Photo Albums](#)

“Be more kind than necessary, for everyone you will meet today is fighting some sort of battle.”

-K. Purcell

Respectfully submitted, your temporary scribe,

Matt Pagano

mnpsc@outlook.com