



**The Rotary Club of the Torrington and Winsted Areas**

## **Rotary Matters!**



### **Last Week's Program:**

We enjoyed a wonderful presentation from Fran Stoffer of the Women and Girl's Fund of the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation. She gave us an update as to the Fund, making note of the fact that it is now 25 years old. She specified that The Women & Girls Fund brings together local philanthropy to address issues affecting women and girls and to provide opportunities for women and girls to reach their full potential. We award grants to local nonprofits with programs that build economic self-sufficiency. Their mission is to invest in the power of women and the dreams of girls.

Her remarks were detailed, comprehensive... and important. So rather than try to paraphrase them here, Fran graciously offered to share the text of her remarks AND her PowerPoint presentation. (Attached.)

Attached also please find a flyer explaining the fund and additionally an opportunity to sponsor their fall event, their "Field of Friends" happening at the American Mural Project on October 17.

We thank Fran for coming to speak with us and Larry Cassella for arranging her presentation.



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Also last week we celebrated the end of President Kevin's term. Kevin was gracious in his thanks to all in the club who helped move the club forward in his term. He celebrated the significant growth in membership that we've achieved this year. He acknowledged the continued capacity our club enjoys for our generous giving in the local community and the world via the three committees tasked with such work... Community Service, International Service, and Vocational/Youth Service.

As well, he thanked the various members involved with the fundraising arm of the club which allows us to do the good that we do.

We thank Kevin for his steady hand and exceptional leadership over the last year. We are all in your debt Kevin.

As his last presidential act, he proceeded to swear in the new Board of Directors... capably lead by our new president Jessica Gueniat. Jess, gave us some introductory remarks and left all with the knowledge that the club remains in very capable hands.

Good luck Jess... we all stand ready to help!



(Some of) Your new Board of Directors

## This Week's Program:

Brian Mattiello, Immediate Past Chair of the International Committee will be introducing Rick Lawrence, Rotary District 7890 Chair of the Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Projects, (Panicuy Project (RY '23-'24))

Long time members will remember that our club has perennially supported the District's initiative to fund this Guatemalan water project. Rick will give us an update. He asks that members read the attached introduction and history so that he can get right into the presentation when he's with us.

As a Rotarian, there's no excuse not to be informed and included: Members can join in the meeting either by their direct attendance or by Zooming in. Feel free to participate either way... and know that if you don't participate, you 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.

If you intend on joining via Zoom, please contact Matt ahead of time ([mnpdc@outlook.com](mailto:mnpdc@outlook.com)) so that you can get the link for the meeting and further instructions in that regard.

## Scheduled Committee Meetings:

- Board meeting, Thursday, July 11, 2024, at 8am via Zoom. Board members have received an email with the contact info.

## Torrington/Winsted Rotary News and Reminders:

From the “Fun” chairman... Brenda DiCarlo...

“Let's start planning the Rotary Summer Social! It's a picnic on Friday evening August 16 at the Harwinton home of Donna Bielefield. Note this is a date change from earlier communications. Please contact me to get involved. I'm looking for Rotarians to coordinate food, activities, registration, what else? - Brenda 860-614-1371, [brenda@insuranceagencyaccountants.com](mailto:brenda@insuranceagencyaccountants.com). “

## Golf Tournament:

### 35th Annual Golf Classic: Achieving Our Goals Together

The Rotary Golf Classic is just around the corner! Mark your calendars for Monday, July 8th, as we gather at the beautiful Torrington Country Club for a day of camaraderie, fun, and fundraising.

### Sponsorship and Participation Goals

Our ambitious goals for this year were set to ensure the continued support of our community projects and initiatives. Here's a snapshot of our progress:

- **Sponsorship Goal:** \$40,000
- **Foursomes Goal:** 30 teams

### Current Status

We are delighted to report that we are on track to meet and even exceed our targets:

- **Sponsorships Raised:** \$37,000 (93% of our goal)
- **Foursomes Registered:** 30 teams (100% of our goal)

### A Big Thank You

A heartfelt thank you to all our sponsors and participants who have shown tremendous generosity and enthusiasm. Your support is vital in helping us reach our sponsorship target and fully book the tournament with enthusiastic golfers.

- Rotary Golf Committee

## For Your Edification:

Twice in as many weeks, I offer up another compelling “Letters Live” reading. This one is important as it addresses one of the latest challenges to our humanity.

(There’s a bad word herein. One time. Not used gratuitously.... But still... if you’re of delicate sensibilities, you best not click the link below.)

“In August of this year, as part of his Red Hand Files correspondence project, legendary musician Nick Cave was asked questions about creativity and ChatGPT by two fans, Leon and Charlie.

Nick replied with a single letter, which Stephen Fry joined us to read at the 10th anniversary Letters Live show at London's Royal Albert Hall in November 2023.”

<https://youtu.be/iGJcF4bLKd4?si=uX6D-VeDScPuqHmJ>



## Birthdays:

Sollitto, Frank.....02 July

Capobianco, John.....07 July

Gargiulo, John.....11 July

Lavieri, John.....12 July

Pagano, Matt.....24 July  
Logan, John.....29 July  
Todd, Gordon.....30 July

## Club Anniversaries:

Ives-Groebel, Jennifer.....07/24/95.....29 years

## Upcoming guest speaker responsibilities:

Brian Mattiello / International Committee.....Tuesday, July 2, 2024  
No Meeting (Post Golf Tournament)... ..... Tuesday, July 9, 2024  
Debbie Bender..... 16-Jul-24  
Edward Benecchi III.....23-Jul-24  
Donna T Bielefield .....30-Jul-24  
Open .....6-Aug-24  
Greg Brisco .....13-Aug-24  
Lesley M Budny .....20-Aug-24  
Gina M Burrows .....27-Aug-24  
John Capobianco .....3-Sep-24  
Larry Cassella..... 10-Sep-24  
Starling W Childs II.....17-Sep-24  
Tim Cook .....24-Sep-24  
Maria Coutant Skinner .....1-Oct-24

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

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