



The Rotary Club of the Torrington and Winsted Areas

Rotary Matters!



Last Week's Program:

Jeff Geddes introduced us to Tom Mazzarella from Productions for Change.

Productions for Change are non-profit video production specialists. They create custom videos for many different organizations including: Website Videos, Conference and Seminar Support, Promotional Videos, Fundraising, Social Media Campaigns.

Tom is passionate about helping nonprofits achieve their goals. As an award-winning videographer and editor, he takes pride in using his skills to tell stories that affect positive change in communities throughout Connecticut.

Wanting to be impactful to the community, Tom has highlighted homelessness in a video series entitled "No Way to Live." That video series can be seen on their website here:

<https://www.productionsforchange.org/no-way-to-live>

Tom explained that as he approached this project, he attempted to present the varied views held by his subjects and interviewees without editorialization. He wished to show both sides of the discussion.

We thank Tom for his time with us and Jeff for bringing him to us to continue the important discussion about homelessness in our communities. Graciously, Tom has allowed us to share the three videos he intended to show last week during the meeting here. These three links will take you to YouTube:

Episode 2F Does giving money really help Snapshot Sep 28, 2023 at 6 44 23 AM

<https://youtu.be/zxzow5zV23c>

Episode 15 The Importance of God and Spirituality

<https://youtu.be/RnNgFlnDXrc>

Episode 16 The Story of Kenny

<https://youtu.be/znaZQ6QHDWM>



Tom Mazzarella

This Week's Program:

Maria Gonzales will be introducing New Opportunities CEO Bill Rybczyk who will be sharing with us an update as to the "CT Food for Thought" hydroponic farm!

We won't spill the beans here but suffice to say that those Rotarians who remember Bill's previous presentations to us... when this project was in the planning stages will be AMAZED at what the organization has achieved in a short amount of time. Please see Bill's bio attached.



Bill Rybczyk

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) so that you can get the link for the meeting and further instructions in that regard.

Scheduled Committee Meetings:

- Board meeting, Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 8am via Zoom. Board members will receive an email with the contact info.

Torrington/Winsted Rotary News and Reminders:

- The Weekly Raffle: There was **STILL** no winner last week and therefore we've come up with a special plan for the Holiday Party! The present tally stands at \$1600 and the thought was that considering how close we are to the party, we could use the raffle and add some fun to the night. So.... We're going to suspend the collections for the existing deck of cards. We will set the remaining 8 cards aside and we will do the final drawing at the holiday party. Everybody through the door that evening will have the option of buying just **ONE** ticket for \$5. The money we raise will go to whatever beneficiary we decide upon that night. We will draw however many tickets that night until someone wins the \$1600. Someone's going home that night with \$1600! (Same rules for guests as our regular meetings will apply.) Consequently, this Tuesday, at our regular meeting, we'll be starting a new deck of cards.
- Speaking of our Holiday Party... here's the info you've been waiting for: below and attached!

Please Join Rotary's

Holiday PARTY

*Celebrate the Season of Giving
and the Child in Each of Us*

Tuesday, December 10, 5:30-8 PM
Warner Club at the Warner Theatre

Bring a Gift for the Angel Tree

Appetizers & Dessert Provided
Cash Bar
Guest Tickets: \$12

Signup at a meeting or email
cemery@brookermemorial.org



- For those of you who were unable to attend our meeting the last two Tuesdays, our club will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army Saturday, December 14 at the Stop & Shop in Winsted, from 8:00 AM till 5:00 PM. The shifts will be only one hour each. For those of us who have performed this small service in years past, we have all found the experience and enriching way to spend an hour before the holidays. We still have four unfilled slots, and I encourage you to join in this effort to help people in need in the true holiday spirit. It's important to fill these spots soon. If you can take one of the open shifts, please let me know as soon as you can, either by phone or email. In my absence, President Jess will make

another announcement this Tuesday, and pass the list around. She can also answer any questions you may have. Thank you, John Lavieri JohnNLavieri@gmail.com or 860-307-8475

For Your Edification:

Smile! This is one of the best pictures you'll see for a very long time. A whole bunch of Cerruto great-grandkids celebrating our Gladys's recent birthday!



Birthdays:

Helt, Lou.....09 November

Benecchi, Ed.....18 November

Magistrali, Michael.....19 November

Sullivan, Kevin.....28 November

Club Anniversaries:

Smith, Jeff.....11/07/2000 24.....24 years
Sullivan, Kevin.....11/10/98.....26 years
Benecchi, Ed.....11/14/23.....1 years
Cassella, Larry.....11/16/82.....42 years
Ponte, Antonio Jr.(TONY) 11/27/18.....6 years
Childs, Starling W II(STAR) 11/29/22.....2 years

Upcoming guest speaker responsibilities:

Maria Gonzalez26-Nov-24
Jessica E Gueniat3-Dec-24
HOLIDAY PARTY10-Dec-24
William G. Harding..... 17-Dec-24
CHRISTMAS EVE: NO MEETING24-Dec-24
NEW YEAR'S EVE: NO MEETING31-Dec-24
Jennifer Ives-Groebel 7-Jan-25
Robert E King..... 14-Jan-25
Noah J Kores..... 21-Jan-25
Sarah Langlois..... 28-Jan-25
John N Lavieri..... 4-Feb-25
Gerald Libby..... 11-Feb-25
John R. Logan..... 18-Feb-25
Michael F. Magistrali..... 25-Feb-25
OPEN..... 4-Mar-25
OPEN..... 11-Mar-25
Brian T. McCormick..... 18-Mar-25
Gerald H. Michalowski..... 25-Mar-25

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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