



Wed, Jan 8, 2025, 12:00PM (PIZZA = \$15)

Guilford Community Center -

IMPORTANT!! Due to the Guilford Employee Health Fair in the gym of the Community Center we will be meeting in a different room this Wednesday. I will email you as soon as I have better information

This Week's Speaker: **TBD**

President's Message:

I hope you all had a wonderful, restful, and joyous holiday season! As we step into the new year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible success of the **Frosty 5K**—a true testament to the power of community and teamwork.

Here are some amazing statistics from the event:

- **Registrations:** 752 for the 5K/Walk, plus 57 for the Kids Run.
- **Participants Checked In:** 716
- **Race Day Finishers:** 667
- Participants came from **114 different cities across 14 states**, with **237 from Guilford**.
- Ages ranged from 5 to 90! We had **35 participants under 11** and **9 aged 80 or over**. The eldest was a 90-year-old walker, and the youngest 5K runner was 6 years old.

This event showcased the incredible reach and impact of our club and brought together a vibrant and diverse group of participants. Thank you to everyone who helped make it such a success!

Looking ahead, we've got an exciting year coming up, and we're already well ahead of the game. Let's keep the momentum going as we continue to serve our community and make 2025 a fantastic year for Guilford Rotary.

Upcoming Events:

- LobsterFest!!! - June

Member Announcements:

Future Speaker Schedule:

- Work in progress - please let Carl or Tim know if you have any speakers in mind

Member Updates:

- Birthdays this week: Pat Pascale- January 5th
- Rotary Anniversaries: Tony Fappiano (33 years)

Community News:

- Guilford Board of Selectmen Votes to Purchase the Mooring Restaurant Property
- The Greenery food truck is opening a permanent salad restaurant on Church Street
- Boy Scouts Christmas Tree Recycling- January 11th (at Pinchbeck's & Bishops)

Recent Club Donations:

- Sept 13th- Native American Veterans Assistance (NAVA)- \$2,000
- Oct 3rd- Soundview YMCA LiveStrong Event - \$100 (partnering with 4 other local Rotary Clubs)
- Oct 3rd- The Cove Center for Grieving Children- \$1,000 donation to sponsor 1 child for a year.
- Oct 3rd- Meals on Wheels- \$9,400 donation to cover budget shortfall due to drastic increase in food costs.
- Oct 3rd- Grass Island Red Shack restoration - MATCHING donation up to \$5,000 until Thanksgiving
- Oct 8th- Rotary District 7980 for Hurricane Helene Relief- approx \$500 in supplies + various individual donations from Club Members (about \$1,000 total)
- Nov 7th- New Haven Reads - \$1,800 to support their Chapter Book Challenge, which promotes literacy through incentives for students.
- Nov 7th- Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS) - \$2,500 to cover "activity costs" for their program assisting young immigrants with secondary education preparation
- Nov 7th- Guilford Rotary Memorial Education Fund - \$7,500 which will go into the endowment to support scholarships for local students in need.
- Nov 7th- Warm the Children - \$2,500 to support the program's efforts to provide clothing to children in need in the Guilford/Madison area. (Partnership with Madison Rotary Club)
- Dec 5th, Columbus House - \$2,500 to support outreach, shelter, and housing for New Haven County's homeless.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Club Budget Committee - short-term post for a few meetings in January/February to formulate the club's budget.

Sponsorship Acknowledgments:

- **Sponsor's are still coming in! Keep it going...**

Rotary International & District News:

- ...

Club Member Highlight:

- We will start scheduling member highlights for 2025 when we meet in January

Call to Action:

In January 1915, Rotary International chartered its first club in San Francisco, marking the organization's expansion to the West Coast of the United States. This milestone exemplifies the spirit of growth and outreach that defines Rotary. As we begin the new year, let's draw inspiration from this historic expansion by seeking new opportunities to extend our service and impact within the Guilford community. By embracing the same pioneering spirit, we can broaden our reach and make a meaningful difference in the lives of those around us.