



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

MAY 2, 2024

Rotary Day of Service: Spring Cleanup at Homeless Shelter

This year's Rotary Day of Service will help the New London Homeless Hospitality Center spruce up and clean up for spring. Rotarians are asked to bring gardening gloves, rakes and other garden tools to the shelter, 325 Huntington St., at **10 a.m., Saturday, May 18**. Rotary volunteers, with the assistance of a master gardener connected to the shelter, will do some planting, raking and other light yard work. Rotary also will supply the shelter clients with a light breakfast of juice and muffins. Please plan to join us!

DONATION REQUEST

George Fisher, owner of Fisher Florist, has been a member of our club for many years. Over the last few years, his business and personal duties have prevented him from attending our meetings. However, we frequently are provided FREE flowers for our weekly meetings and other events.

Recently, George's wife (Lynda) suffered a fall which required surgery and physical therapy. She is now back home but so are the medical bills. A GoFundMe page has been set up, <https://www.gofundme.com/f/little-help-for-lynda?qid=15fdbe4520ecc432f8d6a96694f74702>, to which you may donate. We are also discussing ways to allow our members to donate to Lynda and George through Rotary.

Thank you for any assistance you may provide to the Fishers.

Instagram

Thank you to new member Sophia Gipstein Scirico for creating and activating a brand new Instagram account. Please follow on your personal and business pages. Find the account at:

RotaryClubofNewLondonCT

Stay tuned for Instagram activity to promote our club and our service activities.

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. We begin at 4pm and are done by 6:15pm. Your help is always appreciated.

FORE!!

In golf, the term FORE usually means "watch out, you're about to be hit with a golf ball!!". Fore also means "attention" and the golf committee is asking for yours. WE NEED SPONSORS to make our tournament a success and help those in the community who benefit from the actions of Rotarians. Please consider:

- Becoming a sponsor—ANY LEVEL IS APPRECIATED
- Ask a business or colleague to be a sponsor
- Donate an item to the goodie bag

It takes a Rotary Golf Village to make this event a success so please do your part. For questions or to make a donation, contact Alex Marku or Kate Lee at nlrotarygolf@gmail.com. Thank you!!

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Kentucky Derby

Weekly Meeting

12:00 Noon

at THE THAMES CLUB
290 State Street, New London

May 9

Cheryl Molina

Start Fresh

May 16

Barry Neistat &
Chris Hammond

Student of the year

For those unable to attend in person, please join us for our weekly Rotary meeting via Zoom. Go to [ZOOM.COM](https://zoom.us) and click "JOIN A MEETING" and enter the info below.

ZOOM

ID=895 9471 7490

PW=512184

GREETER

May 2 Ray Krisciunas

INVOCATION

May 2 Gigi Gonzalez-Cottrell

SONG LEADER

May 2 Chris Neilan

BIRTHDAYS

May 8 Sirisota Belgum

ANNIVERSARIES

None

Walk to End Homelessness

The Rotary Club of New London was a sponsor for the Homeless Hospitality Center's 17th annual walk to end homelessness on Sunday, April 28th.

Rotarians Mary Lenzini, Valerie West, Gail MacDonald and Julia Kushigian-Secor were among the hundreds of walkers in downtown New London showing The Rotary Club of New London's support to end homelessness.



Book Drive Recap

Toby May turned out to be a perfect location for our Little Free Libraries book drive on Saturday, April 27th and our multi pronged publicity paid off. We asked folks as they dropped off books how they heard about the book drive. We heard every way we publized! Thank you to Gail MacDonald and Lee Howard for the press release in The Day, Brian Cole for the ad on the downtown electronic sign, Andy Russell for the radio ads and Sophia Gipstein for social media. Val West added our social media posts to community groups New London Strong and NextDoor. This idea came from the recent District Assembly several of us attended.

The book drive exceeded expectations with all types of books collected including great adult novels, teen books, children books, baby board books and many children's spanish language books. We got large book donations from The Public Library of New London and Friends of the Otis Library with promises to continue with further donations in the future. We will surely do another book drive when our supply gets low.

Thank you to Mel Foti, Christine Hammond, Ray Krisciunas, Victoria Mueller, Julia Kusjigan-Secor and Val West for the collecting, sorting, stamping and transporting of the 4 car loads of books.

Upcoming Events for Rotary Club of New London

- 5/2 **Rotary Night at Lyman Allyn Museum** - 5pm to 8pm
- 5/15 **Fundraiser** - 5 course Wine dinner at Lighthouse Inn to benefit Safe Futures - 6pm
- 5/16 **Student of the Year Luncheon** at Ocean Beach - Noon
- 5/18 **Rotary Day of Service** - Light yard work and gardening at Homeless Hospitality locations 10am-1pm
- 6/3 **Rotary Golf Tournament** at Great Neck - Noon shotgun
- 6/6 **Yale Harvard Regatta Luncheon** at Coast Guard Academy - Noon



BREWFEST
at the Beach

SEPTEMBER 13
6:00pm – 9:00pm

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!



SCAN ME

CLUB REPORT APRIL 25, 2024

By Gail MacDonald

Victoria Mueller, New London Rotary Foundation president, told the Rotary Club at its regular luncheon meeting April 25 that the Foundation’s main purpose when it was started as a non-profit organization, was to process donations the club receives. As the club’s speaker for the week, Mueller provided details about the New London Rotary Foundation and distinguished it from the Rotary International Foundation.

As part of the Foundation presentation, Sergeant-At-Arms **John A. Bysko**, who is a certified financial planner and CPA, reviewed the Foundation portfolio investments and returns. He reported that the Foundation, which began with no money at all years ago, has grown substantially and now has a fund balance of more than \$512,000. Bysko said Foundation money was invested in an equity income fund, a secure fund with lower growth potential and a higher growth fund.

He will be reviewing the investments with the club two to four times annually going forward.

“The vast majority of the club’s money is sitting within the Foundation,” Mueller said. “We have all this money and some we have to save, but we should be giving more dollars away.”

As part of the Foundation discussion, the subject of the Do-Good Fund was raised as it is a special fund within the Foundation and no money has been granted through that fund for some time, Mueller said. President Val West said there was no committee and no chairperson overseeing that fund.

The Do-Good Fund was begun to provide relatively small emergency relief grants to those in need in the community. The Do-Good Fund now will be rejuvenated through a newly formed committee of New London Rotarians. Julia Kushigian-Secor volunteered to head the committee, which will possibly recommend some changes for the Fund and the bylaws governing it.

The bylaws of the fund currently stipulate the money there should be used for small, one-time grants to individuals or community groups in the event of emergencies. The maximum amount of the grants currently is \$250. In the past, money has been given to



local families who lost their homes and belongings in fires and other such emergency situations.

Club Vice President Mary Lenzini said she thought it was valuable to have a fund through which small grants could be made quickly in emergency situations. Ed Cramer said the Do-Good Fund’s bylaws could be altered to increase the maximum amount of grants, if the club wanted to proceed in that manner.

Mueller said besides possible changes to the Do-Good Fund, she would like to see a more formalized grant process for money to be given away through the New London Rotary Foundation.

“We should make it easier, more transparent and more generous,” she said of the grant-giving process. “I think we should do a little soul searching about what do we want to be and what do we want to do as a club?”

Join us for Rotary Night at the Lyman Allyn Art Museum

We invite the Rotary clubs in Southeastern CT and beyond to join us at the Lyman Allyn Art Museum for fellowship and fun! Spend the evening meeting with fellow Rotarians while also exploring the current exhibitions. On view will be:

- *Beatrice Cuming: American Precisionist*
- *Nathan Hale Arts Magnet School Student Exhibition*
- *Louis Comfort Tiffany in New London*
- *American Perspectives*

While you're here, get creative and stop by the First Thursday artmaking station! All attendees are welcome to make their own still life drawing.

This event is family friendly! We encourage your members to bring their partner, children, or friends!



Date: May 2, 2024

Time: 5 - 8 pm

Location: Lyman Allyn Art Museum
625 Williams St.
New London, CT

Cost: Free for active Rotarians
\$5 non-members

*Rotarians must give their club ID number at check in

Learn more about the Lyman Allyn at
www.lymanallyn.org



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PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT



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4TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

TO BENEFIT THE NEW LONDON COMMUNITY MEAL CENTER

**Monday, June 3rd
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: \$3500.00

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.

SILVER SPONSOR: \$2500.00

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.

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.

BAR SPONSOR: \$750.00

ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

LUNCH SPONSOR: \$750.00

ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

DINNER SPONSOR: \$750.00

ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

PRACTICE GREEN SPONSOR: \$750.00

ONLY 1 AVAILABLE

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 3, 2024
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



Club Officers, 2023-2024

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| President | Valerie West |
| President-Elect | Mel Foti |
| Vice President | Mary Lenzini |
| Secretary | Andy Russell |
| Treasurer | Alan Lyon |
| Sergeant-at-Arms | John Bysko |
| Immediate Past President | Brian Cole |

Board of Directors

| | |
|------|--|
| 2024 | John Bysko, Kate Lee, Mark Spinnato |
| 2025 | Lee Cole-Chu, Pam McNulty Hennessey, Todd Gipstein |
| 2026 | Andrew Gilday, Mirna Martinez, Tracee Reiser |

Club Committees

Rotary Youth Service

Todd Gipstein, *Director*

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Student Of The Year | Barry Neistat |
| High School Awards | Barry Neistat |

Rotary Membership

Mel Foti, *Director*

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Fellowship/RAH Classification | Reid Burdick |
| Information | Andy Russell |
| Sunshine | Kris Magnussen |
| Diversity/Membership Dev. | Millie Devine |
| | 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*

Rotary Club Service

Lee Cole-Chu, *Director*

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Audit Awards | John Bysko |
| Paul Harris | |
| Carl Wies | |
| Tom Wetmore | |
| Phil Turner | |
| Nominating | Ed Cramer |
| Anchor | Todd Gipstein |
| Music | Chris Neilan |
| Program | Mary Lenzini |
| Fundraising Committee | Mel Foti |
| Golf | Kate Lee, Alex Marku |
| Brewfest | Keith Turner, Victoria Mueller |
| By-Laws | Lee Cole-Chu |
| Picnic | Val West/Ted Rossi |
| Anchor Ad Sales | Mark Spinnato |
| Installation Committee | Victoria Mueller |
| Public Relations | Brian Cole |
| Website | Catherine Foley, Gail MacDonald |
| RI Foundation | Ed Cramer |

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