



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

AUGUST 22, 2024

TODAY'S PROGRAM

NO NOON MEETING

Club Picnic

Weekly Meeting

12:00 Noon

at THE THAMES CLUB

290 State Street, New London

Aug 29 Waterford/East Lyme Animal Control

Robert Yuchniuk

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

ID: 875 1538 8112
PW: 055551

GREETER

Aug 22 No Meeting

INVOCATION

Aug 22 No Meeting

SONG LEADER

Aug 22 No Meeting

BIRTHDAYS

None

ANNIVERSARIES

Aug 28 James & Ellen McGuire

Upcoming Events for Rotary Club of New London

8/22 **Summer Picnic** at Ted and Ruth Rossi's home in Eastern Point Beach, Groton, CT
RSVP westv8804@gmail.com
860-918-0521

9/13 **Brewfest at the Beach** @ Ocean Beach Park 6pm-9pm

9/17 **Rotary Opus for Peace event:** *Julia Kushigian-Secor, speaker, "The Resilient Apocalypse and Peace"* @ Public Library of New London 4pm

9/21 **Rotary Opus for Peace event:** *International Peace Day Panel Discussion* celebrating Marvin Espy's exhibit "*Up from Asphalt. Voices from the Ground*" @ Lyman Allyn Art Museum 4pm

TODAY: CLUB PICNIC

Today is this summer's picnic at Ted and Ruth Rossi's home in Eastern Point Beach, Groton, CT.

The location has wonderful views and they have upgraded the outdoor space with a new patio and deck out over the water.

Ted is always looking to entice us and this year's menu will feature his chef's delicious chowder, antipasta, gourmet burgers and mixed grill. The Old World Pizza truck out of New Haven will also be on site.

RSVP's are needed for this event so let President Val know of your attendance and any guests. westv8804@gmail.com
860-918-0521

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.

Invite a Friend to Rotary

We have all experienced the positive effect Rotary can have on individuals, our community, and the world. Why not share that with a friend? Invite someone you know to a Rotary meeting—it just might change their lives (and yours) for the better!

CLUB REPORT AUGUST 15, 2024

By Gail MacDonald

NEW LONDON MARITIME SOCIETY: 40 YEARS AND GOING STRONG

The New London Maritime Society is responsible for maintaining an historic downtown building, the stewardship of several local lighthouses, overseeing a maritime research library and educating the public about several important aspects of local history, including telling the story of the 19th century African mutineers aboard the ship Amistad.



“We’ve grown quite a lot,” Maritime Society Director **Susan Tamulevich** told members of New London Rotary at the club’s regular weekly meeting on Aug. 15.

The Society completed its 40th anniversary year in 2023. Tamulevich recounted that the 1833 U.S. Custom House - formerly an active custom house and now the Society’s maritime history museum on Bank Street - was saved and preserved thanks to the actions of a group of local residents. The building was in danger of being demolished in the 1980s after the custom service no longer needed use of the entire granite structure.

Lucille M. Showalter was the New London resident who led the effort to preserve the historic structure and became the founding director of the Maritime Society. She died on May 1, 2000.

Tamulevich provided Rotarians with an overview of the wide range of the Society’s current activities and events, as well as the exhibits at the Custom House Museum.

One of the Society’s important functions is providing stewardship for three local lighthouses. These are New London Ledge Light, New London Harbor Light and Race Rock Light. The society works to maintain all the lighthouses and also provides tours for the public to visit the structures. The Society also has applied to be steward of the Lynde Point Lighthouse in Old Saybrook, Tamulevich said. If that application is granted, the Old Saybrook lighthouse

also would be accessible to the public.

Besides lighthouse tours, Tamulevich said the Society frequently sponsors other types of trips for the public. For example, a group from the Society conducted an egg and bird count on Great Gull Island, and the Society also sponsored seal watch cruises and other types of trips on Long Island Sound.

“We try to give people the experiences to love Long Island Sound,” she said.

At the Custom House Museum, permanent exhibits feature lighthouse models and artifacts, maritime artwork and deep sea diving equipment. The museum also has a permanent exhibit focused on the story of the Amistad mutineers. In 1839, a group of Mende, who were illegally taken from west Africa to the Caribbean, were being transported aboard the ship La Amistad to a plantation in Cuba. The captives seized control of the vessel and the ship then sailed a circuitous route, ending up adrift off the coast of Long Island. There, it was taken by U.S. authorities and hauled into New London. After a long legal fight, the captives eventually won their freedom.

Besides the museum exhibits, special events such as history lectures, concerts and open mic nights are sponsored by the society. The Custom House also is home to the Frank L. McGuire maritime library, which is an important resource for those researching maritime subjects. The museum also hosts the Jibboom Club, a group formed in the declining years of the whaling industry in 1871 by a group of sea captains who gathered to share stories and experiences of their lives at sea.

One current challenge for the Society is its effort to raise enough money to replace the roof on the Custom House, Tamulevich said. The roof replacement is estimated to cost about \$700,000 and about half that amount has been raised, she said.

BREWFEEST
at the Beach

SEPTEMBER 13
6:00pm – 9:00pm

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!

SCAN ME

Club Officers, 2024-2025

President	Carmelo Foti
President-Elect	Mary Lenzini
Vice President	Mark Spinnato
Secretary	Andy Russell
Treasurer	Alan Lyon
Sergeant-at-Arms	John Bysko
Immediate Past President	Valerie West

Board of Directors

2025	Lee Cole-Chu, Pam McNulty Hennessey, Todd Gipstein
2026	Andrew Gilday, Mirna Martinez, Mark Spinnato
2027	Gigi Gonzalez-Cottrell, Gail MacDonald, Kristin Magnussen

Club Committees

Rotary Youth Service	
Todd Gipstein, <i>Director</i>	
Student Of The Year	Christine Hammond/ Barry Neistat
High School Awards	Barry Neistat
Rotary Membership	
Mary Lenzini, <i>Director</i>	
Fellowship/RAH Classification	Val West
Information	Andy Russell
Sunshine	Kris Magnussen
Diversity/Membership Dev.	Brian Cole 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*

Peace Building	Val West
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Rotary Club Service
Lee Cole-Chu, *Director*

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

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