



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 SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

Upcoming Events for Rotary Club of New London

9/21 **Rotary Club of New London Peace Pole unveiling**
<https://www.peacepoleproject.org/>
@ Lyman Allyn Library 3pm

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

9/24 **Rotary Opus for Peace event:** *Julia Kushigian-Secor, speaker, "Seeking Peace Before the Apocalypse"*

rotarymetngate

18 3 4

rotarymetngate Repost @rotaryinternational Polio anywhere is a threat everywhere. Rotary is committing US\$500,000 to support the polio vaccination campaign in Gaza that began earlier this month.

Learn more about this commitment and how you can help at the link in our bio.

WHO

TODAY'S PROGRAM

Reona Dyess
Drop-In Learning Center

Weekly Meeting
12:00 Noon
at THE LIGHTHOUSE INN
6 West Guthrie Place, New London

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
Sep 19 Brian Cole

INVOCATION
Sep 19 Brian Cole

SONG LEADER
Sep 19 Brian Cole

BIRTHDAYS
Sep 20 Chevelle Moss-Savage
Sep 25 Eric Garofano

ANNIVERSARIES
None

SHAWL RAFFLE



These are woolen shawl from the Tibetan, Mongolian and other ethnic minorities in China. Because Tibetans and Mongols are nomads, they live in cold areas at high altitudes. They need warm turbans to wrap around their heads or add warmth to their bodies during the cold season. Those patterns are just traditional decorations Long ago people embroidered them by hand, now they are machines.

The shawls are donated from Mark and Juner Patnode to raise money for our club. Raffle tickets will be sold for \$10 a piece. You can specify your raffle ticket for either the red or blue shawl. Tickets will be available at our weekly meetings and available beginning 9/26/24 from Tracee Reiser, 860-287-3642 or tlrei@conncoll.edu

The raffle will run through October.

CLUB REPORT SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

by Gail MacDonald

A STUDY IN CONTRASTS: BENEDICT ARNOLD AND THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE

The Marquis de Lafayette and Benedict Arnold both started their American Revolutionary War careers as generals who had earned the trust of George Washington. Their paths diverged substantially during the war, however, with one becoming a beloved American hero and the other a reviled villain.

Steve Manuel, executive director of the New London County Historical Society, told members of the New London Rotary Club at their regular luncheon meeting on Sept. 12 how these two historic figures ended up in very different places in terms of their reputation and relationship with the American public.

Lafayette was a person everyone came to love, Manuel said. Arnold, on the other hand, was outspoken and tone deaf to political situations.

“Arnold made lifelong enemies,” Manuel said.

Arnold grew up in Norwich. As he was poised to begin his studies at Yale, his family suffered severe financial setbacks largely due to his father’s alcoholism, Manuel said. Arnold’s dreams of a Yale education were shattered and he instead trained as and worked as a pharmacist.

But Arnold had grown used to a successful lifestyle and he worked to maintain one. As a general, he ruled with an iron fist and demonstrated a lack of flexibility about situations. While the men who served under him loved him, his abrasive personality kept him an outsider in the higher social circles to which he aspired, Manuel said. This also led him to be overlooked for several promotions he sought.

Lafayette, on the other hand, was wealthy after marrying well, Manuel said. The Continental Congress did not have to provide him with any money, endearing him to both government and military leaders, as well as the American public. The 200-year anniversary of Lafayette’s 1824-1825 farewell tour throughout America is currently underway. Lafayette was feted and honored by adoring crowds throughout his 19th century tour.

While Lafayette remains a hero in the American public’s eyes, Arnold’s decision to be a traitor to the revolutionary cause left him with a legacy as a villain. One especially devilish act on Arnold’s part was the Sept. 6, 1781 burning of New London. Leading British forces up both sides of



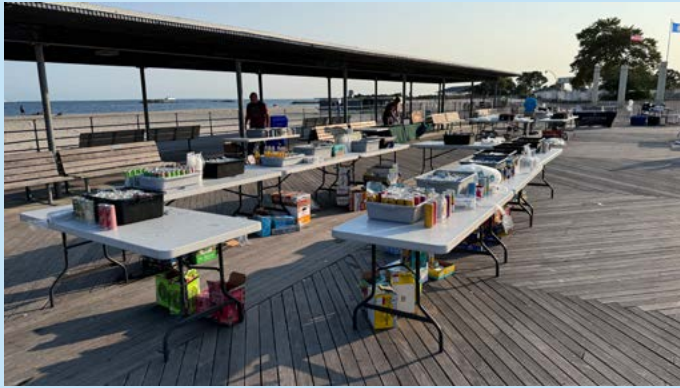
the Thames River, Arnold sought to destroy by fire arms and ammunition stored by the Continental Army. The act resulted in the near destruction of New London’s business district and touched off the Battle of Groton Heights at Fort Griswold on the eastern side of the river. The battle came to be known as a massacre of colonists fighting in the militias there.

Manuel said the New London County Historical Society is fortunate to have documents written by numerous Revolutionary War figures in its archives at the Shaw Mansion on Bank Street. Among these are documents written by George Washington, Benedict Arnold and Samuel Huntington, who lived in Norwich and served as president of the Continental Congress and governor of Connecticut.

New London County Historical Society Executive Director, Steve Manuel, holding the smallsword of Benedict Arnold (above) and holding back unruly Rotarians with a classic parry (below)



BREWFEST SEPTEMBER 13, 2024



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	Val West
Classification	Andy Russell
Information	Kris Magnussen
Sunshine	Brian Cole
Diversity/Membership Dev.	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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