



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 26, 2024

Upcoming Events for Rotary Club of New London

9/24 **Rotary Opus for Peace event:** *Julia Kushigian-Secor, speaker, "Seeking Peace Before the Apocalypse"*
@ Public Library of New London 5pm

10/16 **Presentation to the Old Saybrook Rotary Club,** Julia Kushigian-Secor, speaker, "Opus for Peace Through Positive Peace"
@ VFW Hall, 12:00 p.m.

Rotary International Foundation

Giving to the Rotary International Foundation is a great way to make a difference in the lives of millions. Programs in the United States and around the world benefit from your generosity. It's easy to give through automatic withdrawals and there is no minimum—every donation matters! To donate to Rotary International, please go to myrotary.org/donate or scan the QR code below.

If you have not yet registered, you will need to log in with password. Choose amount of donation and Fund you would like it to go to. Please be sure to include Club number 6741 and your Rotary membership number. If you do not have it, please contact Ed Cramer at winetalk177@aol.com.



TODAY'S PROGRAM

NO PROGRAM

**Weekly Meeting
12:00 Noon**

at THE LIGHTHOUSE INN
6 West Guthrie Place, New London

Oct 10 New England Underground

Oct 17 Ed Cramer Bio

Oct 31 United Way
(Tommy Toy Fund)

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

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.

GREETER

Sep 26 John Estelle

INVOCATION

Sep 26 John Estelle

SONG LEADER

Sep 26 John Estelle

BIRTHDAYS

Sep 30 Keith S. Turner

ANNIVERSARIES

Sep 29 Reid & Ann Burdick

Sep 29 Brian & Ellen Cole

Sep 30 Caleb & Sara Bailey

For more information about Club happenings, visit our Facebook page, facebook.com/NLRotary

CLUB REPORT SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

by Gail MacDonald

DROP-IN LEARNING CENTER SUMMER CAMP OFFERS IMPORTANT LIFE LESSONS FOR CITY STUDENTS

The 61 students who participated in the Drop-In Learning Center’s summer camp program this year enjoyed a busy schedule of learning, playing and volunteering, the center’s executive director **Reona Dyess** told the New London Rotary Club on Sept. 19.

The students built confidence, strength and skills at a ropes course in Mystic and by practicing Tai Chi. They learned about themselves and their emotions through regular journaling. They took advantage of books and other materials at the Public Library of New London, explored the Connecticut College Arboretum, developed resumes, learned time management and enjoyed swimming and other on-the-water activities. Many of the students were first-time swimmers, Dyess said.

“The kids get to help plan their days,” Dyess said. “We used every part of New London.”

New London Rotary provided financial support to the summer program. Rotary funds were used specifically to provide financial support to allow New London middle school students to attend the camp.

Dyess said one distinct feature of the Drop-In Learning Center’s camp is its duration. Among the numerous summer programs offered in the city, Dyess said the center’s 8-week camp is the longest. This provides more support and activities for students who might otherwise find themselves at home alone or spending the summer weeks in less productive ways.

The camp enjoys a partnership with many New London organizations and sites. Besides the library, students visit and go fishing at Ft. Trumbull State Park, go to the Hempstead Houses, Ocean Beach Park and the Hygienic Art Park. At Connecticut College, the students not only get to enjoy the athletic and other facilities, but interact regularly with college students there. This allows the younger students to learn about college, scholarships and various fields of study.

Dyess said the older students in the camp enjoy helping the younger students with various activities. The older students also do community service, such as volunteering at the Gemma E. Moran/United Way Labor Food Center or the St. James Episcopal Church’s food locker.



One particularly important activity is learning about their city and its government, said Dyess, who is an elected city council member. They visit City Hall, meet officials such as their state representatives and the city’s mayor and see historical documents in the city clerk’s office that date back to the earliest days of the city’s founding. They also learn about the importance of registering to vote and voting.

“They can encourage their parents,” Dyess said.

Dyess said the summer program also is dynamic, with new partnerships and activities each season.

“We’re always meeting the needs of our families,” she said. “We’re always looking for new partners. You have to be willing to grow with the young people you are serving.”

CLUB REPORT SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

SINGING AT THE INN – “BUILD ME UP BUTTERCUP”

Sung with great enthusiasm by New London Rotarians – “Hey, Hey, Hey!”

Photos by Todd Gipstein



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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