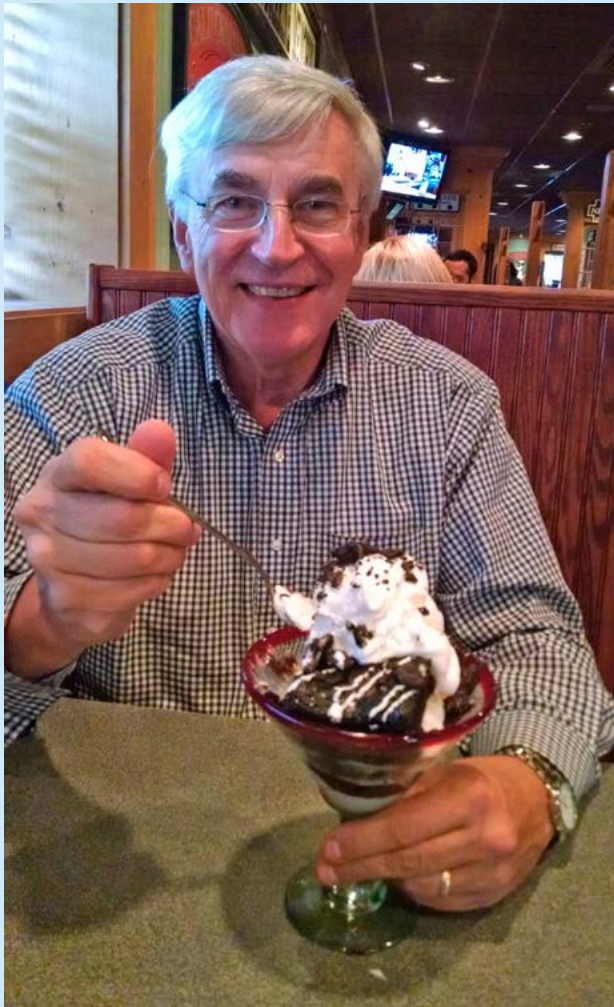




# JOHN BYSKO JULY 1, 1946 – OCTOBER 3, 2024



## *In Memoriam*

John joined New London Rotary in 1987 and quickly became involved as an active volunteer, serving on numerous committees. In addition to chairing the audit committee for many years, John served on the Board of Directors for both the New London Rotary Club and Foundation. As the longtime Sergeant-at-Arms, John was one of the first people to warmly greet members and guests before each weekly meeting.

Through John's stewardship, the New London Rotary Foundation assets grew exponentially. His financial expertise enabled New London Rotary to support many community programs for children and those in need.

John has been recognized by the club with a Distinguished Service/Paul Harris Fellow Award three times, acknowledging the important service he provided to the club and community of New London. John was also part of the Rotary International Paul Harris Society as a Sustaining Member with twelve Paul Harris awards, a Presidential Citation award and was a Major Donor awardee. In addition, John served on the District 7980 Paul Harris committee.

Rotary was an important part of John's life. The Rotary motto of "Service Above Self" was an apt saying for a man who sought to make the community and the world a better place. John confided to a member after one meeting that Rotary fulfilled his view of what is best in the world; people of all faiths and philosophies coming together through Rotary to become friends while working for the common good.



# CLUB NEWS

## OCTOBER 10, 2024

### TODAY'S PROGRAM

The Underground  
New England

#### Weekly Meeting

12:00 Noon

at THE LIGHTHOUSE INN  
6 West Guthrie Place, New London

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

#### GREETER

Oct 10 Mark Spinnato

#### INVOCATION

Oct 10 Mark Spinnato

#### SONG LEADER

Oct 10 Mark Spinnato

#### BIRTHDAYS

Oct 13 Christine Hammond

#### ANNIVERSARIES

Oct 14 John & Aimee Estelle

### NLRC Peace Committee project presented to the Club October 3

Julia Kushigian Secor attended a community meeting at the Child and Family Agency on September 30 as a member of our Peace Committee with many community members representing nonprofits to discuss the new YEP (Youth Engagement Partnership) with the Agency. To promote peace and help disconnected youth from Middle through High School in New London, local groups are partnering to provide supportive, nonjudgmental engagement with identified youth, offering skillsets and opportunities to be heard by supportive adults. This may entail talking about our professional fields or simply attending a football game, movie, or other fun activity to establish a relationship and listen. Six Rotarians have stepped up to volunteer! Please let Julia know if you want to be added to the list.



### Upcoming Events for Rotary Club of New London

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.

*"The Rotary way is to light a candle. I light one, you light one, 1.2 million Rotarians light one. Together, we light up the world."*

– Rotary International President-Elect Gary C. K. Huang, in the April 2014 issue of *The Rotarian*

### 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](mailto:tlrei@conncoll.edu)

The raffle will run through October.

# CLUB REPORT OCTOBER 3, 2024

Reported by Todd Gipstein

## BREWFEST WRAP-UP

Brewfest co-chair **Victoria Mueller** gave a short wrap-up of the recent Brewfest. The New London Rotary team did its usual fine job of getting everything set up, dealing with challenges, and providing beer, food, merchandise and entertainment to the hundreds who attended.

Thanks to former New London Rotarian Michael Belt and his connections, the weather was perfect, so the event was held on the boardwalk. Mike Stryker and his band The Rhythm Method provided the music.

Victoria said the event netted more than \$15,000. She cited the low cost of doing the event, with donated beers and advertising. She thanked the event's main sponsor, Jeff Mazzella of Northeast Truck and Offroad, who donated \$3,500.

She gave out 4 of our traditional "Good and Plenty" awards to club members who did plenty of good to make the Brewfest a success.

These included Anna Lathrop for her donating and serving the food. Andy Russell for his calm command of all aspects of the logistics. Ed Cramer for assuring there would be plenty of beverages to sample, especially from local breweries. And Tracee Reiser for coordinating the volunteers and dealing with many logistics both before and during the event.

Victoria said it is time to get new merchandise, a big seller. Victoria's partner, Matt Greene, sold \$480 worth of shirts, which amazed her.



Anna Lathrop

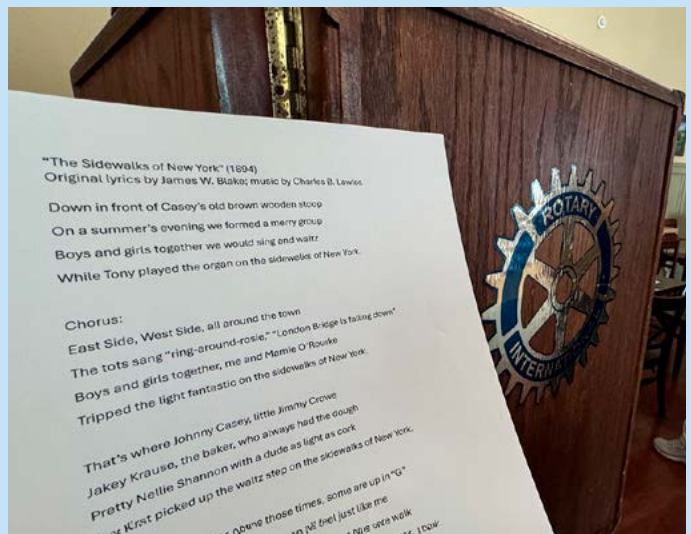
Victoria hopes to grow the Brewfest in years to come, with new beers and offerings. It is one of our two big fund-raising events, one that is very high-profile for our club and draws many returnees as well as newcomers.



Victoria Mueller immersed in Brewfest

Victoria said next year's Brewfest meetings will start over the winter — an indication of just how much planning goes into our club's signature event. Well done, Victoria, and well done New London Rotary club.

Here's to us!



"The Sidewalks of New York" (1894)  
 Original lyrics by James W. Blake; music by Charles B. Lewis

Down in front of Casoy's old brown wooden stoop  
 On a summer's evening we formed a merry group  
 Boys and girls together we would sing and wait  
 While Tony played the organ on the sidewalks of New York

Chorus:  
 East Side, West Side, all around the town  
 The tots sang "ring-around-rosie" - "London Bridge is falling down"  
 Boys and girls together, me and Memmie O'Rourke  
 Tripped the light fantastic on the sidewalks of New York

That's where Johnny Casey, little Jimmy Crowe  
 Jakey Krause, the baker, who always had the dough  
 Pretty Nellie Shannon with a dude as light as cork  
 Krist picked up the waltz step on the sidewalks of New York

**Club Officers, 2024-2025**

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

**Board Of Directors**

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

**Club Committees**

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

**Rotary Community Service**  
Gail MacDonald, *Director*

<b>Camp Rotary</b>	Tracee Reiser
<b>Centennial Playground</b>	Rick Gipstein
<b>Holiday Book Drive</b>	Anna Lathrop
<b>Community Meal</b>	Anna Lathrop
<b>Service Person/ Veteran's Day Program</b>	Mary Lenzini
<b>Little Free Libraries</b>	Julia Kushigian Secor
<b>Yale Harvard Regatta</b>	Lee Cole-Chu
<b>Thanksgiving Turkey Fund</b>	Pam McNulty-Hennessey

**Rotary International Service**  
Julia Kushigian Secor, *Director*

<b>Peace Building</b>	Val West
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**Rotary Club Service**  
Lee Cole-Chu, *Director*

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

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E-mail: winetalk177@aol.com

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