



**Wed, March 5, 2025, 8:00am (Breakfast= \$10)**

Guilford Community Center

This Week's Speaker: **No speaker- breakfast meeting**

#### **President's Message:**

I hope you're all recovering from last week's excitement—between the lively **Town Hall meeting about the Mooring property purchase** and our usual Rotary antics, it's been a whirlwind. Whether you're in favor, against, or just showed up for the camaraderie, I think we can all agree that Guilford knows how to put on a show when it comes to real estate debates!

As for this week (and next), you'll be in the very capable hands of **Gary Drake**, who will be managing our meetings while I'm off traveling for work. Treat him kindly—and don't let him get too comfortable in my chair! I've left behind some notes (and maybe a few surprises) to keep him on his toes.

Let's also remember that **Rotary service doesn't stop just because the president skips town**—we've got a lot on the horizon, from LobsterFest planning to ongoing committee work, so your energy and ideas are needed now more than ever.

See you all soon—unless Gary decides to stage a coup while I'm gone!

#### **Upcoming Events:**

- Guilford Rotary Lobsterfest Committee- March 12, at 5:00 PM - Community Center
- Guilford Rotary Budget Committee- March 19th 5:30 - Community Center
- Earth Day on the Guilford Green, Sunday, May 4th (we need to respond go/no-go)
- Shred Event- Saturday, May 10 (9-12PM)
- District 7980- Magical Mystery Tour District Conference - May 30- June 1
- LobsterFest!!! - June 21

#### **Member Announcements:**

- TBD

#### **Future Speaker Schedule:**

- 3/12- Martha Hoffman- Call to Care Uganda

#### **Member Updates:**

- Birthdays this week: Stacy Clifford, March 6 + Tom Petrick, March 8
- Rotary Anniversaries: Steph Jacobs, 8 years

#### **Community News:**

- GSB renamed to Ascend Bank!

**Recent Club Donations:**

- Sept 13th- Native American Veterans Assistance (NAVA)- \$2,000
- Oct 3rd- Soundview YMCA LiveStrong Event - \$100 (partnering with 4 other local Rotary Clubs)
- Oct 3rd- The Cove Center for Grieving Children- \$1,000 donation to sponsor 1 child for a year.
- Oct 3rd- Meals on Wheels- \$9,400 donation to cover budget shortfall due to drastic increase in food costs.
- Oct 3rd- Grass Island Red Shack restoration - MATCHING donation \$5,000
- Oct 8th- Rotary District 7980 for Hurricane Helene Relief- approx \$500 in supplies + various individual donations from Club Members (about \$1,000 total)
- Nov 7th- New Haven Reads - \$1,800 to support their Chapter Book Challenge, which promotes literacy through incentives for students.
- Nov 7th- Integrated Refugee and Immigrant Services (IRIS) - \$2,500 to cover “activity costs” for their program assisting young immigrants with secondary education preparation
- Nov 7th- Guilford Rotary Memorial Education Fund - \$7,500 which will go into the endowment to support scholarships for local students in need.
- Nov 7th- Warm the Children - \$2,500 to support the program’s efforts to provide clothing to children in need in the Guilford/Madison area. (Partnership with Madison Rotary Club)
- Dec 5th, Columbus House - \$2,500 to support outreach, shelter, and housing for New Haven County’s homeless.
- Feb 6th- SCORE- \$500
- Feb 6th- Guilford Keeping Society- \$2,500- to underwrite the Inaugural House Tour, that will raise money for Guilford historic museum upkeep and education
- Feb 6th- Feed Our Neighbors (Rotary District 7980) - \$1,250 - for shoreline food banks
- Feb 6th- Native American Veterans Assistance- \$2,500- firewood for up to six veterans and their families.
- Outstanding TBD, Women & Family Life (\$3k request), IRIS (amount TBD)

**Club Donations Total (since Sept, 2024) - \$42,050**

**Volunteer Opportunities:**

- May 31st- Keeping Society House Tour- Guilford Rotary is a sponsor- need volunteers

**Sponsorship Acknowledgments:**

- Sponsor’s are still coming in! Keep it going...

**Rotary International & District News:**

- Rotary PELS (formerly PETS) this week - Mario Cesar Martins (RI Pres Elect) will be attending

**Club Member Highlight:**

- 3/5 - Scott Staschke

## Call to Action:

Rotarians, your voice and your hands matter—**both in our community and in our club**. Last week's **Town Hall on the Mooring property** was a powerful reminder that showing up and speaking out makes a difference. As Rotarians, we're not just spectators in Guilford's story—we're part of the plot!

This week, I'm asking each of you to do **one small thing** to move Rotary forward:

- ✓ Bring a guest to lunch who might love Rotary as much as we do
- ✓ Share one creative idea for a future fundraiser, project, or event (no idea is too crazy!)
- ✓ Take 5 minutes to reach out to a fellow member you haven't seen in a while

**Rotary works when Rotarians work—and together, there's nothing we can't pull off.** Let's keep the momentum going and make our club a force for fun, friendship, and impact.

**This week, take action—and keep our Rotary wheels turning!**