

ROTARY ANCHOR



2009/2010 Rotary Theme

New London Rotary Club
District 7980 Club 6741
P.O. Box 654 New London, CT 06320
www.newlondonrotary.org

Meeting Thursday April 15, 2010

Support the Rotary Foundation!



April 15 -Unsung Hero Award

April 22 - President's Visioning Project - Anna Lathrop

Reporters:	April 15	Todd Gipstein
	April 22	Ann Connolly
Greeter:	April 15	Jill Mauritz
	April 22	Frank McLaughlin
Song Leader:	April 15	Pam Akins
	April 22	Chris Neilan
Birthdays	April 16	Bill Miner
	April 17	Gerry Tom
	April 18	Andy Russell
	April 19	Bill Ebersole
Anniversaries	April 19	Don Mitchell & Marilyn

NEW MEMBER NOTIFICATION:

Helen Sandalls, has been proposed for membership in the classification of **Law-Medical Profession**. Any objection to this nomination must be made in writing to President Anna within ten days.

SPRINGFEST AT THE BEACH

Chili Contestants (\$500 1st Prize)

L & M Hospital - Bean & Leaf - Chester's - Filomena's
Catering To You - Hannafins - Thames Club - Gourmet Galley
A Thyme To Cook - Matthew's Catering - Salvation Army
Mitchell College - East Coast Taco - The Hot Dog House

Rotaract Club Forming Soon.

April 16th Hanafin's Irish Pub

Friday at 5:30 Victoria Mueller of Gourmet Galley is organizing the 1st get together for potential Rotaract members in order to start a new club. Anyone that is between the ages for 19 and 30 can join. This is New London's first attempt at a non-college based format although college students are welcome to join. Pass the word. Members of the New London Rotary Club are invited to attend this get together.



Rotary Program Mar 18, 2010

By: Meredith Diette

Barbara Sahagan presented an informative and moving discussion to the Club regarding her experience with the Pfizer Global Health Fellowship in Kenya, Africa.

Barbara traveled to Kenya as part of the Fellowship in March 2009 and spent six months in the area with the program. She explained that the Pfizer

program grew out of the global need for improved healthcare. It had a mission of improving and expanding access to basic healthcare by loaning its employees to Non-governmental organizations (NGOs). In Barbara's case, she worked with The Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria ("GBC").



During her presentation, Barbara discussed the growing problems with HIV/AIDS in Kenya. She explained that the growth appears to be happening mostly in rural areas with a national prevalence of 7.4%. The area in Kenya with the largest prevalence, and where Barbara worked, is Nyanza along Lake Victoria.

Barbara explained that the largest problem in Kenya is that most people do not know they are infected. To that end, GBC worked within the Academic Model Providing Access to Healthcare ('AMPATH'), established in 2001, which is the most comprehensive initiative to combat HIV/AIDS in Kenya. AMPATH (now AMPAH) operates a hospital to treat those infected and work towards getting them back into Kenyan society. This job, Barbara explained, is not the most difficult one for AMPATH. Rather, getting Kenyans to become aware of their disease and seek treatment is the largest hurdle.

To tackle to difficulty of getting Kenyans to know of their HIV/AIDS status and seek treatment if necessary, AMPATH uses Household Counseling and Testing (HCT). HTC gives Kenyans, in their homes, HIV counseling and testing, screening for TB, bed nets for malaria protections and deworming medicine. The AMPATH partners hope that HTC will not only save the lives of those unknowingly living with HIV but it will reduce the number of new HIV infections. Barbara's main task while in Kenya was the scale up the HCT program with a 2 year goal of serving 2 million Kenyans. Ultimately, Barbara explained, this goal may be unreachable, but it is an important goal to work toward.

It was clear from her talk that her time in Kenya was an eye-opening and very satisfying experience for Barbara. Though some of her statistics and stories were sad ones, she also said there is a lot of hope and that there are success stories, too.