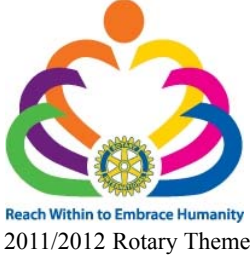


ROTARY ANCHOR



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

Meeting Thursday February 2, 2012
AM Group 7am Thursday Muddy Waters



Feb 2 Taking Control of Your Life: Covenant Shelter

Feb 9 Custom House - Susan Tamulevich

Reporters:	Feb 2	Todd Gipstein
	Feb 9	Meredith Diette
Greeter:	Feb 2	Rick Gipstein
	Feb 9	Ed Cramer
Invocation:	Feb 2	Tom Hogsten
	Feb 9	Art Costa
Song Leader	Feb 2	Maggie Blundon
	Feb 9	Helen Sandalls
Birthdays	Feb 6	Jerry Olson
Anniversaries	Feb 2	Myron Hendel & Rita

Student of the Year The Williams School

Alyssa Benincosa

Alyssa received the award for her steadfast commitment to community service and her leadership within the Service Committee. Ms. Zweir praised Alyssa for her "Truly selfless community work, running the programs for our Drop In Learning Center partnership. She organizes activities for students to work on and gathers volunteers. Alyssa is also running a fundraiser for the Ariang School in the Sudan. It is Alyssa's character that makes her stand out from her peers and she serves the community simply because it is the right thing to do." The New London Rotary is proud to recognize the outstanding students in the schools of southeastern Connecticut.



OPEN CLASSIFICATION

A new classification has been approved: **Law-Family**. Anyone wanting to propose someone for membership in this classification should contact President Vivian within the next week.

John Bysko gets another & another Paul Harris



Bill Schmidt, club Foundation chair, presented John with his 7th and 8th recognition pins at the same time. John is a member of the Paul Harris Society and contributes a minimum of \$1,000 per year. John believes that the Foundation is a good place to put your charitable contributions to work.

Rotary Program from January 12, 2012

The opinions expressed are those of the speaker Reporter: Lorraine Allen

Our guest speaker was retired Connecticut College Professor Marijan Despalatovic. A teacher of the old school, passionate and unique, with an incisive mind and strong opinions on the subject of education, he bemoaned the state of education in this modern era.

He has always insisted that students rise when he entered a classroom, trying to inculcate literature and philosophy into his students. Professor Despalatovic was a taskmaster of the highest order, but he got excellent results from his students for many years.

The Town vs. Gown aspect did not exist in his early years. He and his family, and the other professors, lived and shopped in New London. They were an integral part of the city, participating fully in the life around them.

With the ill advised and ill planned "urban renewal" New London went through, the faculty abandoned a city in which they could not shop, where neighborhoods and stores were destroyed and emptied. The flight of the faculty and their families to the suburbs ensured that the college on the hill would no longer be a force within the city, isolating the two entities from each other.

Connecticut College, celebrating it's 100th Anniversary this year, has changed in very many ways from its inception. The major change in policy of admitting men has, in his opinion, not be a beneficial change at all. The college has the fifth highest tuition costs in the country and the Professor points the finger for these costs directly at a phenomenal increase in administrators. When he started teaching, Conn has one president and five deans. Now, while the president still remains at one, the assistant deans, assistants to the deans and other administrative personnel have skyrocketed.

The school has seen a ten percent growth in students while growth in the administration has expanded by thirty-two percent. He feels that this administrative growth is a total waste of money, and that the focus of education should be education and not administration. No student ever learned from administration.

The qualities of an excellent pre-college education and historical knowledge and perceptions are not evident; and there is now no way back to a time when academics trumped administration. The professor was obviously and openly disgusted at the changes he has seen over the years. His sadness and anger at the lowering of academic standards should be a signal to all educators that the purpose of education is out of focus.

