

ROTARY ANCHOR



New London Rotary Club

District 7980 Club 6741

Chartered April 11, 1917

P.O. Box 654
New London, CT 06320
www.newlondonrotary.org

AM Meeting: Thursdays at 7AM—Muddy Waters, New London
Lunch Meeting: Thursdays at 12:15 PM—Holiday Inn, New London

Meeting: Thursday, August 29, 2013

Program:

August 29
Rotary International Convention
Portugal: Pam Akins

September 5
Springfest Wrap Up:
Gerry Tom & Mark Spinnato
New London Rotary Survey Results:
Liz Binger

Reporter:

August 29 Mark Patnode
September 5 Meredith Diette

Invocation:

August 29 Michel Belt
September 5 Bill White

Greeter:

August 29 Emily Lavoie
September 5 TBD

Song Leader:

August 29 Mel Foti
September 5 Chris Neilan

Birthdays:

August 29 Gina Fafard
September 4 Pam McNulty-Hennessey
John Estelle
Jerry Fischer

Anniversaries: None

The Sandy Ground: Where Angels Play

Speakers: Corina Vendetto & Vic Spinnato

Program: August 8, 2013 Reporter: Todd Gipstein

Corina Vendetto and Vic Spinnato spoke to us about "The Sandy Grounds: Where Angels Play" project. Inspired by the loss of 26 children and teachers in the tragic Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting last December, as well as in an effort to rebuild the storm damaged east coast after Hurricane Sandy, the project aims to create 26 playgrounds in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut in honor of the shooting victims; hence the name "Where Angels Play."



The New London playground will be built in September at Riverside Park and dedicated to Emilie Parker. When designing the playscapes, the planners try to customize each playground and match the location to reflect the victim's personality. After meeting with families of the victims and learning how much Emily liked the shade, it was decided that Riverside Park, with its shady environment, would be her playground.

Each playscape takes just one day to install and costs \$90,000, which is funded through grants, donations, and by doing fundraising events and activities such as "Pennies for Playgrounds", where school kids gather pennies to help. There are no logos or tributes to the volunteers who create the playground. Instead, there is a simple plaque remembering the victim. Maintenance, not provided by the city, will fall to volunteers and local businesses who have offered their support.

The project shows that even the most devastating tragedies sometimes have a silver lining. Though nothing can bring the victims of the Newton shooting back, there will be 26 playgrounds created that will honor their memories and provide recreation for many children for years to come. By honoring victims of tragedies in positive ways, we ensure that their lives, no matter how brief, will never be forgotten.

For more information, please go to: www.thesandygroundproject.org

Success Story

Special thanks to all who came out in support of the 1st Annual Wine Tasting to Benefit Camp Rotary. It was a gorgeous night at the beach with good friends, music, food, and a fabulous selection of beverages from which to sample. The evening also included a silent auction and a fireworks finale. At the end of the night, we raised \$3009 for Camp Rotary ~ a successful event indeed!



REGISTER NOW FOR THE Zone 32 Success Seminar

Saturday, September 7
9:00 am—3:00 pm

Courtyard by Marriott
4 Sebeth Road, Cromwell, CT

Join 2014-2016 RI Director-Elect Julia Phelps and the Zone Coordinators to talk about Membership, new Grant Model, Public Image and the RI Strategic Plan.

There will be multiple breakout sessions and the day wraps up with a panel of 4 Rotary Program Alumni discussing Membership and how clubs can attract & engage future Rotarians.

Register now—\$40 registration fee paid by New London Club! Register online by going to the calendar section at www.Rotary7980.org.
Gather a few fellow Rotarians and take advantage of this great opportunity!

WELCOME BILL WHITE

New London Rotary is pleased to welcome Bill White back to the club. Bill was a member of the New London Rotary Club a few years ago until his job responsibilities required him to move to other parts of the state. During his moves, Bill always



stayed active in Rotary by joining his local club. He recently returned to the area as the administrator of Kindred Care East, the former Camelot facility on Viets St in New London, and is eager to get back to being involved in local community activities through the New London Rotary Club. Bill lives in Waterford with his wife, Denise, and their five children. His hobbies include cars and automobile racing.

Welcome Bill!

BREWFEEST
at the Beach



Coming October 4