

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

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 7, 2019

March 7, 2019

Tales from Antarctica
Todd Gipstein

March 14, 2019

Lyman Allyn Museum
Sam Quigkey

Invocation:

March 7: Tracee Reiser
March 14: Chris Neilan

Greeter:

March 7: Tracee Reiser
March 14: Chris Neilan

Birthdays:

March 9: Tom Hogsten

Anniversaries:

None

NOTICE:

Lawrence Cohen has been nominated for membership in the category of *Financial Resource Development Consultant* for non-profits.

Any objection to this nomination should be made in writing to President Victoria within ten (10) days.

February 28, 2019 Program

This month's Member Spotlight focused on Reverend Florence Clarke. She was raised in Charleston, SC during the era of segregation. She was the eldest of 4 children and lived with her grandmother for the first twelve years of her life. She then lived with her mother for three years, until her mom passed at an early age. She says it took her grandmother and a village of adults to raise her and she was the only child in her neighborhood to go to college. As Florence was about to graduate high school, the state of South Carolina offered a "scholarship test" to seniors in segregated black high schools. The ten with the best scores received a full scholarship to South Carolina State University. Florence scored 7th best in the state and was off to college!

Florence related some of the incidents that happened during those early days of the civil rights movement. SC State was the second or third college to stage sit-in demonstrations. Florence protested this way at the local F.W. Woolworth's. Florence also participated in two civil rights marches by SC State students through the town of Orangeburg. The first march caught the town by surprise, but during the second march, the protesters were doused with fire hoses and arrested. Since the jail could not hold the 700 or so who were arrested, the police took most of them to the fairgrounds and locked them up in animal cages, all wet and cold. That evening the local NAACP managed to post bond for everyone so they could return to school. This was a terrifying experience for her.

Florence then related experiences as a teacher in St George, SC, deep in Klan country. She toughed it out for a couple of years before moving to here to Connecticut.

Florence noted that even in Connecticut she has experienced numerous instances of racial discrimination. We all thank Florence for sharing her experiences and insights with the club.



Check Your Calendars!

On Thursday, March 7th, there will be a Brewfest Planning Meeting at 11:15am, prior to the regular noon meeting. This planning meeting will be held at the New London Holiday Inn. The committee is looking for input from members to make this the best Brewfest ever! They are also beginning the process of recruiting volunteers and hope to see you there!