

ROTARY ANCHOR



New London Rotary Club

District 7980 Club 6741

P.O. Box 654 New London, CT 06320

www.newlondonrotary.org

SERVICE Above Self

2005/2006 Rotary Theme

Meeting Week of August 25, 2005



"America's Tall Ship" USCG Barque *Eagle*

Club News

PROGRAM:

Aug 25 Chili Vendor Recognition

From Springfest 2005

Sept 1 Namibia Project- Christian Evangelism

Fellowship Joyce Van Ness

Reporter: Aug 25 Christine Wagner

Sept 1 Paul Geraghty

Greeters: Aug 25 Alan Mayer, Bill Edwards

Sept 1 Isabelle Singer, Gerry Tom

Invocation: Aug 25 Carl Astor

Sept 1 Diana Ketner

Song Leader: Lew Buckley

Birthdays: Aug 29 Carl Astor; Aug 31 Bill Stanley & Shannon Heap

Anniversaries: Aug 28 Jim McGuire & Ellen; Aug 29 Ed Lorah & Maria; Aug 31 Chris Clouet and Maggie

SOUP KITCHEN NEWS: The next serving day will be the first Thursday in September in order to accommodate our Club Picnic. Serving day will be September 1, 2005 from 4 to 6:15 pm.

ROTARY HAT CONTEST

It was a rainy day at the GSE picnic and this rotarian was sliding down the ramp with the kids.

Who was he? 1st one wins
barry@robertsav.com

Need a Hint: He was a team leader. Past winners and members of the publishers family or the Rotarian "missing" are not eligible, although you can still play!



District News

GOLF OUTING

Rotary District #7980 Foundation

Tuesday September 6, 2005

Wallingford Country Club

Shotgun Start at 1pm

The day will include lunch, the basic sandwich/hamburger/hot dogs and dinner following immediately after with steak and lobster being served. Also includes 1 hour open bar. Cost per golfer is \$160. Don Rittman 88 State Street Meriden, CT 06450 (203)238-7400 x224 drittman@stoneagencies.com

(last week's) Guess Who missing on the left:

For those at the Installation, Jerry was with his daughter and wife. Last week's hat winner was **ED PERL**. Congratulations to Ed!



Club picnic will be September 8 (Thursday) evening at Ocean Beach-(no noon meeting)

Program August 11, 2005

By Joan Evans Hunter

The program was presented by New London Police Captain Kenneth Edwards, Jr., older brother of Rotarian Bill Edwards. Captain Edwards spoke to us about a new initiative in the New London Police force called the Crisis Intervention Team, or CIT.

By way of background, Captain Edwards reminded us of the situation in this area when major psychiatric facilities were closed, and the residents became members of the local communities. New London and other towns were told that they would receive added resources to provide services when the hospitals closed, but much of that assistance did not materialize. As a result, New London became the home of many individuals with mental illness and other special needs. To deal with the increasing number of incidents involving these individuals, in the late 1980's, the police department got involved with local social service agencies that provided services to this population. In addition, two hours of training were given to each officer.

Captain Edwards became aware of a program in Memphis where specially trained officers are used to deal specifically with perpetrators who are mentally ill. The New London Police Department received a venture grant from the United Way which provided seed money to establish a similar program here. Captain Edwards went to Memphis to study their program, and the New London Crisis Intervention Team was started. New London's program is the tenth such program in the country, and was the first in New England. It is the smallest community to have such a program.

The program consists of a 40 hour training module, where officers and mental health professionals sit side by side and learn together how to best handle incidents that occur in town. The officers selected for the program were volunteers who were selected because they were compassionate thinkers, could work with other agencies, and were willing to try something new. Their training included role plays, and simulations of the ways that a mentally disabled person might respond to different situations. The officers now also understand the mental health system.

New London has become a nationwide model for this program, and provides statewide training. The program was changed slightly when a licensed clinical social worker was assigned to the New London Police Department. This individual accompanies officers in the cruiser when responding to calls. New London is the first CIT in the country to do this.

A testament to the success of the program was once given by an officer, who, when asked if the training was helpful, replied, "It's the only training that I use in every situation." We wish continued success to the New London Police Department and the CIT program.

