

NEWS AND VIEWS

KIWANIS CLUB OF NEW LONDON, CT

A KIWANIS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION HONOR CLUB



SERVING GREATER NEW LONDON SINCE 1940

WE MEET EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 12:15 PM
THE LIGHTHOUSE INN
6 GUTHRIE PLACE, NEW LONDON, CT

CLUB OFFICERS 2006-2007

PRESIDENT: Robert Grills **PRESIDENT-ELECT:** Michael Doyle
VICE-PRESIDENT: Tom Moriarty **TREASURER:** Robert Jones
SECRETARY: Martin T. Olsen Jr. **IMM. PAST-PRESIDENT:** Mac Pope
DIRECTORS (1 YEAR): Carol Ballestrini, Gordon Jackson, Phil Lombardo
DIRECTORS (2 YEARS): Valeda Grills, John Russell, Ted Nelson, Glenn Hamler

LEGION OF HONOR: John Kashanski (53), Ed Rachleff (45), Frank Penny (37) and Gordon Jackson (35) **SENIOR MEMBER:** Ed Rachleff

PAST LT. GOVERNORS: John Kashanski (1971-72), Frank Penny (1980-81) Gordon Jackson (1982-83), Martin T. Olsen Jr. (1996-97) and Valeda Grills (2004-05)

LIFE MEMBERS: Martin T. Olsen Jr., John Vincent and Frank Penny

HONORARY MEMBER: Helen McCartin

DIRECTOR KIWANIS FOUNDATION OF NE: Valeda Grills, Tom Moriarty

PAST DISTINGUISHED GOVERNOR & IPP KFNE: Martin T. Olsen Jr.

DISTRICT CHAIR- *MARKETING & PUBLIC RELATIONS*: Martin T. Olsen Jr.

DISTRICT CHAIR- *COMMUNICATIONS*: Robert Grills

LT. GOVERNOR DIVISION 23: Michael Doyle

VOL. LXIX No. 12

MARCH 21, 2007

DISTRICT BOARD MAKES HISTORIC DECISION

HOUSE OF DELEGATES TO CHOOSE INT'L TRUSTEE CANDIDATE

The Board of Trustees, at their meeting on March 4th at the Mid-Winter Training Conference in Mansfield, MA, rejected, as per past practice, a recommendation of the Past Governors. By a 17-1 vote, the Board declined to send one candidate, Past Distinguished Governor Steve Hill, for Kiwanis International Trustee to the House of Delegates at the District Convention this August in Warwick, RI. A second motion was approved, 17-1, to send two candidates, including our own Past Distinguished Governor **Marty Olsen**, to the House for consideration in a much more democratic and transparent manner for this important international post. District Secretary Frank Dennett called the action, "a defining moment," for the board. The next candidate from New England is expected to have an opportunity to run within the next few years.

ACTIONS OF THE BOARD

AHOY: NEW MEMBER ABOARD

The Board of Directors took the following actions at their meeting at March 13th:

- ◆ Approved Membership Application of **Andrew Ely**, sponsored by **Chris Sinnett**
- ◆ Approved a Membership Drive for April 25th. Each member is asked to forward a name to be invited
- ◆ Approved renewing the Connecticut Defender partnership for 2007 with Kiwanis Nite to be Saturday, June 9th. Volunteers will be needed for Friday Nite Fireworks
- ◆ Elected Bob Grills and Rusty Ballestrini to be delegates and Valeda Grills and Carol Ballestrini to be alternates to the Kiwanis International Convention in San Antonio
- ◆ Appropriated a minimum of \$150 for Governor Suzanne's Special Project to support Juvenile Diabetes tying in with our Small Ship Regatta fundraiser

NOW PAY DUES AND SUPPORT CLUB ONLINE

You can now pay your club dues and make donations to our club's charitable funds online at <http://www.newlondonkiwanis.org> by credit card or Paypal. It's easy, convenient and secure. Donations can be made by clicking on *Make a Donation* under the Interstate Battery button on the home page and following the prompts. Payment of club dues can be made in the Members Only section.

DIVISION 23 CAUCUS

HOST CLUB: CHESHIRE

Date: Wednesday, March 21, 2007

Time: 6:00 PM Social Hour with Cash Bar Followed by Dinner/Meeting at 6:30 PM

Place: Waverly Tavern, Cheshire

Menu: Plated Dinner with choices of Chicken, Fish and Beef or Pork, including bread and butter, salad, desert and coffee for \$16

Agenda: To elect our Lt. Governor for 2007-08

RSVP: Valeda Grills (860) 443-4249 or Stuart Post (203) 250-0566, ext. 1

MARCH PROGRAMS

ROBERT JONES: CHAIR

March 21: **Judge Mathew Greene**, Probate Judge for New London and Waterford

March 28: **Ed Rosenblatt**, Fidelity National Title Insurance Company

CELTICS ADD TWO MORE DISCOUNT GAMES FOR KIWANIS

The Boston Celtics through the Kiwanis Foundation of New England have added two more games in April to the Member Benefit program vs. the 76ers on the 11th and the Bucks on the 13th. See Marty Olsen for an order form or visit our club website and download a form there in the "updated news" section.

GUESTS

Lt. Andrew Ely joined the club for lunch on March 7th. His membership application is being processed.

CONNECTICUT SUN PROGRAM NOW ONLINE

For the second consecutive year the club has purchased 10 seats for each Connecticut Sun home game. The WNBA team has seventeen home games and plays at the Mohegan Sun Arena. Game selection will continue to be on a first come first serve basis based on payment. Each game can be purchased for \$100 with the club netting \$20 per game for the benefit of Club Administration. The game on June 20th against the New York Liberty will offer a special pre-game Ball Exchange at centercourt with Sun players being introduced and presenting an autographed ball to each member of our group. This game and special opportunity will be available for the cost of the game plus a silent auction for the Ball Exchange at the club's regular meeting on March 28th. Make your reservations early and get the game(s) of your choice! Seven games are sold already!

INTERCLUBS

14. 3/2-3/4/07, Mid-Winter Conference, Mansfield, MA: **Bob Grills, Valeda Grills, Tom Moriarty, Mike Doyle and Marty Olsen**

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL

Ballestrini Childcare

90 Rope Ferry Rd., Waterford

Wednesdays, 9:30-10:15 AM

Contact **John Russell** at 912-0417 to Volunteer

March 21

John Lock

Annette Lock

March 28

April 4

Mac Pope

April 11



**Ballestrini's Childcare
Salem 4 Corners, Salem, CT
Thursday at 9:30-10:15 AM**

Contact John Russell at 912-0417 to Volunteer

March 22	Valeda Grills	_____
March 29	Valeda Grills	_____
April 5	Valeda Grills	_____
April 12	Valeda Grills	_____

PAST PROGRAMS

Scott Thompson, a financial planner with Amerprise Financial, addressed the club on March 7th. The primary focus of his talk was dealing with debt, especially credit card debt and college loans. He had four specific pieces of advice for dealing with debt:

1. Live within your means
2. Reduce and/or eliminate debt
3. Save each and every month
4. Minimize risk

Scott's knowledge and enthusiasm for the topic at hand was quite evident. He pointed out how college students, before they even start school, are tempted with pre-approved credit cards. That, along with college loans, can keep a person behind the eight ball forever. The payment on credit cards and college loans could be the difference between owning or not owning a house!

Lina Lawall of Jewish Family Services in New Haven addressed the club on March 14th. Although housed in New Haven, JFS provides services throughout Connecticut with a budget of \$2M and a staff of twenty, including full and part-time. The services provided are quite varied, but centered on the family in a non-denominational manner. A partial list of services is as follows: soup kitchen, mental health center, elderly programs, children's programs, therapeutic foster care and adoption- domestic and foreign. Robert Jones, Program Chair for the month, and his wife, Janet, have been utilizing JFS for adoption.

ODDS & ENDS

New London Kiwanis Today is now also on Comcast Cable Access TV Channel 12 in Groton every Thursday from 9:30-10:00 PM with Ted and Glenn.

Bob Grills became and **Marty Olsen** became re-certified Club Leadership Education (CLE) trainers at the recently held Mid Winter Training Conference. Marty also completed training to be a Certified Lt. Governor Trainer.

Need batteries, buy **Interstate Batteries** and support our club. The club receives 30% on all retail purchases through this program. Visit our club website at <http://www.newlondonkiwanis.org> for more details!

New London Kiwanis Today every Wednesday with hosts **Ted Nelson** and **Glenn Hamler** on MetroCast Cable Access Television, Channel 24 from 5:30-6:00 PM. **John Russell**, RIF Coordinator, is this month's special guest.

90th Anniversary Celebration: Kiwanis Club of Portland, ME, Saturday, April 21st, 6:00 PM, Sheraton Hotel, South Portland, ME, \$40 per person.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

New England Key Club District Convention: March 30-April 1, 2007, Springfield, MA

Kiwanis International Convention: July 3-7, 2007, San Antonio, TX

New England District Convention: August 16-19, 2007, Warwick, RI

DRAWINGS

March 7: **Helen Swenson**

March 14: **Rusty Ballestrini**