

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 PRIVATE ROOM, CLARKE CENTER
MITCHELL COLLEGE
437 PEQUOT AVE., NEW LONDON, CT 06320

CLUB OFFICERS 2008-2009

PRESIDENT: Captain Chris Sinnett, USCG **PRESIDENT-ELECT:** John Russell
VICE-PRESIDENT: Connie Potter **TREASURER:** Richard Cheatham
SECRETARY: Martin T. Olsen Jr. **IMM. PAST-PRES:** Thomas Moriarty
DIRECTORS (1 YEAR): Andrea Bell Kaiser, Mac Pope, Jim Sylvester
DIRECTORS (2 YEARS): LCDR Andrew Ely, USCG, Sherry Lombardi, Ted Nelson, Glenn Hamler

LEGION OF HONOR: John Kashanski (55), Frank Penny (39) and Gordon Jackson (37)
PAST LT. GOVERNORS: John Kashanski (1971-72), Frank Penny (1980-81), Gordon Jackson (1982-83), Martin T. Olsen Jr. (1996-97) and Valeda Grills (2004-06)
LIFE MEMBERS: Martin T. Olsen Jr., John Vincent and Frank Penny
HONORARY MEMBER: Helen McCartin
VICE PRESIDENT KIWANIS FOUNDATION OF NEW ENGLAND: Valeda Grills
PAST DISTINGUISHED GOVERNOR & DIRECTOR KFNE: Martin T. Olsen Jr.
DISTRICT CHAIR- MARKETING & BRANDING: Martin T. Olsen Jr.
LT. GOVERNOR DIVISION 23: Robert Grills

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SINNETT INSTALLED AS PRESIDENT FOR 2008-09
CHALLENGES CLUB ON GROWTH AND SERVICE



Over fifty members and guests attended the Installation of Officers and Directors at the Weller Center at Mitchell College on October 30th. The club was honored to have **Dick England** from the Kiwanis Club of Sandwich, MA and the Governor of the New England District of Kiwanis, and his lovely wife, **Jackie**, as special guests for the ceremony. Past Governor **Rick Miller** from the Kiwanis Club of Springfield, MA also attended with an interclub from Springfield. **Chip Gorra**, Past President of the New London club and now a member in Springfield, was the Master of Ceremonies. There were interclubs from the Kiwanis Clubs of New Haven, Springfield, MA, Greater Southeastern CT and Guilford/Shoreline. The Key Clubs from Fitch, Waterford, East Lyme, Montville and Lyme-Old Lyme High Schools were represented, including **Chelsea Chamberlain**, Lt. Governor for Division 29-A. Key Club Faculty Advisors **Roger Haynes**, Lyme-Old Lyme, and **Kim Glover**, Montville, also joined the celebration. The following club members were recognized for **Perfect Attendance** (in years): **Rich Cheatham** (1), **Robert Grills** (4), **Tom Moriarty** (4), **Valeda Grills** (8), **Ted Nelson** (10), **Mac Pope** (13), **Marty Olsen** (20) and **Gordon Jackson** (37). Immediate Past President **Tom Moriarty** was presented an **Outstanding President Plaque** and received his **KIF Hixson Medallion** that had been recognized at the District Convention this past summer. The following three members were

acknowledged as members of the **Legion of Honor** for a minimum of twenty-five years of service with Kiwanis: **John Kashanski** (55 years), **Frank Penny** (39 years) and in attendance, **Gordon Jackson** (37 years). Governor Dick inducted **Sam Christy**, sponsored by **Mac Pope**, and **Lt. Miriam Rader**, sponsored by **Marty Olsen**, into the club and welcomed **Connie Potter** and **Jim Sylvester** who transferred to the New London club from the Cincinnati, OH Riverfront club and Sandwich, MA club respectively. **Robert Grills**, Lt. Governor Division 23, retired the Kiwanis Club of New London's 2007-08 Officers and Directors and Installed the following 2008-2009 Directors- One Year: **Andrea Bell-Kaiser**, **Jim Sylvester** and **Mac Pope**; Two Years: **Ted Nelson**, **Sherry Lombardi**, **LCDR Andrew Ely**, **USCG**, and **Glenn Hamler**. **Governor Dick England** installed the 2008-2009 Kiwanis Club of New London Officers- President: **Captain Chris Sinnett**, **USCG**, President-elect: **John Russell**, Vice President: **Connie Potter**, Immediate Past President: **Tom Moriarty**, Treasurer: **Rich Cheatham** and Secretary: **Marty Olsen**. In his remarks, **President Chris** challenged the club to bring forth fifty names by mid-November to follow-up on for membership consideration and invitation. Chris asked everyone to seek out family, friends, neighbors, and business associates and to look for businesses and institutions not currently represented in the club to contact. He also offered a broad concept to the club to work in a collaborative way with other service clubs and agencies in the community to improve the New London public schools. He has already had a preliminary conversation with Dr. Chris Clouet, New London Superintendent of Schools. **Governor Dick** closed out the evening with a stirring talk outlining his three primary goals for the year: 1. Membership Growth, especially through New Club Building; 2. Support for the Kiwanis Foundation of New England and their signature programs the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute (KPTI) and the Hap Gerrish Registry; and 3. Change with an emphasis on evaluating district efficiency. Many thanks to **Rich Cheatham**, **Connie Potter** and **Sherry Lombardi** for coordinating the event along with **Tom Moriarty** for the pictorial slide show of club activities over the past year. Thanks also to **Bob Grills** for donating the wine at the tables. Front Page Photo of **President Chris** addressing the gathering submitted by **Rich Cheatham**.

ACTIONS OF THE BOARD

The Board of Directors took the following actions at their meeting on November 10th:

- ◆ Approved **\$250** for Kiwanis International Foundation Annual Club Gift
- ◆ Approved **\$250** for Kiwanis Foundation of New England Annual Club Gift
- ◆ Approved **\$250** for the Kente Cultural Center
- ◆ Approved **\$100** for the Neighborhood Alliance Adopt-A-Family holiday program

SEASONAL SERVICE WITH THE SALVATION ARMY

- ❖ **Thanksgiving Family Dinner:** Tuesday, November 25th, Volunteers will be needed at the Salvation Army located on Governor Winthrop Blvd. in New London between 4:30-6:00 PM. Club members are also asked to bring apple and pumpkin pies for dessert.
- ❖ **Christmas Program** with children from the **Salvation Army's Youth Program**, Wednesday, December 17th at the Officers club at the United States Coast Guard Academy at 12:15 PM. Club members are asked to adopt a child and buy an article of clothing as a primary gift. **Santa Claus** is expected to make an appearance.
- ❖ **Bell Ringing:** Saturday, December 20th, Crystal Mall, 9:00 AM-7:00 PM at the following entries- Charlie's Eating & Drinking Saloon, JC Penny and the Christmas Tree Shop. Club members will be needed to staff the three locations in two-hour shifts throughout the day.

INTERCLUBS

5. 11/10/08, Fitch High School Key Club: **Andrew Ely**, **Jack Russell**, **Bob Grills** and **Marty Olsen**
6. 11/12/08, Kiwanis Club of Glastonbury: **Connie Potter**, **Bob Grills**, **Valeda Grills** and **Jack Russell**
7. 11/13/08, New London HS Key Club: **Sam Christy**, **Mac Pope**, **Valeda Grills**, **Jack Russell** and **Marty Olsen**. Valeda graciously brought along pizza for the kids.

CHRISTMAS PARTY AT ANDREA'S

Andrea Bell Kaiser and her husband, **Michael**, will again open their home for a Christmas Party on Friday, December 12th, at 6:30 PM. The Kaiser's live at 171 Harland Rd. in Norwich. Last year's gathering was a smashing success!

NOVEMBER PROGRAMS

JOHN RUSSELL: CHAIR

November 19: **Mel Foti** will discuss the banking environment in these challenging economic times

November 26: **Steven Santangelo**, Executive Director of Covenant Shelter and Kiwanis Member will speak on the Children's Mentoring Program run by Covenant Shelter

PAST PROGRAMS



presents **Father Belt** with a club mug. Photo submitted by **Rich Cheatham**

Father Michel Belt addressed the club on November 5th. Father Belt is Rector at St James Episcopal Church in New London and President of the New London Rotary Club. He has been on the job seven and a half years and replaced Father William O. Gregg who was a member of our club. Belt gave a history of the church along an overview of youth programs and activities. He closed with a synopsis of the role the church is playing with the homeless in New London. **President Chris**



and/or Basic Skills. The biggest task for Gaynor is to develop that trust for the individuals in need to accept the challenge to return to school. A lifelong New Londoner and educator, Gaynor is the man to reach this population and give them hope. **Dan Gaynor** draws card from **President Chris**. Photo submitted by **Rich Cheatham**.

Dan Gaynor, former Director of New London Adult Education, spoke to the club on November 12th. Dan discussed a State Department of Education Program in Progress (PIP) Grant he has secured. The grant of \$25,000 in the non-traditional category is designed to engage local homeless, clients of SCADD, those with mental illness and those mentally challenged to return to school at New London Adult Education and achieve their GED, English as a Second Language (ESL)

ODDS AND ENDS

Club secretary **Marty Olsen** was contacted recently by **Carol Soule** who found the club via our website. Ms. Soule is the great-niece of **Colonel Henry Smith Dorsey** who was a Charter Member of our club. After talking to Marty, she dropped off his photo, obituary, club pin with four Perfect Attendance tabs, engraved Charter Member badge and Letter of Recognition from **1941 Kiwanis Governor Robert Pryde**. Although no current member remembers Colonel Dorsey, these historic momentos are greatly appreciated. Dorsey was born in 1866 and died in 1950.

2009 Scholarship Committee: **Glenn Hamler** (chair), **Rich Cheatham**, **Sherry Lombardi**, **Mac Pope**, **Valeda Grills** and **Jim Sylvester**

CALENDAR

- ❑ **Mid Winter Training Conference:** Holiday Inn, Mansfield, MA, March 6-8, 2009
- ❑ **Kiwanis International Convention:** Nashville, TN, June 25-28, 2009
- ❑ **New England Convention:** Crowne Plaza, Warwick, RI, August 14-16, 2009

DRAWINGS

November 5: **Paul Holden**

November 12: **Marty Olsen** donated \$6 to the *Kiwanis Club of New London NB King Scholarship Endowment*

WHAT IS KIWANIS?

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.