



NEWSLETTER

A note from the President

- *Frank Perrotti*

Greetings to all! The year is underway at full steam and I hope that you're sharing the same level of excitement as I am. As outlined at the first meeting on September 3rd we have an agenda this year that targets Social, Community Service, and Financial goals for the club and the Amity Charitable Trust. With the summer months now behind us we can look back on some very successful social events including two beautiful Wine Cruises in July, the Annual Family Picnic, and the Amity Golf Classic, both of which took place in August.

Looking ahead into the last quarter of the year we're focused on a busy month in October which will feature two membership meetings with guest speakers, Columbus Day activities, the first community service project for the year benefitting the East Haven Food Pantry, the Annual Wine Tasting event, and the Marine Corps Marathon to honor a local fallen soldier (President's Project). I would like to update you on the latter of those initiatives being that the effort has a potentially significant impact on the Amity Charitable Trust. The President's Project, more commonly referred to as the "Marine Corps Marathon to honor Eric Soufrine" has been widely embraced. Since unveiling the project, initially at the Past

Presidents meeting on August 24th, then at the first membership meeting on September 3rd, a growing number of our members have made donations and pledges. The information about the project is now propagating into the community through a number of media outlets, individuals, and businesses that are rallying behind us to make this a success. I'm very optimistic that we'll be able to contribute a substantial amount into the Trust. I ask that you continue to help us get the word out and seek out any level of support possible. At the same time I thank you for your support and want you to know that it is very much appreciated! In November we'll wrap up the President's Project and feature the highlights and results at a membership meeting. Also, please plan to join us on December 10th for the Annual Christmas Party. That will be the only time the membership will meet during the month of December.

At the Board level the Officers and Directors continue to discuss issues regarding membership (recruiting and retention), nurturing the relationship with the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce, and improved efficiency of key processes such as new member induction and the possibility of offering payment

options for annual dues and other Amity Club sponsored events.

On a final note I'd like to say that getting the year off smoothly generally requires an immense amount of planning and coordination which begins during the summer months. I would like to thank all of you who played a part in doing just that, from the Officers to the Board of Directors to the Chairmen of various Committees, and most importantly to the individuals who helped me out in numerous ways. There's no doubt that we're on the way to making this a banner year for our club – Thank you!

Amity Wine Tasting
Thursday October 17, 2013
 Anthony's Ocean View
 6:00 - 8:30 PM
 Tickets \$55.00
 Includes Wine & Italian
 Cuisine

Proceeds will benefit
 the Amity Charitable Trust
 and
 the Clifford Beers Clinic

For additional information
 please contact:
 Michael Maddelena
 203-623-3655





The Amity Club
of
New Haven, CT



Proudly Honors the Memory of Fallen Soldier

PFC Eric Soufrine KIA: 6/14/2011



Please support the memory of this local hero by sponsoring Amity Club President Frank Perrotti as he runs this year's 38th Annual Marine Corps Marathon in honor of PFC Eric Soufrine. The event will take place in Washington, D.C. on October 27, 2013. All donations will benefit the Eric Soufrine Memorial Scholarship Fund. The Amity Charitable Trust awards scholarships to college bound freshmen from the Greater New Haven area.

Please make checks payable to: **ACT/ Soufrine Fund**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Amount of Donation: \$ _____

Please mail form and checks to:
The Amity Charitable Trust
P.O. Box 4129
Yalesville, CT 06492

All donations are tax deductible

MEMBER NEWS

Larry DeNardis

The club is proud to recognize a monumental distinction for Mr. Larry DeNardis. The New Haven Register recently published an edition of The 125 Most Influential People In CT History, which included Mr. DeNardis amongst those listed. Larry has an extensive (lifelong) list of achievements in the areas of Community Service, Academia, and Politics. We proudly congratulate him on such a prestigious recognition.



Celebrate Columbus Day!

Amity Brother, Chris Candido, Reflects on Aiding Storm Sandy Victims

- Michael Maddelena

One year ago, on October 29th, Storm Sandy made landfall in the northeast. One year ago, eight year Amity Club member and owner of Temple Grill, Chris Candido and a group of friends made a direct impact on many lives at the epicenter of the storm.

On Wednesday October 31st, Chris Candido was asked by a friend to collect donations to help storm victims in Staten Island. That friend's parents, the father of which was a retired firefighter, lived in Staten Island and expressed the

12 **MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE** | NEW HAVEN REGISTER

GOP CONGRESSMAN



Lawrence DeNardis

DeNardis was born in New Haven 1938, the city he dedicated his life to serving. In 1980 he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, defeating Joe Lieberman for the contested seat. In Congress he was known as a moderate Republican.

In 1984 DeNardis was appointed an assistant secretary position in the Reagan administration, and in 1991 he came to the University of New Haven to serve as president.

— Kristen Mitchell

need. Immediately, Chris and his friends asked for donations. What started with a few emails, text messages and a posting on Facebook grew to a significant undertaking.

Food, clothing and medical treatment was present immediately after the storm. The retired firefighter advised on the specific needs for his community, in response, Chris and his friends aimed to fill these needs. The donations started to arrive. Cash, hygiene and cleaning supplies, baby food, toys, and much more were being collected. Chris was amazed by the generosity of the greater New Haven Community. By the hour, Chris and his friends' efforts evolved into a mission while the victims simply tried to survive.

Continued from page 3

Amity Brother Reflects on Aiding Storm Sandy Victims

As Chris explained, a 20 year neighborly feud between the retired firefighter and a local pastor ended when the pastor offered his firefighter neighbor a power supply line from his generator. The retired firefighter accepted and quickly obliged by asking if the pastor's parish needed help.

The Pastor accepted. Chris and friends were now directed to the Pastor's parish in the New Dorp neighborhood. Chris was amazed at how such a diverse community consolidated to help one another in the wake of the storm.

Friday arrived. Chris and his friends loaded two pickup trucks with donations. They used some of the cash donations to purchase gasoline to supply generators. Meanwhile, as they loaded the trucks, more donations poured in. They quickly realized that they needed another vehicle. They reached out to another friend who donated a box truck from his business. That Saturday morning, five days after Sandy's landfall, the convoy of two pickup trucks, a box truck and four volunteers departed from New Haven for Staten Island.

Hours later, and as Chris stated with a guiding hand from God, they slowly weaved their way through blockades and police stops as the convoy made its way to New Dorp. Upon arrival, Chris said they were approached by two mothers with babies. The mothers asked for food to feed their hungry children. Being well prepared, the mothers were



Chris Candido and his friends on Staten Island after storm Sandy.

thrilled to receive baby food. Victims were excited to receive the gasoline to fuel the many generators powering refrigerators, tools, computers, etc. In high demand, large trash bags were used to dispose personal belongings. Chris and his friends helped a woman empty her home of its damaged contents including appliances, clothing, etc. All of these personal belongings were placed along the street and removed by city garbage trucks.

As they cleaned out the woman's home, they noticed her blotting dry a few family photographs that she had found among the mess. Chris realized that Storm Sandy destroyed even the most sentimental personal treasures.

Chris explained the devastation was overwhelming; much worse than that portrayed on the news. The area annihilated by the storm was some 40 blocks wide and 15 blocks deep. He remembers seeing cars strewn everywhere. Cars were found on porches, on their sides in the street, and upside down in ditches. He was amazed that waves hit second floors of homes some eight blocks from the shore.

What was most moving to Chris, was the tremendous response for donations by so many friends and strangers. The generous outpouring quickly responded to the immediate needs of Sandy's victims. Chris feels that the donors were encouraged to help knowing that the donations were being brought directly to those in need and not to some intermediary. The response was so great, that Chris and his friends made a second trip to Staten Island on the following Saturday. Overall, they had delivered some \$10,000 in cash and product donations.

As Chris shared his story, you could feel the fulfillment in his voice. To this day, Chris is still in touch with some of the families that he and his friends helped. These families continue to express their appreciation of the assistance and aid received from a few guys from New Haven that simply wanted to help. We should all be proud that one of these guys, Chris Candido, is an Amity brother who exalted the virtues that continue to form the legacy of the Amity Club.

AMITY CLUB SUMMER EVENTS

THE AMITY CLUB 30TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC

- Dom Twohill

The Amity Club's 30th annual golf classic was played at the Wallingford country club on August 5, 2013. One hundred and twenty four golfers participated in what has to become one of the premier golf tournaments in the area. The Aldo Di Dominicus foundation once again served as the presenting sponsor.

Winning foursomes were: Bob Simeone, Bill Simeone III, Brian Klanica, and Brian Looney, first place; Jason Rossicone, Marty Kelueher, Scott DeFilo and Peter Bennett, second place; Geoff Twohill, Frank Papalz, Dom Cretella, and Mike Cretella, third place.

In addition to the great weather and great course, the golfers enjoyed coffee and donuts at registration, a buffet luncheon, refreshments and fresh fruit on the course, and a clam bar and hot dogs at the turn. A cocktail hour and raw bar preceded a prime rim rib dinner. Each golfer also received a gift.

The Amity club golf classic is staged specifically to benefit the Amity Charitable Trust. Net proceeds from the 2013 event were \$27,500.

For the first time in 30 years, the winner of the drawing for the 50-50 hole, Jack McGuire, donated his winnings (\$290) to ACT to honor long time Amity members Bob Conti and Bob Idarola.

A special thank you to all our special sponsors and prize donors, and particularly to the Amity members who gave their time and efforts on the day of the tournament.

Our 31st annual golf classic has been scheduled for Monday, August 4, 2014. As additional members step up to garner sponsorships from their suppliers, business contacts, friends etc., we aim to surpass our all-time high of \$33,500! If you would like to help call Don Twohill at (203) 265-1289.

THE AMITY CLUB PICNIC

- Bill Parisi



Mike Vastarelli

The Amity Club Family Picnic was held on August 3rd. Despite the day starting with rain, by the time guests arrived the sky cleared and the weather turned delightful.

This year's venue was the picturesque Clear Lake in North Branford which provided swimming from a sandy beach, boating, and fishing. The adjoining grassy picnic area provided more than ample room for bocce, horseshoes, frisbee, games of catch, lounging, and socializing. Under a large tent guests found plenty of tables to sit at while they enjoyed great food. In addition to the hamburgers, hot dogs, & sausage patties served continuously all day, guests enjoyed clams, mussels, corn on the cob, and a wide variety of side dishes & salads. To help wash all this down, cold beer, soda, water, juice, & wine were on hand. Rounding out the day...and bellies, a late afternoon supper was served

to rave reviews. It included pasta, homemade sauce & meatballs, grilled ring sausage, and fresh sliced Italian bread. Burgers and dogs were still coming off the grill as well. Guests continued to enjoy the music and each others company while indulging in desserts, coffee, and wine as the last few hours slipped by. Indeed, a great day was had by all.

The Picnic Committee thanks all who attended with a special thanks to those who donated food items and labor. The success of the day was made in large part by your generosity. We hope to see everyone again next year.

THE AMITY CLUB WINE TASTING CRUISES

- Tony Pinto

Our first cruise of the summer departed on Friday, July 19 from Stony Creek marina in Branford. Members and their guests were treated to a wonderful night of food, fun and wine. We were pleased that Bonnie Nather from Eder Brothers, Inc. and Lisa Panteleakos from Coastal Wine Brands, were on board to give some insight about the wines that they represent. Cruising by the Thimble islands, we were in good hands with Captain Brian in charge of the boat, as we enjoyed a beautiful sunset. Nothing could have been finer. Tony supplied the cigars, along with the Italian pastries, chilled Van Gogh Double Espresso and Caramel Vodka to end a perfect evening. Our second cruise was on Wednesday, July 31st. The weather was a little unstable during the day, but by cruising time, it turned nice -although it was quite humid.

Again, we were fortunate to have on board Jordan Ross from Pasternack Imports.

Jordan has a degree in Enology from University of California at Davis and has established himself as a writer and photojournalist for the wine industry. Jordan brought us pieces of an oak barrel as he discussed the different types of barrels and their effect on wines. As always, we had a bountiful buffet catered by Anthony's of Guilford; Lasagna, Chicken Florentine, Stuffed Pork Loin, Stuffed Filet of Sole, Stuffed Breads, etc. No one returned home hungry.

Again, Captain Brian took us on a wonderful 2 ½ hour cruise of the Thimble Islands, cruising up Long Island sound to Guilford. We all went to the upper deck to enjoy the beautiful night as we enjoyed our Italian pastries with Paul Cheneau Cava. What a great combo, dessert with bubbly. Until next year.....

IN MEMORIAM

Casper Amodio - Member from 1977 to 2013
Dominic Galardi - Member from 1985 to 2013



Do you have a story?

If you have a story or an idea to share with the Club, please contact us at: newsletter@amityclub.org

The Newsletter Committee:

Thomas Ciesco, Dennis Flanders, Anthony Pinto, and Dom Twohill

- Calendar -
Up Coming Events

October 12th, 2013

Wreath Ceremony

October 13th, 2013

Columbus Day Parade

October 17th, 2013

Amity Wine Tasting
 Anthony's Ocean View
 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

October 27th, 2013

Marine Corps Marathon
 (Presidents Project)



Congratulations!

on the marriage of

Vincenzo and Vanessa Gallo

On the birth of

Francesca, born June 15th to
Frank and Veronica D'Andrea

Anna Grace, born July 12th to
Joe and Lilliana Pesticci

Zephyrus Michael Lenz, 1st Grandson
 born September 26th to
Frank and Barbara Perrotti



Happy Thanksgiving!