



EAST HAMPTON ROTARY CLUB
THE BELL

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**DIGGING UP THE PAST:
DR. NICHOLAS BELLANTONI,
CONNECTICUT STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST**



Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni knows where Connecticut's secrets are buried, and he's got the tools and the know-how to dig them up. Bellantoni, Connecticut State Archaeologist and Adjunct Faculty in UConn's Anthropology Department, has been involved in archaeological sites all over the state, including an environmental impact survey that unearthed 5000-year-old Native American campsites on the periphery of Lake Pocotopaug in the 1980's. Dr. Bellantoni, educated at Central Connecticut State University and University of Connecticut, is often called upon by local municipalities and agencies to help solve historical mysteries:

Who was Dr. Joseph Peters?

Joseph Peters was a physician who died in the 1740's, a Tory loyal to the Crown, hastily buried after succumbing to smallpox during a local outbreak. His remains, marked by a tombstone in a wooded area off Route 66, were returned to his family in Hebron after an investigation by Nick Bellantoni.

Whose skeletal remains were uncovered at Yale last summer?

The wooden coffins and skeletal remains of four individuals were uncovered during a construction project last July at Yale-New Haven Hospital. Working with Yale University, Dr. Bellantoni determined that the remains were likely those of parishioners of Christ Church, active during the early 1800's. Through modern forensics techniques, including DNA analysis, the team tried to determine whether the deceased were related, whether identities could be established. "Common people, lost in history," said Bellantoni,

who was gratified that the remains were at last restored to their proper place in a modern Roman Catholic cemetery.

To which Native American community does the skeleton in Branford belong?

Tropical Storm Irene eroded dunes and even paved roads on the Connecticut shoreline last August. When FEMA arrived at the mouth of the Branford River, they discovered skeletal remains. Dr. Bellantoni was called in

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East Hampton Rotary President Barbara Moore presents Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni with the traditional Belltown bell.

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**The
Four Way
Test**

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

**MAKE UP AT ANY
ROTARY CLUB**

MONDAY

7:00 AM NORWICH
SUNRISE COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT
(860) 889-1886
12:15 PM HARTFORD
HARTFORD CLUB
(860) 522-1271
12:15 PM WEST HARTFORD
POND HOUSE CAFE
(860) 231-8823
6:00 PM GLASTONBURY
THE GALLERY
(860) 659-2656

TUESDAY

12:00 PM WILLIMANTIC
ANGELINOS MANSFIELD
(860) 455-6973
7:30 AM BERLIN/KENSINGTON
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
(860) 829-1033
12:15 PM BLOOMFIELD
WINTONBURY HILLS COUNTRY CLUB
(860) 242-1401
12:15 PM FARMINGTON
APRICOTS RESTAURANT
(860) 673-5405
6:00 PM MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER COUNTRY CLUB
(860) 646-0103

WEDNESDAY

12:00 PM EAST HARTFORD
VETERAN'S MEMORIAL CLUBHOUSE
(203) 644-1945
12:15 PM NEWINGTON
INDIAN HILLS COUNTRY CLUB
(860) 665-7817

THURSDAY

7:15 AM SIMSBURY-GRANBY
HOPMEADOW COUNTRY CLUB
(860) 658-7623
7:30 AM WINDSOR-WINDSOR
LOCKS
RAMADA INN
(860) 623-9494
12:15 PM NEW BRITAIN
YMCA
(860) 229-3787
6:00 PM EAST HADDAM
GELSTON HOUSE
(860) 537-6070

FRIDAY

7:00 AM STONINGTON
WATER ST, #7 STONINGTON COM-
MONS
(860) 536-7754
7:30 AM AVON/CANTON
AVON OLD FARMS HOTEL
(860)677-1651

THE MEETING

President Barbara Moore presided
Pledge of Allegiance
My Country 'tis of Thee
Blessing by Fred Hansen

Rotarians 36
Guest Rotarians 0
Guests 7

This evening's meeting was attended by representatives of East Hampton High School Senior Class. This week and next week, members have a chance to enter the Superbowl Pool.



Above: Jack Solomon introduces our guest speaker, Nick Bellantoni

Below: Molly Maturo, Will Lambert, Jeff Fidler, Amanda Wright, Ross and Caleb Gates

**THIS DAY IN EAST
HAMPTON ROTARY
HISTORY**

1951

"Tonight's Speaker: State Representative Harold Blankenbiller, owner of the Witch Hazel Factory and Oil Well Driller"

Thanks to Dave Shulman!

Rotary Foundation

Donation cards available

See Carolyn Bernardo

"Remember the Rotary Foundation in your will"

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REMINDER

Rotary Dues for
2011-12
are now due

Please see Ted Hintz, Jr.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Superbowl Pool Fundraiser
Jan 25 and Feb 1

Rotary Scholar—Guatemala
Sarah Guaraglia
February 1

Environmental, Health and Safety Compliance for Individuals
Mark Morgano
February 8

Sweetheart Night at Rotary
Bring your sweetheart to hear the speaker
February 15

European Financial Crisis
Prof. Peter Rutland (Wesleyan)
February 15

East Hampton High School
John Fidler, Principal
February 22

Radiologic Technology
Linda Visintainer
February 29

Education in Thailand
Judy Golden
March 7

Irish Night at VFW
With Colchester Rotary
March 14

Connecticut Food Bank
Janet Kniffin
March 21

Special Education
Roy Leonardi
March 28

East Hampton Rotary 2012-13
Barbara Moore
April 18

The Big Smoke
June 7

Installation of Officers
St. Clements Castle
June 27

Please let Jack Solomon know of any prospective speakers you may know or want to hear.



SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

FINES

Gladys Yeager-Griswold collected fines for missing pins and jeans. Gladys, George Pfaffenbach, Alan Hurst (for Gail Hamm) and Red McKinney paid fines for appearing in the newspaper.

SAD DOLLARS

Jen Day was sad about having to put her dog down last week. Fred Hansen was sad that Pat Cascio is going through a difficult time with her health. Larry Levy was sad about the passing of Joe Paterno.

HAPPY DOLLARS

Gladys was happy that her daughter had received a clean bill of health. Alan Hurst was happy about the donation given by Bill Devine to the veterans. Also, he was happy about Owen's Western Night, but sad that he had been unable to attend.

Alan was also happy about the international training he attended last week. He was one of only 34 people chosen, and described it as a "phenomenal experience."

Jack Solomon was happy about the speaker, Nick Bellantoni.

Barbara Moore was happy for the six high school students in attendance. Jerry Day was happy about the upcoming Superbowl between the Giants and the Patriots.

Student Molly Maturo was thankful to have been invited to the meeting. Carolyn Bernardo was happy about Owen's Western Night, and proud of her granddaughter, who works with children who have brain diseases.

Tom Ziemba was happy to have the high school students as guests. Dave Shulman was happy for Larry Levy and Stew

Danziger that paperclips would be on sale this week.

Mimi Perrotti, Tom Sweeney and Delores Morgano were happy about the great food at Owen's Western Night.

Gladys was glad that George had found his clipboard in his car. Owen Flannery was \$5 happy that everyone had had such a great time and that all had made it home safe.

Alan paid \$1 for every Eagle Scout in the room, which included students Ross and Caleb Gates.

Photos by Tom Sweeney and Mimi Perrotti

CT STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST (CON'T.)

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to help determine which Native American community should claim the remains.

Where was the site of Eugene Bradley's plane crash?

Working in conjunction with the New England Air Museum, and using archaeological techniques — gathering oral histories, taking aerial photos, using ground-penetrating radar, taking and analyzing soil samples — Dr. Bellantoni's team were able to determine the exact location of the crash of Lt. Eugene Bradley in August, 1941. Bradley was the first pilot killed at the one-time air base in Windsor Locks that now bears his name. For more information, see the November 26, 2010 article

in the New Haven Register:

Read "[Crash Site of Bradley Airport's Namesake Pinpointed](#)"

Wearing Many Hats

In addition to solving these and other mysteries, Nick Bellantoni's research helps our local community fill in countless other gaps in our rich and ancient history: from the Ice Age migration of Native Americans into Connecticut, to the formation of Lake Pocotopaug itself, through the era of grasslands, reindeer and mastodons, and into the recent past of water-powered industries and shipbuilding.

While it is startling to hear the term "ruins" applied to sites found in our own backyards, we must

remember that it was the housing boom in the 1980's that created our need for scientists like Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni in the first place.

Check out Dr. Bellantoni on the History Channel's "Mystery Quest," a program that dispatches "teams of experts throughout the world to try to solve some of mankind's strangest and most persistent mysteries." The episode featuring Dr. Bellantoni, "Hitler's Escape," investigates what became of Adolph Hitler's remains following the end of World War II:

Watch "[Hitler's Escape](#)"



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alan Hurst reported on his recent trip to San Diego, California January 10-21, where he met with 33 other Rotary International Training Leaders from all over the world. Alan brought back a Rotary banner from a club in Northern Ireland. For more details on Alan's trip, see next week's Bell.

Barbara reminded that this year's Invention Convention will be held Wednesday, February 1. The Rotary has signed up 17 volunteer judges for the event.

A card from Linda Wallace, Secretary of the East Hampton Veterans Memorial Committee, was passed around thanking the Rotary for its donation to the Veterans Memorial fund.

Larry Levy kicked off the Superbowl Pool, which will raise money for polio. As in other years, this pool will be a 50/50: half of the pot will go to the winners, half to polio. Members voted for four quarter winners instead of one game winner.