



President's Perspective

Don Gibson – Summer 2010

As I complete my initial term as President, I reflect on the progress we have made on a goal near and dear to my heart - collaboration among downtown organizations.

Our website continues to draw an ever-growing audience with events and news articles featuring downtown businesses. I hope you have become familiar with the community calendar and use it, as I do, to make plans for the week. Go to www.newlondonwaterfrontdistrict.org, and follow the user-friendly process to submit an event in The District or use one of the coupons posted by a downtown business.

We continue to promote all The District has to offer through *This Week in New London*, and we played an important role in promoting *Parade Parade*, the City's rededication of the newly designed public space.

Our internship program has taken off through relationship cultivation with colleges and high schools in our community. Interns have proven to be key contributors in virtually all we do! Recruiting volunteers for Hygienic events has been a successful partnership, and we often refer volunteers to other organizations to assist as well.

The Big Picture, our annual community photo shoot, was taken this year in front of the Garde Arts Center by photographer Vinnie Scarano. The photo was selected for the cover of CT Main Street's 2010 brochure.

Our Annual Meeting was held at the historic Lyric Hall, currently under renovation – an opportunity to showcase another downtown jewel.

Have our efforts and initiatives to collaborate been successful? You decide!

I welcome an energetic and visionary group to the Board of Directors this month. We have much work to do in the collaboration arena, and I look forward to having fun while rolling up our sleeves. Together, we are making a difference. See you downtown!