

Rotary Motto

*Service Above Self*

4-Way Test

*Of the things we think, say or do:*

*Is it the truth?*

*Is it fair to all concerned?*

*Will it build goodwill and better friendship?*

*Will it be beneficial to all concerned?*

Avenues of Service

*Club Service*

*Vocational Service*

*Community Service*

*International Service*

*Youth Service*

# ROTARY NOTES

## FEBRUARY 18, 2026

A publication of the Rotary Club of Warren

ASSIGNMENTS

GREETERS & REGISTRATION

February, 2026 - Ray Sinchak

March, 2026 - Ray Sinchak

April, 2026 - Ray Sinchack

INVOCATION

February, 2026 - Judy Masaki

March, 2026 - Ted Stazak

April, 2026 - Judy Masaki

FELLOWSHIP (1st & 3rd Wednesdays)

March 4 & 18, 2026 - Christine Cope

April 1 & 15, 2026 - Judy Masaki

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT (2nd Wednesday)

March 11, 2026 - Lauren Kramer

April 8, 2026 - Robin Martorana

MAGAZINE REPORT (4th Wednesday)

February 25, 2026 - Judy Masaki

March 25, 2026 - Christine Cope

April 22, 2026 - Judy Masaki

SPEAKERS

2/25/26 - The Wolves Club of Trumbull County

3/4/26 - Tour at Clover Recycling

3/11/26 - To Be Announced

3/18/26 - Kristen Taylor, Abilities Unite Foundation of the Mahoning Valley

3/25/26 - To Be Announced

Areas of Focus

Peace & Conflict  
Prevention/  
Resolution

Disease Prevention &  
Treatment

Water & Sanitation

Maternal & Child Health

Basic Education &  
Literacy

Economic & Community  
Development

The Environment

Club Officers

President  
Tony Iannucci

President-Elect  
Alicia Adams-Angelo

Vice-President  
Meghan Reed

Secretary  
Judy Masaki

Treasurer  
Cheryl Oblinger

Past-President  
Cindy Matheson

Board Members

Mike Bollas  
Eric Knoth  
Lauren Kramer  
Robin Martorana  
Marilyn Pape  
John Perdue  
Ray Thomas



*God, Creator of the Universe,  
We acknowledge Your love, even in a world torn by strife and discord.  
We pray that enemies may begin to engage in dialogue,  
That adversaries may shake hands,  
And that people may encounter one another in harmony.  
May all commit themselves to the sincere search for true peace which will extinguish all  
arguments,  
For charity which overcomes hatred,  
And for pardon which disarms revenge.  
Lord, make us an instrument of Your peace.  
Amen.*

*(Offered by Judy Masaki)*

Rotary Club of Warren  
Foundation Board

*President  
Ted Stazak*

*Vice-President  
Meghan Reed*

*Secretary  
Judy Masaki*

*Treasurer  
Cheryl Oblinger*

*Andy Bednar  
Tony Iannucci  
Denise May  
Kim Straniak*

Contact us at:  
*Rotary Club of Warren  
P.O. Box 68  
Warren, OH 44482*

Our Website:  
[www.Warrenrotary.org](http://www.Warrenrotary.org)

*If you have any  
suggestions about our  
newsletter, or if you  
would like to become a  
sponsor, please  
contact:*

*Judy Masaki*



This week, Warren Rotarians welcomed visiting Cortland Rotarian Rich McGafferty and Ken LaPolla's son, John, who is the Founder and CEO of MarkIt. Ray Sinchack then stepped up to tell all present another of his entertaining stories.

One of the most prestigious awards is the Nobel Prize. Sheldon from *The Big Bang Theory* was in awe of this prize. Isaac Newton, Albert Einstein, Edwin Hubble, and Stephen Hawking were among the mathematicians and scientists who earned recognition in their fields. Yet, there were two men who, if asked, would tell you that they did not know what they did to win the Nobel Prize.

In 1978, Robert Woodrow Wilson and Arno Penzias shared the Nobel Prize in Physics for their discovery of cosmic microwave background radiation. Here's how it came about. In the mid 1960s, the two men obtained a grant to test and experiment with the Holmdel Horn Antenna, a radio telescope at Bell Labs in New Jersey. However, during testing, they kept hearing a hum which they couldn't explain. After scrubbing and polishing the telescope, removing all potential sources of the noise, they consulted an Astrophysicist, Frank Dicke from Princeton University. Dicke was an early believer in the theory that the universe began with a sudden burst and argued that a microwave echo of that event was still resonating. Dicke and his team were building a radio antenna to test his theory. When Arno Penzias and Robert Wilson told Dicke about the hum they were hearing, Dicke knew that they had discovered the Big Bang radiation echo! Since Nobel Prizes were only given for discoveries, not interpretations, Penzias and Wilson received the award.

Incidentally, 1% of the static or "snow" on analog televisions is caused by cosmic background radiation, the afterglow from the Big Bang.

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**MANY THANKS TO THE WARREN FAMILY MISSION** for hosting our February 11th meeting. If you would like to help out the Mission, they are asking for donations of the following items for their free Community Easter Dinner on April 3rd from Noon until 2:00 p.m.: Easter baskets; Easter grass; candy; small boys and girls toys; crayons and coloring books; Cellophane for wrapping; hams; canned green beans, corn, cream of mushroom soup, and pineapple; boxes of stuffing and mashed potatoes; gravy; Hawaiian rolls; and desserts. Donations are needed by March 20th and can be dropped off at the Warren Family Mission's main outreach center (155 Tod Ave. NW, Warren, OH, 44485). For more information, call (330) 394-5437.

**ROTARY FOR READING 2026:** Dolly Parton's Imagination Library provides free books to children under age 5, and The Trumbull County United Way is an affiliate of this program. Ohio Rotarians are taking this on as a fundraising project this year in order to make reading accessible, impactful and exciting for our children. You can support this fundraiser in several ways. First, attend a fundraising event for the project on February 26, 2026 at the Eastwood Event Centre. A Night Out with Dolly will feature trivia, bingo, a Dolly Parton impersonator, and performances by the Senior Showcase. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and cost is \$60 per person/\$480 per table. Register for the event at [www.unitedwaytrumbull.org](http://www.unitedwaytrumbull.org). You can also donate through Warren Rotary and provide books to children in Trumbull County. If you donate through District 6650, donations will be split among multiple counties. A \$31 donation covers enough books for one month! Any club member who donates \$31 will receive free admission to the Night Out with Dolly event. If a club donation is made, it will be considered a sponsorship for

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the event. Rotarians can donate in three ways:

1. You can mail a check to: Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio, PO Box 340734, Columbus, OH 43234. Note "Rotary" in the memo line and specify whether your donation should be allocated to the district or the club.
2. Donate online at: [GiveButter.com/OhioRotary](https://GiveButter.com/OhioRotary)
3. Text to Donate: Text Rotary4Reading to 53-555

Please send in donations before March 14th!! Contact Christine Cope with any questions.

**SAVE THE DATE:** There will be no meeting at Trumbull Country Club on March 4th. Instead, we will be touring Clover Recycling that day. Stay tuned for more details.

**THE CHARITABLE PROJECTS COMMITTEE** will meet on Wednesday, March 11th, at 11:30 a.m., prior to our weekly club meeting at Trumbull Country Club.

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN BOARD OF DIRECTORS** will hold its next meeting on Thursday, March 12th, at Leo's Ristorante. Fellowship, hosted by Alicia Adams-Angelo, will begin at 5:30 p.m., with the business meeting to follow at 6:00 p.m.

**THE ALL-OHIO P.E.L.S. (THE PRESIDENT-ELECT LEARNING SEMINAR)**, formerly known as P.E.T.S., will be held on March 13th and 14th at The Renaissance Columbus Downtown Hotel. Those who are attending should register as soon as possible, as a \$50 late fee will go into effect beginning March 1st!! In addition, the reservation deadline for your hotel room at a special rate is February 23rd. Please note that the hotel reservation is separate from the seminar registration. Visit [allohiopets.org](https://allohiopets.org) for more information and to register.

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN FOUNDATION BOARD OF ADMINISTRATORS** will meet on Wednesday, March 18th, at 11:30 a.m., prior to our weekly club meeting.

**THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE** will meet on Wednesday, March 18th, at 1:00 p.m. to review applications, immediately following our club meeting.

**SATELLITE CLUB NEWS:** The mixer originally scheduled for 3/24/26 at CharBenay's Wine on the River has been moved to Thursday, March 26th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Charbenay's.

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**ANNUAL CLUB AWARDS:** The Rotary Club of Warren Board of Directors is now taking nominations for our annual Lester R. Stauffer Community Service Award and Distinguished Rotarian. The Les Stauffer Award is presented to a non-Rotarian for his or her outstanding volunteer service (NOT vocational success or prominence) rendered to our community. The Board of Directors chooses a non-board member to be the club's Distinguished Rotarian each year, based on his or her contributions to Rotary, whether it be The Rotary Club of Warren, District 6650, or Rotary International. If you would like to suggest names of individuals for these awards, please put your nomination in writing to President Tony Iannucci ([iannuccivilla@gmail.com](mailto:iannuccivilla@gmail.com)) no later than March 6th, indicating why he or she is deserving of the award.

**FUNDRAISER NEWS:** This year's River Duck Festival will be combined with a new event to raise funds for Warren Rotary! The River Duck Festival will be held on Sunday, June 28th. About a week later, The Rotary Club of Warren will co-sponsor the July 4th Scrapper's Game and Fireworks at Eastwood Field. The Scrapers have created a fundraising package for us, including proceeds from an in-person and online auction of game jersey's with Warren Rotary's logo and a logo for the 250th Anniversary of the U.S.A. We will secure sponsorships for both the River Duck Festival and the Scrapper's Game. The beneficiaries for the event are: The Salvation Army, Healthy Hearts & Paws/ARC, Disabled American Veteran Trumbull County Chapter 11, and The Warren family Mission.

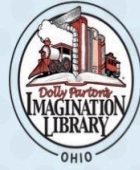
**THE PAINTING SERVICE PROJECT AT CHILDREN'S REHABILITATION CENTER** will continue on Saturday, March 14th and Saturday, March 21st, at 10:00 a.m.

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF CHAMPION'S ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST** will be held on March 14th at Champion Presbyterian Church (4997 Mahoning Ave., Warren, OH) from 8 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. The event supported the local Rotary club's community initiatives. Plan to attend the breakfast early and then help out at our own club's painting service project afterwards!

**THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN PEACEBUILDING COMMITTEE** is planning a "Chess Pieces for Peace" event, including chess games and cultural food. The committee is looking for more members to join their committee and assist with planning the event. Contact Ray Thomas if you are willing to help out.

**CAREER DAY** will be held on April 29th from 8 to 11 a.m. at Kennedy Catholic High School. Let Tony Iannucci know if you are able to participate and share knowledge about your vocation with students.

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## Rotary for Reading 2026

MAKING READING ACCESSIBLE, IMPACTFUL, AND EXCITING FOR OHIO CHILDREN!



Designate your donation to support children in your community!

### THREE WAYS TO SUPPORT

#### YOUR DISTRICT: 6650

Donations will be split to provide books to children in multiple counties across your district.



#### YOUR CLUB: WARREN

Donations will provide books to children in the county where your club is located.



#### MAIL A CHECK

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Ohio  
P.O. Box 340734, Columbus, Ohio 43234

*In the memo line, please notate Rotary and specify which District or County your donation should be allocated to.*

**THANK YOU FOR FOSTERING A LOVE OF  
READING IN OHIO'S CHILDREN!**

Give Online: [Givebutter.com/OhioRotary](https://Givebutter.com/OhioRotary)  
Learn More: [OhioImaginationLibrary.org](https://OhioImaginationLibrary.org)

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Marilyn Pape was born and raised in Girard, Ohio. She was one of four children raised by amazing parents who provided their family with love, shelter and compassion.

Marilyn earned a degree in Criminal Justice at Youngstown State University with hopes of pursuing a career in law enforcement and probation. She submitted resumes to many organizations in the social service sector and landed her first job as Director of a group home in Austintown, working with teenage girls. She then became employed as a caseworker with Trumbull County CSB.

Marilyn stated that she fell in love with the organization's mission, and has moved through the ranks as a supervisor, manager, and currently Executive Director.

Marilyn married her husband Joe 32 years ago. The two met at CSB, where they both worked as caseworkers at the time. On her third day on the job, Marilyn, her boss, and Joe met with clients in the same house. Joe's client was quite uncooperative and the police had to get involved. The father of Joe's client punched Marilyn's boss during an altercation, but the incident didn't scare Marilyn away! She has enjoyed a 40 year career with CSB.

Today, Joe and Marilyn reside on a farm in West middlesex, PA. They raised three children together. Their 32 year old son is a traveling nurse. Their 29 year old daughter is married, and their youngest daughter, aged 22 years, is finishing up her Master's Degree in Accounting. Marilyn lovingly cares for her husband, who has been diagnosed with MS. Joe and Marilyn are patiently waiting for grandchildren!



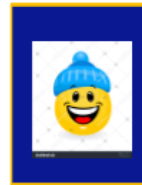
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TRIPLE JACKPOT



This week, the Grand Jackpot totaled \$123.  
Congratulations to Cindy Matheson for winning the Grand Jackpot!!

HAPPY BUCKS



\*\*\* **Ken LaPolla** was happy to have his son with him at the meeting. They recently spent some time together skiing in Park City.

\*\*\* **Cindy Matheson** enjoyed participating in the Dictionary Project. She thanked Alicia Adams-Angelo for her creativity and work on the River Duck Festival/Scrapper's flyer. She is also happy that a friend is doing well after undergoing a heart catheterization.

\*\*\* **Julia Wetstein** reported that she left a \$5 tip for the guys at Warren Family Mission who helped clean up after our meeting. They returned the money! Julia appreciated their hard work.

\*\*\* **Tony Iannucci** is planning a family trip to Italy in June!