

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 25, 2026

A publication of the Rotary Club of Warren

ASSIGNMENTS

GREETERS & REGISTRATION

March, 2026 - Ray Sinchak

April, 2026 - Ray Sinchack

INVOCATION

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)

March 25, 2026 - Christine Cope

April 22, 2026 - Judy Masaki

SPEAKERS

3/4/26 - Tour at Clover Recycling

3/11/26 - Healthy Hearts & Paws

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

3/25/26 - Tour at The Salvation Army

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



Brothers and Sisters in Rotary,

Whatever is true and honorable,

Just and pure,

Lovely and gracious,

And if there is any excellence and anything worthy of praise,

Think about these things,

And let them govern your actions.

Then the God of Peace will be with you.

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

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

Judy Masaki

MAGAZINE REPORT

By
Judy Masaki



Today, I bring you the February 2026 Magazine Report. This month's issue of Rotary has many good articles about topics like: Watchmaking as a career; enhancing membership retention & engagement by conducting satisfaction surveys; mental health initiatives; a Peace Fellow who helps refugees land jobs; a fundraiser in Colorado based on snow melt; & the eight pillars of positive peace. I chose to focus on three other articles about peace.

First, at last month's International Assembly, President-Elect Yinka Hakeem Babalola from Nigeria called on all Rotarians to live out our presidential message for the 2026 - 2027 Rotary Year, which is: Create Lasting Impact. Our current RI President reflected on this by saying that, as we observe Peacebuilding & Conflict Resolution Month, we need to channel Yinka's call to action into real change. He said that peace isn't just the absence of war. Rather, peace requires liberty, opportunity, & respect for human dignity. Fear of change and of people who we don't understand blocks our path to peace, but knowledge is the first step toward peace because it builds trust and helps us find solutions to conflict. So,

W
A
R
R
E
N
N
R
O
T
A
R
Y

Rotarians are encouraged to take three steps:

1. Learn from experts in our organization.
2. Apply a peacebuilding lens to community assessments.
3. Prioritize impact over ceremony.

The article emphasized that Rotary cannot be satisfied with half-measures and empty words. How we act defines who we are individually, in our communities, & across the globe.

Father Ray Thomas mentioned that our Peacebuilding Committee is planning a chess event. Well, "The Gambit" is an article about a chess renaissance in India & the lessons that children are learning from the game.

In the same way that we in the United States are enthusiastic about sports, India has equal enthusiasm for chess. They have used the game of chess as an instrument of strategy since the 7th century. There is a teenage prodigy in India who, at 18 years of age, became the youngest world chess champion ever in 2024. Today, it's common to see children in India carrying rolled up chess boards through the streets because they see the game as a golden ticket to prestige. Elite academies & legions of Rotarians nurture these budding prodigies, & high-stakes tournaments offer cash prizes, corporate sponsorships, & social media fame. There is a shrine in the country of a Hindu god - the patron of letters & learning - reading a book of chess rules.

Rotarians wanted to tap into that passion & began sponsoring tournaments & collaborating with chess academies to expand access to the game because they recognize it as a path to educational advancement, connection, & prosperity for the communities they serve. Playing chess competitively has helped children as young as toddler & preschool age: lift themselves out of poverty & depression; improve academic performance & concentration; build decision-making, critical thinking & memory skills; & learn that their choices have consequences. And that link between chess & academic performance is backed by a ton of research.

It's a fascinating article, with lots of stories about individual children. The

W
A
R
R
E
N
N
R
O
T
A
R
Y

Moral of the story is: "As any chess player will tell you, your next move, in a game or in life, can lead to a costly blunder or momentous opportunity."

Lastly, another really interesting article, for history lovers out there, is about President Abraham Lincoln. While Lincoln died long before the first ever Rotary meeting, it seems that Rotarians have long embraced Lincoln as one of their own. And coincidentally, the last living person to have laid eyes on the face of Lincoln, when they were moving his corpse from one tomb to another, became a Rotarian. His name was Fleetwood Lindley. (They moved Lincoln's body over a dozen times due to attempts to steal the corpse.)

Let me preface this by saying that I'm not making a political statement here. Many people & historians have had mixed opinions about Abraham Lincoln & other presidents, and we're all entitled to our own opinions. However, according to the article, here is what Rotarians have had to say about Lincoln:

- A Boston editor & publisher, Joe Mitchell Chapple, at the 7th Rotary Convention in 1916, stated that "when Lincoln mingled among his fellow men", he related to them "in true Rotarian style." Chapple urged Rotarians to adhere to the ideals inspired by Lincoln, and said that Lincoln is "the personification of the divine fire within ourselves, the inborn craving of the people for self-expression!"
- Paul Harris admired Lincoln for his principles of life & government for which he fought & suffered. In his memoir, *My Road to Rotary*, Harris wrote that "'the Gettysburg Address, initially regarded as a failure, eventually became recognized at home & abroad as the greatest speech ever made in the English language', . . . an acknowledgement of Lincoln's oratorical skills from Rotary's master communicator."
- Lincoln's image has adorned the cover of Rotary's magazine at least twice & referred to him as "the greatest exemplar of the principle of Service Above Self."
- The director of the Lincoln Historical Research Foundation, Louis Warren, was invited to address greater than 170 Rotary clubs, mostly about the Gettysburg Address.

W
A
R
R
E
N
N
R
O
T
A
R
Y

- Clarendon Van Norman, a district governor in Illinois, comments on the amicable sentiments that Lincoln expressed in an 1842 speech, saying, "Isn't that where we start in Rotary - with acquaintance, friendship?"
- In 1923, at the St. Louis Convention, the Rotary Club of Springfield encouraged Rotarians to travel to Springfield, the city where Lincoln lived, after the convention was over. Hundreds of Rotarians did so, & they each received a bronze medal with Lincoln's profile on one side & the Rotary Wheel on the other side.
- California Rotarian Harold Humbert wrote about his encounters with Lincoln devotees in 27 countries. Humbert said that a sculpture called "London's Standing Lincoln", which sits in London's Parliament Square, embodied Lincoln's aspiration as expressed in his second inaugural address, that we, "with malice toward none, with charity for all . . . do all which may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."



W
A
R
R
E
N

R
O
T
A
R
Y



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP OUT THE WARREN FAMILY 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:

1. You can donate through Warren Rotary and provide books to children in Trumbull County.
2. If you donate through District 6650, donations will be split among multiple counties. A \$31 donation covers enough books for one month!
3. 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.
4. Donate online at: GiveButter.com/OhioRotary
5. Text to Donate: Text Rotary4Reading to 53-555

W
A
R
R
E
N
R
O
T
A
R
Y

Please send in donations before March 14th!! Contact Christine Cope with any questions. Each year, a trophy is awarded to the district that raises the most money for a cause. Please help District 6650 take that trophy this year!!

SAVE THE DATE: There will be no meeting at Trumbull Country Club on March 4th. Instead, we will be touring Clover Recycling that day (1411 W. Market St., Warren, OH 44485). Boxed lunches from Mocha House can be ordered. If you have not yet signed up to attend and in order to order a lunch, contact Alicia Adams-Angelo as soon as possible.

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. A \$50 late fee for registration goes into effect beginning March 1st!! Please note that the hotel reservation is separate from the seminar registration. Visit 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 at CharBenay's Wine on the River will be held on Thursday, March 26th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

UNITE
FOR
GOOD

Rotary 

W
A
R
R
E
N
R
O
T
A
R
Y

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) 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 John F. Kennedy Catholic High School. Let Tony Iannucci know if you are able to participate and share knowledge about your vocation with students.

W
A
R
R
E
N

R
O
T
A
R
Y



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
Learn More: OhioImaginationLibrary.org

W
A
R
R
E
N
R
O
T
A
R
Y

PROGRAM:

TOM ANGELO,
TRUMBULL COUNTY WOLVES
CLUB

Tom Angelo is Past-President and current Membership Chair of the Trumbull County Wolves Club for the next year.

The National Association of Wolves was founded in 1951 in Pennsylvania and operates on the motto, "Pro Bono Publica", a Latin phrase meaning "for the good of the public". Like Rotary, Kiwanis, and other service organizations, Wolves Dens (local clubs) are dedicated to doing good for their communities and follow the following creed:

- **W** willingness to promote brotherhood
- **O** opportunities afforded to others
- **L** loyalty to country, community & home
- **V** veracity in relationships amongst men
- **E** efforts employed by community betterment
- **S** service founded on the golden rule.

Initially, the association only admitted Italian men but is currently attempting to diversify its membership.

The name "Wolves" came from the old Roman legend of Romulus and Remus who were put in a basket by their uncle and thrown into the Tiber River. After being grounded in the marshes, a she-wolf nurtured them until a shepherd found them. According to the legend, the twins went on to build the City of Rome, and Romulus founded the military and political institutions of Rome.



W
A
R
R
E
N
N
R
O
T
A
R
Y

The National Association of Wolves includes nine dens, with Trumbull County's den being the only one in Ohio. They meet the third Thursday of every month at local restaurants, such as Cafe 422, Vernon's, Leo's Ristorante, Alberini's, Enzo's, Buena Vista, and Salvatores. Current cost of membership is \$150 per quarter, most of which is applied toward meals.

The Wolves Den of Trumbull County was established in 1984. Its big focus is on providing scholarships to Trumbull County high school seniors through The Wolves Scholarship Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. They receive between 115 and 140 scholarship applications yearly. Since its inception, they have awarded approximately \$800,000 to 350 students, helping the most needy students to have the opportunity to further their education. \$5,000 scholarships are awarded to each student, and the Wolves Den will replenish the funds each year of their studies as long as they maintain a B average.

David Leo has been a member of the Trumbull County Wolves Den for a long time. He reviews and interviews scholarship applicants. David's son was a Girard Police Officer who lost his life in the line of duty. David started his own charitable organization, awarding \$55,000 per year to students in Girard. He partnered with the Wolves club to distribute \$90,000 per year.

The Trumbull County den currently has 35 active members, many who are predominantly older men. Tom would like to have more women join the club. If you would like more information about The Trumbull County Wolves Club or if you would like to make a tax-free contribution to The Wolves Scholarship Foundation, contact Tom.



W
A
R
R
E
N
N
R
O
T
A
R
Y

TRIPLE JACKPOT



This week, the Grand Jackpot totaled \$9.
Congratulations to Daily Winner Julia Wetstein!

HAPPY BUCKS



*** **Julia Wetstein** was thrilled to win a whopping \$9!! (Thanks Cindy!)

*** **Cindy Matheson** is happy that spring has sprung and that her family is doing well. She's looking forward to a girls' trip to Las Vegas this coming week!