

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

A publication of the Rotary Club of Warren

JANUARY 10, 2024

ASSIGNMENTS

GREETERS

January, 2024 - Patti Augustine

February, 2024 - Terra O'Brien

REGISTRATION

January, 2024 - Barry Dunaway & Ray Sinchak

February, 2024 - Barry Dunaway & Ray Sinchak

INVOCATION

January, 2024 - Denise May

February, 2024 - Joni Gawne

FELLOWSHIP (1st & 3rd Wed.) & MAGAZINE REPORT (2nd Wed.)

January, 2024 - Ray Sinchak (Fellowship) & Joni Gawne (Mag. Report)

February, 2024 - Ted Stazak

CAREER AWARENESS (4th Wed. of the Month)

January, 2024 - Alicia Adams - Angelo

February, 2024 - To Be Announced

SPEAKERS

1/17/24 - Off-Site Visit to the SCOPE Center
(375 N. Park, Warren, OH)

Program on Social Security, Medicare & Taxes

1/24/24 - Inspiring Minds

1/31/24 - No Meeting/Service Project

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
Ken LaPolla*

*President Elect
Cindy Matheson*

*Vice-President
Tony Iannucci*

*Secretary
Judy Masaki*

*Treasurer
Cheryl Oblinger*

*Assistant
Treasurer
Mike Bolas*

*Past President
Ted Stazak*

Board Members

*Bill Beinecke
Lauren Kramer
Marilyn Pape
John Perdue
Lorilyn Shandor
Julia Wetstein*

invocation

*Lord, thank you for another year of life and all that You
provided for us last year.*

*We lay before You all the disappointments and unfinished work,
and we ask for Your mercy, peace and joy as we look to the year
ahead.*

*May we delight in the gift of Your presence as we discern the
journey You have for us this new year.*

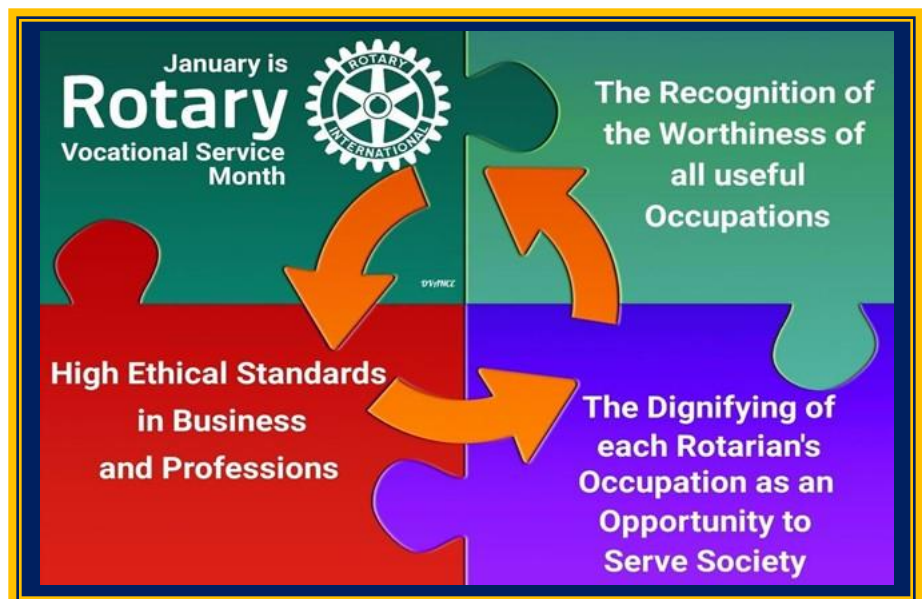
Accept our thanks for this day and all its blessings.

*We ask that You guide and direct our club, its leaders and our
actions.*

*Grant that each of us may feel our responsibility to Rotary, to our
community, to our country, and indeed to all countries and
peoples.*

*Bless our fellowship today, and bless this food to the nourishment
of our bodies, in Your service. Amen.*

- Presented by Denise May



Rotary Club
Foundation
Board

President
Ted Stazak

Vice-President
Tony Iannucci

Secretary
Judy Masaki

Treasurer
Cheryl Oblinger

Andy Bednar
Ken LaPolla
Denise May
Kim Straniak

Contact us at:

Rotary Club of
Warren
P.O. Box 68
Warren, OH
44482

Our Website:

Warrenrotary.org

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

contact:

Judy Masaki



Ray Sinchak treated us to a story about an individual who was considered to be a great American, even though he wasn't born in the United States - Bob Hope. Leslie Townes "Bob" Hope was a British-born comedian, actor, entertainer and producer. He had a career that spanned nearly 80 years and was well known for achievements in vaudeville, network radio, television, and, of course, his United Service Organizations (USO) tours, during which he entertained military personnel around the world. Ray commented that Bob Hope's stamina was amazing. He often performed at four USO shows a day.

In 1955, Bob Hope was asked to play Eddie Foy in the lead role of *The Seven Little Foys*. After the movie was filmed, a test resulted in a lukewarm reception. As a result, James Cagney was asked to reprise his role as George M. Cohan and play alongside Bob Hope in the film. However, Cagney didn't want to fly to Hollywood, so they filmed closer

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to his home, with one offshoot being filmed in Boston. Cagney was very dedicated to his art of dancing and a big critic of his own work. As a result, it took two weeks to shoot a five minute scene!

Thanks, Ray, for always sharing a good story and interesting details with us!

Joining the Rotary Club of Warren for fellowship this week were: Ray's friend and prospective member, Joe Ohlin; and upcoming member, Meghan Reed.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN **WELCOMES ITS NEWEST MEMBER!!**

Robin Martorana, sponsored by Cindy Matheson, was inducted into the Rotary Club of Warren by President Ken LaPolla on January 10th, bringing our membership total to 51. Robin is Vice-President and Secretary of Howland Builders, Inc. She is also employed as a Real Estate Agent with Altobelli Real Estate. Robin indicated that she appreciates the opportunity to join our club and promises to do us proud! In fact, Robin already contributed to Opening Night prior to her induction by being instrumental in securing trolley services for the event.

Over the next few weeks, be sure to get to know Robin and extend a warm welcome to her.



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MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT: Invite a friend or colleague to Rotary! Any current member who brings a new member into the club will receive a Rotary license plate frame for their car!

WE HAVE A NEW FACEBOOK PAGE!! Be sure to share and "like" us at: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100090246039722&mibextid=LQQJ4d>

If you can't make it to our meetings at Trumbull Country Club in person, join us via Facebook Live!

THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN WILL NOW BE OFFERING MEMBERSHIP SCHOLARSHIPS! An information sheet and application can be found on the home page of our website: www.warrenrotary.org.

END OF THE YEAR AWARDS: With Rotary Year 2023 - 24 half over, the Board of Directors is beginning to plan ahead for end of the year awards. If you have suggestions of candidates for the Lester R. Stauffer Community Award, please forward the individual's name and a short narrative about why you are nominating him/her to President Ken LaPolla or Secretary Judy Masaki. This award is named for long-time Warren Rotarian and Past District Governor Lester R. Stauffer. The award recognizes a non-Rotarian for his or her outstanding volunteer service (not vocational success or prominence) rendered to our community.

JOIN US AT THE SCOPE CENTER (375 N. Park Ave., Warren, OH) on Wednesday, January 17th at Noon for an off-site meeting and tour. There will be no meeting at Trumbull Country Club that day. Saratoga will cater the event, and there will be two lunch options: 1. Saratoga Salad with Chicken; or 2. Italian Sub Sandwich with Chips. The cost of lunch is \$15 per person (cash only; no credit cards). If you plan to attend but have not yet signed up, please contact Cindy Matheson before Tuesday. Be sure to give her your menu choice if you plan to have lunch. Cindy may be reached by calling (330) 770-9515 or emailing her at cmatheson.rotary@gmail.com

DICTIONARY PROJECT: Dictionaries will be delivered to Summit Academy,

WARREN ROTARY

STEAM Academy and Kennedy in January 29th. Contact Tony Iannucci if you would like to assist. A distribution date for Warren City Schools is forthcoming.

CAREER AWARENESS DAY will be held in the library at Harding High School on Friday, February 2nd from 9 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. If you would like to participate by sharing information about your field of work with the students, please contact Tony Iannucci.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR NOMINEE: Kimberly Weiss, a 22 year member of Rotary, has been named as the DG Nominee for Rotary Year 2025 - 2026. Kim is currently serving as President of the Minerva Rotary Club.

THE 2024 RYLA CONFERENCE will be held February 9th through February 11th at the Waypoint Marriott at Westford Place in Canfield, Ohio.

THE NORTH CANTON ROTARY CHILI OPEN will be held on Saturday, February 24, 2024 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Arrowhead Golf Club (1500 Rogwin Circle, North Canton). Tickets are \$15. For more information, visit: www.rotarychiliopen.com

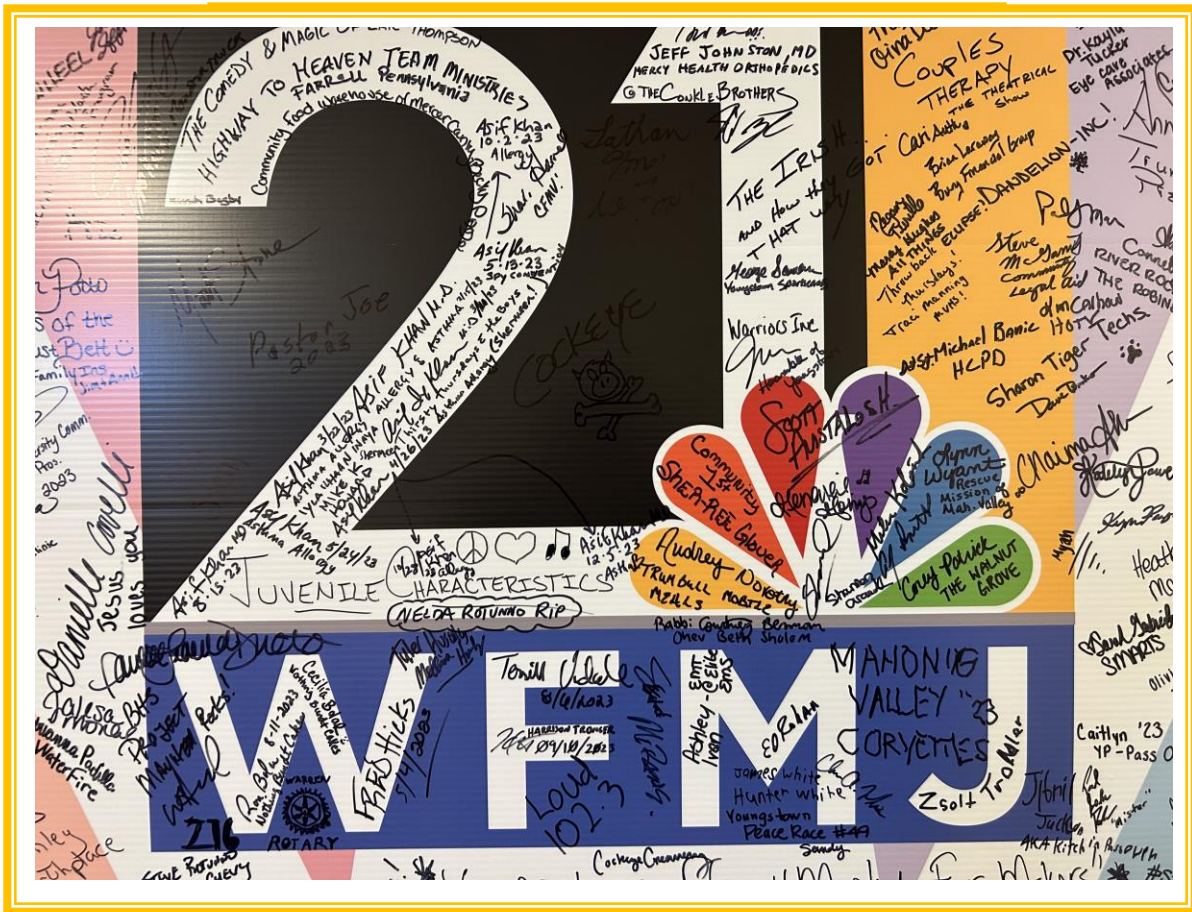
SAVE THE DATE: Join the Sugarcreek Rotary Club for their Annual Pancake Meal Fundraiser and Health Screening on March 22, 2024 at Garaway Belden Community Center (221 Dover Road, NW, Sugarcreek, OH). More details will be available soon.










MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Our 2024 Slice of the Valley Pizza Challenge will be here before you know it! Due to unforeseen circumstances, the date has been changed to April 7th. Stay tuned for more details!!

THE 2024 ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION will be held 5/25/24 through 5/29/24 in Singapore, "the Garden City". You can attend inspiring breakout sessions, exchange ideas about service projects, and make meaningful connections with global individuals. Register today @ convention.rotary.org. This year's theme is "Sharing Hope with the World".

CAN YOU FIND THE WARREN ROTARY LOGO? Julia Wetstein was able to promote Opening Night via an interview with WFMJ TV in December. She signed a huge guest poster in the waiting room with a free-hand drawing! Check out the poster on the next page and see if you can spot Julia's signature.

WARRENE ROTARY



The Rotarian Pledge

I am a Rotarian.

I will always uphold the truth.

I am a Rotarian.

I will always strive to be fair in all my dealings with fellow human beings.

I am a Rotarian.

I will always endeavor to build goodwill and understanding in my community, among my countrymen, and among people of all nations.










I am a Rotarian.

I will always seek to promote the greatest good for the greatest number of people in the spirit of Rotary service.

I am a Rotarian.

I will always observe the Rotary International motto:

Service Above Self.

PROGRAM:

ROB BERK,
PAST TIMES ARCADE



This week's speaker is no stranger to Rotary. Rob Berk joined The Rotary Club of Warren in September of 1985. During his 38 years with our club, he has served as President and has spearheaded our biggest fundraiser, The Slice of the Valley Pizza Challenge. He currently serves as President of Berk Enterprises and founder of Past Times Arcade, which opened in Girard this past summer. Rob joined us this week to give us a bit of history about pinball and his new destination for fun.

So, how did pinball all begin? The earliest pinball game consisted of a board with holes in it, and one used a billiard stick to move the balls around pins. A lot of pinball manufacturers were out of the Youngstown area in the 1930s. In 1947, the introduction of flippers revolutionized the game of pinball and took the industry by storm. Kits were sold to add flippers to games that didn't have them. In the 1950s and 60s, certain

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states outlawed pinball due to players and spectators gambling on the games. However, pinball eventually re-emerged as a legitimate pastime, and in 1976, the first electronic game was made. Manufacturers later incorporated more and more modern technological changes, such as lighting and sounds.

As video games gained in popularity, interest in pinball waned. However, in the late 90s, Gary Stern founded Stern Pinball and saved the day by manufacturing new and original pinball machines. Artwork and graphics on the machines became intricate, and toys and gadgets became a fun feature.

Today, Rob said that the future of pinball lies in the kids. As a result, manufacturers are always trying to find new features to attract their interest, just like Stern did.

Where does Rob fit into the pinball craze? Well, Rob has been a lifelong fan of pinball. His childhood home had a pinball machine. Back in 1963, Rob took a trip to Florida with his father, and due to unforeseen circumstances, got stuck in a place with nothing to do except gaming. Later, while attending Kent State University, his interest in pinball machines was further ignited. He began collecting pinball machines in the 1970s. He gravitates towards games made in the 60s, with his favorite being Fever Magic.

In 1985, Rob decided to hold a convention to honor his heroes – the designers and artists behind the pinball machine. These expos are still going strong today. Rob said he's met all kinds of people through his conventions.

Over the years, Rob amassed a collection of over 1,000 pinball machines, and finally decided it was time to share them with the world. He bought the vacant Santisi's IGA building and put his plan for an arcade into motion. The arcade has 600 machines available for playing dating back to the 1960s plus more modern video games, as well as a concession area which serves light snacks and great milkshakes. Past Times offers individual play, as well as tournament play, and hosts corporate events.

Finally, here are just a few last tidbits provided by Rob:

1. The artwork, sounds and difficulty of the shots are what makes a good game; and
2. The longest record for playtime is 60 hours!

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TRIPLE
JACKPOT



This week, the Grand Jackpot totaled \$158.

Congratulations to Daily Winner Cindy Matheson!

HAPPY BUCKS



- *** **Robin Martorana** is happy about being inducted into Rotary!
- *** **Julia Wetstein** enjoyed Mike Wilson's solo as Phantom of the Opera! She also offered a Happy Buck for our newest member and her success in securing trolley service for Opening Night.
- *** **Chris Shape** offered a Happy Buck for Rob Berk's presentation. Chris took his nephews to Past Times and they had a ball! Chris is also happy that Robin Martorana joined our club, and he was happy to see Meghan Reed at our meeting.
- *** **Lorilyn Shandor's** favorite pinball game is Cactus Canyon. She participated in a tournament at Past Times. Lorilyn has been doing some contract work with Trumbull County Tourism. And she's looking forward to traveling to see the eclipse!
- *** **Cindy Matheson** enjoyed Rob's presentation. She's glad Robin joined our club, and she said that after 10 years of playing pool, she's surprised Robin's not better!

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*** **Scott Lewis** spent time with his children in December and early this month all over the East Coast, including New York and Maine. He's glad Leonardo still pretends to like him!

*** **Bob Hoy** is happy to be "heading for 80". Happy Birthday Bob!!

*** **Ken LaPolla** offered Happy Bucks for Rob's presentation and Robin's induction. He also sent get well wishes to the Rotarian staff and members who weren't able to be at this week's meeting.

