

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

July 8, 2026

A publication of the Rotary Club of Warren

GREETERS & REGISTRATION

July through August, 2026 - Ray Sinchak

INVOCATION

July, 2026 - Andy Bednar

August, 2026 - Denise May

FELLOWSHIP (typically 1st, 3rd & 4th Wednesdays of the month)

July 22, 2026 - Andy Bednar

August 5, 19, & 26, 2026 - Denise May

MAGAZINE REPORT (typically 2nd Wednesday of the month)

July 15, 2026 - Lauren Kramer

August 12, 2026 - Denise May

SPEAKERS

7/15/2026 - Carl Delgado, Executive Director/ Trumbull County Veterans Service
Commission

7/22/2026 - Mary Ann Porinchak, Executive Director/National Packard Museum

7/29/2026 - No Club Meeting/Visit Another Rotary Club

8/5/2026 - Melissa Poland, Owner/Sweet Melissa's Good Eats

8/12/2026 - To Be Announced

8/19/2026 - Kimberly Garrett, Executive Director, & Jo Phillips, Deputy Director/
Warren-Trumbull County Public Library

8/26/2026 - Lynn Wallace-Smith, Manager/ Trumbull County Archives

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

Alicia Adams-Angelo

President-Elect
Meghan Reed

Vice-President
John Esker

Secretary
Judy Masaki

Treasurer
Cheryl Oblinger

Past-President
Anthony Iannucci

Board Members

Mike Bolas

Eric Knoth

Lauren Kramer

Robin Martorana

Marilyn Pape

John Perdue

Ray Thomas



Let Us Pray,

As we gather today, let us be grateful for the opportunity to serve others through our talents, resources, and time. May we remember that even small acts of kindness can create lasting change in the lives of those around us. Inspire us to listen with open minds, lead with integrity, and work together for the good of our communities. May our fellowship strengthen our commitment to service and remind us that our collective effort can make a meaningful difference.

Amen.

(Offered by Andy Bednar)

Rotary Club of Warren
Foundation Board

*President
To Be Elected*

*Vice-President
To Be Elected*

*Secretary
Judy Masaki*

*Treasurer
Cheryl Oblinger*

*Alicia Adams-Angelo
John Esker
Darlene Jones
Denise May
Kim Straniak
Ted Stazak*

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



Andy Bednar kicked off Fellowship for our first weekly club meeting of Rotary Year 2026 - 2027 by welcoming Visiting Rotarian Andrew Smith from Champion and Bob Hoy's guest, Gary Leshner from N. Ridgeville, Ohio.

Following these introductions, here is what Andy had to say about summer vacations:

"One of the great mysteries of summer is vacation planning. We spend weeks - sometimes months - deciding where to go, days packing, hours traveling, and then return home needing a vacation from our vacation.

The packing process is particularly fascinating. My wife and I pack for every possible scenario. Rain? Got it covered. Heat wave? Done. Unexpected mountain climbing expedition? Somehow covered. By the time we're finished, we're carrying enough luggage to relocate permanently.

And yet, when we arrive, we've undoubtedly forgotten something important - usually the one thing we actually needed.

But vacations do teach us something valuable. They remind us that experiences matter more than perfect plans. The stories we tell afterward are rarely about the things that went right. Instead, they're about wrong turns, unexpected adventures, and the moments that made us laugh.

Rotary is a little like that. Our best memories can often come from working together, solving sometimes unexpected problems, and enjoying the journey as much as the destination.

So wherever your travels take you this summer, I hope you make wonderful memories, discover something new, and return home with at least one story that's funny enough to tell. . . and harmless enough that your spouse lets you tell it.

Have great Rotary day!"

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



THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN OHIO now has a YouTube Channel!! Streaming has begun and meetings are posted immediately. If you watch the meeting on YouTube, let Secretary Judy Masaki know so you get attendance credit.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN BOARD OF DIRECTORS will hold its first meeting of Rotary Year 2026 - 2027 on Wednesday, July 15th, at 1:00 p.m., immediately following our weekly club meeting at The Salvation Army. All Directors should plan to attend.

THE ROTARY CLUB OF WARREN FOUNDATION BOARD OF ADMINISTRATORS will meet on Wednesday, July 22nd, at 1:00 p.m., immediately following our weekly club meeting at The Salvation Army. All Foundation members should plan to attend.

ATTENDANCE MAKE-UPS: With the start of the new Rotary Year on July 1st, all previously submitted make-ups have expired. Members can earn make-ups by: attending club committee meetings, and district and RI conferences; participating in socials and service projects; attending another Rotary Club's meetings; or visiting Rotary eClub One Make-Up Center, browsing their library of articles and videos, and submitting the confirmation form to Secretary Judy Masaki. You can also complete various training modules on Rotary International's official Learning Center and email Judy proof of completion. According to The Standard Rotary Club Constitution, a member can be counted as attending a regular club meeting if he or she makes up an absence within the same Rotary year.

THE CHARITABLE PROJECTS COMMITTEE will meet on Wednesday, August 5th, at 11:30 a.m., prior to our weekly club meeting at The Salvation Army.

COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE for the July 18th Scrappers Game

against State College. If you would like tickets and a free bobblehead, see Alicia Adams-Angelo.

A PLANNING COMMITTEE IS BEING FORMED to recruit speakers and programs for this Rotary year. If you are interested in participating, please contact Alicia Adams-Angelo or Meghan Reed.

LUNCH FOR OUR JULY 15th CLUB MEETING will be provided by City Subs, a popular sandwich shop in Hubbard, Ohio. Many thanks to Dave Dewitt for offering to provide our meal!

LOGAN'S LANDING recently received a grant from The Rotary Club of Warren to purchase and install the following communication board in Perkins Park. The communication board will support interaction, understanding, and self-expression for children who experience developmental concerns. A Rotary logo will be attached. Stay tuned for more information regarding an installation/dedication date.



A RECAP OF AMERICA'S 250th BIRTHDAY BASH

The Rotary Club of Warren's July 8th meeting was dedicated to a review of the 2026 River Duck Festival and the July 4th Scrappers Game and Fireworks - both a part of our involvement in celebrating America's 250th birthday celebration.

All agreed that the River Duck Race was flawless. The weather was warm but cooperative this year for the free festival. The charitable organizations benefiting from the event set up informational booths. There was an awesome Kids Korner with activities for our youngest patrons. The Basket Raffle did well. More than 8,000 people saw our social media posts. And the Friends of the Mahoning River and Friends of Mosquito Lake State Park were a great help.

Congratulations to Darlene Jones, who won the 50/50 raffle, and many thanks to her for donating her winnings back to our club. Congratulations also goes out to Andrew Smith, from The Rotary Club of Champion. He was the last individual to purchase duck tickets and ended up being the big winner of the Duck Race! We would like to extend our appreciation to Andrew, not only for attending the event, but also for donating half of his winnings back to our club!

Continue to the next page for pictures of some of the highlights from The River Duck Festival.



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Entertainment by James Dance Studio

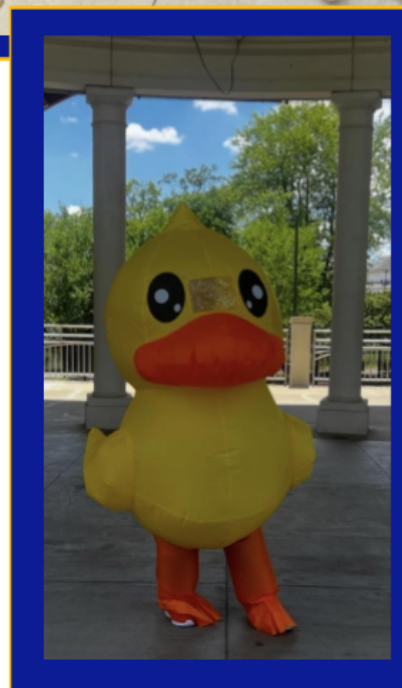


The Duck Race on the Mahoning River in Perkins Park

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Kids Korner with
fun activities and
treats



Special Guests, including The Quackers

WARRRORN ROTARY

The weekend after the River Duck Festival, Rotarians headed to Credit Union Field at Eastwood Mall for the Scrappers' July 4th game. Alicia Adams-Angelo threw out the first pitch, making it across the plate with one bounce.

Julia Wetstein appeared in costume as George Washington.



Baseball jerseys worn by the players were auctioned off, with proceeds benefiting

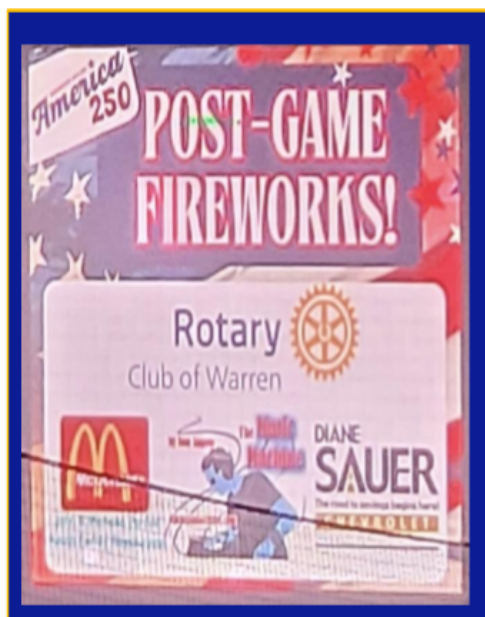
W A R R E N R O T A R Y

The Rotary Club of Warren and local charities.

The Rotary Game Wheel was used to give away candy, dictionaries, pencil pockets, ducks, pinwheels, and McDonald's gift cards. And an All-American gift basket was raffled off. Congratulations to Char Daugherty for winning the fun holiday-themed basket.



The post-game fireworks were great! We'd like to express appreciation to all of our sponsors !



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After highlighting all of the positive aspects of Rotary's "Birthday Bash" for America, members brainstormed ideas that could make next year's River Duck Festival even better. They included:

- Putting together a stronger social media presence and better advertising, such as yard signs and flyers
- Post videos on our YouTube channel
- Send out mailers in electric bills, Howland Alarm invoices, etc.
- Capture a tagline to better describe what the Duck Festival is about
- Trim down the number of winners for the Duck Race
- Consider a different day of the week for the event and/or maybe a later date in the year (9/11 or after). A weekday could perhaps allow for the sale of alcohol and more of a party atmosphere vs. a family event
- Have a separate race for kids and Jeep Meet participants
- Add a Vintage Car Meet
- Charge admission for Jeep Meet and Car Meet participants but consider awarding prizes to them
- Run a 5K the morning of the event
- Have a ceramic duck deco contest
- Due to the walking distance, move all vendors, baskets, etc. back to the bottom of the hill near the Amphitheatre
- Invite more dance studios for entertainment to attract more parents/families
- Recruit volunteers from the charitable beneficiaries and dance studios

At the conclusion of our discussion regarding the River Duck Festival and Scrappers Game, John Perdue was presented with the "Duck of Kindness" by Cindy Matheson for all of his support.



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Finally, Alicia Adams-Angelo announced that she would like to hold another fundraiser this year - A Night at the Races, Halloween Style. She will be putting together a committee to explore and plan this event. In addition, members have indicated that they would like to see more social events scheduled. A Past Times Arcade Family Day and a quarterly collaboration with Champion Rotary and other clubs are possibilities. These socials would be held on the 5th Wednesday of the month, when there is one



The July 2026 edition of our magazine, *Rotary*, is a special issue dedicated to Rotary International's 2026 - 2027 leadership and is well worth a read.

The magazine begins with a message from RI President Olayinka "Yinka" Babalola. He states, "Rotary has a way of surprising you. It surprises you when a stranger across the table becomes a lifelong friend. It surprises you when a small project in one neighborhood ripples outward in ways you never imagined. And it may surprise you when you realize that the person Rotary has changed the most - is you.

That is why this year, we are called to harness the change within ourselves, to look to the future, and to *Create Lasting Impact*."

Yinka goes on to give each of us our marching orders - "let's get to work" and "think of the long-term impact of every project". How are we to do this? One piece of advice that he gives is for us to think about the best year our club has had

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and challenge ourselves to do better than our best accomplishments. What an inspiring message from a humble man described as having a “dynamic spirit”.

In “Answering the Call”, you can read more about RI’s new President. Yinka is only the second RI president who has hailed from Africa. And he has been shaped by his native land of Nigeria. He is the eldest of six children, and in Nigeria, when you are the eldest child, you have leadership responsibilities. During his second year of college, he became the school’s charter Rotaract Club President. He participated in the cultural youth exchange program and organized extramural classes for children with disabilities. After graduating, he completed a year in the National Youth Service Corps. When his mandatory year of service was over, he landed a job with Shell Oil Company, and after a decade of service as a Rotaractor, he joined the Rotary Club of Trans Amadi in his mid-20s. He served on the End Polio Now and PolioPlus Committees.

In Rotary, Yinka found career mentors and a place to grow up. Through Rotary, he also met his wife.

In the early 2000s, Yinka helped improve the availability of safe blood in Nigerian hospitals. He also participated in an adult literacy project led by his club.

In 2011, Yinka became District Governor. He then quickly rose through the Rotary ranks. As a RI Board Director and later as Vice-President of the Board, he became known as “the father of membership in Africa”, where during his tenure, the number of Rotarians rose from 29,000 to 48,000. He volunteered to give polio vaccines in remote communities, helping to eradicate polio in Nigeria and all of Africa in 2020.

Through all of these projects, he became grounded in his local community, and as RI President, he wants to help restore members’ emotional connection to Rotary and their sense of belonging. According to Yinka, “We do things for others but Rotary is also our own. When something is your own, you fight for it.”

Pick up the July issue of *Rotary* to read more details about our RI President’s journey through Rotary, his contributions to the Rotary Foundation, and his lasting

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impact on Nigeria.

Be sure to take a peek at the list of 2026 - 2027 Rotary District Governors. The overwhelming number of districts that comprise Rotary International provides real insight into Rotary's wide-reaching impact on our world.

Jennifer Jones, RI Foundation Trustee Chair, believes that gratitude is a force, and that "in Rotary, gratitude is a reflection of who we are." Read about her use of a gratitude journal. She encourages all of us to "let gratitude be our compass this year."

Finally, the 2027 RI Convention will be held in Barcelona in June. You can get a preview of the convention and the "city along the sea" in "Hola, Barcelona!"



Best wishes to the following Warren Rotarians who are celebrating July birthdays:

Christine Cope Sean Keating Denise May

Ben Kulper Patti Augustine

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TRIPLE JACKPOT



This week, the Grand Jackpot totaled \$117.

Congratulations to Daily Winner Ray Sinchak!

HAPPY BUCKS



*** **Ken LaPolla** offered a Happy Buck in honor of Tony Iannucci's great Presidential year. He's looking forward to Alicia's year as well. And he thanked everyone who helped with the River Duck Festival.

*** **Julia Wetstein** thanked Cindy Matheson and Alicia Adams-Angelo for working around the clock on America's Birthday Bash.

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*** **John Esker** offered a Happy Buck for the River Duck Festival and Scrappers Game. He also offered a Happy Buck in honor of his wife and daughter, who are in Madrid for a sporting event. His daughter was named Player of the Day on her first day of practice for the All American Team.

*** **Cindy Matheson** enjoyed Tony's year and all of our events. And she was glad Andrew Smith could be with us at our meeting.

*** **Diane Sauer** was happy that her duck came in 6th place. She won tickets to a concert at the Amphitheatre on either 7/11 or 8/15, but she isn't able to use them. If anyone would like them, please see Diane.

*** **Tony Iannucci** thanked all who helped with and supported Presidents' Night. He wished good luck to "the new team". And he's hoping that an ultrasound on his knee will bring him good news and relief.

*** **Andrew Smith** was appreciative of lunch at our meeting. He said it was great to visit with us and wished us the best of the luck in the new Rotary Year.

*** **Judy Masaki** was glad that her family and home survived the recent tornado in Mahoning County. She was happy to have spent a great three weeks vacationing in Florida with her family and friends. And in response to Andy Bednar's Fellowship presentation on packing for vacations, she said she's convinced that the only thing you need is bathing suits and pajamas.

