



PP JOE CARUSO HONORED WITH PAUL HARRIS FELLOW

PP (2019-20) Joe Caruso was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) on July 9. PP Jim Turnbull surprised Joe with the award before Joe was presented with the Past President's plaque and pin. Before presenting the PHF award, Jim said a few words about Joe:



Joe's Rotary journey began when he was selected for the Group Study Exchange program in 1983 to London.

He later joined Utica Rotary, and then his work took him to Albany where he was an aid the late Senator Patrick Moynihan. He kept his ties with Utica and visited our meeting very often when he was back home. We are very happy that he moved back to our area and officially rejoined the club in March of 2018.

Joe has been involved with many aspects of the club. We worked together on many of the Group Study Exchange team events for many of the exchanges. He was the Outstanding Educators Awards Chair as well as a committee member of Youth Exchange, Urban Concerns, Membership, and many other committees.

He has also been active in the Utica area serving on the city planning board and involved with the CNY Parks programs.

Joe had his year as president abruptly changed in March with the COVID-19 shut down. But we did not skip a beat. The Zoom meetings were set up, Kate Smith was recruited to sing, and we had several really excellent programs, including our youth exchange students from around the globe and our GSE team members from Brazil.

So, it is my honor and privilege, on behalf of the members of the Rotary Club of Utica, to present Past President Joseph Caruso a well deserved and overdo Paul Harris Fellowship.

Congratulations, Joe!

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*Deadline for next newsletter (7/27) is Friday, July 24;
submit to michelle@fillableformdesigns.com*

17 JULY MEETING RECAP

There is no recap for the July 17 meeting, but you can view the meeting in its entirety on our club Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/uticarotary/videos/329732614730142/>

TWO MEMBERS RECEIVE QUIET GIVER AWARD

On June 29, Roxanne Mutchler and Michelle Brandstadt were awarded the Quiet Giver Award.



Roxanne posted on LinkedIn that “I am very honored to receive this award from the Rotary Club of Utica. Please join us sometime to learn about the great things that Rotary does in our community!”

I (Michelle) am also honored to receive this award. I have learned a great deal about our community because of my involvement in Rotary Club of Utica.

The Quiet Giver Award seeks to recognize those Utica Rotarians who make significant contributions to the success of Rotary and to the Community and who do so unselfishly and with humility placing service above self.

July 2020

Calendar of Events

- 7/20 Board Meeting 1 p.m.
- 7/24 Weekly Meeting **FRIDAY** @ 12 p.m. Delta Hotel
- 7/27 Social Justice Meeting 12 p.m. via Zoom (email jpcarus012@gmail.com for link)
- 7/30 Weekly Meeting **THURSDAY** @ 12 p.m. Place is TBD

Editor's Note: please be sure to check the newsletter or the [club website](#) calendar for current meeting information.



Left: Roxanne Mutchler; Right: Michelle Brandstadt

This Week's Program



Our guest speaker this week is Alyssa Spina, Associate VP of Development and Partnerships for Upstate Cerebral Palsy. Previously, Ms. Spina served as the Grant Writer for Upstate Cerebral Palsy and affiliated non-profit organizations. Currently, she oversees

development, fundraising, events and marketing activities. Prior to working for Upstate Cerebral Palsy, Ms. Spina was a manager of research and evaluation for a consulting firm in Washington DC.

For those who can't meet in person, a Zoom meeting starting at 11:45 p.m. will be available. Look for the meeting link in the email in which this newsletter arrived.

FRIDAY | July 24 | 12 p.m.

**Delta Hotel by Marriott Utica
200 Genesee St.**

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a buffet lunch will NOT be available; water and coffee will be available. Social distancing guidelines will be followed and attendees must wear a mask during the meeting. Please bring your own mask; none will be provided.

Help Wanted

Sergeant at Arms Aides

This year's Sergeant at Arms, Deb Burke, plans to have a rotating schedule of people to help with setup and cleanup at meetings. If you would like to volunteer to help, contact Deb at 315-525-2855.

Urban Concerns Needs

Our club does not currently have a chair for the Urban Concerns Committee, but Norma Montagnino-Gemza is organizing a few opportunities for community service.

The Bird's Nest Thrift Shop Cleanup

Norma is looking for two to three workers to help clean the side of The Bird's Nest Thrift Shop, (Abraham House), 102 Eagle Street, Utica. Approximately two hours or less is needed to clean up, brush, rake, and pick up trash. Please bring a rake, shears, and gloves. The service day is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, starting at 10 a.m. Rain date will be announced if needed. To help, email Norma at normamg@yahoo.com.

Hope House Hygiene Collection

Norma is beginning to coordinate a hygiene collection for Hope House in conjunction with Herthum Heights Association. Please watch for more information but, until then, please consider collecting hygiene products.

COMMITTEE NEWS

Looking to get involved? Rotary Club of Utica has several active committees, some of which need chairpersons. Contact a committee chair to join a committee or contact President Israel if interested in chairing a committee.

Youth Exchange.....	Deb Burke
Rotoract	Dom Passalacqua
RYLA	Jim Day
Interact	Jim Day
Urban Concerns.....	NEED CHAIR
Communication	Michelle Brandstadt
Meeting Service	Natalie Brown
Membership.....	NEED CHAIR
Outstanding Educator Awards.....	Bart Gorman
Quiet Giver's Award	Roger Breslow
Pride of Workmanship	Roxanne Mutchler
Veteran's Outreach.....	Mary Ann Hallak-Serwatka
Special Needs Party	NEED CHAIR

July District Newsletter

The July edition of the District Newsletter is now out. It has a new format, a message from new District Governor Cheryl Matt, and other good stuff. If you didn't receive the newsletter information in an email, it's available at our club website along with past District newsletters and Rotary International news: [District and International News](#).

Running in America submitted by Cindy Dardano, Social Justice Committee

The question is...does white America have the same reaction seeing a group of black men running down their street as they would if a group of white men were running in their neighborhood? Black runners seem to raise more suspicion than white runners. Following is a link to an interesting article in the New York Times by Dr. Natalia Petrzela entitled *Jogging Has Always Excluded Black People*.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/12/opinion/running-jogging-race-ahmaud-arbery.html>

Editor's Note: the link is to a free article provided at nytimes.com, which can be removed at any time by NY Times.