

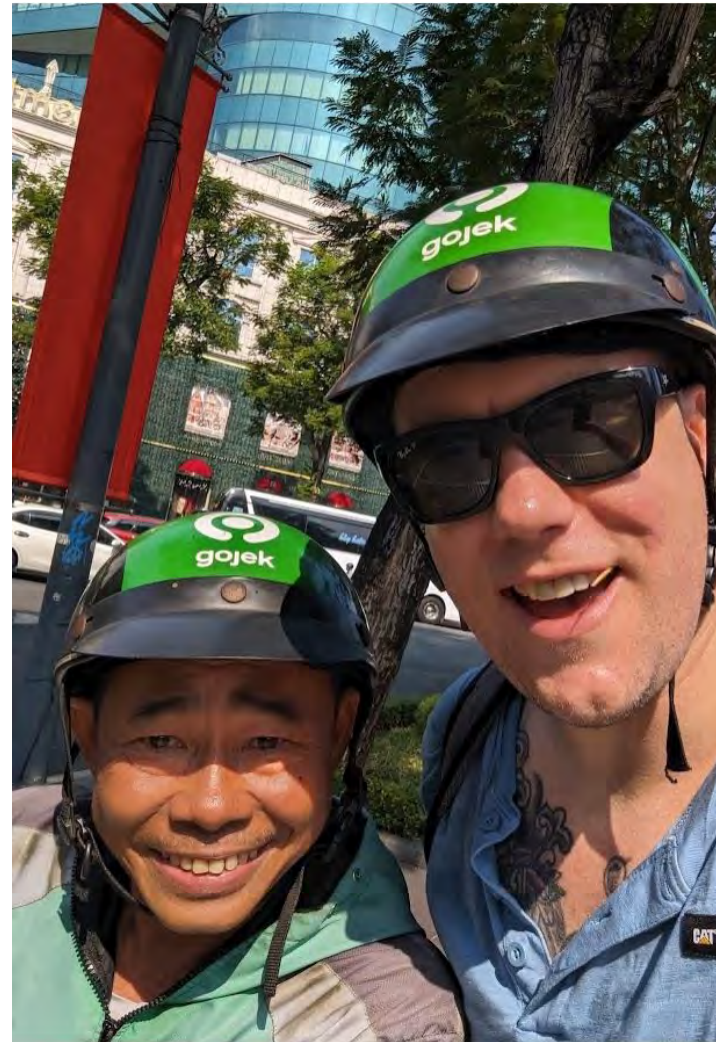
SOLAR ECLIPSE



April 8, 2024

Rotary This Week!

Utica, NY, USA



'Service Above Self-ies'

Joe Abraham, Darby O'Brien and Dave Jones attended the CNY Rotary District Training Assembly this past Saturday and got creative at the "Service Above Self-ies" station. See story on PAGE 3.

Friendly faces of Vietnam

The Vietnamese are a friendly people and even quick to pose for selfies with tourists, Clyde Vanderpool related in his talk at last week's meeting. See the meeting recap on PAGE 2.

Deadline for next newsletter (4/8) is Saturday, April 6 at 3 p.m.; submit to news@uticarotaryclub.org.

Editor Robert Stronach



TAKE ACTION: www.uticarotary.org

MEETING RECAP

Good afternoon, Vietnam ... and Clinton!

By Joe Abraham

Utica Rotarians were joined by two special speakers at their meeting on Thursday afternoon -- board member Clyde Vanderpool, who discussed his recent trip to Vietnam, and Clinton High School student Aiden Soika, who talked of his plans for the future.

Clyde shared photos and information of several cities he visited from Saigon to Hanoi, as well as notable sites, all with historical data sprinkled into the presentation. Vietnam has had a complicated history, including their war with the United States. Clyde explained that he spoke to some U.S. veterans of the Vietnam War during his travels, and they explained how emotional it was to be back. The country has seen much change in the decades that followed, Clyde noted.

The country has been under the influence and political control of the Community Party of Vietnam (CPV). While some might compare Vietnam to nearby communist China, Clyde explained that there are many differences. For example, Vietnam is not ruled by one leader, but they instead have "four pillars," consisting of a president, general secretary, prime minister and chairman of the national assembly. While demonstrations against the government are discouraged, Clyde explained that Vietnam residents have more ability to verbally express their opinions than Chinese citizens do.

Clyde also noted that the Vietnamese people were incredibly welcoming and friendly to him and other tourists, and that the country is very beautiful.

He stated that in his travels, despite the many differences among us, be it language, religion or governmental structures, at the end of the day, when it comes to what we want and value most, we have much in common.

"Vietnam's story is one of resilience, reconciliation, and renewal. As we explore its regions, let us celebrate the ties that bind us across oceans and cultures. Together, we can continue to build bridges of understanding and goodwill," Clyde

concluded. "As a proud member of Rotary, I am happy to report that my experience in Vietnam has strengthened my belief in our mission and vision statement."

Comets visit the Club

Continuing with our spring tradition, Outstanding Educators Program Chair Bart Gorman coordinated more student visits, with our club being joined by Clinton High School student-athlete Aiden Soika.

Soika explained his plans to attend college and then enter the United States Marine Corps. He also touched on the recent mascot change Clinton High School is undertaking, due to a state mandate. They will now be the Comets, paying homage to the village's storied hockey history.

We thank Aiden for paying us a visit and know his future is bright. Our club will be joined by students from Notre Dame High School at the April 18 meeting.

Club business

- President Linda gave a shout-out to Utica Rotarian Bob Stronach for his continued work on our newsletter and keeping club members informed, despite recent health issues. We wish Bob well as he recuperates with some sunshine in Italy, and thank him for all he does!

- The April Utica Rotary Social will take place on Thursday, April 25. The location will be announced soon. President Linda reports that last month's social at The Bunker in New Hartford was a lot of fun, with two prospective members joining in the fun.

- President Linda also thanked Rotarian Norma Montegnino-Gemza for helping to organize The Easter Bag Brigade group from Rotary, who volunteered at the Thea Bowman House last month.

- And finally, she reminded the club to sign up for the Boilermaker Water Station. Clyde Vanderpool is the coordinator for this.

Utica Rotarians attend district assembly



Joe Abraham, Darby O'Brien and Dave Jones at the assembly. PDG Don Reese, who serves as the CNY Rotary Foundation chair, speaks to a fellow Rotarian about the foundation.

CNY Rotary held its District Training Assembly at VVS High School on Saturday, with four Utica Rotarians in attendance -- PDG Don Reese, PP Dave Jones, Treasurer Darby O'Brien and Joe Abraham. Rotarians took part in workshops, listened to CNY Rotary Leadership and were able to explore the trade show space.

Don, who serves as the district's Foundation chair, explained the importance of supporting the Foun-

ation and the impact Rotary has. Joe and fellow CNY Rotary Public Image Committee members organized a 'Service Above Self-ies' station where attendees could pick out props and take a silly photo.

Dave and Darby went to the district grant seminar, with a requirement of at least two club members attending before a club can apply for district grant funds. Noted Joe: "All in all, the day was very informative and fun!"

VOLUNTEER FOR MOTHER EARTH

Join us for our biannual highway clean up, in honor of Earth Day! We'll meet Saturday, April 27 at 9 a.m. in the McQuade & Bannigan parking lot at 1300 Stark St., Utica.

To sign up, contact Tina Pavlot at cpavlot@mtb.com or 315-731-5204.



Calendar of Events

4/17 Board Meeting |
noon | Chamber of Commerce

4/18 Meeting | Notre Dame students
noon | Mid-York Library

4/25 Social | TBA
5:30 pm |

4/27 Service | Highway Cleanup
9 am |

5/2 Meeting | NY Mills students
noon | Mid-York Library

New Member Proposed: Matt Schlosser

The board proposes Matt Schlosser for membership to the Rotary Club of Utica. Per by-laws, club members have five days to submit a written objection to Treasurer Jill Koch.

Matt Schlosser is a Regulatory Affairs Manager at Psoria-Shield Inc., coming to PSI in 2020.

He graduated from Clinton Central High School in 2011, and in 2015 from Utica University with a B.A in Government and Politics and Pre-Law, mi-

noring in military science.

He resides in Whitestown, NY and his investment areas outside the workplace include but are not limited to trail running, travelling to Sweden in the summers, and enjoying every moment of football season.



MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

by Tina Pavlot

Did you know every member has behind-the-scenes access to our club website? You can see all of our members and their profiles, and update yours as well!

Our communications and newsletter are sent via the information in your profile, so keep it accurate if

you have FOMO! Need to get in contact with President Linda? Find her info on the website!

Are you new to the club, missed the update about the time change for the Thanksgiving meal deliveries, and now you're standing in the church alone, with

no one to reach out to? It happened to me... Log on to the website for some cell phone numbers!

Or plain curious to see how young Franny looked when he joined our club back in 1980? It's on the website! (See below)

The screenshot shows the Rotary Club of Utica website interface. The top navigation bar includes links for Admin, My ClubRunner, Communication, Attendance, Bulletin, Contacts, Membership, Organization, RI Integration, Website, Reports, Events, Volunteers, Donations, Membership Success, and Help. The main content area displays the 'Member Profile' for Francis Pugliese, with a photo and an 'Update' button. Below the profile, there are tabs for Personal, Rotary, Biography, Commitments, Settings, and Privacy. The 'Rotary Membership Details' section shows the following information:

Club	Utica (ID# 4862)	Membership Type	Active Change Status
Rotary Member No.	638702	Classification	
Membership		Date Joined Club	Jan 11 1980
Office		Date Joined Rotary	Jan 11 1980



Veterans Memorial Park Microforest Rotary Community Volunteer Invitation Microforest Planting Day

Help Plant the 1300 Shrubs & Trees into the Planting Bed
We Installed Last Fall on Veteran's Day

Where? – Veteran's Memorial at Routes 5 & 12, New Hartford
When? – April 20th, 2024, 10:00 AM to Finish
Bring? – A Smile, Gloves, Family & Friends

Microforests grow up to 10 times faster than normal, produce cooling effect, retain storm water run off, and sequester carbon. In short they are good for us and the planet.

Donations are Welcome

\$5 Flowering Shrub, \$10 Midlevel Tree,
\$15 Canopy Tree, \$25 Irrigation System

Already Experienced Gardner?

Lead a Planting Crew

Donate, Join and/or Lead a Crew Here

<https://newhartfordrotaryclub.org/>



Let's Commit Together to Restore the Climate by 2050.

Endorse Climate Restoration Resolution Here

<https://climaterestorationalliance.org/ambassadors/rotary/>



3rd
Annual!

SERVICE ABOVE SELF *Gala*



- Red carpet
- LIVE music by Soul Injection
- Seated dinner on Stanley stage
- 1 hour of cocktail open bar

When:

Friday June 7th 6-11pm

Where:

The Stanley Theatre
259 Genesee Street
Utica, NY 13502

Gala Presented By:



Proceeds to benefit:



Purchase tickets @uticarotary.org



Hosted By:

