



Rotary This Week!

Utica, NY, USA

Jan. 20, 2025

Rotary is a *Utica Thing*



By Joe Abraham

When it comes to community, service, and camaraderie, being in Rotary is truly a *Utica Thing*! Several members of our club gathered at *It's a Utica Thing* restaurant in North Utica for our January social last Thursday, proving once again that Rotary's heart beats strong in this wonderful city.

Pictured from left are Joe Caruso, Tina Pavlot, Joanne Moskal, Linda Iannone, Chris Vescera, President Travis Rabbers, Maggie Reed, Maryann Vanderpool-Imundo, Ralph Imundo, Zachary Nordstrom, and Matt Schlosser—just a few of the many who make being a Rotarian a Utica thing!



ROTARIANS AT 'FEED OUR VETS': (From left) Maggie Reed, Yuliya Karpov, PP Linda Iannone and Tracy Page represented our club as volunteers at Feed Our Vets this past Saturday. See PAGE 3.

Deadline for next newsletter (1/27) is Saturday, Jan. 25 at 3 p.m.; submit to news@uticarotaryclub.org.

Editor Robert Stronach

MEMBER MINUTE: Check out the Salesium tool

CNY Rotary, in honor of Vocational Service Month, shares a new tool that will help Rotarians connect with one another for business.

Salesium is a searchable database of Rotary-owned businesses or professional services from fellow members. You can use the site as a Pro, with a service to offer, or as a Customer who is just there to find services. Both types of accounts can search for services on the site where you will be able to find fellow Rotarians for whatever you need - insurance, real estate, travel, marketing, legal, etc.

“It’s always a great idea to do business with someone who lives by The Four Way Test!” notes Lizzy Martin, CNY Rotary president.

To make this a useful tool for all, any member who has a service to offer is invited to set up a Pro account right away. Completing your profile will make it so those with a Customer account can find you in searches for your services.

To learn more about this database, designed by a Rotarian, go here

<https://cnyrotary.org/page/salesium-business-directory>

Use the blue button on that page to get started setting up your profile.

“We will also be hosting two informational webinars (Jan. 22 and Jan. 27) focused on the Pro account set-up process,” President Lizzy says.



Get the zoom link for Wed, January 22nd at

<https://cnyrotary.org/event/salesium-webinar-for-pros/>

or Mon, January 27th at

<https://cnyrotary.org/event/salesium-webinar-for-pros-ii/>

“We hope members will take advantage of this as an expression of Vocational Service in celebrating and supporting one another’s professions. There are contacts on our *Salesium* page, found under the More Resources tab, if you have any questions.”

Rotarians at ‘Feed Our Vets’

Rotary Club of Utica took on a two-month service project of providing volunteers for Feed Our Vets. The first group (Maggie Reed, Yuliya Karpov, PP Linda Iannone and Tracy Page) helped at the 502 Board Street center on Jan. 18. The next crew is scheduled to volunteer on Feb. 15. Volunteers help stock shelves and bag items.

The organization provides food for military veterans in need.



Photos by Linda Iannone and Yuliya Karpov.

New Member Proposed: John Hammond

The board proposes John Hammond for membership to Rotary Club of Utica. Per bylaws, club members have five days to submit a written objection to Secretary Jill Koch.

John Hammon has spent over a decade in the non-profit sector, beginning as the maintenance supervisor for Valley Health Services in Herkimer and later serving as the facilities supervisor for the Utica Public Library. Since March 2023, he has been facilities manager for Catholic Charities of Oneida/Madison County.

His education included being homeschooled, followed by studies at Herkimer County Community College and SUNYIT.

He notes: “I was raised in Ilion and, for the past 13 years, my wife and I have called Herkimer home. We have two children — an 11-year-old daughter and a 9-year-old son — and we share our home with three cats and a dog, all of whom we were lucky to find at local animal shelters.”

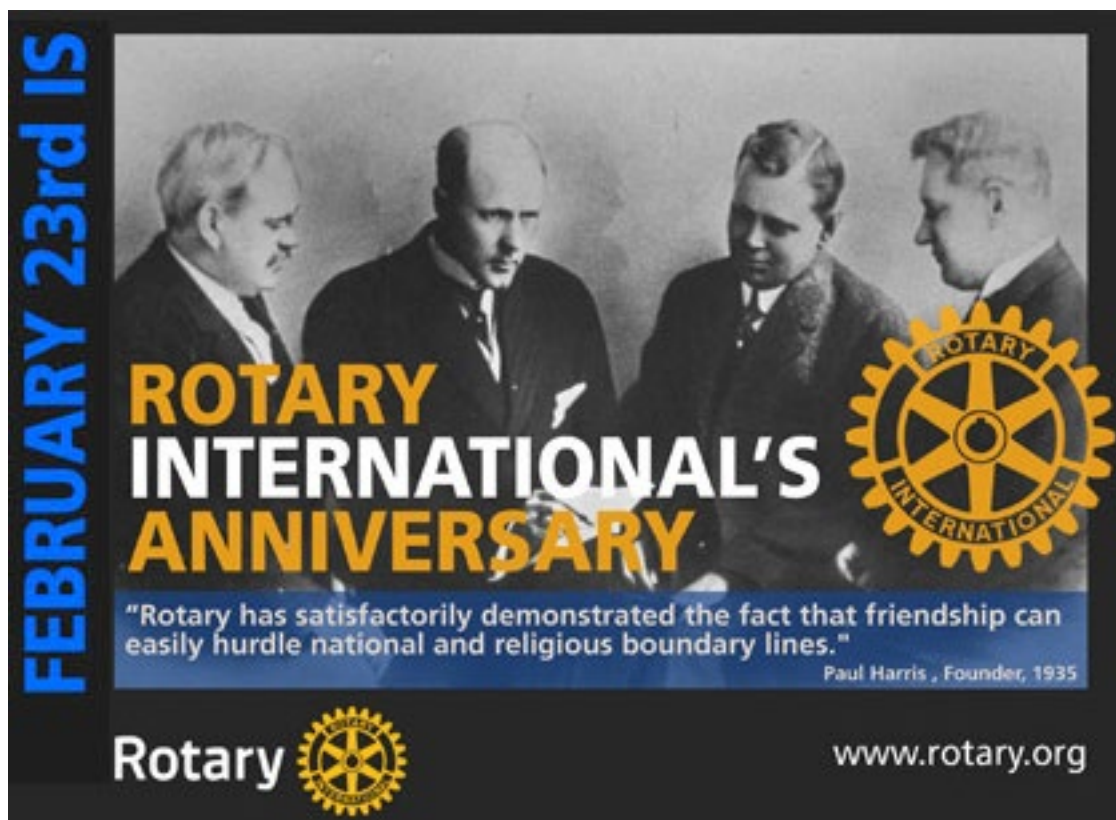
“Beyond my professional work, I am passionate about community engagement especially with my kids,” he adds. “I am currently an assistant coach for my son’s Herkimer AYSO 10U soccer team, and my family and I are enthusiastic supporters of the UCFC. We also enjoy traveling and spending time together in the Mohawk Valley and beyond.”

He says he is committed to fostering a strong community and looks forward to “collaborating with others who share the same dedication to making a positive impact.”



Regarding Rotary, he notes:

“I have had the privilege of encountering several Rotary Club members over the past five years while working in Utica, first at the Utica Public Library and now at Catholic Charities. I have always been impressed by their dedication and eagerness to make a positive impact on our community. After attending the ‘Not-So-Silent Auction’ and having an in-depth conversation with our Director of Development, Jennifer Hagen, about her experiences, I felt inspired to apply for membership. I am eager to dedicate my time and energy to embody the values of service and community leadership that your members exemplify.”



In celebration of Rotary International's 120th anniversary, a district-wide event will be held on February 23, bringing together members and friends for an afternoon of camaraderie, reflection, and fun. The event will take place simultaneously across the district, with Areas 2 and 3 gathering at Gerber's on Liberty Street in Utica from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

The festive atmosphere promises to be a memorable one, as attendees enjoy complimentary coffee and cupcakes, with a cash bar available for

those looking to raise a glass in honor of Rotary's incredible journey over the past century and two decades. Guests are welcome to bring their own snacks as well.

Mark your calendars and join us at Gerber's for a wonderful afternoon of celebration, as we honor the Rotary legacy and look forward to many more years of service to others. Watch your email for an invite in early February with a link to RSVP.

Calendar of Events

- 1/23** Social | Rotary Ski Trip to Gore Mountain
- 1/30** Meeting | Joseph Chevrette, Inizio noon | Mid-York Library

- 2/6** Meeting | Hilda Jordan HMI Consulting noon | ThINCubator