

## **ROTARY THIS WEEK!**

January 4, 2022

## Not So Silent Night event raised \$3,100 for Thea Bowman House

Approximately 50 members and guests bid on over 25 silent auction gifts to raise funds for Thea Bowman House on December 16 at Delta Hotels by Marriott. In addition, three lucky individuals won one (or more) of the four raffle packages. The auction and raffle raised \$3,100, which was presented to Thea Bowman House's staff and board members by President Stephen Turnbull and committee chair Brett Shippee. Many thanks for everyone's support and participation and kudos to the event committee for a wonderful evening!





# This Week's Program

Please join us for this special program meeting where we formally welcome 10 new members to the club! Some of these individuals have been members for almost a year and some are fairly new to the club but, due to the pandemic, we have not had a chance to give them a Utica Rotary welcome. The new members will be briefly introduced by their sponsors and each member will briefly give a speech. A meet-and-greet with cookies and beverages will follow the introductions. Please see page 2 for a list of new members to date.

#### WIN A FREE 2022-23 CLUB MEMBERSHIP!!!

Attend this meeting in person or virtually to be eligible (only one free membership will be given away).

FRIDAY | January 7 | 12 p.m. Mid York Library System 1600 Lincoln Ave. | Utica, NY Virtually via Zoom

Deadline for next newsletter (1/11) is Monday, January 10, at noon; submit to <u>news@uticarotaryclub.org</u>





TAKE ACTION: www.uticarotary.org

## Meet our new members...

**Heather Sweet:** Heather grew up in Clinton and studied business economics at Providence College. She works for her family's business, Braden Packaging, as Vice President and is charged with growing and maintaining the metro NY business. Heather decided to join Rotary after going to a Rotary event at the Utica Zoo with her uncle, DG Dana Jerrard. Heather is on the finance committee for the Utica Zoo and volunteers at Upstate Cerebral Palsy.

**Patrick Johnson:** Patrick specializes in race and race relations, harm reduction, community relations, and education about institutional and societal racism. He serves as a moderator in minimizing gun violence within our city, as a facilitator for anti-racism workshops, and is the founder of the Hoops and Dreams basketball program, which functions to promote peace and understanding within our underserved community.

**Scott MacGregor:** Having recently moved back to the Utica area in October of 2019, Scott was looking for a way to both give back to, and become more involved in, our community and believed that Rotary would be an excellent way to accomplish both of those goals. He graduated from Duquesne University School of Law in 1994, and currently is the VP of Operations at CABVI, overseeing its Retail Sales and IT divisions.

**Brett Shippee:** Brett was born and raised in a tiny town called Oxbow, not too far from the Canadian border. He wanted to join Rotary to give back to the community that so quickly welcomed him. He recently joined with two business partners to start their own insurance agency. The agency, much like his own goals, is all about making a difference, providing value, and thinking outside of the box. Brett is excited to be a part of the Rotary organization that takes such a strong stance on community action and making a difference in the local community.

**Christine Kisiel:** Christine is Executive Director of the American Heart Association since February 2019. Christine has been fulfilling the American Heart Association's mission to champion health equity in the local community with a focus on women's health, blood pressure, nutrition security and tobacco and vaping. To support these efforts, Christine has created a network of community leaders who would like to positively impact the health of the Mohawk Valley.

**Isabelle Alexander-Klaboe:** Isabelle is Executive Director of Living Independently is for Everyone at RCIL, lnc. (LIFE at RCIL). She has 15 years of professional experience in management, sales, and customer service with a large focus on community engagement and relations. Isabelle looks forward to working with our community to further improve the lives of individuals with disabilities by advocating for equal access and opportunities.

**Clyde Vanderpool:** Clyde attended New York Mills schools and Hartwick College, where he a BA in Philosophy. Clyde served in the U.S. Navy for five years and completed two deployments. After the Navy, Clyde attended Suny Polytechnic where he received a BS in Electrical and Computer Engineering. He currently works at Northrop Grumman as a Systems/Field Engineer. He is excited to become a member of the Utica Rotary as he has enjoyed attending Rotary functions with his stepfather, Ralph Immundo.

**Jim Friedel:** Jim was originally a member of the New Hartford Rotary Club in the early 2000s but had to leave due to his work schedule. In talking with members of Rotary Club of Utica, Jim learned that our club provides many ways to give back to our community. Ready to give back to our community, Jim requested to become a member of the club. Jim is a licensed funeral director with the Friedel, Williams & Edmunds Funeral and Cremation Services in New Hartford and Utica.

Ashley Paolozzi: information unavailable at time of printing.

David Smith: information unavailable at time of printing.



Heather Sweet



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Jim Friedel