



Rotary This Week!

Utica, NY, USA

July 22, 2024

'SEEDS OF CHANGE'

President Travis welcomes the 'Wild Ones' gardeners

By Joe Abraham

To say the seeds of the new Rotary year were successfully planted last Thursday is apropos for a couple of reasons. The first is that it was Travis Rabbers' first

meeting as club president, and second was in his welcoming of Wild Ones Mohawk Valley's Jennifer Geiger and Maggie Reilly. *(Continued / next page)*



A double-hitter on the July 25

President Travis reminds club members that our after-hours social is this Thursday, July 25 at 7 Hamlets in Westmoreland.

Earlier that same day, our club will do an official check presentation to RCIL. Our "Service Above Self" Gala raised a total of \$12,432.76 for RCIL's "Arts for Many Hearts" program.

Play or volunteer at golf tourney

Jerry Kraus, the radio doctor, Facebook Wordle commissioner, or in this case, Rotary Golf Outing chairperson, says there are still spots available to form a team for the club's golf outing at Hidden Valley Golf Course in Whitesboro on Sunday, August 18. Jerry needs volunteers, too, especially a hole-in-one watcher, as well as door prize donations.

Deadline for next newsletter (7/29) is Saturday, July 27 at 3 p.m.; submit to news@uticarotaryclub.org.

Editor Robert Stronach

MEETING RECAP

President Travis welcomes Wild Ones

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The Wild Ones educate and support homeowners as they learn and develop their own native landscapes. Their goal, more specifically, is to help people make their yards beautiful and sustainable while having the support and enjoyment of being a part of a community of fellow gardeners and native plant enthusiasts.

The organization's activities include garden tours, field trips to natural areas, annual plant sale, visits to native nurseries, educational presentations, volunteering with other non-profits, and planting events where we share tips and learn from each other.

In their presentation, Jennifer gave a history and overview of the organization, while Maggie educated club members on what they could do to help the environment by introducing native plants to their gardens.

The duo explained that in addition to a 'climate crisis,' there is also a 'biodiversity crisis.' While one person's introduction of native plants, as well as the eliminating of things like pesticides from the yard alone, won't solve the problem, it will certainly help.

"I like to tell people to take a walk in the woods and that's how you'll learn how to plant your [native] garden," Maggie



Jennifer Geiger and Maggie Reilly. Photos by Travis Rabbers.

explained.

Later on, when Utica Rotary Treasurer Darby O'Brien asked if Maggie's neighbors ever pushed back about her native garden, she jokingly said, "No, they just think I'm crazy!"

The organization provides many resources in educating the public on how to introduce native plants into their gardens, with a recommended target for interested parties having their gardens be 70 percent native plants.

For more info on their organization, visit mohawkvalley.wildones.org/.

Trivia challenge

In addition to a 50/50 raffle to start each meeting, President Travis has added a trivia question, with the Utica Rotarian or guest with the correct or closest answer receiving a gift card to the location of our club social outing for that month. In 1978, when the Boilermaker began as a 15K road race, Travis asked, how many runners participated? The answer was 876 runners.

Storm assistance

Our hearts go out to our friends in Rome who

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MEETING RECAP

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experienced a EF2 Tornado last week. President Travis noted that he would be sharing ways club members could get involved and/or donate to assist our neighbors as they look to rebuild in the aftermath of the storm.

August meetings & more

August Utica Rotary meetings

will fall on August 1 and 15. President Travis shared that the Utica Zoo’s Brewfest is on August 3, and that Rome Rotary’s CanalFest, happening the same day in Rome, is requesting volunteers.


Downtown cleanup

President Travis also asked club members to mark their

calendars because our service project on August 24 will see us holding a clean-up in Downtown Utica, possibly by the Adirondack Bank Center and Nexus Center.

Bike ride for pink

Past President Israel Acosta is organizing a bike ride for Real Men Wear Pink on Sunday, September 29.



CNY Rotary

CNY Rotary President Lizzy Martin announced that the district’s new website is now live at www.CNYRotary.org.

Check out the site. More info and resources will be added over the next few months. Member input is welcomed using the *contact us* page.

Some highlights:

- The new CNY Rotary News Network is accessible right in the nav bar, where you can read the latest news from clubs and regional leaders.
- Submit your news now at news@cnyrotary.org.
- The Conference 2025 committee is looking for ideas on breakout topics.

Calendar of Events

7/25	Club Social 7 Hamlets 5:00 pm	8/18	Rotary Charity Golf Outing Hidden Valley, Whitesboro
8/1	Meeting Debra Born from Quanterion Solutions noon Mid-York Library	8/21	Board Meeting noon Greater Utica Chamber
8/15	Meeting Gina Pearce from Green Utica noon Mid-York Library	8/24	Service Clean up downtownn
		8/29	Club Social Cavallos 5:00 pm

UTICA ROYALTIES PRESENTS

UTICA STARS

TALENT SHOW AUDITION!!

TALENT
SHOW ON
AUG 16
5-7:30PM

CALLING ALL

OPEN TO
ALL



DANCERS



MUSICIANS



SINGERS

GRAND PRIZE \$250

DOORS OPEN AT 4:45 PM, AUDITION STARTS AT 5 PM

Free Entry

Friday August 2nd 5pm - 7pm

726 Washington St. Utica, NY 13502



POETRY
SPOKEN WORD



COMEDIANS

call or text for more info 315-224-5277
Scan QR code to register!
Nonprofits vendors are welcome

