

Utica Rotary Hub



Utica, NY, USA

March 2, 2026

This week's program features Capt. Kelly Ross

This week's program speaker is Capt. Kelly Ross, a Salvation Army officer for 15 years as of this June. The Utica Rotary meeting gets underway at noon Thursday at Mid-York Library headquarters, 1600 Lincoln Ave., Utica.

Throughout her ministry, Captain Kelly has served alongside her husband, Captain Jonathon (a member of the Rotary Club of Utica).

Their journey began in Riverhead, NY, where they spent four years building relationships and meeting local needs. From there, they served six impactful years in Port Jervis. One of her most meaningful memories from that time came during the height of COVID, when The Salvation Army became the primary meal-delivery service for local school lunches —delivering more than 300 meals every day to children and families.

After Port Jervis, they spent two years in Newburgh, NY, and for the past three years have been serving in Utica, with its soup kitchen, food pantry, youth programs, mobile canteen that feeds



Captains Jonathon and Kelly Ross, co-directors and co-pastors of the Utica Salvation Army.

people in need on the streets, plus other activities.

Kelly and Jonathan recently celebrated 30 years of marriage. Outside of ministry, Captain Kelly says she “finds joy in running races (including two Boilermakers), hiking mountain trails, and paddle-boarding throughout beautiful Upstate New York.”

February's Service Project



Utica Rotarians helped with a fundraising spaghetti dinner for Hospice & Palliative Care, on Feb. 22 at Michael T's.

Submit news and photos to news@uticarotaryclub.org

Editor Robert Stronach



CNY Rotary's District Conference returns in April to Syracuse at the Downtown Marriott.

- The conference itself is one day (Saturday, April 11) and full of speakers and breakout sessions. The cost of attendance is \$100 (includes lunch and dinner). *(The club will reimburse the \$100 registration fee.)*
- There are optional activities taking place Friday and Sunday (including service projects).

There is a discounted hotel rate at the Downtown Marriott of \$175 a night for a limited time (book by March 10). If you are interested in staying over, book ASAP.

For more info about planned activities, registration and/or to book a hotel stay, visit this link!

<https://cnyrotary.org/events/conference-2026/>

New Member Proposed: Andy Ryan

The board proposes Andy Ryan for membership to Rotary Club of Utica. Per bylaws, club members have five days to submit a written objection to Secretary Matt Schlosser.

Andy Ryan is a technology editor and content strategist who leads editorial and content marketing programs for global technology companies. He currently serves as a technology editor at Highwire, where he oversees cross-functional teams and works closely with executives to shape thought leadership on AI, cybersecurity and enterprise innovation.

Andy has built and led high-performing content teams throughout his career. He focuses on operational excellence, clear storytelling and practical innovation, including the responsible use of AI tools to improve workflows and productivity.

He lives in New Hartford with his wife, Suzanne, and their 13-year-old son, Luke, an eighth grader at Perry Middle School.

He says he wants to join Rotary "to build stronger connections within the Utica and greater Mohawk Valley business community."

He adds: "As a remote professional, I work with



teams and clients across the country, but I want to invest more deeply in the community where I live. Rotary offers a meaningful way to do both. I look forward to forging closer relationships with local business leaders and becoming more involved in service initiatives that make a tangible impact in our area."

FEBRUARY'S SOCIAL OUTING



Rotarians gathered for the club's monthly social outing on February 19, this time at Delta Hotels (the former Radisson).

Calendar of Events

- | | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|--|
| 3/5 | Meeting Capt. Kelly Ross
The Salvation Army
noon Mid-York Library HQ | 3/26 | Club Social TBD |
| 3/7 | Training Rotary Leadership Institute
Johnson City | 4/2 | Meeting at Utica Coffee
300 Water Street |
| 3/18 | Board Meeting Board of Directors
noon Greater Utica Chamber | 4/11 | Conference CNY Rotary District
Downtown Marriott, Syracuse |

SOCCKER SOCIAL OUTING



by Joe Abraham

Utica Rotarians and family members gathered at the Utica City Football Club game for their monthly social on Sunday afternoon, March 1. *From left* Regan and John Hammond, Travis Rabbers, Joe Johnson, Joe Abraham, Chris Viscera, Linda Iannone, Matt Schlosser and David Bagley. Utica FC had a 5-2 lead but the visiting Wave came back to tie things at 5 late in the game forcing OT. Utica lost 5-6.

It was Bosnian Heritage Night with cultural performances through the evening in conjunction with the UCFC game.



FIFTH ANNUAL SERVICE ABOVE SELF GALA

Friday, June 5 • 6 to 10 p.m.
The Stanley Theatre

AVAILABLE SPONSORSHIPS

PRESENTING SPONSOR: \$5,000

- Presenting Name
- 8 Tickets/Tables Included
- Promotional Video Business
- Logo Table Outside
- Name on Front of Gala
- Name on All Advertising & Promotion
- Social Media Thank You

SILVER SPONSOR: \$1,000

- 2 Tickets Included
- Name on All Advertising & Promotion
- Logo & Name Recognition At Event
- Social Media Thank You

CORPORATE TABLE: \$1,200

- Seats 8

GOLD SPONSOR: \$2,500

(Only 4 Available)

- 4 Tickets Included
- Naming Sponsor (Dinner, Cocktail, Awards or Music)
- Name on All Advertising & Promotion
- Information Table in Lobby at Event
- Logo & Name Recognition At Event
- Social Media Thank You

BRONZE SPONSOR: \$500

- Logo & Name Recognition At Event
- Social Media Thank You

CONTACT:

Travis Rabbers, Rabbe1ta@gmail.com, or
Stephen Turnbull, stephen@t5insurance.com

Friday, June 5th 2026
Stanley Theatre
6:00-10:00PM

Gala Beneficiary:



Wear something cool and promote Rotary, too

Check out all of our Utica Rotary merchandise at:
https://maxsprintshopstores.com/rotary_club/shop/home



Home Products

Sign In



Pick Your Order Up At Max's Print Shop In Marcy For Free.



Utica Rotary Men's Origin Performance Polo



Utica Rotary Ladies' Origin Performance Polo



Utica Rotary Ladies' Zone Performance Quarter-Zip



Utica Rotary MANTA RAY BOONIE HAT

\$49.00



Utica Rotary Snapback Trucker Cap

\$12.00



Utica Rotary Adult Cuffed Knit Beanie

\$39.00



Ladies' Easy Blend Long-Sleeve Twill Shirt with Stain-Release



Utica Rotary Men's Easy Blend Short-Sleeve Twill Shirt with Stain-Release



Utica Rotary Ladies' Easy Blend Short-Sleeve Twill Shirt with Stain-Release