

# Rotary This Week!



Utica, NY, USA

Nov. 20, 2023

## A time of gratitude and giving

By Joe Abraham



President Linda Iannone began last Thursday's meeting with an important message, that this is a season to be grateful, to say thank you, even as illness, war, racism, scarcity and greed, climate disasters, political unrest, and so many more uncertainties surround us.

It is a time to appreciate what we have, to focus on what is good in our lives, and to pause to notice what we of-

ten take for granted. *"Breathe in Gratitude,"* she said.

The holidays are also a time of giving, if one is able. **Giving Tuesday, for example, is right around the corner on November 28**, where many great charities and organizations will be seeking donations to advance the good work they do in our community, and in the world.

*Continued on next page.*

## Tree thank-you

By Dave Jones

I received a beautiful thank-you card from one of the recipients of our latest tree planting project. It reads:

*"Dear Rotary Club Members. Thank you so much for your urban tree program! I am one of the grateful recipients of an Adirondack Crabapple tree, and I know I will get many years of enjoyment from it. The squirrels already are loving it as they climb to eat and knock down the little apples. Thank you again! Linda MacDonald."*

I was happy that this person took the time to thank us!



Rotary helps 'Flags for Heroes'. See PAGE 4.



Deadline for next newsletter (11/27) is Saturday, Nov. 26 at 3 p.m.; submit to [news@uticarotaryclub.org](mailto:news@uticarotaryclub.org).

Editor Robert Stronach

# Meeting recap: gratitude and giving

*continued from previous page*



On the subject of giving, many Rotarians would agree that an excellent cause to support is the Rotary Foundation, which was the main topic of the meeting, and who better to speak about it than Past District Governor and Past Utica Rotary President Don Reese, who has served as the district's Rotary Foundation Committee Chair and will continue to serve in that role with CNY Rotary.

Don has been a Group Study Exchange Committee Chair, a District Trainer, a Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator, a Rotary International President's Representative and served on the District's Foundation Committee as Sub-Chair for Global Grants from 2014-2021. He has multiple Paul Harris awards, a member of the Paul Harris Society and District Polio Plus Society and is a Bequest Society Member. He has also been involved with the Council on Legislation.

Don reminded Rotarians that donations to the Foundation, which was founded in 1917, returns in three years to our district in the form of grants, unlike

donations we may make to other organizations.

Since it was founded more than 100 years ago, the Foundation has spent more than \$4 billion on life-changing, sustainable projects. According to the Foundation's website, for as little as 60 cents, a child can be protected from polio, and a \$50 donation can provide clean water to help fight waterborne illness. For more info about the Foundation, [click here](#).

## MEETING BRIEFS

- **BYLAWS:** The Club's Board of Directors met Wednesday and discussed making some changes to the By-Laws regarding the number of members on the board. Secretary Jill Koch presented the changes to the members in attendance. A vote was taken and the changes were voted upon and passed. A copy of the changes will be provided to all members.

- **GIVE-ME-5:** President Linda informed the club that its "Give Me 5" effort, which will go toward the Polio Plus campaign, is still happening so if you have not do-

*Continued on next page.*



# Meeting recap

*continued from previous page*

nated your \$5, please do so soon by cash, check or through our website.

- **EDUCATORS:** Bart Gorman is beginning the process for the Outstanding Educator awards to be held in the spring. Our club is seeking another person to assist with this project. It consists of working with area high schools, teachers and guidance counselors. This is a very important event for our club and we would like to see others get involved to help Bart.

- **NO MEETING:** On November 23 and 30 there will be no meetings due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

- **NOT SO SILENT:** Next month's So-

cial Event will be on December 7 with the Not So Silent Night Auction at Tavern 72. Please bring a wrapped gift of at least \$50 with a clue as to what is inside to help the bidding!

- **BELL RINGING:** Salvation Army Bell ringing will take place on December 16 at Chanatry's. Volunteers are still needed from 3:00-4:00, 4:00-5:00 and 5:00-6:00 p.m. Please reach out to Linda to sign-up. The Salvation Army is also looking for volunteers to help pack food boxes for seniors for the holiday.

- A special congrats to Past President Dana Jerrard, who is a new grandfather!





# Flags for Heroes

Some members of our club joined community volunteers on the Parkway last Monday to assist with taking down flags and returning them to The Good News Center as part of the Flags for Heroes effort. The event proved that many hands make light work as the flags were collected and placed on the truck within 15 minutes!





# A night of art and fellowship!

A number of our members attended the Sculpture Space event last Wednesday that our club sponsored. The event also served as our November social outing. President Linda reports that there was good food and beverages and our members had the opportunity to mingle with attendees and meet the artists in residence.



#UnDiaParaDarAR #GIVINGTUESDAY AUSTRALIA #GIVINGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAY Dia de Doar #GIVINGTUESDAY #UndiaparadarCL #DiaParaDarColombia

#GI♥INGTUESDAYCOSTARICA #GIVINGTUESDAYCRO #GivingTuesdayDenmark #UnDiaparadarRD #GI♥INGTUESDAY #TekojenTiista #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAY

**Support The Rotary Foundation on**  
**GIVING TUESDAY**  
**A Global Day of Generosity**

#GivingTuesdayIndia #GIVINGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAY™ #MyGiving #undiparadar GivingTuesdayNepal #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAYNIGERIA #GivingTuesdayPanama

#GIVINGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GIVINGTUESDAYPR #Giving Week #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAYSWEDEN #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GivingTuesdayTW #GI♥INGTUESDAY #GI♥INGTUESDAY

**Not So 2023**

**SILENT NIGHT**

**GIFT AUCTION**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**THURSDAY,**  
**DECEMBER 7th**  
**6:00-7:30PM**

**72 TAVERN & GRILL**  
**400 ORISKANY ST W**  
**MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW**

**Presented By**

**Proceeds To Benefit**

**MOHAWK VALLEY WELLNESS**

**MIDTOWN UTICA COMMUNITY CENTER**

## Calendar of Events

- |       |  |       |   |
|-------|--|-------|---|
| 12/07 | Meeting  <br>noon   Mid-York Library                 | 12/20 | Board Meeting<br>noon   Greater Utica Chamber |
| 12/7  | Auction   “Not So Silent Night”<br>6 pm   72 Tavern  | 12/21 | Meeting  <br>noon   Mid-York Library          |
| 12/16 | Service   Salvation Army Kettle<br>12-6   Chanatry’s |       |   |