

# Rotary

## Club of Utica



# ROTARY THIS WEEK!

October 31, 2022

## This week's program: SHP's beds for kids

This Thursday's program features Steve Sperbeck, Utica chapter president of *Sleep in Heavenly Peace* (SHP), which provides beds for children in need.

Steve is also general manager of Erl Intermodal Corp., a local trucking company that services the ports of NY/NJ with 60 trucks and 70 employees.

SHP Utica was started over a year ago on August 22. That first day the team built six beds, and started delivering beds locally on September 1.

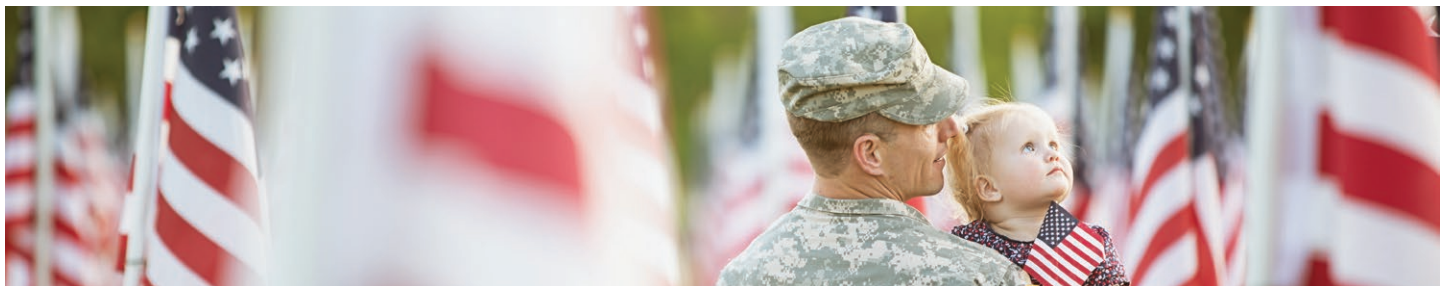


"Since that first delivery, we have now delivered 700 beds to our community," Steve notes. "Each bed has a value of \$250 so that is a \$175,000 give-back to our community."

Steve is a hockey fan (Utica Comets season ticket holder). His favorite baseball and football teams are the Yankees and the Cowboys.

He lives in Frankfort with wife Lisa and daughter Celena. Steve spent 25 years in the volunteer fire service and was chief of Frankfort Hill VFC for five years.

**Thursday | November 3 | Noon**  
**Mid York Library System**  
**1600 Lincoln Ave. | Utica, NY 13502**  
**Virtually via Zoom**



## Service project: 'Flags for Heroes'

by Michelle Brandstadt

The club's service project for November is assisting The Good News Center with its *Flags for Heroes* project. In addition to sponsoring a flag, we have indicated that we will assist with the setting up and taking down of flags on Memorial Parkway.

Volunteers will meet at The Parkway Center at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 2. We will help unload the rebar and flags, and unravel them, on the grass median.

Notre Dame NJROTC cadets will post the flags. Depending on the number of volunteers, this should take around 3 to 4 hours. Then on Monday, Nov. 14, flags and rebar will be picked up, loaded onto a truck and brought back to The Good News Center to be unloaded.

The Center will provide lunch each day so a head count is needed.

**Please let Michelle Brandstadt (315-272-8425 / [fillableformdesigns@gmail.com](mailto:fillableformdesigns@gmail.com)) know by noon Monday, Oct. 31, which day you are able to assist at *Flags for Heroes*.**

Deadline for next newsletter (11/07) is Sunday, November 6, at noon; submit to [news@uticarotaryclub.org](mailto:news@uticarotaryclub.org).



**TAKE ACTION:** [www.uticarotary.org](http://www.uticarotary.org)

## Last call for urban tree planting (Nov. 5)

by Michelle Brandstadt

Thanks to the efforts of Dave Jones (district grant) and Jerry Kraus (golf tournament), the club was able to purchase 27 trees for the Utica Rotary Tree Planting Project, which is in its second year.

With the trees arriving on Nov. 3, and the city augering the holes on Nov. 4, the trees will be planted at 26 homes throughout Utica on Saturday, Nov. 5. We need volunteers, pickup trucks and trailers.

Volunteers will meet at the Utica Parks Department, 233 Valley View Road, at 9 a.m. Saturday. Like last year, with enough volunteers we should be done by noon. There is NO RAIN DATE! Please bring gloves, rakes and shovels.

Rotarians, family and friends are welcome. **Please confirm availability and equipment with Dave Jones at: davidjones0422@gmail.com.**



## Update from Rotaract Club

by Angeline Viti, Rotaract president

We have decided to work with the *Underground Cafe Teen Center* to serve local teenagers in the area. This project will allow us to help with homework and tutoring, sports and video games, arts and crafts.

We have also decided to work with *Anita's Steven Swan Humane Society* to assist them with anything they may need help with at the animal shelter.

**UTICA**  
**UNIVERSITY**

## College student internships

Paid internships are being offered to area college students by the Rotary Club of Utica. Applications are being accepted now for the spring and fall academic semesters of 2022-23. **Deadline for applying is Nov. 1, 2022.** Apply online at [uticarotary.org](http://uticarotary.org) (click on Rotaract).

Through paid internships with local businesses, students will be able to apply their academic knowledge in a professional setting and gain skills that will be invaluable to their future careers. In addition, area businesses will be able to evaluate students for possible future employment.

**If your business would like to participate, please contact: [internship@uticarotaryclub.org](mailto:internship@uticarotaryclub.org)**

**Rotaract**



## Calendar of Events

- 11/02 Service Project | Flags for Heroes 9 a.m., Memorial Parkway**
- 11/03 Program | Sleep in Heavenly Peace Noon, Mid-York Library System**
- 11/05 Service | Urban Tree Planting 9 a.m., Utica Parks Dept.**



## PRIDE OF WORKMANSHIP AND WOMEN ROTARIANS

### A bit of history from Norm Kolb

PP Norm Kolb, a retired Utica Rotary member living in Virginia, called the editor to say how much he enjoyed keeping up with Rotary news via the club newsletter – and that he especially liked the story behind the Pride of Workmanship Award in the Oct. 24th issue.

Offering a bit of history, Norm gave credit to long-time Rotarian Stu Williams, who was president (1990-91) when the club launched the Pride of Workmanship program, and then Norm reminisced about his tenure as club president (1987-88).

“The thing I was most proud of when I was president, we brought in the first women (Rotarians),” despite some male grumbling. It was important, he said, for the future of Rotary.

To continue this historical jaunt, the first woman president of Utica Rotary was Linda Allen (1998-99). She was followed by Georgiana Roberts Ide in 2002-03, Darby O’Brien in 2004-05, Angela VanDerhoof in 2012-13, Pam Matt in 2013-14, Jill Koch in 2017-18, and our current president, Tina Pavlot, whose theme, “Imagine Rotary,” coincides with that of Jennifer Jones, first female president of Rotary International.

Jennifer imagines a Rotary where members act to make their dreams become reality, advance diversity and inclusion, create a welcoming club experience, empower girls, and expand Rotary’s reach.

As Norm said, it’s the future of Rotary.

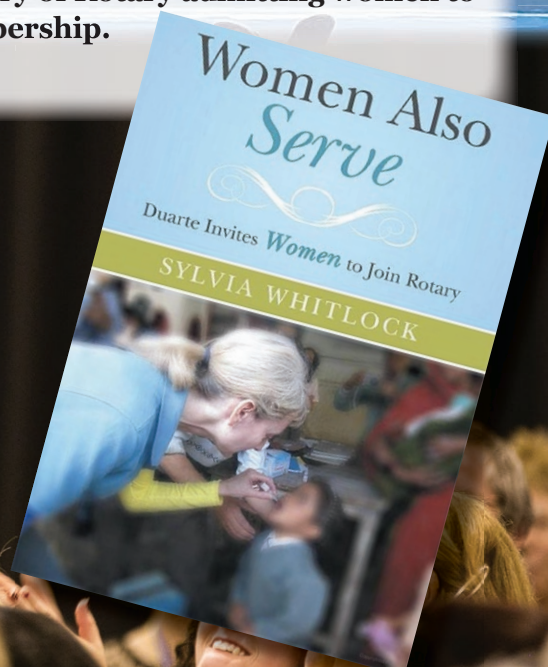
### WHO WAS FIRST?

Who was the first-ever female president of a Rotary club?

That honor goes to Dr. Sylvia Whitlock of Duarte, California (1987-88). Armed with a PhD in education and a master’s in marriage and family therapy, Dr. Whitlock served as an educator for 40 years before beginning a second career as a family therapist.

A multiple Paul Harris Fellow and benefactor, Sylvia has supported an orphanage in Mexico, sunk wells in Nigeria and raised nearly \$90,000 to educate girls in India.

At the urging of Rotarians and friends, she eventually wrote a book describing the history of Rotary admitting women to its membership.





## Bowlers raise over \$8,000 to help eradicate polio

Rotarians from four clubs hurled balls down the lanes last week, sending pins flying and raising more than \$8,000 for Polio Plus.

The 4th Annual Pin Down Polio event was held Oct. 26 at Vista Lanes in Yorkville during the week of World Polio Day (Oct. 24). Over 65 bowlers and guests participated, representing

four Area 2 and 3 clubs – Utica, North Utica-Whitestown, New Hartford, and Sauquoit.

Co-Chairs Stephen Turnbull (Utica Rotary) and Stephen Karboski (North Utica-Whitestown Rotary) reported that the event itself brought in \$2,762, and with 2-for-1 matching funds from the Bill and Melinda Gates

Foundation, the actual total raised was \$8,286.

Added Utica Rotary President Tina Pavlot: "Collectively these clubs have raised over \$20,000 in the past five years to help eradicate polio. Big thanks to Steve Turnbull and Steve Karboski for championing this event again! And a bigger thanks to all our sponsors!"

