



Baldwinsville
Rotary
Club



NEWSLETTER

Dec 2021



President Bill Rosentel
*with Youth Exchange Students
at the Soup 'n Snowshoe*

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SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

As we get close to the end of 2021, it has definitely been an unusual two years, but we have been getting back into more of what we were used to before Covid, while still staying aware of the threat it still presents. With vaccinations, we are able to gather more together, as evident by the in-person meetings, Charter night and Christmas Party. We are still doing our best to prevent the spread by wearing masks at the meeting, regardless of vaccination status.

For those not yet comfortable with meeting in-person, we will continue to have all our meetings as hybrids and we have purchased some cables, a wide-angle camera and headset mic to make the Zoom experience better, sign in and check it out at the next meeting.

In the last few weeks, we completed a great Charter Night and supported our first responders by serving food at the Parade of Lights staging area. Now as we move forward with the Rotary year, there is much more ahead of us, starting with the Old Newsboys Newspaper fundraiser to support the Syracuse Christmas Bureau, the new board game donation organized by our new Donations Committee to support the B'ville Christmas Bureau, and in January there will another Big Chill event this year. We will be going back to it's usual format with plungers going into the cold Seneca River and a taste of Baldwinsville tent.

So, as we all get ready for a joyous holiday season, let's always do what we can to help those less fortunate, by volunteering for an event, inside or outside of Rotary, or coming up with a new idea that our club can get behind.

As always, if there is something to make your Rotary experience better, or improve the meetings or events, please bring it to my attention, I am always open to suggestions or criticism, it is what makes us all better. We will be taking a break for the holidays with no meetings on Dec 22nd, 28th and 29th so that you can focus on family and friends. We are planning a Club in the Pub at Sal's on Tuesday, Dec 21st to get the holiday started. Please plan to stop by.

I want to wish each and every member a very happy holiday season, and may this year ahead bring you many blessings and good fortune.

Sincerely,
Club President Bill Rosentel

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WE WANT YOUR NEWS

Club members are encouraged to submit news for the newsletter each month. It could be something happy from your personal life, an update from a committee you lead or a question for the new Ask Rotary feature.

Send to Lizzy or
bvillerotary1@yahoo.com
by the 25th of each month.



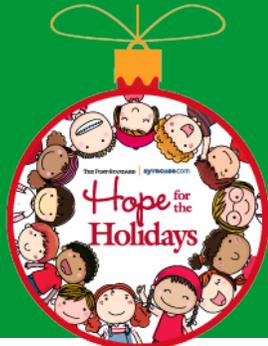
NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

In November we met Ashley Phelps and Alexa Picciano, and their families, as we celebrated them as our Students of the Month. They were chosen by their guidance counselors for exhibiting the same values that we espouse in Rotary - kindness, integrity and willing to serve any time, any where. Ashley (right photo) is the vice president of Baldwinsville Interact and enjoys dirt car racing - a fun sport that her family participates in. She plans to go to college for business and marketing because she likes being creative and also being her own boss. Alexa (left photo) is in Honor Society and Key Club (although we might have convinced her to switch to Interact!), and she works at Wegman's with her twin sister. She wants to go on to college to become a history teacher. Both young ladies were poised and well-spoken, even though we know how hard that was when we had to speak publicly as teenagers. It was a fun night celebrating them and encouraging them to continue on their paths as leaders. Join us the second Tuesday of each month for this special presentation (we usually eat cake at the end!).



SUPPORT OUR OLD NEWSBOYS

If you weren't able to hawk newspapers with us for this year's [Old Newsboys Hope for the Holidays](#) campaign to raise money for the CNY Christmas Bureau, you can still help. Come to the drive thru at the Dunkin in the village from 7-11am Friday or Saturday Dec 10 & 11 and give fellow Rotarians your donation. Online donations will also be accepted through December 31st by clicking [here](#) to donate or by texting HFTH2021 to 41444. If you donate online, use the field available to indicate you are supporting the Baldwinsville Rotary Club team. This is the 90th year of this fundraiser that supported over 2,000 families last year with food, books and toys to ensure thousands of children in Onondaga County will have a fun holiday. Thanks to all those who were able to volunteer to help hawk papers this year!



ASK ROTARY

Ask anything about Rotary, our club or our language. Submit your questions to Lizzy each month to get your answers!

QUESTION: I hear a lot of acronyms being used and I don't know what they mean. There's something called RILA or RLI. I don't know if they are the same or even what they are. Can you please translate?

ANSWER: Yes, we have a lot of acronyms in Rotary. We try to say the full names of things when new members are within earshot, but we're also human and can forget. Never hesitate to ask a Rotarian if they say an acronym you have not heard of before! The ones you mentioned are RYLA and RLI and they are two very different things. RYLA stands for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards. This is a program our district hosts each summer where high school sophomores and juniors spend a weekend at Cazenovia College honing their leadership skills. The goal is to promote volunteering as a great opportunity for them to grow as leaders. Our club sponsors two students to attend each year (hopefully it will be reinstated in 2022 after two years off due to COVID). RLI stands for Rotary Leadership Institute, so I guess they aren't totally different since the "R" and the "L" stand for the same things! Rotary Leadership Institute is a partner program for Rotary that teaches leadership skills to Rotarians. It's a facilitated learning program where Rotarians come to share successes and challenges on various topics. There are three levels of this training to complete in order to graduate and then graduate classes offered for ongoing education. It's an awesome program where you can learn a lot about Rotary, meet more Rotarians from other clubs and even pick up some leadership skills you can use in all areas of your life. Our club pays for members to attend, so plan to sign up when dates are posted for courses that are often virtual these days. See the list to the right of some other commonly used acronyms in Rotary and keep the great questions coming!

- PE: President-Elect
- PP: Past President
- DG: District Governor
- PDG: Past District Governor
- DGE: District Governor Elect
- DGN: District Governor Nominee
- AG: Assistant Governor
- RIF: Rotary International Foundation
- PHF: Paul Harris Fellow

Still not sure what some of this means or who these people are? Attend one of Lizzy's monthly orientation events to get your questions answered directly and learn more about how you can put Service Above Self! **Next orientation:** Wed, Dec 15th at 5:30pm on Zoom *Watch your email for details!*

HOW TO SUPPORT US WITH amazon smile



While many prefer to shop local, we know the convenience of Amazon is popular for finding gifts this time of year; especially when sending gifts to family out of state. Did you know that you can support Baldwinsville Rotary while shopping on Amazon through the Amazon Smile program? Visit [smile.amazon.com](#), log in with your Amazon account and search to choose your charity of choice. Search for the Baldwinsville Rotary Foundation to choose us! Most sellers on Amazon offer a percentage of your purchase to go to charity through this program and it costs you nothing extra. Always go to [smile.amazon.com](#) when shopping and they will automatically send any eligible funds to the charity you have chosen. This program has raised hundreds for our foundation over the years and could raise more if more members participate!

INTERACT KEEPING BUSY

Interact is Rotary for high school students. The club we sponsor includes students from the junior high as well. With about 40 members this year, the club is keeping busy with volunteering on their own and in partnership with our club. See what they've been up to below!



Baldwinsville
Interact
Club



Our students went through the village cleaning windows after this year's Halloween window art.



Our Backpack Program was inundated with donations through our church partners (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Mary's and St. Augustine's), as well as at the Kiwanis Turkey Trot event. Interact Students helped check expiration dates, sort and organize them all so it will be easy for Rotarians to pack bags and bins in the coming weeks!

CHARITY OF CHOICE UPDATE

WINNERS SO FAR...

July - Lizzy
Juvenile Diabetes
Research Foundation

August - Lizzy
YWCA of Syracuse

September - Laurie
Make A Wish
Foundation of CNY

October - Marcia
Doctors Without Borders

November - Audrey
Honor Flight

Are you remembering to enter your Charity of Choice? This program is a perk of membership that could earn your favorite cause a \$100 donation. For every meeting you attend (in person or online!) you get an entry to win. If you are there in person there are slips you can complete with your name and charity, and if you are joining online you can put your charity in the chat so someone can complete a slip on your behalf. It is free for members to participate. At the last meeting of the month we draw the winner and send their charity a check in their name. The purpose of this program is to ensure the club is supporting causes our members care about. Think there is something we could do more for your cause than the \$100 donation? Bring that request to the board for consideration!

MEETING PROTOCOL

\$1 to attend (max \$1 per week)
If you want food or drinks at either meeting, please order and pay at the bar. View the menu [here](#).

Happy dollars are optional
Raffle is optional - tickets are \$1 each or 3 for \$2

Charity of Choice is free for members - you get one entry for every meeting you attend
Virtual attendees can put their charity in the chat to be entered for their chance to win

Use the purple post-it on your name badge to indicate no hugs or hand shakes

Virtual attendees are asked to submit their meeting and happy dollars too



WE ASK YOU TO MASK, PLEASE

They are required for anyone who is unvaccinated and requested for anyone else. The health of our members and guests is what is most important. Be sure to zoom into a meeting if you have any symptoms or have been around someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

HAPPY
Birthday

Michelle Bourdage - Dec 1
Sally Fedrizzi - Dec 8
Pam Fallesen - Dec 10
Jennifer Holman - Dec 10
Mary Coogan - Dec 12
Brian Isbell - Dec 16
Marilyn Powell - Dec 21
Kathleen Jiries - Dec 26

Don't see your birthday or anniversary listed? We're probably missing that information about you. Submit details to Lizzy at emartin@advancemediany.com.



DONATIONS COMMITTEE

Thank you to all the members who donated brand new board games that will be distributed to local families through the Baldwinsville Christmas Bureau. The last day to get a game to Lizzy is Friday, December 10th. With over 30 games already donated, it's a successful collection that will impact many families this Christmas. The Donations Committee will get back to work identifying the next cause we can support with small contributions that add up to a big impact for people in need. The next collection will start in January, so watch your newsletter and emails for more details!



NOVEMBER IN PHOTOS



Last month's Club in a Pub was at Pasta's on the Green. We had a good-sized group that shared dinner and drinks together while we kept waiving people through to the big trivia night they were hosting in the back room.

The December Club in a Pub will also be our last meeting of the year. Join us Tuesday, Dec 21st 5-7pm at Sal's Pizzeria. As always, come when you can, leave when you have to!



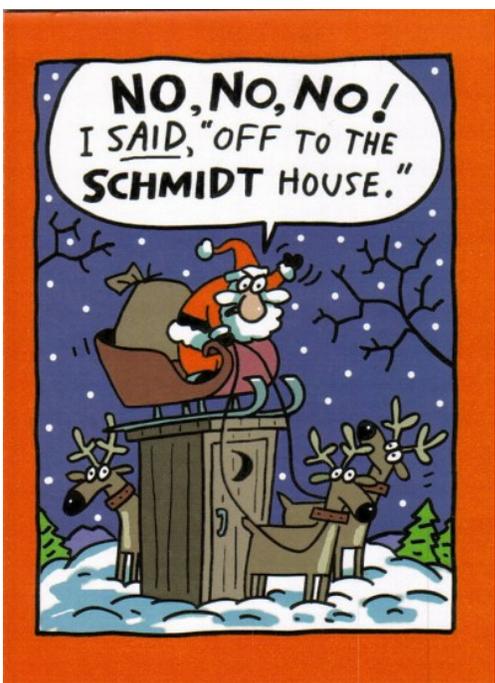
A heartfelt thank you to our Parade of Lights coordinator Ken Schmidt (photo on left), who set up our food booth so we could feed first responders and participants in this year's glowing Christmas parade through town. Thanks also to all the volunteers who set up, cooked hot dogs, served food and cleaned up our booth. Shown in right photo - Nicholas Langdon, Jennifer Holman and Scott Martin served food during the second shift.



We got to meet AJ, a local veteran, and his support dog Reilly. AJ got his companion through Clear Path for Veteran's program and he credits her with helping him get back out into the world again. Our club helped fund another veteran's support dog that they named Rotary. Read more about "Rotie" [here](#).

NOTEWORTHY DATES

- Dec 13: Membership Webinar: Member Orientation**
[Click here](#) to sign up for this 7pm virtual event and get a sneak peek at this new training
- Dec 21: Club in a Pub - LAST MEETING OF THE YEAR!**
Join us from 5-7pm at Sal's in B'ville for one last gathering in 2021
- Dec 22-Jan 3: Holiday Break**
Unplug from Rotary to focus on family, traditions and yourself over the holidays, then come back to our January 4th evening meeting rejuvenated and ready for the new year!



MEETING & EVENT SCHEDULE

DEC 2021

Wednesday, 12/1 @ 12pm Clear Path for Veterans	Meet AJ and his support dog Reilly while learning about this important therapy program for local veterans and their families
Tuesday, 12/7 @ 7pm Infinity Dance	Enjoy a dance demonstration and learn more about this local dance studio
Wednesday, 12/8 @ 12pm David Sorensen	Meet this Rotarian and magician who will put on a show for us
Tuesday, 12/14 @ 5:30pm	Club Board Meeting - members welcome
@7pm	Students of the Month - a monthly cub event honoring students who exemplify the values of Rotary. Come meet their families and celebrate with cake. Don't miss this!
Wednesday, 12/15 @ 12pm Social Meeting	Members will share their most cherished holiday memory
Tuesday, 12/21 5-7pm Club in a Pub	Join us at Sal's Pizzeria anytime during this happy hour event. Come for a drink, stay for dinner or just pop in to say hello as this will be our last meeting for 2021!
Wednesday 12/22	No meeting
Saturday Dec 25	Merry Christmas everyone! 
Dec 28 & 29	No meetings - Holiday Break
Sunday Jan 1	Happy New Year all! 
Tuesday, 1/4 @ 7pm Think Tank Discussion	Watch your email for a link to the article we will be discussing

Remember to submit your program ideas to Programs Chair Barb Hunt, bhunt@nscsd.org

NEW YEAR, NEW ROTARIAN?

It's been 21 months since the pandemic took hold. In that time we have been on a rollercoaster of closures, quarantines, vaccinations, variants and even infection. An imposition of this magnitude has understandably shook up our schedules and our priorities. So where does this leave Rotary for you? A new calendar year is often a time for reflection, prediction and commitments to change. Consider your resolution for 2022 to be one of recommitting to Rotary. Get back into the habit of attending meetings - in person with masks or on zoom - and take advantage of the fantastic speakers, fun social events and engaging meetings we've been hosting twice each week. Sign up to volunteer for the bread run, the Backpack Program, the Donations Committee or the upcoming B'ville Big Chill so you can be reminded of how rewarding it is to serve those around you. We consider COVID precautions in all we do through Rotary and offer many options to participate in a way that feels right for you. If we have been seeing you at meetings this year, thank you. We're pretty sure you've been having a great time! If we haven't seen you in a while, we'd love to reconnect. We're confident you will find that Rotary is still a safe harbor for kind people, a place where you can set aside the woes of the world to enjoy the caring camaraderie. We laugh at every gathering. See you in 2022!