



Baldwinsville
Rotary



DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE BOARD

As the snow begins to fall and blanket the earth with a clean white cover over the fading leaves, we journey from a season of thanks to a season of giving. In the hustle and bustle of the season it is easy to forget to stop and take a moment or two to appreciate the beauty of the fresh fallen snow. Let us also take the time to reflect on how we can share our blessings with others.

The members of Baldwinsville Rotary are an example of sharing because they care. Funds raised by Rotarians are shared with local, as well as the greater, community for the benefit of others. Be it support for veterans, education for children, food for those in need just to name a few, Rotarians care. A simple act of kindness, in word or in action, can also mean so much to the receiver.

At a recent Bville Rotary meeting someone passed around an article from the November 11, 2018 New York Times. It is a front-line account of challenges faced by the people who are working to administer the polio vaccine to children in Afghanistan. If you missed the article you can find it [here](#). Rotarians the world over are part of the effort to defeat polio with their sharing of funds that make it possible for teams of people to vaccinate children worldwide. Still, starting just after dawn each day, the vaccination teams are at it, hoping to reach just a few more children.

While winter weather can be cold and blustery let us spread warmth with our sharing and kindness. Be it a donation of money or a simple act of holding a door, it all contributes to creating a better world.

MEG VAN PATTEN, CLUB PRESIDENT

“Sharing is caring’ is a common phrase, but has a big meaning that when we share something with someone else it is equal to caring for them. We show care and our interest in by sharing, sharing is not only limited to tangible things, we can share an intangible thing as well; like a spiritual thought, any kind of idea, our learning’s or maybe our experiences.” Maham Jabeen

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BE THE INSPIRATION

LAST MONTH FOR COMPETITION

Thanks to everyone who has brought a potential new member so far - let's finish the competition strong! The rules of play are as follows:

-Every time you bring a prospective member to either a Tuesday night or Wednesday Noon meeting, a ticket will be completed in your name and dropped into a hat.

-At the end of each month, a ticket will be drawn for the gift card.

The prize is a \$25 Gift Card to a local restaurant or business. Pam won for the month of November. There will be a winner for December too!

Bring a friend to Rotary and share the Rotary experience. The more guests you bring, the better your odds are at winning!

NEW: CHARITY OF CHOICE

| | |
|--|----------------|
|  | Name: _____ |
| | Charity: _____ |
| <small>Fill out your name and a charity that's important to you each time you attend a meeting. Drawing will be at the last meeting of the month and the winner's charity will receive a \$100 donation in their honor. *Charities must be 501c3 or local organization accepted by the club board.</small> | |

As a club, we want to support the causes that are important to our members, both through service and through donations. If something is worthy of your charitable giving, we can get behind that!

Starting the second week of December, we will begin a new monthly drawing called Charity of Choice. Here's how it works:

Each time you attend a regular meeting you will fill out a form (see sample above) with your name and charity of choice, and drop it in the box. Preferably this is a cause that you also make donations to or help out with! The forms will be available right at check-in for the meetings. At the end of each month, we will do a drawing from all of the forms that have accumulated and the winner's charity will receive a \$100 donation in their honor.

This is limited to members only (no guests), you get one for each regular meeting you attend (makeups don't count) and your charity is subject to review by the club board. After the monthly drawing we dump all the forms and start fresh the following month.

Who knew attending a meeting could pay?!

WHY BALDWINSVILLE ROTARY?

- We help people of all ages in our community
- We help and support veterans
- We participate in the Youth Exchange program
- We support polio eradication worldwide
- We have fun while serving others and it's personally rewarding to help those around us

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR NEED INFORMATION ON MEMBERSHIP, CONTACT ABE MORELLI OR DAVE HORAN

ROTARY QUIZ TIME!

Can you answer these three Rotary trivia questions?

1. How much is each Rotarian asked to give to the Rotary International Foundation as part of the "Every Rotarian, Every Year" program?
2. What is Rotary Direct?
3. List the Five Avenues of Service.

Email your answers to megv@bville.lib.ny.us to be entered to win a prize. Correct answers in next month's newsletter.

Answers to November's questions:

1. The cover of the July issue of the Rotarian featured the new RI president Barry Rassin, his wife Esther, and some flamingos.
2. You need 1,000 points to earn a Paul Harris Fellow. Each \$1 donated to the Rotary International Foundation earns you a point!
3. Rotary's web site address is www.rotary.org.

Congratulations to Jenny Doane, the November winner of the trivia contest. \$10 is being donated to RI and she will receive a pen/paper note keeper with the Rotary logo.

NOVEMBER STUDENT OF THE MONTH: GRIFFIN SEIFRITZ

You might recognize November's Student of the Month because Griffin was also a student we sponsored to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards weekend this past summer. He is an impressive young man whose efforts were also noticed by Baker High School's guidance counselor, who nominated him for the recognition. He had already shared with us how he started the garden club at school, where all vegetables harvested go to the local food pantry. He is also hoping to study energy at Cornell after graduating next June. He is vitally concerned with how the production of food takes up resources and ways to reduce that for the future of the planet. It was a joy to hear from Griffin again. It's very evident that this young man has an amazing future ahead of him! Photo: Griffin poses with his Student of the Month certificate and his parents.



UGLY ORNAMENT EXCHANGE

The Fun Committee is working in conjunction with the Christmas Party Committee to add some fun to the festive with an Ugly Ornament Exchange. Participation is optional, but you won't want to miss out on this funky holiday game! Here's how it works:

-Wrap and bring an ugly ornament to the party - it can be one from your personal stash that you would be glad to part with or one that you purchase for maximum ugliness. Keep it Rated G though because this is a family event!

-We will redistribute the ugly ornament gifts in a white elephant style gift exchange that will be fun for everyone (even if they didn't bring an ornament).

-We will determine the order for selecting these mysterious and ugly ornaments with yet another fun game that will also help us get to know each other by revealing hidden talents or interesting tidbits that we may not know about you (so think about the surprising or interesting "secret" about yourself that you want to share!).

Between learning each other's interesting stories, opening the ugly ornaments and the white elephant gift exchange thievery, it's going to be a lot of laughs! Watch the mailbox for your invitation and contact Lizzy if you have any questions about participating.

MORE ABOUT THE CHRISTMAS PARTY:

- BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY - KID FRIENDLY
- WE'LL LEARN ABOUT CHRISTMAS IN FRANCE FROM JO
- BRING A DISH TO PASS AND YOUR FAVORITE DRINK
- SNAP A CHRISTMAS SELFIE AND BE READY TO SING SOME CAROLS
- SIGN UP WITH MEG SO WE KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE COMING



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec 8: Sally Fedrizzi

Dec 10: Pam Fallesen

Dec 12: Mary Huling

Dec 21: Marilyn Powell

Dec 26: Kathleen Jiries

ACTS OF KINDNESS MINI CHALLENGE

Get an idea of how great it feels to be kind by incorporating these small, but meaningful acts of kindness into your life this month!

Give a holiday greeting to everyone you see

**Acts of
KINDNESS**

TWO PAUL HARRIS FELLOWS & CHARTER NIGHT REVIEW

On November 1st the club celebrated it's 46th birthday with a dinner and evening at the Fireside Inn. About 30 Rotarians and guests attended, enjoying a buffet dinner and barbershop quartet for entertainment (see video on our club Facebook page). The evening included two special presentations. First, the club honored long-time member Dawn Custer with a Paul Harris Fellow to recognize all of her hard work over the years. As Dawn is nearing retirement and selling her local establishment, it was important to recognize what she has meant to Baldwinsville, as well as all of the work she has done for the club when it comes to food service. For years she catered our lunch meetings, she took the lead on all food-related projects like the senior picnic and Ride for Missing Children meal, and we really would have been in a pickle without her.

We also had a special guest at the event, Betty Brainerd, who was there to receive a Paul Harris in honor of her late husband Joe. It was very touching to be able to give Joe this honor as he truly loved Rotary. Betty was very honored by the award and a thank you note was shared at subsequent meetings. DG Marv spoke about his friendship with Joe and what a great guy he was. It was a bittersweet part of the evening!

The Paul Harris Fellow, named after the founder of Rotary Paul Harris, is the highest honor for a Rotarian to receive. It can be earned through donations to the Rotary International Foundation, or bestowed upon someone in honor of their commitment to Service Above Self.



Photos - Top: District Governor Marv, Club President Meg, Dawn and Foundation Chair Joan as Dawn receives her Paul Harris. Middle Left: Dean, Dick and Dave chit chat. Middle Right: Norma and Stu enjoyed the evening together. Bottom: DG Marv, Meg, Betty Brainerd and Joan as Betty receives a Paul Harris on behalf of her late husband Joe.

TURKEY DAY PANTRY DONATIONS

The Kiwanis Turkey Trot 5K promoted that attendees bring donations to support local food pantries and our joint BackPack Project, which provides food to children at Elden Elementary each weekend. Donations were plentiful with multiple carloads brought to the library for safe keeping! Program chair Laurie Maddaloni said, "It took us about 4 hours on Thursday to get the food from the race at Baker High School and from St. Mary's to the Library, which Meg was gracious to open for us on Thanksgiving. I haven't done a full inventory yet but we can support backpack at Elden all school year and supply the other 7 schools with significant amounts of food for their students as well." This is a truly awesome project that's making a difference in the lives of young kids throughout the school year. Great work team!



ELECTION DAY KINDNESS

Our club's first official Act of Kindness for the district challenge was to deliver trays of snacks to Election Day poll volunteers. It was documented and put into a short video. Check out the video below!



DISTRICT CONFERENCE IS A CELEBRATION OF YOU!

District Governor Marv is hosting the annual District Conference May 3 & 4, 2019 in Lake Placid, but instead of the usual conference it's going to be a celebration. The conference committee wants to celebrate the accomplishments of individuals and clubs from our district with a fun couple of days together. You will find the tradition of the memorial service, parade of flags and Saturday evening banquet, but with a new, shorter schedule of events and fresh guest speakers. For two nights at the hotel, five meals for each person and all the entertainment and education, it is \$712 per couple to attend. There are discount packages for people who triple and quadruple up in their rooms too!

REGISTRATION IS NOW ON SALE THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST FOR JUST \$30/PERSON DON'T WAIT - REGISTER NOW AT WWW.ROTARY7150.ORG

UPCOMING DISCUSSIONS

TUESDAY, JAN 15: Article Discussion
[101 Small Ways to Change Your City](#)

Click to read the article in advance and select one of the ideas that we should do in Baldwinsville!

FEBRUARY, TBD: Article Discussion

Sally is pulling another great article from The Rotarian Magazine's April 2018 issue. [Click here to read](#): "Is it too late to create a narrative where we're all on the same side?"

The book club and think tank discussions are a great opportunity for members to share experiences, perspectives and interpretations. There is a mix of shorter articles, full books (that are sometimes available in movie version) and even short video clips, so it's easy to get in on the discussions. The topics are timely, interesting and relevant to those living Service Above Self. All members are encouraged to participate even if a Tuesday night isn't your usual meeting!

Book Club & Think Tanks are during Tuesday meetings at 7pm at the Red Mill Inn

DID YOU SEE BOB'S TURKEY TALK?

We shared the online version on our club's Facebook page and it was on the front page of the Thanksgiving Day edition of The Post-Standard, but in case you missed it there was a big write-up on our very own Bob Bitz. Perfect for the season, Bob shared his history and expertise in the turkey industry with photos and great tales of his ingenuity. Click the newspaper page to read this great feature!



DECEMBER'S SCHEDULE

TUESDAY 12/4 AT 7PM: BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION WITH SALLY

WED. 12/5 AT NOON: SPEAKER GREG HUMPHRAY, VILLAGE CODE INSPECTOR

TUESDAY 12/11 AT 5:30PM: BOARD MEETING, AT 7PM: STUDENT OF THE MONTH

WED. 12/12 AT NOON: HEAR FROM YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENT JO

TUESDAY 12/18 AT 6PM: CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY AT MCHARRIE TOWNE CENTER

WED. 12/19 AT NOON: TRIVIA WITH NORMA WIDMANN

TUESDAY 12/25: NO MEETING

WED. 12/26: NO MEETING

Merry Christmas!

HELP WITH PROGRAMS

We want your ideas for great programs. If you suggest things that you think are interesting, then you will find meetings more interesting! Send your ideas to Pam at lizardmom67@hotmail.com and include a contact if you have one. We are currently booking for February!

COMING UP

DEC 7 & 8

OLD NEWSBOYS

DEC 8

SYRACUSE STAGE NIGHT
AREA 5 CHRISTMAS PARTY

DEC 18

CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

DEC 25 & 26

NO MEETINGS

JAN 12

SOUP 'N SNOWSHOE

JAN 26

B'VILLE BIG CHILL



The Interact Club shared notes of positivity with their latest project that put a happy post it note on all the lockers at their school!



We had a great program in November with a visit from Robyn Meier with Four Grand Cider & Wines, from Abbott's Farm. We got to taste different kinds of hard cider and wines that they make locally!