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IN THIS EDITION:

- SMALL GATHERINGS
- LEAD A THINK TANK
- PAY IT FORWARD
- BACKPACK UPDATE
- OLD NEWSBOYS
- NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT
- MEMBERSHIP CONTEST
- LIVERPOOL FUNDRAISER
- PHOTO CONTEST WINNER
- DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

SUBMIT CLUB NEWS

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www.BaldwinsvilleRotary.org

NEWSLETTER

December 2020

A note from your president...

I was combing through some old files the other day, while attempting to reduce clutter before the holidays, and came across this photo from about 1964. Several connections here: the District Governor from Sauquoit is visiting the Oswego Club, and is being introduced by the local club president. Much like we welcomed our District Governor in September. In the photo, the welcoming president is my father. It was his experience in the Oswego Club that prompted me to want to join Rotary. People join us for many reasons. Not all have children we can recruit for membership in our club. Mine in Florida, Arizona and California certainly won't be joining us anytime soon. But we need to expand our search in other directions. The Multi-District Membership Event was full of great ideas on how and where to look for new, quality, prospective members. Those in attendance will be sharing those ideas. You might have an even better one. Please share it. This is a very difficult time to attract new members, but it's every member's responsibility and it's a year-round job. Good luck in your efforts, and let's all have a happy holiday month.



The Christmas SHOW

**TUESDAY
 DEC 22ND**



Wear your holiday sweater
 Ugly or festive, we'll be doing a live poll to choose a winner!



Bring a special ornament to show
 Tell us why you love that ornament and any story connected to it.



Register for a special gift!
 We will personally deliver gifts the day of the party.

Register by December 17th

CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP TODAY!



SMALL GATHERINGS HAPPENING DESPITE COVID

The club board heard the feedback of members tiring of Zoom or unhappy with having to tackle technology every meeting. Everyone misses being in person, but how could we do it with everyone's health and safety in mind? Small groups! Members of the leadership team each took the lead on some small group gatherings, some with themes, some still virtual and some still to come. Of course since it's 2020, as soon as we decide to schedule these in person events, parts of community get put in a yellow zone due to an increase in cases. Small events that had to be held in person have been sidelined for the time being, while some could be converted to virtual - like Sean's scotch-tasting night. He delivered four different scotch's to his attendees and they connected on zoom to taste and discuss. Amber hosted a craft event with Katie and Michelle, making fabric pumpkins (see photo, left to right Katie Reap, Amber Cavallaro, Michelle Martin). Lizzy hosted a succulent planting happy hour with three other members and two prospective members. They had so much fun they forgot a group photo, but each repotted and took home one of the succulents pictured here, along with care instructions. This gathering was held at The Wood so the group could easily social distance. There are still events to come - a campfire visit at Sally's, a bubbly tasting at Barb's, a Francesca's dinner at Ken's. Thanks to all who took the time to lead these groups and all who were able to attend. We hope you could feel some personal connections again as we all have to put in more effort to feel connected to our fellow Rotarians!



YOU CAN LEAD A DISCUSSION

The first Tuesday of each month we call our Think Tank meeting. Member Sally leads us in a discussion based on an article, movie or video that we all review beforehand and come together to share our thoughts on. Often the discussion leads us to come up with new service project ideas or ways we could help the world individually. Always, it helps us connect with one another as we learn more about each other's backgrounds and perspectives. Sally wants the club to know that anyone is welcome to choose and lead on future topics at a Think Tank. If you read or watched something interesting that you think would spark great conversation, consider taking the lead on our February or March events. Contact Sally at saltrav@verizon.net.

Tuesday, Jan 5th at 7pm

"The Life Kit Guide To Being Kind - To Others And To Yourself"
[Click here](#) to read this short article from NPR and tune in to a few of their podcasts surrounding kindness, self care and helping others. Join us to discuss the first Tuesday in January!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PAYING IT FORWARD?

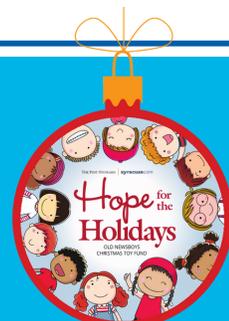
In August, our club launched the Pay It Forward program, a scholarship system to provide financial support for club dues to members experiencing a hardship or for a new member who has been unable to join due to cost. The club started the fund with \$1,000, but it is up to members to maintain the fund moving forward. If you are able, please consider giving to support access to Rotary in our community. You can send a check to the club or donate online [here](#) and put "Pay It Forward" in the memo line. You can speak to Lizzy or Bruce if you have questions about submitting a donation to this fund. And don't forget that the fund is available if you are aware of someone who would be an active member, but needs financial support to cover dues, or if you are experiencing a hardship when dues will renew this spring. Contact anyone on the Membership Committee or Lizzy for an application.

BACKPACK PROGRAM UPDATE - FLEXIBILITY IS KEY THIS YEAR

Thanks to the hard work and coordination efforts of Mary Schmutz, our Backpack Program is finding creative ways to continue to provide nutritional support to children in our schools. With the varied school schedules, not every student is going to be in person on Fridays, so our usual weekend package of breakfast and snack items had to be revamped. Instead, Mary has collaborated with the school social workers to provide bins of food items each week to provide food to the children they know are in need while in and outside of school. The kids can get a snack before a big test or take home some items to get them through their days away from school. It's an exercise in flexibility that Mary has handled adeptly! She has also teamed up with three area churches whose parishioners have been great supporters to us in past year - St. Augustine's, St. Mary's and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Donations have been coming in and are the perfect complement to the budget the program has using donations that carried over from the last school year. Contact Mary at meschmutz37@gmail.com if you wish to get involved or make a donation.

OLD NEWSBOYS ARE HAWKING ONLINE

For the entire month of December, we will be online old newsboys raising money for the Hope for the Holidays campaign that funds the CNY Christmas Bureau. Each year, this collaboration between the Salvation Army, United Way, The Post-Standard and the community provides meals, toys and books for thousands of families in need. [Click here](#) to see the custom page for our club's fundraising team where you can donate using a credit card or PayPal. Please help by sharing our posts on Facebook throughout the month and help us reach our \$500 goal!



MEET NICOLE THOMAS

We recently welcome new member Nicole. She works at NBT Bank and was invited to join Rotary by the Joslyn's. Get to know her a bit in this new member spotlight and be sure to say hello if you see her at an upcoming meeting. Stay tuned for more new member spotlights!

Where were you born?

Syracuse

Tell us about your family:

I have an amazing 8 year old son named Brayden. He is my world! (see photo of them!)

Do you have any pets?

I have a dog named Flint, Bunny named Ziggy, 2 cats PeeWee and Kate!

What are your hobbies?

I love to Kayak, camp, travel and go on lots of walks!

What's your favorite thing about the holidays?

Being with family



MEMBERSHIP CONTEST WRAPPING UP SOON

Each fall we try to come up with a fun and competitive way to encourage everyone to invite guests and potential members to attend a Rotary meeting, and even consider joining. We have had a lot of success with drawing in new members from this over the years, but knew it would be more challenging in our virtual world. We have still managed to drum up a battle between the football and basketball teams, who will be neck and neck going into the final weeks of the competition, which wraps up December 10th. Thanks to the membership committee (Abe, Dave, Janet, Katie, William and Jennifer) for crafting a fun concept and especially to referee Janet for keeping track of it all. Our thanks to all the members who have taken the time to talk to someone about Rotary and encourage them to attend a meeting. There is still time at the December 8, 9 & 10 meetings (you can even invite someone to join Liverpool Rotary and it counts!). Here's the scoreboard:



**COMPETITION ENDS
DECEMBER 10TH**

**INVITE YOUR
GUESTS NOW!**

LIVERPOOL RAISES SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS WITH PIES

The Liverpool Satellite Club sold 55 pies for Thanksgiving to raise money for their first ever Dollar for Scholars scholarship they hope to give out next spring. President Sheree has a lot of energy for raising enough funds to make it happen and show the community one of the many benefits of having its own Rotary Club! Partnering with Sugar Top Bakery in Liverpool, the club promoted sales on Facebook among friends, family and coworkers to sell chocolate, cherry, apple and pumpkin pies. [Check out their Facebook page](#) to see which type of pie was the most popular!



PHOTO CONTEST WINNER



Julia Christine has won our fall photo contest Community Choice Award with "Reflection of Baldwinsville" Her charity of choice is JacksGiving! A donation of \$150, sponsored by Build Your Path LLC will help to support feeding families and individuals in need.

Happy Birthday

MICHELLE BOURDAGE 12/1
SALLY FEDRIZZI 12/8
PAM FALLESEN 12/10
MARY COOGAN 12/12
MARILYN POWELL 12/21
KATHLEEN JIRIES 12/26
WILLIAM DAY 12/29



Our Meetings

TUESDAY, DEC 1 at 7PM

THINK TANK DISCUSSION WITH SALLY: Hillbilly Ellegy
Watch the new book-turned-movie on Netflix and join us to chat about it!

WEDNESDAY, DEC 2 at NOON

SPEAKER SUNSHINE HORSE PROGRAM

TUESDAY, DEC 8

5:30PM BOARD MEETING
7PM STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

WEDNESDAY, DEC 9 at NOON

SPEAKER SUSAN BERTRAND WITH MAUREEN'S HOPE

TUESDAY, DEC 15 at 7PM

SPEAKER REBECCA HUMPHREY - BAKER HS FORENSICS TEACHER

WEDNESDAY, DEC 16 at NOON

MEETING TOPIC TBA

TUESDAY, DEC 22 at 7PM

THE CHRISTMAS SHOW - OUR CLUB'S FIRST VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

WEDNESDAY, DEC 23 at NOON

CHRISTMAS CAROLS WITH GREG HOOVER

Secret Santas - Don't Forget To Make Sure Your Gift Is Received By Christmas!

Merry Christmas Everyone!

NO MEETINGS 12/29 & 12/30

Coming up in 2021

Club in a pub, small gatherings when we can, and more opportunities to stay warm at home while connecting with friends!