



Matt's Moments



Make Membership Memorable



My Dear Rotary Friends

I don't know about everyone else, but since the pandemic started, I have found myself consuming more news and inevitably feeling more discouraged by the state of the world and really by the state of our country.

I was recently reading a note from fellow District Governor Bob McLearn who reminded us that "In a world struck with a pandemic, mean spirited divisiveness, and great challenges to truth, fairness, good will, and mutual benefit... we have the ability to spread compassion, kindness, and hope." It struck me that through all of the ups and downs of recent months, Rotary has continued to bring me hope and connection and I have been consistently impressed to see how our clubs continue to engage, virtually or in person (socially distance) and to lift up our communities through these difficult times.

DG McLearn's words also reminded me of the importance of the Rotary 4 way test which was created in 1932 with four simple, yet essential questions:

1. *Is it the truth?*
2. *Is it fair for all concerned?*
3. *Will it build good will and better friendships?*
4. *Will it be beneficial to all concerned?*

I was telling my daughter about these questions this morning when we both realized the presidential elections are only 1 month away – November 3rd. *Don't worry – this is not a partisan message.* As we realized this she said, "you know, I bet if everyone took the 4-way test heading into the election, our country would be in a very different place." And she's right – with so much animosity and to use Bob's phrase "mean spirited divisiveness" we all have a responsibility to keep these questions with us leading up to the election and every day after.

With early voting starting on October 24th, I urge everyone in our district to get out the vote (safely of course). It is our right, our privilege and our responsibility to ask those 4 questions as you enter the booth and vote for the country you hope to see.

Keep safe and healthy – until we ZOOM again,

DG Matt





2019-2020 District Award Winners

Membership Awards:

Highest Percentage of Membership Growth:

New Berlin

Groton

Richfield Springs

Individuals That Sponsored the Most New Members:

Richard Sternberg-Cooperstown

Robert Mackey-New Berlin

Clubs With 100% Retention:

Deposit

Fleischmannns-Pine Hill

Groton

Milford

New Berlin

Oxford

Roxbury

Schenevus-Worcester

Avenue of Service Award:

Cortland Noon-International Service

Helping Hands Award:

Endicott

Governor's Challenge:

Cortland Noon

Owego

Rotary International Citation:

Endwell-Platinum

Cortland Breakfast-Silver

I apologize for the lateness of these awards. I was waiting for an opportunity to present them in person, but Covid 19 has made that impossible. Certificates for all of the awards listed have been mailed to the clubs. Foundation awards for 2019-2020 will be presented at the Foundation Dinner.

PDG Dave





Join us for World Polio Day 2020
Visit [Endpolio.org](https://endpolio.org)



24 October is World Polio Day!

[World Polio Day](https://endpolio.org) is a time for Rotarians and Rotaractors across the globe to raise awareness about our work to eradicate polio for good. If we stay committed to making progress, polio will be the second human disease ever to be eradicated.

In our fight to end polio, we've used our collective strength to defeat this devastating disease in almost every part of the world. This year, the World Health Organization's African region was certified free of wild poliovirus – showing that eradication is possible even in very difficult circumstances. Wild poliovirus still paralyzes children in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and as long as polio exists anywhere, it remains a threat everywhere.

Let's Take Action

A polio-free world is possible, but we can achieve it only by taking action together. With the challenges to vaccination programs posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, it's even more crucial that Rotary continues to build awareness and raise funds for polio eradication.

Join the effort to vaccinate children and end polio by organizing a World Polio Day event for your community. In 2019, Rotary members held more than 5,900 events in 136 countries. This year, online events and activities will allow us to expand our reach even more and inspire others to join us.

Not sure how to take action for World Polio Day? From virtual event ideas to social media posts and photos, the World Polio Day Toolkit can help you start planning and promoting your activities now.

[Download the World Polio Day Toolkit](#)

World Polio Day Online Global Update

Mark your calendars to watch Rotary's World Polio Day Online Global Update on 24 October. New this year: Those who register World Polio Day events by 15 October can download the 2020 global update program early – a week before World Polio Day.

[Register your World Polio Day event](#)

Dear Fellow Rotarians –

A few months ago, Dr. Betty Wambui, an Associate Professor in Africana and Latino Studies at the State University of New York – Oneonta, addressed our club concerning the various needs of young people in Nairobi, Kenya. Born and raised in a low-income part of Nairobi, she has retained her social connections and has worked diligently to alleviate the negative impacts of class disparity in her country.

Dr. Wambui explained that many young women in one of the low-income areas of Nairobi, Kenya (Makadara Constituency) do not have access to personal care products or an understanding of menstrual hygiene, rape or early pregnancies. This results in embarrassment and shame that leads young girls to skip school with well-established negative outcomes such as vulnerability to older adults in return for sexual favors, violence, rape and early pregnancies.

In response to her appeal, our club has been working with Dr. Wambui to address the need for sanitary kits and sex education for the young women who do not have access to personal care products in the Makadara Constituency.

We have pledged \$5,000 for \$500 kits. To date we have raised \$1700 and hope to raise the remaining amount in the next couple of months.

These past few months have been incredibly challenging as millions of people across the country cope with illness, job loss and unexpected caregiving demands due to the COVID-19 epidemic. As Rotarians we are deeply concerned about the impact of the virus on our communities and the communities of the world and have been quickly responded to immediate needs. And although we understand these priorities, The Rotary Club of Binghamton is asking for your financial support to MAKE A DIFFERENCE for these young vulnerable women. We are an international organization that brings people of the world together in an effort to advance world understanding, goodwill and peace. And this starts here in own community.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you wish more information or would like Dr. Wambui to visit your club in person or virtually, please contact me at LanaRouff@gmail.com. For a contribution, send your check made payable to Binghamton Charities, PO Box 462, Vestal, NY 13851-0462.

Yours sincerely,

Lana Rouff, PDG – The Rotary Club of Binghamton

PS –To further understand the need our committee recommends the video: [“Period: End of Sentence.”](#)

Rotary People of Action



ROTARY CLUB
OF ITHACA



Cayuga
MEDICAL CENTER

lthaca
CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Rotary Club of Ithaca, Cayuga Medical Center,
and The Tompkins County Health Department remind you
"Good Health is in Your Hands".

"These materials are neither sponsored
nor endorsed by the Board of Education
of the Ithaca City School District, the
Superintendent or this school."

Dear Lana Rouff,

This is your quarterly AmazonSmile donation notification to inform you that **The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International** received a new donation of **\$3,179.86**.

Thanks to customers shopping at [AmazonSmile](#), everyday purchases generated over **\$200 million** in donations to charities worldwide so far.

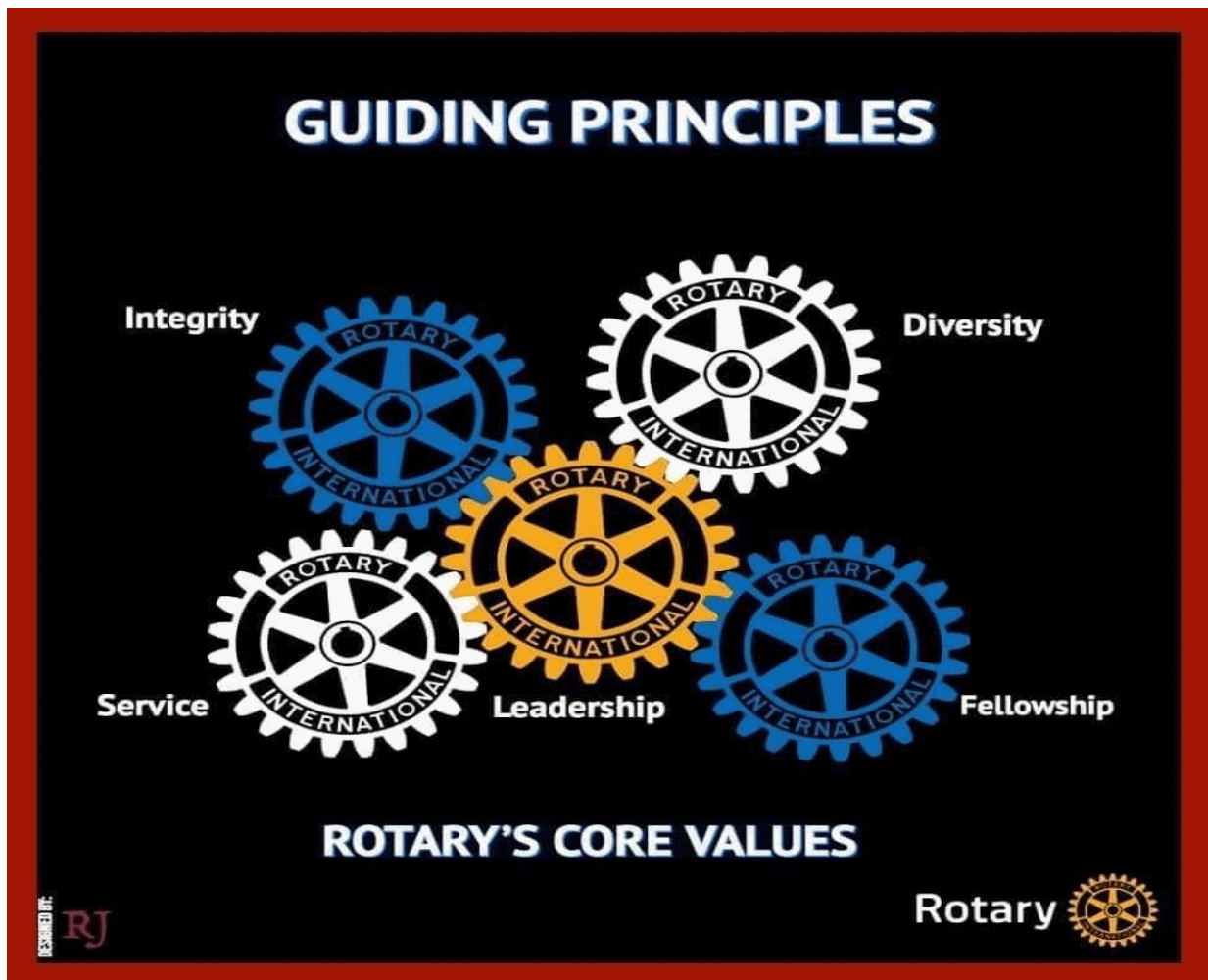
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See AmazonSmile's impact to date:

- **\$50,563.55 to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International**
- **\$198,636,544.70** to all charities in the US
- **\$215,721,458.97** to all charities worldwide

Track [your AmazonSmile impact](#) at any time.

Thanks for supporting **The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International** and continuing to generate donations by shopping at [smile.amazon.com](#) or with AmazonSmile ON in the app.



Avoid any church that has cushions on the pews and is considering building a gymnasium.

CLUB	MEMBER	SPONSOR
Cooperstown	Robert Nelson	Richard Sternberg
	Van Ramsey	Richard Sternberg
Cortland Breakfast	James Anderson	Chris DiFulvio

Rotary People of Action

Delhi Rotary Club first responded to the pandemic by donating to local organizations that help the community: Delaware Opportunities, Delhi Food Pantry, and the Delhi Fire Department.

Next, we organized the Delhi Rotary Summer Reading Challenge to help keep kids reading and busy over the summer. Every child in the program received a brand-new book purchased from a local bookstore, and every child who finished the challenge received a certificate for two slices of pizza from a local pizzeria. In this way, we helped families and local businesses at the same time. The books were safely delivered to front doors by masked Rotary members during the height of the pandemic.

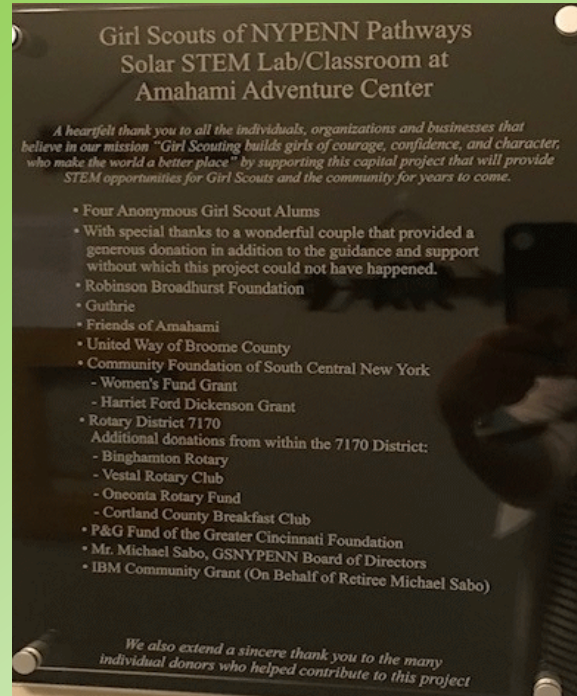
Most recently, we organized a mask-making project for the students of Delaware Academy in Delhi. We created mask-making kits with cut fabric pieces, elastic, and nose pieces, and distributed them to local volunteers who sewed the masks. We have delivered 250 masks to the school so far and are on track to deliver at least 400. Teachers will use these masks with students who lose, forget, or damage theirs.



Rotarians Bill Hancock and Chuck Hill delivering masks to the school.

We also recently started a Facebook page to help us better connect with the community as well as other clubs. You can find us at www.facebook.com/delhinyrotary

GIRL SCOUTS RECOGNIZE ROTARY



Linda Biemer and Lana Rouff recently attended the opening of the Solar STEM Classroom/ Lab at the Girl Scout Camp Amahami in Deposit, New York. You will notice that the following Rotary clubs generously contributed to its construction: ***Binghamton Rotary, Vestal Rotary, Oneonta Rotary and Cortland Breakfast.*** Above is a plaque that has been placed on the entrance wall giving our clubs credit for their donation and interest.

2020 Community Grants Awarded | Rotary Club of Ithaca, NY

The Ithaca Rotary Club has awarded nearly \$12,800 in community grants that will fund personal protective equipment for an after-school program, packets of seeds and vegetable plants for low-income families and online programming for a youth theatre group. The annual grant program received 33 proposals requesting \$29,000 this year. The grants were awarded by the Ithaca Rotary Club Grants ...

For more information on this, click>>>>[Ithaca Rotary Grants](#)

Oneonta Rotary Update: Coats, Hats, and Mittens

Operation Warm Appeal Raised Over \$8,000

Each year, Oneonta Rotary's Operation Warm purchases new winter coats for children in need in Oneonta's and Laurens elementary school programs. Traditionally, funds are raised by selling raffle tickets at community events, but this year, COVID-19 forced the cancellation of those events. Knowing that the need for coats would likely be even greater this year, Oneonta Rotary opted for a direct appeal to club and community members via a video on Facebook. With a generous support from Mary and the late Dick Breuninger and a \$3,000 challenge match from Rotarian Dan Mattice, President of Reinhardt Home Heating the appeal raised over \$8,000. Coats will be ordered in early October and distributed as soon as they arrive. Thank you to everyone who helped make this effort so successful.

Calling All Knitters and Crocheters!

Oneonta Rotary is looking for knitters and crocheters to make winter hats and mittens for children K-5. This project, which was first chosen by the late Rotarian Dick Breuninger as his president's project, and in his memory will now be undertaken by current Rotary president Dan Buttermann, is meant to complement Oneonta Rotary's Operation Warm which provides new winter coats for the same age group. Hats and mittens will be distributed late this fall and again after the holidays.

What is needed: hats and mittens for children, K-5; hats and mittens should be able to be washed and dried with minimal shrinkage. There is no specific pattern and all colors are welcomed. We will pick up completed hats and mittens. We are also taking donations of yarn in good condition and will provide yarn for those who request it for this project. Hats and mittens for the first distribution should be received by October 30 and hats and mittens for the second distribution should be received by January 8.

If you have any questions, wish to arrange a pick up or drop off for completed items, donate yarn, or have any questions, please contact Dan Buttermann at president@oneontarotary.org

Dozen Dinner Draw | Rotary Club of Ithaca

DOZEN DINNER DRAW ROTARY CLUB OF ITHACA. raising funds to support our goal of helping provide Disaster Relief and Recovery support in the Bahamas after Hurricane Dorian.

For more information, click here>>>[Rotary Dozen Dinner Draw](#)

Don't be deceived by first impressions.

Oneonta Rotary to Hold Road Rally Sunday, October 18

Come join us for our very first Road Rally Scavenger Hunt to be held on Sunday, October 18th from 1-4:30 pm where we will start and end the race at the Quality Inn, 5206 NY 23, Oneonta NY. During this time of COVID-19, the Road Rally is a great way to bring together your team of friends and family of all ages. Jump in the car, enjoy the beautiful Otsego County countryside, and let the merriment begin as you follow clues, solve riddles and take some selfies--once the car has stopped, of course!

Registration begins at 1:00 PM. Cars must leave by 2 PM and must cross the finish line by 4:30 to be eligible for prizes. At the end of the race, teams will have the option of purchasing a take home fried chicken or vegetarian lasagna dinner (with sides and fabulous brownies) prepared by the Quality Inn. Cost is \$12/dinner. The Quality Inn is donating \$6 of each meal to the Oneonta Rotary Club.

Cost for the Road Rally is \$25 for 18 years of age and older; \$10 for 12-17; and free for under 12. Prize winners receive a gas car or other automotive-themed gift certificate or item and the Oneonta Rotary Club will donate a mini-grant in your honor, to the local community organization of your choice, selected from a list provided by the Oneonta Rotary Club.

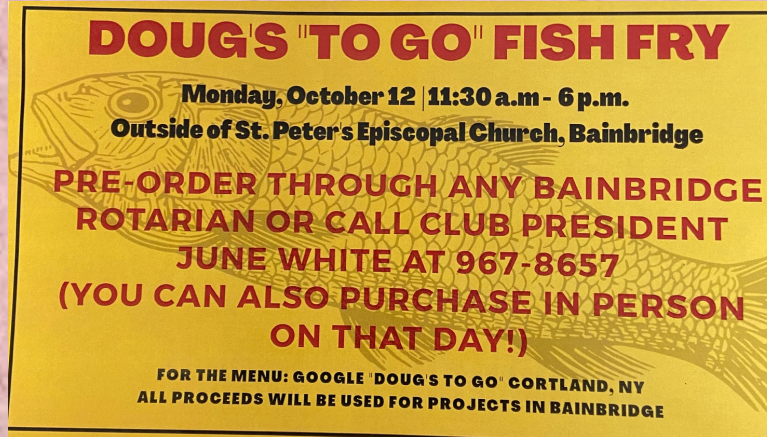
For more information or to receive a registration form go to facebook.com/oneontarotary, email oneontarotaryroadrally@gmail.com or call Lynne Sessions at 607-437-9596. Proceeds benefit the Oneonta Rotary Club.

One last note: As Oneonta Rotary embarks on this new fundraiser, we want to give a shout out to Ithaca Noon's Kelly Buck who was incredibly helpful in helping us navigate the planning of this adventure and for giving us the mini-grant prize idea. What a great way to help out the community and the club. Thank you, Kelly!



Rotary People of Action

Bainbridge Rotary Fundraisers!!!!



STONES FROM THE WALLS OF JERICHO WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE AGAIN FOR PURCHASE

The **Bainbridge Rotary Club** has made arrangements to have a limited printing of 100 copies of “Stones From the Walls of Jericho” printed for sale to the public. The book was first published in 1966 to help celebrate Bainbridge’s Bicentennial and to date 1250 copies has been sold.

“Stones” is based on the historical notes of Bainbridge physician Dr. Edward Danforth, who passed away in 1964. It traces the history of Bainbridge from the advent of the white man in this valley up until the mid-1950’s.

The book was originally the work of the Bainbridge Historical Society and was first copyrighted and published by the Town of Bainbridge. The last printing was in 1987.

Copies of the original hardcover edition are treasured by those fortunate enough to have purchased a copy years ago.

The new soft cover printing will be identical to the first publication, and, as a bonus, will include a very helpful index. The cost is \$25 per copy, plus shipping. Profits from the sale of the book will go to the Bainbridge Rotary Club. To help fund its many worthwhile community and international projects.

To order your copy, please visit Bainbridge, NY Rotary Club on Facebook or contact Dave DeClue at davedeclue@stny.rr.com.



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District Governor
2020-2021*

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