



January 2025

Dave DeMers, District Governor

Issue 7



Wow, time is flying by. We are at the second half of the Rotary year & the first year of the calendar year. It has been a pleasure visiting the clubs in our district & trying to help our members continue to *“perform magic.”*

The Rotary theme for this month is vocational service and it is very important to Rotary. Below I have put in the Object of Rotary. Please read it carefully.

Object of Rotary

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

- FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;
- SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;
- THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;
- FOURTH: The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

The concept of vocational service is rooted in the second object.

As a Rotarian, how can you put these ideals into action? Consider these suggestions:

- Talk about your profession in your club, and take time to learn about fellow members' occupations.
- Use your skills and expertise to serve a community.
- Practice your profession with integrity, and inspire others to behave ethically through your words and actions.
- Help young people achieve their career goals.
- Guide and encourage others in their professional development.

By undertaking these activities, you bring vocational service to life. Vocational service is the essence of Rotary and serves as the foundation from which we serve our communities around the world. By including men and women from diverse professions and backgrounds, Rotary recognizes the

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

importance of all skills and occupations. A vibrant Rotary club reflects the businesses, organizations, and professions in its community, embracing diversity in experiences and perspectives. Your professional life and vocational service go together. Rotarians have a dual responsibility: to represent their occupations within their club and to exemplify the ideals of Rotary in their places of work.

As Rotarians we constantly recite and talk the 4 Way Test, the Code of Conduct is something we should also use in our lives.

Rotarian Code of Conduct

As a Rotarian, I will

1. Act with integrity and high ethical standards in my personal and professional life
2. Deal fairly with others and treat them and their occupations with respect
3. Use my professional skills through Rotary to mentor young people, help those with special needs, and improve people's quality of life in my community and the world.
4. Avoid behavior that reflects adversely on Rotary or other Rotarians.

In closing, please continue doing great work especially increasing our impact, expanding our reach, enhancing participant engagement and increasing our ability to adapt.

DG Dave DeMers
Rotary District 7120
District Governor 2024-2025

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR EVERYONE- SIGN UP TODAY!

DISTRICT 7120 CONFERENCE ONLY



AVAILABLE NOW
TO REGISTER



MAY 2-4, 2025
CORNING, NY

\$230 PER PERSON
EARLY BIRD CONFERENCE
REGISTRATION THRU JAN. 31, 2025

\$255 PER PERSON
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION THEREAFTER
[https://rotary7120.org/sitepage/district-conference-\(DC\)](https://rotary7120.org/sitepage/district-conference-(DC))

HOTEL RATES ONLY

BOOK YOUR RESERVATIONS AT *Radisson*

<https://www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/G9659370>

★ ROOM RATE **\$149**
GOOD THRU
APRIL 1, 2025

Block of Rooms Will be Released to
the Public After **April 1, 2025**

ANY QUESTIONS ?
districtconf2025@gmail.com

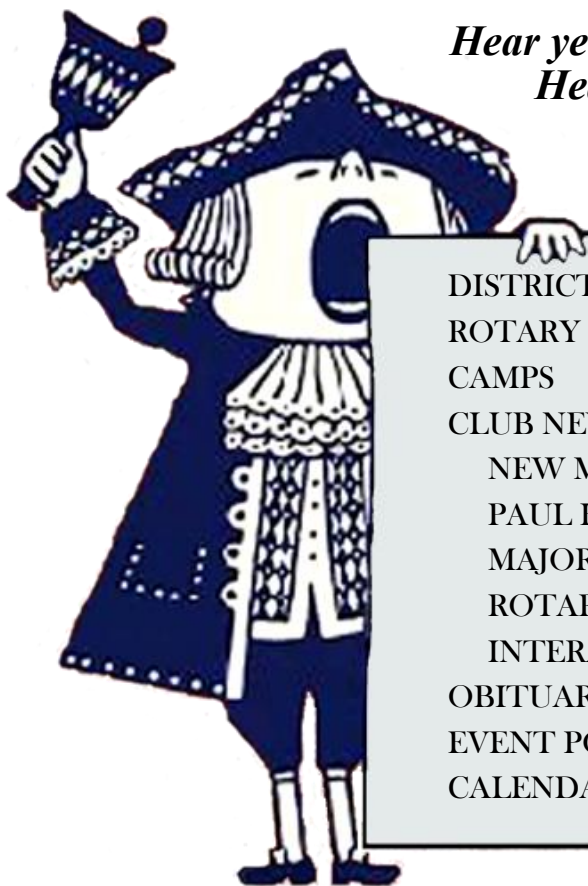
Conference Co-Chairs:
Colleen Farley (Spencerport Club)
Bridgette Stewart (Watkins Montour Club)

REV.12/25/24



Design: Bob Green (Green Graphics)
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Hear ye! **TABLE OF**
Hear ye! **CONTENTS**

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Rotary
District 7120



Rotaract

PEOPLE OF ACTION



Interact

Rotary Sponsored Club



Rotary



**rotary
youth
exchange**

Rotary



RYLA



Assistant Governor's Needed for the Following Areas

Please consider taking on the role as an Assistant Governor starting in the 2025-26 Rotary year. Please contact the AG in your area to learn more.

Area 1 – Chemung Sunrise, Corning, Elmira Heights, Elmira, Horseheads, and Watkins-Montour

Area 4 – Dansville, Geneseo, Mt. Morris, Nunda & Penn Yan

Area 5 – Lima, Bloomfield, Honeoye Falls Mendon & Honeoye Lake

Area 12 – Ontario-Walworth, Wolcott, Webster, Red Creek & Webster

Role and Responsibilities

- Serve as the District Governor's official representative among the designated Rotary clubs.
- Support club effectiveness by assisting the governor with the administration of designated clubs, including the timely submission of semi-annual reports, payment of RI and District dues, and monthly membership and attendance statistics.
- Visit each club regularly, at least quarterly, to meet with the club president and other club leaders to discuss the business of the club and resources available to them.
- Assist club leaders in planning and preparing for the governor's official visit.
- Keep the governor informed about clubs, and suggest ways to enhance Rotary development and resolve difficulties.
- Ensure appropriate financial stewardship of club funds by club leaders.
- Serve as a two-way communication link between clubs and District committees
- Promote the implementation of the Club Leadership Plan, including the Assistant Governor's club.
- Encourage clubs to implement the governor's requests and recommendations
- Share "best practices" from their designated clubs with each other, and with other Rotary clubs.
- Monitor and motivate clubs to achieve club goals relating to membership development and retention, and support for The Rotary Foundation.
- Assist clubs in researching and implementing effective community and international service projects.
- Assist clubs in completing the activities which will lead to the Presidential Citation for the club, and the submission of the certification form to the governor by 1st April each year.
- Identify and develop leaders capable of serving Rotary beyond the club level.
- Promote attendance at the District Conference and the International Convention.



Rotary
District 7120



OPPORTUNITY

To lead the Vocal Music Competition
In 2025-26!

Learn from Jack Best as he leads this
year's Competition through competitive
auditions on February 9 and 23.

Full details about the Competition on the
District website:

[https://www.rotary7120.org/50098/Page/ShowSitePage?
ClassCode=SitePage&Slug=vocal-music-competition](https://www.rotary7120.org/50098/Page/ShowSitePage?ClassCode=SitePage&Slug=vocal-music-competition)

Vocal Music Competition 2024-2025

*In concert with Eastman School of Music, Alfred University,
Roberts Wesleyan University and SUNY/Geneseo*

Interested?

Contact: Jack Best, Vocal Competition Chair

jackbest@rochester.rr.com

c/t: 585-261-0073

Dave DeMers, District Governor

demers@gmail.com

c/t: 585-764-6648

Create Your Peace Pole Project

Become a Peace Builder and plant a Peace Pole to inspire peace within and between all people

1. **Link** with a group of people in your community.
2. **Find a location** to put a Peace Pole.
3. **Get permission** to plant a Peace pole on the site.
4. **Decide what to write** on each side of the peace pole.

We strongly suggest one side say "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in English. The other three sides may say the same in other languages or be variations on the theme such as "May Peace Prevail in Our Community"

Be sure to include your Rotary Club logo on the Peace Pole.

5. **Order your Peace Pole** – see the district website for ordering options

Get the QR Code Decal to put on your Peace Pole **to link to the [world map](#).**

6. **Enjoy creating a community ceremony** to plant your Peace Pole.
7. **Invite** children, teens, adults, seniors, Rotary members, other civic groups, schools, and clergy to your Peace Pole dedication ceremony to celebrate peace with you.
8. **Invite the media** to attend to tell the story and take photos.

Peace Pole Ordering

Peace Poles can be a variety of sizes and materials. Below are a few options for obtaining a Peace Pole for your community.

A standard peace pole will have graphics on each of the four sides of an 8-foot post. The post and sleeve will be buried in the ground ~ 2 ½ ft. of post and six inches of sleeve will then be secured with concrete. Another option instead of using cement is to dig a two foot hole and put gravel in the bottom and pack the dirt back in and around it.

Option One: Order from the Local Community using a vinyl sleeve over a pressure treated wooden post
(Estimated cost: \$110)

Order a white composite vinyl post sleeve from **Lowe's (Item #1)** and have it sent to **Fuse Graphics in Spencerport** (191 S Union St. Spencerport, NY 14559, Attn: Harry Sotomayor).

Contact fusecreative@gmail.com or phone 585-509-0954 to make arrangements (provide expected delivery date, design and graphics for each side). Estimated cost for printing - \$10/side plus \$10 for the Rotary logo - \$50.

Full Materials List:

1. **Vinyl Post Sleeve (\$26.98):** <https://www.lowes.com/pd/Freedom-4-in-x-4-in-x-8-ft-White-Composite-Deck-Post-Sleeve/5015285283>
2. **Post Cap (\$4.48):** <https://www.lowes.com/pd/Freedom-Fits-Common-Post-Measurement-4-in-Actual-4-125-in-x-4-125-in-White-Vinyl-Post-Cap/4008751>
3. **Fence Post (\$16.88):** <https://www.lowes.com/pd/Severe-Weather-Common-4-in-x-4-in-x-10-ft-Actual-3-5-in-x-3-5-in-x-10-ft-2-Treated-Lumber/4222509->
4. **Bag of Concrete (\$4.46):** <https://www.lowes.com/pd/Sakrete-High-Strength-60-lb-High-Strength-Concrete-Mix/5015648043>
5. **Peace Pole QR Code (\$10):** Contact Larry Strober at lsstrober@gmail.com. Provide the physical location of the pole to be added to the map.

Option Two: Order a Custom Pole from www.peacepoles.com or rotarypeacepoles.world (Estimated cost: \$300 - \$1500)

Submitted by Ann DeMers



WEBINAR: Get the Most Out of Rotary's Learning Center Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 7:00 pm

Join us virtually to explore Rotary's Learning Center. The Learning Center is a member benefit and your source for learning, whether you're a new member seeking to explore what Rotary offers, a Rotary leader completing essential courses for your role, or a participant seeking to enhance your leadership skills. The Learning Center is customized for you according to your membership status, your language, and your role in Rotary. Access it by signing in to My Rotary. The courses and learning plans in the Learning Center provide the most up-to-date information about current Rotary policies and practices. Anyone who wants to learn more about the courses, how they are organized, and how to use the Learning Center may join the webinar.

Register at https://rotary-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_MYNfUA1yTjSJgqQ-iAYSrg#/registration

Submitted by Lisa Norwood



SAVE THE DATE

District 7120 Golf Tournament



**Reservoir Creek Golf Course, Naples, NY...rated one of the top 5 public courses throughout
our district! Located in the geographic center of District 7120.**

Friday, September 12, 2025

Text Jack Fredericks, PE Naples NY Rotary at (585)314-4124 for details

Mental Health Wellness:

For some, the new year does not start out happy:

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD): More Than the Winter Blues

As the days get shorter and there is less daylight, you may start to feel sad. While many people experience the “winter blues,” some people may have a type of depression called seasonal affective disorder (SAD).

The first step is to determine how much your symptoms interfere with your daily life.

Do you have mild symptoms that have lasted less than 2 weeks?



- Feeling down but still able to take care of yourself and others
- Having some trouble sleeping
- Having less energy than usual but still able to do your job, schoolwork, or housework

These activities can make you feel better:



- Doing something you enjoy
- Going outside in the sunlight
- Spending time with family and friends
- Eating healthy and avoiding foods with lots of sugar

If these activities do not help or your symptoms are getting worse, talk to a health care provider.

Do you have more severe symptoms that have lasted more than 2 weeks?



- Social withdrawal
- Oversleeping
- Gaining weight
- Craving foods with lots of sugar like cakes, candies, and cookies

Seek professional help:



- Light therapy
- Psychotherapy (talk therapy)
- Medications
- Vitamin D supplements

For help finding treatment, visit [nimh.nih.gov/findhelp](https://www.nimh.nih.gov/findhelp).

If you or someone you know is in immediate distress or is thinking about hurting themselves, call or text the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at **988** or chat at 988lifeline.org.

DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COMMITTEE SEEKING CLUB REPRESENTATIVES



Environmental Action Committee

As Spring approaches, we will kicking off our Spring environmental projects. Next month, we will publish a menu of possible projects ranging form spring clean-ups to planting Butterfly gardens. Some clubs already have things planned, but hopefully, the menu will include some things that might interest those clubs which do not have plans yet. The Spring Project timeframe is usually March 1st to June 30th, but clubs who have plans to do things before of after that period are welcome to do so. As always, we hope that 100% of clubs will do some kind of project. Anyone interested in participating in the committee as a club representative should contact: Gary Anderson at gwa1948@aol.com or (571) 212-0483.



DID YOU KNOW...



It's never been easier to create a flyer or social media graphic to help promote your club's events?? **Six new customizable templates** for Rotary, Rotaract, and Interact events have been added to the [Rotary Brand Center](#). These templates can be formatted with your club or district's text, photos, logo, as well as sponsor or partner logos. Find them on the Brand Center and use them to promote service projects, guest speakers, meetings, and more.

Visit <https://brandcenter.rotary.org/en-us/templates> to learn more about customizable event templates!

Submitted by Lisa Norwood

Strategic Planning Workshop

The Rotary District 7120 Strategic Direction/Planning Committee assists and guides the development and updating of the strategic direction of the district and its Rotary clubs.

Do you dream of your Rotary Club being known as the premier service organization in your community? Would you like to retain and attract more members to your Rotary club? You can achieve all this and more when you discover the value and importance of an effective Strategic Plan. These concepts have helped many clubs grow membership and become a sought-after leader in their community.

Making a commitment to keep or regain vibrancy within your Rotary Club is the beginning of an attitude mind-shift that will allow your club to transform the results of its efforts from average to EXTRAORDINARY.

A well-designed strategic plan allows the club to more effectively use its budget dollars, member's skills and community resources to make a positive difference locally and internationally. The process sets the stage for continued strategic visioning and organizational growth development.

For more information or to schedule a workshop for your Rotary Club, contact ...

PDG Bill Gormont or PDG Scott MacDonell



Literacy Corner

New Year's Literacy Resolution!



BASIC EDUCATION
AND LITERACY

The New Year is a perfect time to start on some personal development by embracing a bit of literacy enhancement. Now is the perfect time to work on areas of literacy, reading and writing, personal finance and math, and computer skills to name just a few. Everyone can benefit from new skills and capabilities. So how to get started:

Get Started:

1. Set a clear achievable literacy Goals

Set specific, measurable and achievable goals, whether it's reading a certain number of books., to learn a new computer skill, or learn a new writing style to name just a few.

2. Create a consistent literacy habit

Dedicate a specific time each day for your literacy activity. It does not need to be long, 15 to 30 minutes, the keep though is to be consistent and stick with it.

3. Explore diverse reading materials

Search and find different literacy materials, for reading: books. Manuals, newspapers, for computers: YouTube videos or training material, expand your knowledge by finding various learning materials.

4. Practice new skills regularly

To learning new literacy skills, keep notes, or a journal with all the new literacy skills you are learning

5. Join a new literacy group or workshop

Participate in reading groups or go to the library to take a computer class or a personal finance workshop. Add variety to stay motivated.

6. Utilize online resources and Apps

Take advantage of the wealth of free resources on line or as an App to enhance and develop your skills.

7. Seek feedback and be open to learning

Get feedback from others on your writing, computer, financial and reading skills. Meet with others to discuss and learn from each other.

The New Year is the perfect time to become more literate with some new skill, literacy is not just for reading and writing it's any skill that helps you become more skilled and capable.

Submitted by Nancy Marrer



Criteria for the 2024-2025 Literacy Recognition

Theme: Helping Adults to Teach Other Adults

Must Complete 5 Different Projects to Qualify

General Ideas and Suggestions:

1. Attend the Seminar in September
2. Show how your club observed Literacy Month in September; March is National Reading Month
3. Make Treasure Boxes, make a “Free Little Library”
4. Place books in a Food Cupboard, Community Center, Laundromat or Homeless Shelter
5. Award Scholarships
6. Give large print books and/or activity books to Senior Centers or Nursing Homes
7. Give to Books of the World
8. Provide School Supplies, Books and Snacks (Back Pack Program)
9. Read to children at a school or library
10. Consult best seller lists/NYT, Barnes & Noble, Washington Post, Book Page, etc.
- 11. Any other projects or events that your club accomplished or participated in.**

Name of Club _____

Contact person w/email _____

Form must be submitted by **March 31, 2025**. **Send to:** JoAnn Terry, 100 McAuley Drive, Apt. 150, Rochester. NY 14610, or email to JoAnn @ joannterry7@gmail.com

Please use the back of this form if you need more room



Rotary
District 7120



ROTARY 201: JANUARY 23, 2025
ZOOM Link: [Rotary 201](#)

Sign in 7:50, Start 8:00-8:55 PM EST

January 23: Vocational Service Month

- Professional networking attracts new members
- **RUMELLA CAMERON (Center City RC) Conversance Business Solutions**
 - SPOGOMI, Proposed District Litter Competition
 - Watch Spogomi: [World Cup Competition 2023](#)

February 27: Peacebuilding, Conflict Prevention Month

- Mental Health/Wellness
- **Christine Casaceli (Pal-Mac RC), Chair**
 - **ROTARY Learning Opportunities**

Watch: [12.19.24: Rotary Disease Treatment/Youth Exchange](#)

- **Rotary's response to disease**
- **Youth Exchange: Benefits of hosting**

FACULTY: members of any age or district experience who have a special interest in discussing an article in that month's **ROTARY** magazine or **Rotary's monthly theme**.

Have an idea or suggestion:
Jack Best, Dean Rotary 201
Phone/text: 585-261-0073

Email: jackbest@rochester.rr.com

As the chair of Rotary New Generations Service Exchange (NGSE), here's an overview of the program and the various ways to participate:

Overview of NGSE Program

The Rotary New Generations Service Exchange (NGSE) program offers young adults between the ages of 19 and 30 the opportunity to engage in international cultural and professional exchanges. Each applicant is usually available for 2-3 months. The program fosters international understanding, professional development, and cultural immersion.

new generations
service
exchange



Ways to Participate

1. Be a Host

- **Hosting a Participant:** Open your home to an NGSE participant, providing them with room and board during their exchange. Hosts play a crucial role in helping participants adapt to the local culture and community.
- **Cultural Exposure:** Introduce participants to local traditions, cuisine, and social activities, ensuring a rich and immersive cultural experience.

2. Offer an Unpaid Internship or Mentoring Opportunity

- **Professional Development:** Provide NGSE participants with unpaid internships or shadowing opportunities in your organization. This allows them to gain valuable professional skills and experience in a different cultural context.
- **Mentoring:** Serve as a mentor to guide and support participants in their career development, offering insights and advice from your professional background.

3. Be an Applicant from District 7120

- **Explore the World:** If you are from District 7120, you can apply to participate in the NGSE program and travel to various parts of the world. This opportunity allows you to experience new cultures, enhance your professional skills, and contribute to international understanding.
- **Application Process:** The application process involves completing forms, providing recommendations, and participating in interviews to ensure a good match between participants and hosts. email:juliecarney7120@gmail.com if interested.

Benefits of Participation

- **For Hosts and Mentors:**
 - Enrich your life by connecting with young people from different cultural backgrounds.
 - Contribute to the professional and personal growth of future leaders.
 - Enhance your understanding of other cultures and create lifelong international friendships.
- **For Participants:**
 - Gain international experience and develop professional skills.
 - Immerse yourself in a new culture, expanding your worldview and understanding.
 - Build a global network of contacts and friends through Rotary's extensive network.

Contact and More Information

If you are interested in participating in any capacity, please reach out to me at juliecarney7120@gmail.com for more information. Your involvement can make a significant impact on fostering global understanding and professional development.

Currently, I have applications from a young man from Germany who is in law school and would like to learn more about the laws of our country. He would be available from mid-August through October for an 8 week placement. I also have a young woman from Italy who would like to shadow in an American primary school setting. She is looking to be here from mid-October through mid-December. I also have a young woman from India interested in learning more about marketing who will be shadowing Paul Guiglielmo and helping to build a web presence. I am still in need of housing for her. If anyone in the Brighton/Penfield area is interested please let me know.

The District has already completed two exchanges through New Generations. I would like to thank Geneva Rotary/ David Cook for housing and Brian Nault/Professor and Program Leader from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University for hosting Hugo Yamada from Brazil for three months in 2023. Hugo worked in the entomology department investigating sustainable practices for agriculture.

I would also like to thank Avon Rotary/Kirk and Karen Vanderbilt for housing and the Avon Central School District for hosting Isabelle Bonafe from Brazil who shadowed the Counseling and Mental Health teams to learn more about the benefits of preventative care. She was here from January-April 2023.

By mentoring an NGSE participant, you will have the opportunity to benefit from their enthusiasm and fresh ideas while contributing to their professional development and cultural understanding.

Thank you for considering this request. Your support will make a significant difference in the lives of young professionals and help foster international understanding and cooperation.

Julie Carney
NGSE Program Chair

INFECTIOUS DISEASE UPDATE: September 10, 2024
COVID-19, INFLUENZA, RSV, and POLIO by PDG DAVID HANNAN



IT'S TIME TO GET YOUR UPDATED 2024-2025 COVID-19 and INFLUENZA VACCINES, EVEN IF YOU WERE PREVIOUSLY VACCINATED and EVEN IF YOU WERE PREVIOUSLY SICK WITH THESE VIRUSES! THEY CAN BE GIVEN SIMULTANEOUSLY.

RSV does NOT need a second vaccine.

Core Prevention Strategies

[CDC recommends](#) that all people use core prevention strategies to protect themselves and others from **COVID-19:**

- Stay up to date with [COVID-19 vaccines](#).
- Although vaccinated people sometimes get infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, staying up to date on COVID-19 vaccines significantly lowers the risk of getting very sick, being hospitalized, or dying from COVID-19.
- Practice good [hygiene](#) (practices that improve cleanliness)
- Take [steps for cleaner air](#)

When you are sick:

- Use [precautions to prevent spread](#), including staying home and away from others (including people you live with who are not sick) if you have respiratory symptoms.
- Learn when you can [go back to your normal activities](#).

Seek health care promptly for [testing](#) and/or [treatment](#) if you have [risk factors for severe illness](#). Treatment may help lower your risk of severe illness, but it needs to be started within a few days of when your symptoms begin.

Order your free COVID-19 tests at the end of September.

U.S. households will be eligible to order 4 free COVID-19 tests at [COVIDTests.gov](#). The COVID-19 tests will detect current COVID-19 variants and can be used through the end of the year. [Visit COVIDTests.gov](#)

Additional Prevention Strategies

In addition, there are other prevention strategies that you can choose to further protect yourself and others.

[Wearing a mask](#) and [putting distance between yourself and others](#) can help lower the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

[Testing for COVID-19](#) can help you decide what to do next, like getting [treatment](#) to reduce your risk of severe illness and [taking steps](#) to lower your chances of spreading COVID-19 to others.

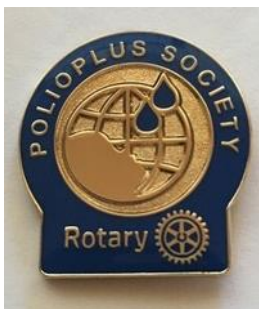
What to watch out for

Using these prevention strategies can be especially helpful when:

- Respiratory viruses, such as COVID-19, flu, and RSV, are causing a lot of [illness in your community](#)
- You or those around you have [risk factors](#) for severe illness
- You or those around you were recently exposed to a respiratory virus, are sick, or are recovering

POLIO:

1. A resident of Rockland County, who had not traveled overseas, contracted Polio in 2022 and the Polio Virus has been detected in sewage samples in Rockland, Orange, Sullivan, and Nassau Counties, and in New York City. Fortunately, there have been no other cases in the US.
2. Polio is a paralyzing and potentially deadly disease. The IPV (Salk) Polio Vaccine is safe and effective. It has been used for decades, is required for school entry in NY, and is available to anyone over 2 months old. Protect yourselves and your family. If you had the full Polio Vaccine series as a child, you do not need a booster at this time.
3. There were 12 cases of Wild Polio Virus Type 1 worldwide in 2023, 6 in Afghanistan and 6 in Pakistan. To date, there have been 34 cases of WPV1 in 2024, 18 in Afghanistan and 16 in Pakistan.
4. There were 517 cases in 26 countries of circulating Vaccine Derived Polio Viruses (cVDPV) worldwide in 2023. To date in 2024, there have been 122 cases in 17 countries of cVDPV. This includes 1 case in the occupied Palestinian territory (Gaza) on July 25, 2024.
5. **I am available to provide club programs on Rotary's PolioPlus Campaign, as well as other programs on The Rotary Foundation.**



Our wish is to have at least one member of the PolioPlus Society from every club.

Rotary has been working to eradicate polio for more than 35 years. Our goal of ridding the world of this disease is closer than ever.

As a founding partner of the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative](#), we've reduced polio cases by 99.9 percent since our first project to vaccinate children in the Philippines in 1979.

Rotary members have contributed more than \$2.1 billion and countless volunteer hours to protect nearly 3 billion children in 122 countries from this paralyzing disease. Rotary's advocacy efforts have played a role in decisions by governments to contribute more than \$10 billion to the effort.

Today, polio remains endemic only in Afghanistan and Pakistan. But it's crucial to continue working to keep other countries polio-free. If all eradication efforts stopped today, within 10 years, polio could paralyze as many as 200,000 children each year.

By the numbers:

- \$3 average cost to fully protect a child against polio
- 430 million children in total vaccinated in 39 countries in 2017
- \$100 million cost to conduct polio surveillance worldwide

District 7120 now has a PolioPlus Society recognized by Rotary International. To become a member, you pledge to donate \$100.00 or more per year until Polio is eradicated in the world. October 24th is World Polio Day – please consider participating by making this pledge. The commitment form is below! Remember that every dollar is matched 2 to 1 by the Gates Foundation.



MAGIC ALL AROUND

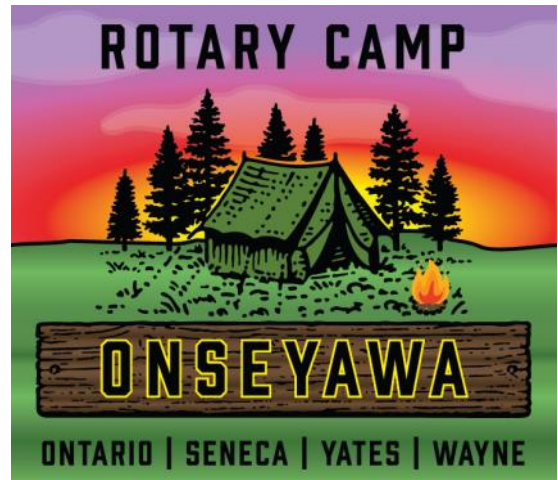
21-25 JUNE 2025 • CALGARY, CANADA

Register today at convention.rotary.org

#Rotary25

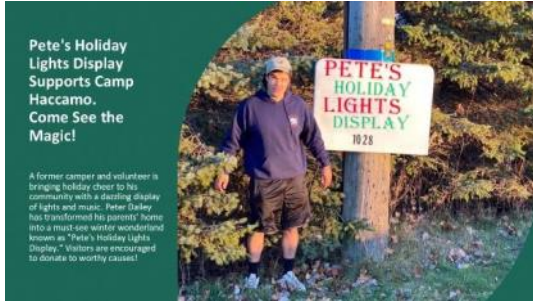
The 2025 Rotary Rose Parade Float was awarded the "Tournament Volunteer Award" for the Most Outstanding Floral Presentation for a float under 35 feet in length.





Pete's Holiday Lights Shine Bright for Camp Haccamo!

Thousands were dazzled this holiday season by a spectacular light display in Webster, all thanks to former camper Pete Dailey and his passion for Camp Haccamo!



Inspired by his grandmother, Dolly Kujawa (a Webster Rotarian and Camp Haccamo's Executive Director), Pete created 'Pete's Holiday Light Display' to support the camp's mission of bringing joy to kids with special needs.

Pete, who faces his own special needs challenges, personally greeted visitors and shared his love for Camp Haccamo, making the experience even more meaningful.

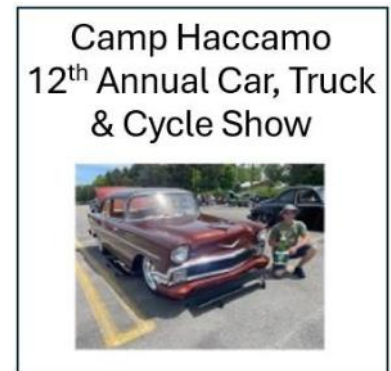
Pete's Holiday Light Display is a bright spot for Camp Haccamo and the community. It shows how one person's passion and generosity can make a difference in the lives of many.

Want to support Camp Haccamo like Pete? We need volunteers for committees, summer cleanup days, and more! Visit www.camphaccamo.org to learn how you can help.

This summer will be Camp Haccamo's 69th season. Please help us carry on our mission.

Save The Date - Mark your calendars for the 12th Annual Car, Truck and Cycle Show on June 7th, 2025, at Greece Ridge Mall!

Become a sponsor, vendor, or spectator and help make summer camp dreams come true for individuals with special needs. Learn more at www.camphaccamo.org or contact Chuck Krause at 585-703-0918. Click here for the event flyers and letters with more details <https://bit.ly/44m7MKm>.



Learn more at www.camphaccamo.org or on Facebook at <https://www.camphaccamo.org>.

Camp Haccamo is more than just a summer camp; it's a place where individuals with special needs can thrive. Since 1956, this Rotary-founded camp has provided a safe and welcoming environment where campers build confidence, develop friendships, and create unforgettable memories. With a high counselor-to-camper ratio and special events like Prom and Carnival Nights, Camp Haccamo offers a truly unique experience for both campers and their families.

Submitted by Neal Gorman

Introducing:

Rotary Club of International Service Impacting Women and Children

What we are about:

- Club Name: Rotary Club of International Service Impacting Women and Children
- A global cause-based virtual club formed July 2021
- Club Goal: Concentrate efforts on supporting and empowering women and children around the world

Cornerstone project: *Build-A-Chair which is a grassroots Rotary initiative. It has a board made up of members from around the globe. Over the past five years, we have raised over \$49,000 to build wheelchairs for those with disabilities in Tanzania, Africa. Through these efforts, we have built 194 custom made wheelchairs for people with disabilities which have impacted the lives of women, children and men by giving them the opportunity to earn a living, attend school and church and socialize with family and friends. Prior to being given a wheelchair, these individuals were either bedridden, carried or crawled on the ground to locomote.*

2023-2024 Fundraising Efforts: We executed a bingo fundraiser and raised about \$4K which we used to support these women and children's organizations.

- Isaiah 117 House (Butler, PA): Reduces trauma for children awaiting foster care.
- Project Enlightenment (Raleigh, NC): Provides early intervention programs for young children and their families.
- Robin's House (Butler, PA): Supports homeless female veterans and their children.
- Build-A-Chair: Providing mobility to those in need in Moshi, Tanzania.

2024-2025 Initiatives:

- Fall Bingo Fundraiser -November 2024: raised \$7,460
- Spring virtual fundraiser (first brainstorming meeting is January 21st 2025)
- Create and implement club bylaws
- Educate new club members about Rotary through newsletter articles and club meetings
- Focus on club member engagement during meetings and encourage members to give back in their communities

How we operate:

- \$140 for dues (a more affordable alternative to traditional club fees and fees may be paid on bi-annual basis)
- Virtual club meeting once a month (an alternative meeting format to attract busy people- Meet: 2nd Thursday of month at 7am)
- Monthly local service project carried out in the individual member's community
- Board of directors

Submitted by Trudy Croxton

Clifton Springs Rotary News

At our annual holiday celebration held at Ashton Place in Clifton Springs on Dec. 17 the Clifton Springs Rotary was honored to induct Kristine Beniamino-Scherer, owner of A Cutting Edge Salon and Spa in Phelps as our newest member.

Pictured L-R are District Governor Dave DeMers, club President Mary dePorter, Kristine, PDG and Membership Chair Scott MacDonell, Past President Vivian Ryan, and District Governor-elect Jim Crane.



Submitted by Scott MacDonell



Geneva Rotary

Rhonda Moore (left) was inducted into the Geneva Rotary Club in a membership ceremony at the club's Oct. 2 meeting at Dana's Time Out. Rhonda was sponsored by member Linda Sutherland. Rhonda lives in Geneva and has three adult children. She worked for New York State Corrections for 30 years where she was a union chief and an Employee Assistance Program Coordinator. She is now retired from that position. Rhonda is currently a manager/tax preparer of three H & R Block offices in Geneva, Newark and Seneca Falls. She has been in charge of many blood drives, food collections and making care packages for the veterans at the Canandaigua VA and for homeless shelters. She is still involved in this today, but does it on her own. Rhonda enjoys helping others, which is the main reason she wanted to join the Geneva Rotary Club so she could do more to help the community.



Submitted by Phil Beckley



Fairport Rotary Celebrates the Holidays with Fellowship and Giving

The Fairport Rotary Club ushered in the holiday season with a festive dinner at the historic DeLand House in the village on December 16th. The evening was filled with camaraderie, celebration, and the spirit of giving.

In addition to welcoming friends and family, the club had the honor of hosting District Governor Dave DeMers and his wife, Ann, as special guests. DG Dave played an integral role in the evening's festivities, assisting Membership Committee Chair Pieter Smeenk in the induction of two new members, Andrea Jones and Mark Finke, into the Rotary family. He also presented longtime member Vin Barone with his Paul Harris +3 pin, a testament to Vin's dedication and contributions to Rotary's mission.

As Chair of the Charitable Giving Committee, Vin shared updates on the club's philanthropic efforts for the first half of the Rotary year. Donations were made to several impactful organizations, including Perinton-Fairport Senior Connections, Pirate Toy Fund, Happy Birthday ChaChaCha, SPIRIT NYS, and Vertical Boost.

Vertical Boost representatives shared their plans to use the donation to install new soccer goals at Evergreen East (formerly The Pines). SPIRIT NYS founder and Fairport Rotarian John Thompson offered insight into the organization's mission to empower homeless teens by removing barriers to their education. A poignant moment of the evening came when John introduced a young woman whose life was transformed through SPIRIT NYS, showcasing the tangible impact of the club's generosity.

The celebration was a wonderful blend of fun, fellowship, and reflection on the meaningful work the Rotary Club accomplishes year-round. The evening not only highlighted the club's achievements but also reinforced the power of collective action in making a difference within the community.

Submitted by Domenick Cecconi



Welcome



Dundee Rotarian Receives Paul Harris +3

Dundee Rotary's most recent recipient of the Paul Harris Fellowship award is Tom Shepard. Tom has been a member of the Dundee Rotary Club since 2021. In retirement, Tom is an avid birder and is particularly interested in supporting Rotary projects that promote the health of our environment. Pictured is Co-President Alan Giles (L), who presented the award, and Tom (R).

Submitted by Lauren Snyder



Rochester Rotary Club Paul Harris Fellows

This past week at our Tuesday luncheon we recognized 14 Rochester Rotary Club members who earned their Paul Harris Fellows (first award through +5 awards). These generous members have all demonstrated their commitment to the Rotary International Foundation. This past month (November) was Rotary Foundation month, and we have had several announcements from the podium speak to the importance of the Foundation and its ongoing support of global projects. The areas of focus for the foundation grants are 1. The Environment 2. Disease Prevention and Treatment 3. Maternal and Child Health 4. Peacebuilding 5. Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene 6. Basic Education & Literacy 7. Community Economic Development.

Here are the Rotarians who we recognized for their ongoing support to the Rotary International Foundation. Erica Cooper, Michael Chabalik and President Paul Guglielmo received their certificate from RI along with their first Paul Harris Fellow pin.

Vicki James, Peter Landers, David Ferris, Andre Godfrey, Tracy Armstrong, and Tracey Dreisbach all received their Paul Harris +1 pins. This means that they have earned enough credit for a second Paul Harris Fellow pin with a jewel.

Jeff Halik and Perry Bradley received Paul Harris +2 pins.

Paul Harrison earned Paul Harris Fellow pins +3 and +4. Shawn Farr also earned Paul Harris +4.

Finally, Club President-Elect, Richard DeAsis earned his Paul Harris +5 pin.

We would like to reward all our club members with a Paul Harris Fellow pin. It is easy to begin your journey by [clicking here](#) to become a recurring gift donor of whatever amount is appropriate for you.

Submitted by Kellianne Mohorter

The article and photos of the Paul Harris Fellows is available at: <https://www.rochesterrotary.org/paul-harris-fellows/>

Dundee Rotary

Baird Booth, a member of the Dundee Rotary Club since 1993, was presented with his second Paul Harris Fellowship Award by President Alan Giles for his contributions to the Rotary Foundation. Baird is the owner/operator of the Baird Funeral Home in Dundee. Pictured are Baird Booth (L) and President Giles (R).

Submitted by Lauren Snyder



Perry Rotary Club

Perry Rotary Club was honored by a visit on Jan. 9, 2025 from district-governor nominee Pete Vogt, no stranger to our meetings and most welcome. On this day, he conferred three Paul Harris awards to members secretary Lorraine Sturm, assistant treasurer Amanda Parker and Trini Kuzmicki. All were plus-one recipients each receiving a pin with one sapphire chip. Nice start to the new year!

Rotarian, Tompkins Community Bank Branch Manager Sean Valdes gave a super informative presentation on fraud on Jan. 9. Wow. Even those Rotarians who consider themselves adept in the digital world learned much such as the differences between “phishing, smishing, quishing and vishing)! Quick tips: don’t open emails and texts from unknowns, don’t put phone numbers on your checks, and never click links on texts or “sms” files. Use charge cards over debit cards. Use gel pens. There’s much more. Perhaps your club would enjoy such a talk.

If your club has yet to take advantage of District 7120 grants, think about it. Perry’s latest grant enabled the school district to host a Water Safety Instructors course that resulted in enough area certifications that WSI classes now have waiting lists. Perry is home to Silver Lake, a gateway community to Letchworth State Park and schools have swimming pools so WSIs are vital to health and safety.

On Jan. 2, Tina Wolcott and daughter Bryttany Ward of Horses Healing Hearts farm shared how they help military veterans and special needs kids and adults achieve peace and pride in the accomplishments of riding and just being with these empathic animals. Groups and individuals from all over book time at the Warsaw farm or just visit. Groups and individuals can also be sponsored. Learn more by emailing horseshealingheartswny@gmail.com, call/text 585-786-3504 or liking on Facebook.

Perry Rotarians were among local leaders, agency officials and business owners who met with Secretary of State Walter Mosley on Jan. 7 at the Arts Council for Wyoming County. His talk is a preview of what NYS Governor Kathy Hochul will present this month in the State of the State address. Hint: it will relay the state’s goals to support and increase the economy and put more money in citizens’ pockets while maintaining services.

So 2025 has Perry Rotary Club hitting the ground running—or riding if you like horses! – Lorraine Sturm

Rochester Rotary Club

Past President Peter Sarratori's receipt of a Major Donor Award from The Rotary Foundation, presented by Past President, Past District Governor (PDG), and Past District Rotary Foundation Chair (DRFC) Don Alhart, is a significant recognition of his dedication and generosity to the organization.

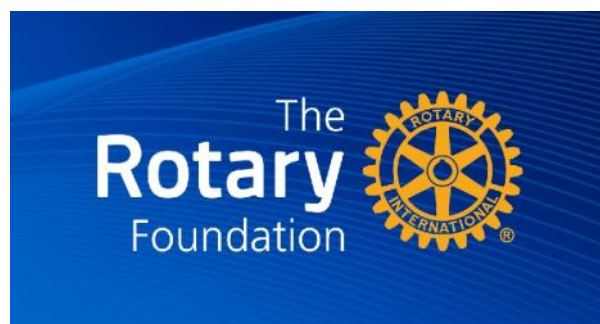
The Major Donor Award acknowledges individuals who have made substantial financial contributions to The Rotary Foundation, which is the charitable arm of Rotary International. This award highlights Pete's long-standing commitment and generous support to the Foundation's mission of advancing world understanding, goodwill, and peace.

By earning this prestigious recognition, Peter Sarratori has demonstrated his deep commitment to Rotary's global initiatives. His contributions directly support the Foundation's efforts in improving health, providing quality education, enhancing the environment, and alleviating poverty around the world. Major donors like Pete play a crucial role in enabling the Foundation to fund life-changing, sustainable projects that have a lasting impact on communities both locally and globally.

Peter Sarratori's dedication to Rotary extends beyond financial contributions. As a Past President, he has shown leadership within his local club, exemplified by his involvement in community projects such as the wheelchair-accessible treehouse for the Rotary Sunshine Campus. This hands-on approach, combined with his financial support, underscores the comprehensive nature of his commitment to Rotary's ideals.

The presentation of this award by Don Alhart, who holds multiple distinguished positions within Rotary, further emphasizes the significance of Pete's contributions. It represents recognition from the highest levels of the organization and serves as an inspiration to other Rotarians to support the Foundation's vital work.

Submitted by Kellianne Mohorter



Ontario-Walworth Rotary Club

The Ontario-Walworth Rotary continued their yearly tradition of donating to each third-grade Wayne Central Elementary student with their very own dictionary. A Big Thank You to the National Honors Society's Interact Club for joining forces with Rotary to deliver and label dictionaries for our third graders. Ontario-Walworth Rotary Spurs Literacy with the Generous Dictionary Donation to The Wayne Central Schools.

Submitted by Christine LoDestro



Dundee Rotary hands out 3rd grade dictionaries

Recently, Dundee Rotary presented each of the Dundee Central School 3rd-graders with a Dictionary as part of the Club's effort to promote literacy. Pictured are the Rotarians (a Past-President Fran Willis, Co-President Alan Giles, Secretary Kirsten Dombroski, and Co-President Joan Washburn) who handed out the dictionaries to each 3rd grader.

Submitted by Lauren Snyder



The Greece Rotary Holds a Casino Night

The Greece Rotary held their Third Annual Casino Night on Nov 2, with over 125 Gambling Friends & Guests. This event raised over \$12,000 that the club will put it to good use in The Greece Community and The World. In the past three years the event has surpassed over \$30,000 in profits for The Greece Rotary Foundation.

Submitted by Chuck Gannon



Greece Rotary Supports the North Greece Fire Dept.

First Responders Memorial

The Greece Rotary donated \$1,000 to the North Greece Fire Dept. First Responders Memorial. The Dedication was on Nov. 13. The North Greece Fire District recently earned an ISO Class 1 rating, This is the highest possible rating from the Insurance Service Organization (ISO), they are only one of 10 Fire Units in N State to earn this certification.

Submitted by Chuck Gannon



Canandaigua Rotary Club

The Canandaigua Rotary Club held a Can and Bottle drive in support of the District Environmental Action committee fall project to raise funds for a local environmental organization.

Led by the club's Green Team with support from the Canandaigua BID and the Canandaigua Lake Watershed Association (CLWA), we placed a redemption trailer on Central on Main, a club sponsored outdoor community gathering place.

Volunteers stood in the cold to receive donations from the public for two afternoons in November.

Thanks to Lindsay McMillan, Tracey Della Stratto, Adeline Rudolph, Jodi Kaufman, Rick Lessard, Marty Potter, Judy Ratcliffe, Trish Carey, Kathleen Draper for staffing the trailer. Special thanks to Dave Hutchings, Rotarian and director of Sonnenberg Gardens who donated a years worth of cans and bottles picked up donations from local businesses!



The proceeds from the drive will be donated to the CLWA to support their 2025 Middle Schoolers Water and Wildlife Summer Camp.

Submitted by Jodi Kaufman
Canandaigua Rotary Green Team Chair

Clifton Springs Rotary News

Also at the annual holiday celebration our club, thanks to a District Grant, was honored to present a check for \$1000 to Janie Burgess, Executive Director of the Phelps Community Center. This is to help in the installation of much needed new flooring in the PCC Pre-school program. Pictured is Janie accepting the check from Community Concerns Committee Chair Jeff Criblear.

Submitted by PDG Scott MacDonell



Geneseo Rotary Club

New landmark on Main Street. The Geneseo Rotary Club has gifted a street clock to the Village as part of the club's 100th Anniversary in 2025. Shown after installing the clock are Rotary President Don Livingston, center, his son Adam, right, and Chuck from Verdin Clocks.

Submitted by Art Hatton

The Clock will be formally dedicated in mid-March 2025



Photo submitted by Don Livingston

Webster Rotary Club

The final meeting of 2024 brought Master Sergeant Joe Seaver to the Webster Rotary Club meeting. Master Sergeant Seaver came to discuss and review the fentanyl epidemic and to teach the club members how to utilize and deploy Narcan in the event they find themselves in a situation where it's necessary. For any club interested in having Master Sergeant Seaver come to their club meetings, please reach out to Webster President Penny Swingly.

Submitted by Joseph Corona



BATH ROTARIANS ENJOY THE HOLIDAY SEASON TOGETHER

On December 18 th several Bath Rotarians and their spouses/partners gathered at Tess McKinley’s Red Party Barn to celebrate Christmas together.



Eddie VanStine, President-Elect and Birthday Boy, also enjoyed the gift that he received in the gift exchange ...a gift certificate to Kwik Fill.

The partiers enjoyed appetizers (shrimp cocktail), a main entrée (sliced ham and pineapple stuffing), dessert (chocolate rum cake) and other delicious dishes, made by the Rotarians, that covered two tables. After dinner the group participated in a gift exchange with items ranging from bottles of wine to packaged games to lottery tickets. Throughout the exchange people could “steal” gifts that had already been opened, and the first person who opened a gift could “steal” any gift he/she had seen. Laughs were had by all! Those present would like to thank Tess who not only hosted the event but also provided the cutlery, dinnerware, drinks, Christmas cookies, take home containers for

leftovers, and decorations, including the beautifully decorated Christmas tree.

The Bath Rotarians hope that everyone throughout the district and the world experienced a Happy Holiday Season and also wish everyone a Happy New Year!

Written by Elaine Tears
Pictures by Benita Nesbitt



Bath Rotarians and their spouses/partners gather around the Christmas tree at their Annual Christmas Party.



Eddie VanStine, President-Elect, was surprised with a birthday cake at the Bath Rotary Club’s Annual Christmas Party.

BATH ROTARIANS WRITE CHRISTMAS WISHES TO VETERANS

At its December 12, 2024 weekly club meeting, Bath Rotarians wrote Christmas cards to veterans housed at the VA Center in Bath. Brandi Graham, Bath Rotary Club Immediate Past President, who was in charge of the meeting that day thought that it would be a warm gesture for the Rotarians to do this during the holiday season. After the cards were written, Brandi delivered them to those housed at the local facility. Thanks are extended by the Bath Rotarians to Brandi for thinking of this idea, purchasing the Christmas cards, and delivering the cards to the VA Center in Bath. Bath is proud to be the home of one of the national Veteran Administration facilities. It includes the main administrative building, a hospital, a chapel, housing for veterans, a cemetery, etc.



At its weekly club meeting on December 12, 2024 Bath Rotarians wrote Christmas cards to veterans, housed at the VA Center in Bath.

Written by Elaine Tears
Pictures by Brandi Graham & VA Center, Bath – website



Dundee Rotary Honors December Elementary Student of the Month

Dundee Rotary's Elementary Student of the Month for December was Riley VanHorn. Riley's parents are Brandi and Andrew VanHorn. Dundee Central School's Elementary Principal Tiffany Cohrs accompanied Riley to the Rotary meeting and stated that Riley has an excellent work ethic and puts outstanding effort into all of her academics. She is positive role model and leader for her peers as she leads by example exhibiting the schools character traits of respect, responsibility, empathy, and engagement. Ms. Cohrs explained that Riley had applied for and was accepted as a STAR student leader and has been learning different ways to positively contribute to the school community.

Riley was presented with a certificate and \$25.00 check from Co-President Alan Giles.

Submitted by Lauren Snyder



Pictured are President Giles (L), Riley (C), and Principal Cohrs (R).

Geneseo Rotary Club

Geneseo Central School Students of the month for November and December 2024.

Pictured Right: Izzy Mallabar - December Student of the Month

Acadia Winslow - November Student of the Month

Meghan Curley, G.C.S. Administrator

Submitted by Bonnie Swanson

Pictures by Mary Alice May



Meghan Curley, Acadia Winslow, Student of the Month - November 2024
President Don Livingston, Past Pres Heather Ferrero, coordinator for student of the month.

Meghan Curley, Izzy Mallabar, Student of the Month - December 2024, Heather Ferrero, Don Livingston

VICTOR – FARMINGTON ROTARY CLUB

The Victor - Farmington Rotary Club joined with the Victor - Farmington Library in mid-December for the annual Day of Giving at the library. This event, held during the Christmas season, provides local families with the opportunity to select from a wide selection of new books that have been donated to the library for distribution to children and adults. The books cover a wide range of interests that include both fiction and non-fiction books. A special table staffed by library volunteers provided free gift-wrapping services for the children and adults who wanted to place their selections under the tree for family members.

Rotarians joined in the day's festivities and provided string backpacks for carrying the selected books as well as candies, novelties and children's items provided by the club. The J D Chapman Insurance agency and club member Bruce Chapman provided Rotary-themed bags.



L to R - Rotarians Dave Luitweiler, Judy Luitweiler and club president John Summers presenting checks to library director Tim Niver and Jessica Pritchard



V-F Rotarians Richard Mabelis and Lorraine Sanford assisting participants



Library volunteers providing gift-wrapping services

The club also used the event to provide financial support for the library during their fund-raising process. Club members Judy & Dave Luitweiler matched the club's donation. Two checks totaling a thousand dollars were presented to library director Tim Niver and library development manager Jessica Pritchard.

Submitted by Dave Luitweiler

V-F ROTARY CLUB

The Giving Tree

The “Rotary Giving Tree” has been a part of the Christmas season for over three decades in the Victor – Farmington community. The tree, annually set up inside Tops Market in Farmington, provides shoppers with the opportunity to select a card from the tree and purchase gifts for those who might normally be forgotten at Christmas.

The shoppers return the gifts to the tree. Rotarians collect the gifts, and they are sorted and arranged for distribution in mid-December. The club distributes gifts to a variety of organizations and institutions including Ontario Place (residential senior citizens) in Hopewell, the Friendship House in Middlesex, Wilson Commencement Park in Rochester, and local charitable organizations. Over a thousand gift items are distributed. All club members are engaged in the project.

Submitted by David Luitweiler



Ontario Center staff members receiving gifts for seniors



L to R - DGE Jim Crane - Cathy Guattery (Friendship House (Middlesex) - Club President John Summers



V-F ROTARIANS SORTING GIFTS

Chemung County Sunrise Rotary Club

This month the club is celebrating 35 years! The club was started as an early morning meeting before work by Al Preucil and Al and his wife, Barb, are still active members today.

The club started out the month with our annual poinsettia sale. These beautiful plants are grown locally for us every year. This year sales were a challenge as many of the local churches have scaled back on the number of plants ordered but the few we had left were donated to the Chemung County Nursing facility.

On December 11th we had our annual Penny Auction for the residents of Bethany. This is a favorite event for the club and this year we were overwhelmed by the donations from the community! We received lap blankets, Christmas socks, mens and womens toiletry items, new puzzles, hand made signs, the list goes on and on! The bidding is always intense! It is so great to see everyone smiling and having fun.



Bethany; Peter Wallin, Lisa Ventura, Jodi Crouse, Sandy Jessup, Melissa Morse, President, Kelly Comfort, President Elect.



Chemung Sunrise at Bethany: Lisa Ventura, Jodi Crouse, Kelly Comfort



Chemung Sunrise at Bethany picture of some residents

At the December 18th final meeting of the year we had a gift exchange where club members can keep a gift or trade for a gift already opened. We also contributed \$5.00 gift cards to Dunkin Donuts, McDonalds and Elmira Tea and Coffee House. These cards were given to the Transformation Center that provides two community meals each week. The Center handed them out so that people can have a card to use at the business for a warm drink and the opportunity to sit inside and warm up.

Submitted by Sandra Jessup

Newark Rotary Spreads Holiday Cheer with Generosity

During the month of December, the Newark Rotary Club exemplified the spirit of giving by actively supporting the local community. Rotarians dedicated their time and resources to ensure that families in need experienced a brighter holiday season. One of the club's most impactful initiatives involved filling over 100 grocery bags with holiday donations for the Newark Food Closet. This effort coordinated by Newark Rotarian, Jan Hence brought together members of the Rotary Club who worked to collect, pack, and deliver essential items and festive treats for those facing challenges during the holiday season. The Newark Food Closet, a vital resource for local families. The donations not only helped stock shelves but also brought joy and relief to many households during the holiday season. In addition to these efforts, the Newark Rotary Foundation approved a grant of \$2,500 in December to the Newark Food Closet to support local families. This generous contribution further strengthened the ability of the Food Closet to provide assistance throughout the year for those in need. The Newark Rotary Club's commitment to service and kindness shines brightly, demonstrating the power of collective action to make a meaningful difference.

Submitted by Charles Waterman



President Jim Weiler delivering his grocery bag.

Rotarian Dave Doebler presents a check from the Newark Rotary Foundation to Newark Food Closet.

Newark Rotary Foundation News

The Newark Rotary Foundation also approved a grant of \$2,500 to the Newark Free Lunch Program, an initiative that provides thousands of free meals each year to Newark's neediest population. Newark Rotarian Bill Doeblar submitted the grant request, emphasizing the importance of ensuring food security for the community's most vulnerable members. This funding will further enable the Free Lunch Program to continue its invaluable work of feeding those in need.

About the Newark Free Lunch Program;

- All of the food for lunch is lovingly prepared and served by volunteers!
- The program started as a Thanksgiving Day dinner in 1993 and has since expanded to provide lunch 4 days a week, Tuesday-Friday from 11:00 AM to Noon, and a breakfast every 3rd Saturday!
- Working with Foodlink, they also can provide carry-away boxes of dairy, produce, and sandwich supplies.

Submitted by Charles L. Waterman



Newark Rotarian Dave Doeblar presents a check for 2,500.00 to the Newark Free Lunch Program.

Dundee Rotary Sponsors Grace Fryberger in 7120 Oratorical Contest

Dundee Rotary started 2025 with a very special program.

Grace Fryberger, a Junior at Dundee Central School, and the daughter of Heidi and Craig Fryberger, gave the speech that she had prepared for the Rotary District 7120 Oratorical Contest. As required by contest rules, Grace explored the meaning of the Rotary 4-Way Test in her life: "Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Is it beneficial to all concerned?" Dundee Rotary is honored to sponsor Grace Fryberger in the 2025 Oratorical Contest.

Pictured are President Alan Giles (L), Grace holding the check presented to her by President Giles (C), and member Fran Willis who coordinates the Oratorical contest participation for the Club (R).



Submitted by Lauren Snyder

Spencerport Rotary

A new holiday event “The Enchanted Village Celebration” was recently held in the village of Spencerport. When the Spencerport Rotary Club heard of the event, our members immediately stepped forward to help. The club not only became a major sponsor of the event but also arranged with the school’s wrestling team to provide and set up hay bales around town so people could sit while watching the entertainment, visiting with St. Nike, etc. We also sent volunteers to help with set up and at the event itself.

The event featured dance performances, children’s Story Time and crafts, musical performances, visits with St. Nike, carolers, an ugly sweater contest, a visit from the Rochester Red Wings’ mascot Spikes and the night ended with a tree lighting.

From the chair of the committee...”A special thanks to Spencerport Rotary for sponsoring this event in the village. They have gone above and beyond to help make this event successful for our community.”

Our thanks to the Rotarians who helped - Kathy Magin who stepped up to help chair the efforts of Rotary, District Governor Dave DeMers and Joe Marasco who worked with the school’s wrestling team and those who volunteered before and during the event: Anne Forberg, Cory Grant, Courtney Converse, Kos and Michele Mihalitsas, Colleen Farley, Lyndy Branton and Trish Cupello.

TOY GIVEAWAY

The Pirate Toy Fund held a holiday toy giveaway, sending out over 1,000 invitations to children in need. The children were given the opportunity to do a little shopping for toys, receive a stuffed animal and some snacks, play some games and visit with Santa. The annual event drew thousands of children to the Blue Cross Arena. Rotarians there to help the children choose a present were District Governor Dave DeMers, Michele and Kos Mihalitsas, Jamie and Frank Stancato, Kathy Magin and Colleen Farley.

Submitted by Colleen Farley



Corning Rotary out and about in the community

On Tuesday, December 3, 2024, Corning Rotary participated in the Corning Chamber of Commerce Business After-Hours for Non-Profit Organizations. The event took place at the Radisson, where we joined other agencies and organizations to showcase our work.

It was a wonderful opportunity to share our focus areas and projects with others while also learning more about the great work being done by fellow organizations. We especially enjoyed finding ways we might work together in the future, making it both a successful and fun evening for everyone involved.



Then four days later on Saturday, December 7th, the club manned a booth at the Gaffer District's Christmas Street Festival. It was quite a bit colder than last year -- and we had light snow, to make it more festive! Our stalwart team assembled our booth and prepared for the cold as the sun was setting. This year we had candy canes and tootsie rolls. The cold didn't reduce the number of Sparkle revelers. We had lots of visitors.

Again, we had the chance to speak with people from our community and talk about Rotary. We were at Sparkle as part of our connection to this community. And - there were lots of questions! Who can join? What activities do you in the community? What is Rotary International? Don't you work on killing the Polio virus?

The event was a success for us. We were able to meet people, let them know more about Corning Rotary and answer their questions, and spread holiday cheer with our sweets.

Submitted by Jan Harvey



Corning Pitches In to Help the Salvation Army

Corning Salvation Army's Shepherd's Table is an opportunity for local organizations, churches, and service organizations to help support the Salvation Army. Corning Rotary took our turn to provide a Sunday afternoon dinner. Karen and Andy Rochester cooked up the casserole Sunday morning and then our Rotary Team assembled in the afternoon to put together and serve dinners. Altogether, with the assistance of a Salvation Army volunteer, we served over 40 meals.

Hunger and Food Security is one of the key focus areas of the Rotary Club in the Corning community. We work with and in local food pantries and food banks, develop and fund community gardens and are now finishing a greenhouse that will support the Corning Food Pantry. The greenhouse is being funded with the help of a District Grant.

We then joined other service clubs and individuals in supporting the Corning Salvation Army's annual bell ringing kettle event this year. The festive bells and colors in Centerway Square in Corning helped remind people of the Salvation Army's presence here -- and all that they do with food pantries and weekly cost-free dinners at their Shepherd's Tables.

Submitted by Jan Harvey



Penfield Rotary Club

Please "Save The Date" for These Fun Upcoming Events

Penfield Rotary Club's Spring Euchre Tournament – April 5, 2025

The Penfield team is excited to announce our upcoming Spring Euchre Tournament, scheduled for April 5th at 11a.m. This exciting event will be held at Castle Point at Baywind, located at 200 Kid Castle Way, Webster. Thank you to Family First for agreeing to be our event sponsor again.

A graphic for a Rotary fundraiser. At the top left is a red circular stamp that says "SAVE THE DATE". To its right is a red banner with "Rotary Fundraiser" in white. Further right is the Penfield Rotary Club logo, which includes a gear icon and the text "Penfield Rotary Club". The main text "Euchre" is in a large, bold, black serif font, followed by a black spade symbol and a red heart symbol. Below "Euchre" is the word "Tournament" in a similar font, preceded by a red diamond and a black club symbol. At the bottom, it says "Saturday, April 5th, 2025 • 11:00AM" and "Castle Pointe at Baywind 200 Kidd Castle Way, Webster". On the left is the "FAMILY FIRST CREDIT UNION" logo with the tagline "Banking Simplified. Life Magnified." On the right are colorful flowers and a blue cloud with rain.

Following the success of our fall tournament (which raised \$4,000) we are thrilled to bring the community together once again for a day of fun, friendly competition, and Rotary fellowship and camaraderie. Registration for the tournament will be available shortly on our website at <http://PenfieldRotary.org>. In the meantime, feel free to message NealGorman@nrgGOpr.com if you have any questions or to get involved early.

We are also offering sponsorship opportunities for local businesses. This is a fantastic way to build your reputation and increase awareness of your business within the community. Sponsorship packages are designed to provide maximum exposure and engagement with our event attendees and the general public. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to support a great cause, connect with fellow Euchre enthusiasts, and promote your business. We look forward to seeing you there!

Penfield Rotary Club's Annual Golf Tournament with the Town & Kiwanis – June 16, 2025

Calling all Rotary Golfers, please save the date for the Penfield Rotary, Penfield-Perinton Kiwanis, and the Town of Penfield annual golf tournament which is set for June 16 at Shadow Lake Golf Club. We'll be announcing an amazing tournament Honorary Chairperson soon. Join us for a day of swinging, putting, and giving back! There will also be many advertising opportunities to highlight your group or business, and it's a great dinner and networking event. Message Neal-Gorman@nrgGOpr.com if you have any questions or to get involved early.



Submitted by Neal Gorman

Bloomfield Rotary Club

In December, Bloomfield displayed oversized greeting cards throughout the community.

Submitted by Marce Chavez



DANSVILLE ROTARY CLUB

The Dansville community has participated in the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign for several years. Pictured here are Dansville Rotarians Kaylee Lohrman and Gerry Freeman. Helping draw attention to the Salvation Army Red Kettle are Kaylee's two children, Tucker and Knox.

The Red Kettle campaign is headed up by Dansville Rotarian and Club Past President Jenni Leuzzi. Anyone in the community is welcome to sign up for a time slot to ring the bell. The schedule for "ringing" is located at Rotarian Jenni's business, Mill Creek Optical, located on Main Street in Dansville.

This year Dansville Rotary raised over \$1300 in one day at the Salvation Army's participating business, Tops Market in Dansville.



DANSVILLE ROTARY CLUB NAMED "GOLD GAME SPONSOR" BY GLIDERS BASEBALL TEAM

Special thanks and recognition were given to Dansville Rotary Club recently for its assistance and support of the Dansville Gliders baseball team during the 2024 season. The Gliders team is a member of the New York Collegiate Baseball Franchise; the team's first Dansville season was in 2021.

Submitted by Teresa Dearing

Rotary Club of Elmira

Every year during the Month of December, The Rotary Club of Elmira works with Diven Elementary school to assist the students in packing a gift to be given to people in our community. This year we helped them pack goodies to be added to Catholic Charities "blizzard bags." It's definitely one of our favorite events of the year! This year Rotarians, Jonus Miles, Katie Boland, Polly Smith Blackwell, and Laurie Liberatore assisted the students while Carl Berman serenaded all of us with Christmas Carols on his trumpet.

Submitted by Laurie Liberatore



Polly Smith Blackwell, Laurie Liberatore & Carl Berman



Katie Boland



Jonus Miles

HONEOYE LAKE ROTARY CLUB STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

For the month of December, the HLRC had the opportunity to recognize their Students of the Month, Amelia Reynolds and Owen Higgins. Amelia is our middle school recipient while Owen is our high school honoree.

Teachers selected these students based not just on academics but their role model for their peers. These students follow RI's Four Way Test and enjoy participating in Community service as well.

Congratulations to both students and their parents as well.

Submitted by Jeanne Hamele



Pal-Mac Rotary

Let's Party!

35 Pal-Mac Rotary members, family, and friends enjoyed one another as we gathered at Jeremiah's in Penfield for our annual Holiday Party on December 11. The food, drink and shenanigans overflowed.

The Grinch (Kim Clement) and her merry sidekick, our deer Leslie Vecchiotti (both pictured below), ensured that we had a grand old time. The White Elephant Gift Exchange brought much laughter.

Submitted by Jeff Crawford



Our Rotary Exchange Student, Marcella, opens a White Elephant Gift!

A WEEK OF FUN FOR THE HONEOYE COMMUNITY

December was a busy month for the Honeoye Lake Rotary Club as we shared a week of activities with other groups in Honeoye to make the holidays special and memorable for all. We had our annual Christmas tree on display, helped with the Polar Plunge, participated in the Vendor Village, assisted in organizing the Children's Holiday Bazaar amid a few other activities to make the week special. Not only did this week of activities bring smiles to our faces, but we were able to add a few dollars to our treasury to fund upcoming community service projects as well.

Submitted by Jeanne Hamele



DISTRICT CALENDAR CLUB EVENT SUBMISSION FORM

There are two ways to get your club event onto the District Calendar.

1) If your club **does not use** Club Runner, go to the **District Calendar Submission Page:** <https://rotary7120.org/sitepage/club-calendar-submission-form>
Complete the Club Calendar Submission Form and click the submit button.

If there are Registration Forms, Image Files, Graphics, or any Other File you wish to make accessible to Rotarians for this event, send them as attachments to: Jim Kozlowski, District Calendar Coordinator at jim.koz65@gmail.com and mention the name and date of your event.

2)) If your club **does use** Club Runner, go to :
<https://www.clubrunnersupport.com/kb/articles/how-do-i-create-an-event-in-event-planner>
And the article will help you create an event.



Rotary

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

first

Is it the **TRUTH**?

second

Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?

third

Will it build **GOODWILL** and
BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

fourth

Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to
all concerned?



Since 2020, the Build-A-Chair Initiative has provided 194 locally-made, custom-fit wheelchairs to individuals with disabilities in Tanzania. Each wheelchair gives the user a new life outside of their home and within their communities. In the words of one child, Elia, after receiving his wheelchair:

“I have unexplainable joy.”

Do you or your club want to impact lives in our global community in the new year? We would love to share more about this project with your club. Please reach out to Michelle Bailey if you are interested in donating or partnering with us on this grassroots Rotary initiative.



Rotary Club of International Service,
Impacting Women & Children

Build-A-Chair Contact: Michelle Bailey
michellebailey110@gmail.com

2025 Rochester SaveAround Coupon Book, for only \$25!

COUPON BOOK
FREE Shipping +
(99 cents
processing fee)

for Sale by the
Rochester Deaf
Rotary
Club



Order Yours Today!

Please help us continue to support the Rochester Deaf Community, and many other worldwide projects, by purchasing the **2025 Rochester SaveAround Coupon Book, for only \$25!** There are many excellent coupons inside featuring restaurants, entertainment, services, recreation, and more!

You can purchase online at <https://www.SAPayNow.com/17252> - Books can be shipped directly to you with no shipping cost (processing fee of 99 cents per book will be charged for online payment). Or hand delivered by RDR members.

Contact: deafrotary@gmail.com

to order your books!

You can begin to use your book(s) right away!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! WAVING HANDS!
Rochester Deaf Rotary Club



T R I V I A
N I G H T

Come Join the Fun!

Eat – Drink – Think!!

Wednesday, February 19th @ Pinewood Country Club

1189 Ogden Parma Townline Rd., Spencerport

Sign Up Early! Limited Number of Teams - 4 Players Each Team

Just \$10 Per Player / \$40 Per Team

Doors Open 5:00 p.m. for dinner - Menu @ <https://pinewood.cc/pub-menu>

First Game @ 6:00 p.m. Cash bar - Prizes, 50/50 and Raffles

Featuring Trivia Hosts:

- **Dave DeMers, Rotary District Governor**
- **Rob Dermody, Rochester Philharmonic**
- **Tanya Silivestro, Spencerport Education Foundation**
- **Steve Toms, Ogden Town Board Member**

Register online at <https://www.zeffy.com/ticketing/spencerport-trivia-night>

Questions or to donate a raffle prize, contact 489-0333 or email

irishgal103151@gmail.com

Partial Proceeds will be used to erect PEACE POLES at local grammar schools



TIME TO PLAY AND WIN

RDR



Rochester Deaf
Rotary
Club



EUCHRE TOURNAMENT

Saturday **February 22, 2025**

Doors Open 2:00 pm • Games Begin 2:30 pm
Henrietta Moose Family Center
5375 W. Henrietta Rd., W. Henrietta, NY 14586

Tickets:

\$25
per person

\$30 after
February 13, 2025

Wine Raffles!
Cash Prizes!
50/50 Raffle!

Will Benefit Rochester
Deaf Rotary
Community Projects



Snacks Provided
Food Available
for Purchase



Three Ways to Pay -
Deafrotary@gmail.com
CASH APP - \$deafrotary2004
PAYPAL - DeafRotary@gmail.com



Check (made payable to Rochester Deaf Rotary), send to:
Rochester Deaf Rotary, Euchre, P.O. Box 18465, Rochester, NY 14618



Fairport
Rotary



SAVOR THE FLAVOR OF FAIRPORT

Sunday March 2, 2025
1-4 PM
Eagle Vale Golf Club

A fun afternoon of wine, beer, spirits,
food tastings, raffles and auctions to
support our many local charitable efforts!

Presented by Fairport Rotary Club &



Canandaigua
National
Bank & Trust

\$50 per ticket

Available at www.fairportrotary.com or from
any Fairport Rotarian

Additional major event supporters:
Lyons National Bank
Davie Kaplan CPA, P.C.



Come Celebrate St. Patrick's Day March 17 at Pittsford Rotary's 'A Taste of Pittsford'



Planning is well underway for Pittsford Rotary's annual "A Taste of Pittsford", a major club charity fundraiser, this year on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, from 6-8:30 pm at Nazareth College. The popular event is a great way for the community to usher in spring with signature food and beverage tastings from local restaurants, wineries and breweries. The event also will feature fabulous auctions, entertainment and much more. Tickets are \$50 and available from any Pittsford Rotarian or online at: PittsfordRotaryClub.org.

Submitted by David Irwin

The Magic of Rotary

*Service Above Self
Gala*

Saturday
April 5, 2025
Ventosa Vineyards



*Award Ceremony
& Gala Dinner*

Featuring Keynote Speaker Mark Gearan, L.H.D.
President of Hobart & William Smith Colleges

And

Emcee Magician Bill Gormont
District Governor 15'-16' - Rotary District 7120
Cocktail Hour 5:00
Dinner 6:00

Tickets
\$100
Per Person

Scan QR Code, or visit:
GenevaRotaryClub.org



Check the District Calendar
for additions and changes

“Click” on the calendar



Upcoming CLUB Events

Rotary Club of International Service
Build-A-Chair Project

Rochester Deaf Rotary Club
Coupon Book Sale

February 2 Spencerport Rotary Club
Trivia Night

February 22 Rochester Deaf Rotary Club
Euchre Tournament

March 2 Fairport Rotary Club
Savor the Flavor

March 17 Pittsford Rotary
A Taste of Pittsford

April 5 Geneva Rotary Club
The Magic of Rotary Gala

Upcoming DISTRICT Events

District Learning Assembly

Sat April 05, 2025

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m..

Midlakes High School

1554 NY-488

Clifton Springs, NY 14432

District 7120 Conference

May 2-4, 2025

Corning, NY



Marilyn Lyon - Newsletter Editor
Geneseo, NY 14454

Email - 7120news@rochester.rr.com

**The Grapevine deadline is the 10th of
every month**