

# 7150NEWS

ROTARY DISTRICT 7150  
DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 7150 | DISTRICT GOVERNOR DANA JERRARD

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**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**



District Governor



2021-2022 Governor  
Dana Jerrard ..... Utica

District Executive Committee



**DG Elect**  
Jerry Seguin ..... Fulton



**DG Nominee**  
Elise Hereth ..... V.V.S. Community



**Immediate Past DG**  
Cheryl Matt ..... Dewitt



**District Trainer 2021-22**  
PDG Deb Glisson ..... Marcellus



**District Trainer 2022-24**  
PDG Dennis Schonewetter ..... V.V.S. Comm.

Assistant Governors



Wendy Mucica ..... Little Falls



Judy Reilly ..... Greater Utica Sunrise



Jim Cook ..... New Hartford



Jim Eklund ..... Chittenango



Steve Osborne ..... Fulton



Blessed Sikhosana ..... Onondaga North



Charlie Smith ..... Marcellus

Assistant Governor Trainer



Jenny Doane ..... Baldwinsville

SEND US YOUR NEWS

Submit club and district news to:  
[rotary7150@gmail.com](mailto:rotary7150@gmail.com)

The deadline to submit brief articles with great photos for publication in an issue of 7150NEWS is the 25th of each month.

A MESSAGE FROM DG DANA

Dana Jerrard | DG | Utica

“Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on this earth. And I want to be a good tenant.” These words, spoken many times by our Rotary International President Shekhar Mehta, are an expression of his personal philosophy and, I suspect, that of many Rotarians here in District 7150. We serve to change lives, including our own.

On the Rotary calendar, the focus of December is Disease Prevention and Treatment, and the pandemic has taught the world that this area of service must be a priority. In November, our District Polio Chair, PDG Randy Wilson, recognized the charter class of our district Polio Plus Society, and our Rotary brothers and sisters in the Rochester, Albany, and Binghamton districts joined us in a combined commitment of more than \$150,000 to the End Polio Now campaign for this 2021-22 Rotary year. With the 2:1 match from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, this will bring nearly a half-million dollars to the fight to cross the finish line and eradicate polio. I thank all of you for your continued generosity and commitment to keep our promise to the children of the world.

Despite all of the uncertainty surrounding us, Rotarians continue to reach out to those in need, and are realizing the power of partnerships. The Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group is expanding its local network and inspiring action for sustainable solutions. The Moravia and Auburn clubs are looking to partner with Cornell University and perhaps the Rotary Foundation to battle the invasive HWA pest that threatens hemlock trees in the US and Canada. As we learned during October’s Conference of Clubs Tully Club has forged several partnerships as part of its TREES Initiative. Oswego Sunrise Rotarians are joining the Fulton NY/Fulton MO partnership to expand the project to benefit young mothers in Tanzania. The members of Greater Utica Sunrise, New Hartford, and Rome clubs joined forces to collect hundreds of pairs of shoes for shipment abroad. So many of our clubs continue to collect and ship books as part of the Books for the World program. Rotarians in District 7150 are continuing to pay the rent!

Finally, the mid-term district membership report card is very encouraging. As of November 30, district membership is at 989, up a net of 14 since July 1. Fifteen clubs are net-plus for the year, with Baldwinsville, Cato, Fulton Sunrise, Rome, Sauquoit, Skaneateles Sunrise, Syracuse Sunrise, and Waterville up by more than 10% net. Let’s keep this momentum going into the second half of the Rotary year, and in this season of giving, why not consider giving the gift a Rotary membership proposal to someone who might join us in service to change lives? It’s literally the gift that keeps on giving.

Cathy and I wish you good health, peace and joy in this season and the coming year. Happy Holidays, changemaker Rotarians! ♦

OSWEGO DELIVERS THANKSGIVING

Susan Witmer | Oswego

Through a partnership with the Tarandi Foundation, the club delivered Thanksgiving meal kits to 5 families the weekend before Thanksgiving.

The Oswego Rotary Club Cares Project provided a turkey, potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetables and a delicious pie to each family.

**Service Above Self** and spreading some kindness during these difficult times. ♦



District Officers



**District Secretary**  
Pete Cardamone ..... Tully



**Treasurer**  
Tara Renner ..... Onondaga North



**Finance**  
PDG Randy Wilson ..... Sauquoit



**District Conference**  
Chair, Linda Iannone ..... Utica



**District Rotary Foundation**  
Chair, Don Reese ..... Utica



**Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**  
Co-chair, Darnell Hayes ..... DeWitt



**Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**  
Co-Chair, Cheryl Matt ..... DeWitt



**Diversity, Equity & Inclusion**  
Co-chair, Devin White ..... Eastwood



**Membership**  
Joe Caruso ..... Utica



**Innovative Clubs**  
Lizzy Martin ..... Baldwinsville



**Public Image**  
Lizzy Martin ..... Baldwinsville



**Parliamentarian**  
PDG Dennis Schonewetter... VVS Community



**Rotaract**  
Jonathan Yost ..... Eastwood



**Veterans Service**  
John "Ziggy" Zygmunt ..... New Hartford



**Youth Exchange & Rotary Youth Leadership Awards**  
PDG Phyllis Danks ..... Marcellus



**Rotary Leadership Institute**  
Donna Schonewetter ..... VVS Community



**Rotary Leadership Institute**  
PDG Dennis Schonewetter... VVS Community



**New Generations**  
Tom Taylor ..... Onondaga North



# Welcome To The World of Rotary

## Preview The Latest Orientation For Your New (And Newer) Club Members

**Multi-District Membership Monday**  
**December 13, 2021 - Starts at 7pm**

**REGISTER TODAY!**



**Empire Districts**  
**7120, 7150, 7170 & 7190**

### PREVIEW NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION PROGRAM

Lizzy Martin | District 7150

Hopefully all clubs are doing something to help their new members learn about what it means to be in Rotary. Orientation programs help new Rotarians get acclimated, find their place in the club and improve retention. An engaged member stays a member! District 7150, along with our fellow upstate NY districts, will be offering a new orientation program that should complement what clubs are doing and further expand the educational opportunities available to district Rotarians. The Welcome to The World of Rotary orientation gives a higher level view of Rotary outside of our clubs. Come preview this orientation and see how it will be implemented virtually at the upcoming Multi-District Membership Monday on December 13th at 7pm. All are welcome for this sneak preview, but this is especially important for club leaders to attend since you will be the ones encouraging your members to attend when the district rolls out the first orientation in 2022. Go to <https://bit.ly/3pegWEu> to register and get the zoom link to attend. ♦

### WEST WINFIELD AWARDS POSTHUMOUS PAUL HARRIS

Charles Osborn | West Winfield



Larry Burkert, who peacefully passed on September 15, lived a simple life and filled each day with work, play, generosity and love for his family and friends.

During a recent club meeting of the West Winfield Rotary Club, the members unanimously voted to award Mr. Burkert with the dis-

tinguished Paul Harris Fellow Award.

Since then, Rotarians and clubs have used the Paul Harris Fellowship to recognize persons whose life demonstrates a shared purpose with the objectives and mission of the Rotary Foundation to build a world of understanding and Peace.

"Larry" was very civic minded and gave countless hours to volunteering. He was a member of the Federated Church serving on various committees over the years and donating many hours to the Food Bank. As a 32nd degree Mason, he was a member of Winfield

Masonic Lodge. He served as Master in 1967 and has continually held the office of Tiller since 1973. He was a member of the Shriners, Scottish Rite and recently attained Life Membership in the Order of the Eastern Star where he served as Worthy Patron twice. In 2000 he was awarded the "Roses for the Living" honor by the Winfield Rotary Club for his help with many community programs such as the Rotary Auction, the Community Christmas Basket program, Food Bank, and various Masonic Fundraisers. In 2015, he was awarded the Outstanding Service Award by the Winfield Masonic Temple. Additionally, he was a long-time board member of the West Winfield Medical Center.

Throughout his life, Larry exemplified all the qualities of Paul Harris and lived by the simple Rotary Motto; "Service above Self". Although never an official member of our club, for many years he was an integral part of our club as any dues paying member and for that we recognize him.

Giz Will president of the club remarked, "Larry was always there to help our club. We never had to ask him to help he just did and truly was a great friend of Rotary. For that we recognize him."

Recently, the West Winfield Rotray Club finished their 18th year of delivering dictionaries, delivered by Rotarians Frank Peo and Bill Crewell. ♦

### MEET BALDWINSVILLE ROTARY'S NEWEST MEMBERS

Lizzy Martin | Baldwinsville



Baldwinsville Rotary is growing again! So far this Rotary year, they have welcome four new members – Shelly, Caryn, Robin and Laurie. Shelly came to the club after a referral from her neighbor and her nephew joined the Baldwinsville Interact Club. Caryn works in the school's library and is looking to make new connections while helping others. Robin owns the candy store, Sweet Dream Candy Shoppe, and has been eyeing a membership for some time. Laurie is new to the area, having just moved here from Rochester, and is friends with a B'ville Rotarian who invited her to join the group. These newest members have been attending meetings, club events and event volunteering at service projects already. The club is also happy to say that their fifth new member, Tim, is just awaiting the scheduling of his formal induction. Engaging meetings, a variety of service opportunities and a fun

group of people make Baldwinsville Rotary a great place to be. The club is working hard to keep it that way and looks forward to more growth as the Rotary year goes on! Visit the club at an upcoming meeting in person (with a mask) or on zoom. Check out the club's schedule on the Meetings tab at [www.BaldwinsvilleRotary.org](http://www.BaldwinsvilleRotary.org). ♦



DIVERSITY EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE STARTS WORK

PDG Cheryl Matt | DeWitt

The District 7150 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion committee was formed last spring and formalized July 1. The committee gave an introductory presentation at the District Conference in October.

Starting in January, the committee plans to visit clubs in the district with a program for a meeting. Some visits will be via zoom, some in-person. These initial visits will be informative and are meant to bring awareness to our members about how DEI can impact our clubs in a positive way. The basics of DEI will be introduced, including definitions, practical applications, and ways in which DEI ties in with our work as Rotarians.

Our goal is to share DEI with every member in the District. From these initial visits, we hope to spawn other interactive workshops and programs that we can offer on a District level. There are so many interesting experts in the field of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, many of whom are Rotarians.

The many areas of DEI will be highlighted, such as age, ethnicity, race, color, physical and mental ability and disability, learning style, religion, faith, socioeconomic status, culture, marital status, languages spoken, gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity as well as differences in ideas, thoughts, values, and beliefs.

The committee hopes to present DEI in an interesting, engaging manner so club members can identify with the topic and come away with a better idea of how the committee can support the good work of Rotary.

The aim is to make these initial visits interactive, not just a one-way presentation. Your members will be asked to apply the Four Way test to the concept of DEI and help your club start conversations about the following:

How can our club be more welcoming to our current members? How can we open up our meetings to new people outside of the club? Can we carry out projects that serve a new slice of our community? Can we ask a new group of community members to participate in our projects? Can we help make people in our community feel welcome working with us, socializing with us, and carrying out our Rotary mission with us?

The Tri-Chairs of the District DEI committee are Darnell Hayes, VP DeWitt Rotary, Cheryl Matt, IPDG and Membership Chair DeWitt Rotary, and Devin White, President Eastwood Rotary. The rest of the members are Lizzy Martin, District Public Image Chair and Innovative Clubs Membership Chair, Al Turner, President Syracuse Inner City Rotary, Jonathan Yost, Treasurer & Executive Secretary Eastwood Rotary, Tai Shaw – new Member Eastwood Rotary, and Dana Jerrard, District 7150 Governor.

The committee will be reaching out to clubs to schedule programs for 2022. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are about the many things that make each of us unique and DEI can impact accessibility and acceptance into the family of Rotary. ♦



Devin White



Darnell Hayes



Jonathan Yost



Lizzy Martin



Dana Jerrard



Cheryl Matt



Al Turner



Tai Shaw

MEMBERS OF DISTRICT 7150  
DIVERSITY, EQUITY &  
INCLUSION IN ROTARY  
(DEI) COMMITTEE

**KEEP US UP TO  
DATE WITH YOUR  
CLUB'S NEWS**

Email photos and articles to  
[rotary7150@gmail.com](mailto:rotary7150@gmail.com).

The deadline to submit  
information is the 25th  
of each month.

NEW EASTWOOD  
ROTARIAN, TAI  
SHAW, GIVES BACK  
TO COMMUNITY

PDG Cheryl Matt | DeWitt

As part of the District Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee presentation at the District Conference in October, new Eastwood Rotarian, Tai Shaw, told his story of settling in the United States. Coming from Vietnam as a “boat person”, Tai described his enduring hardships and how his experience showed him compassion and charity for others.

Now a successful businessman, Tai continues to give back to the community of new Americans in Syracuse. One of his projects has been the **Blessing Box** program, where small food pantries are located in neighborhoods where families suffer from food insincerity.

For more information, so your club can become involved with this project or to donate individually, contact Tai Shaw at [cnyuniformsplus@yahoo.com](mailto:cnyuniformsplus@yahoo.com) or phone 315-952-7429. ♦

**Blessing in a Box is looking for organizations and individuals to sponsor boxes.**

**The sponsor fee is \$250 and includes the cost of building the box and branding it with your organization's identity. Blessing in a Box will also assist in placing the box and initial donations from the community.**

**The organization's Facebook page maintains a list of active boxes throughout Central New York.**

CNYBlessingBox.com

**Locations**

**CNY Uniforms Plus - Drop Off**  
2475 Erie Blvd. Syracuse, NY 13224

**#1 Bhutanese Community in Syracuse**  
710 Kirkpatrick St, Syracuse, NY 13208

**#2 White Branch Library**  
763 Butternut Street, Syracuse, NY 13208

**#3 Buddhist Temple of Syracuse**  
518 Prospect Ave, Syracuse, NY 13208

**#4 RISE-Refugee Immigrant Self Empowerment**  
302 Burt Street, Syracuse, NY 13203

**Mayor Unveiled 1st Box**

CNYBlessingBox.com

**CNY BLESSING BOX**

TO SOME  
IT'S JUST A BOX.

TO OTHERS  
IT'S NOT  
GOING TO BED  
HUNGRY

**CNYBLESSINGBOX.COM**

**Drop Off Location:**  
**CNY Uniforms plus**  
2574 Erie Blvd. East  
Syracuse, NY 13224  
Telephone: (315) 445-5653  
Fax: (315) 849-4878





COULD A SATELLITE CLUB ALREADY BE IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

Lizzy Martin | D7150 Innovative Clubs Chair

If you have been following along with my monthly Innovative Clubs articles, you will know that a satellite club is an extension of an existing club that requires just eight people to charter. This is an easier way to start a new Rotary group since starting a brand new club from scratch requires 20 people to charter. A satellite club just needs a sponsoring club to partner with it in order for those eight people to become Rotarians and it's a great way to grow Rotary. Satellites can have their own identity, leaving the sponsoring club to maintain theirs as well. Satellites can be in the same community, a neighboring one or even welcome members from anywhere in the district – especially with the technology we are all using these days to connect.

In this month's article, I want to give you a new way to think about establishing a satellite club, with a new lens through which you can look at your community. Are you ready for it? Here it is: just about any existing group in your area could become a Rotary Club. Optimists Club about to fold? Invite them to become Rotarians without forcing them to do things the way your club does them. If they have at least eight people still willing to step up, they could become a satellite sponsored by your club that continues to work on their own projects. Have a garden club? Parenting group? Walking contingent? Those are potential satellite clubs that are ripe for the picking.

"But Lizzy, why would they become Rotary satellite clubs if they already have their own thing going,"

you might ask. Well we all know that there are many benefits to being in Rotary – someone just needs to tell them! First, being connected to a sponsoring club opens up new opportunities for them to do what they do – more gardening volunteers, new places to plant things, more parents to join their babysitting network or more people coordinating walking meet-ups. They won't know it yet, but it's a good bet that they will want to get involved with the things your club is doing in return. Second, we know that district grants are a great way to fund a local project and that we even have access to bigger, global grant projects. This is a resource that could help an existing group "level up" in the activities and service they do. The networking and funding that could become available to them as a satellite would be enticing to many groups.

How do you get started? Talk to a leader in one of these groups and float this idea out there. Yes, they would have to become dues-paying Rotarians, but let's talk about what those dues look like compared to their current membership structure and consider the new opportunities paying dues would afford them. Then, if they are intrigued by the idea and are willing to explore it, you can reach out to me to set up a meeting. We can discuss both what it would mean for your club to be the sponsor and for their group to become a satellite club. When is the last time your club inducted eight new members on one day? Growing Rotary and the impact we can have on the world is everyone's responsibility. Let me know how we can work together to do that by innovating our clubs and starting new ones! ♦

GIFT CARDS FOR 150 REFUGEES

DG Dana Jerrard | Utica

Public Image Chair, Lizzy Martin (left) and DG Dana Jerrard (right) present \$2050 in grocery store gift cards to Felicia Castricone (center) of Refugee Resettlement Services - Catholic Charities of Onondaga County. The cards, donated by Rotarians at the October 30 Conference of Clubs, will benefit more than 150 refugees from Afghanistan seeking to settle in the Syracuse area.

Catholic Charities is dedicated to caring for those in need while promoting human development, collaboration, and the elimination of poverty and injustice. ♦



Yes, We Were All Smiling!

TO BENEFIT THE

THEA  
BOWMAN  
HOUSE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>  
5:30-7:30PM  
DELTA HOTELS BY MARRIOTT

IN PERSON  
(FIRST 50 PEOPLE)  
& VIRTUAL

LEARN MORE AT: [bit.ly/notsosilent-2021](https://bit.ly/notsosilent-2021)

PRESENTING SPONSOR:

Upstate  
Wealth  
CONSULTING

DRINK SPONSOR:

Ryan Gilroy  
from  
NBT BANK

Rotary  
Club of Utica



ONEIDA HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH EXCHANGE STUDENTS REUNITE

DG Dana Jerrard | Utica

The Oneida Club recently reconnected with five former students who attended Oneida High School as part of Rotary Youth Exchange.

“It brought smiles to our faces to not only reconnect but to hear about the positive shared experiences they all had over a span of decades.”

The comments on their experiences really underlined the importance of the Youth Exchange program for both student and host families.

It is easy to see the strength in the connection this program can bring and how they are all part of our Rotary family; from wishing former hosts and Rotary mem-

ber a Happy Birthday to discussing how their experience not only change their life and mindset but helped them build connections and confidence both personally and professionally, we can't say enough about the wonderful experiences Youth Exchange can offer.

YE Alums participating included:

- Carlotta- Spain 1999-2000
- Soei- Thailand
- Gustavo- Brazil 2009-2010
- Rasmus- Denmark 2013-2014
- Hannah- Germany 2016-2017

Thank you, Oneida Rotarians for your continued commitment to the Youth Exchange program. ♦



2nd Annual  
Tully Rotary Golf  
Tournament

Saturday, May 21st @ 10am  
Vesper Hills Golf Club

Open to the public, Rotary Clubs, local businesses. More information at [tullyrotary.com](http://tullyrotary.com)  
Vesper Hills Golf Club, Tully  
Food at the turn - Dinner - Raffles and prizes  
Proceeds fund the Tully Rotary Ecological and Environmental Sustainability project (T.R.E.E.S.)  
Register by May 7, 2022  
call/text 315.696.1825

TULLY ROTARY JOINS EFFORT TO  
PROVIDE HOLIDAY BASKETS

Robert Burns | Tully

Tully Rotary has joined forces with other local organizations to help provide holiday gift baskets for people in need. For many years, the Tully club has teamed with the food pantry at St. Leo's Catholic Church and PEACE Inc., both in Tully, to help give deserving families needed food and gifts for the holiday season. The baskets are delivered in mid-December. Rotarians purchase specific items of clothing or gifts for children in several age groups.

For the second year, Tully Rotary obtained children's handmade blankets from the Syracuse Chapter of Project Linus. Each blanket is handmade by volunteers for children in different age groups. The blankets were recently delivered to St. Leo's and PEACE Inc. to be included with the holiday gift baskets. ♦



Cheryl Paccia (L) of St. Leo's Outreach and Lydia Aris (R), president of Tully Rotary, show blankets from Project Linus.

To help support these organizations, you can make contributions to:

St. Leo's Outreach: 315-696-5092  
PEACE Inc.: [www.peace.charityproud.org](http://www.peace.charityproud.org)  
Project Linus: [www.projectlinus.org](http://www.projectlinus.org)  
Tully Rotary: [www.tullyrotary.com](http://www.tullyrotary.com)

URBAN TREE PLANTING  
PROJECT IN UTICA

David Jones | Utica

An urban tree planting project in the City of Utica took place on November 16. Part of the planning for this project was to identify the Utica homeowners and locations for the fifteen trees to be delivered and planted for free. Funding was made possible through fundraising during Tees for Trees, a Rotary Club of Utica golf outing held last August.

The Urban Tree Planting project is a cooperative program with The Rotary Club of Utica, Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency, The Adirondack Mountain Club, The Unitarian Universalist Church's 'Climate Action' team, and the City of Utica Parks Department. A goal is for the trees to thrive over many years and serve to enhance the value of these properties through pride of ownership, improving the air quality within the community by reducing carbon emissions, and provide a canopy of shade to lower the heat index during summer months. Trees planted in urban areas have served to reduce the level of crime, recent studies have shown.

Varieties of trees available this year included White Birch, Maple Blaze, Pear varieties, Northern Red Oak, Japanese Lilac, American Linden and more. ♦



(L-R) David Jones (Rotary Club of Utica, Urban Tree Project chair), Barbara Freeman (Unitarian Universalist Church), Jerry Kraus (Rotary Club of Utica, Golf chair), Denise Coleman (homeowner) and Darlene Mack-Brown (Mohawk Valley Community Action Agency).



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CHANGE LIVES**

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**KEEP US UP TO DATE WITH YOUR CLUB'S LATEST NEWS**

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