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Friends and Rotarians,

I echo and share the sentiment recently expressed by RI President Mark Daniel Maloney: "I have never been more proud to be a Rotarian!"

The response over the past 8 weeks across our District by Rotary Clubs and Rotarians to support our communities, essential workers and first responders has been impressive and inspirational!

Going forward, we will be focusing on transforming Rotary into a new and better worldwide community service organization that **Connects People** of varying interests and **Opens Opportunities** for all.

Rotary International has created a "Pandemic Response Task Force". Jeff Cadorette, our RI Director through June 30, 2020, has agreed to chair that Task Force, with the charge to "take a comprehensive look at our organization from bottom to top and help our organization identify new opportunities before us. ... We're at a pivot point. We need to pivot hard."

Here in District 7150, we will need to innovate our approach to "Service Above Self". Let us be open to "both and" answers to questions like how do we both display community leadership and still practice social distancing? How do we both raise funds in a virtually connected community and still protect those neighbors with the greatest need? How do we both support COVID-19 disaster response and still support our Rotary Foundation and Polio Eradication?

To close, allow me to quote DG Noel Eustace (D7810) who suggests that we each need a "bigger windshield, smaller rear view mirror".

Here's to bigger windshields for all!

Stay Safe, Stay Healthy and Stay Connected!

**DEADLINE FOR JUNE  
NEWSLETTER EXTENDED  
TO JUNE 6, 2020**

### Rotary's Vision Statement

**TOGETHER**, we see a world where  
**PEOPLE** unite and take action to  
**CREATE** lasting  
**CHANGE** - across the globe, in our  
communities, and in ourselves."

**Rotary Connects The World!**  
Randy Wilson  
District 7150 Governor 2019-2020

# DISTRICT COVID-19 FUNDS MAKING A DIFFERENCE THANKS TO YOU!

Clubs are doing awesome things in their communities thanks to grants from the district and individual club efforts. From delivering meals and helping families with nutrition, to providing PPE to various industries, we are really making an impact. We've been compiling a list of what's going on all around District 7150 and it's available right on our [COVID-19 Grants page](#). Take a look and email webmaster Lizzy at [emartin@advancemediany.com](mailto:emartin@advancemediany.com) if you have an update or want to add your club's activities to the list.

## 2020/2021 DISTRICT GRANTS DUE MAY 31

If you are thinking about applying for a District grant for 2020-2021 we must have your applications in by May 31, 2020 and preferably sooner. A sizable amount of district money exists to fund grants. Most grants need some modification so the sooner you send them to Mark Matt or Bonnie Levy at the e-mail addresses below the better. If your club has not qualified to apply for a grant by having a member of your club attend a grant seminar, please contact Mark Matt so we can arrange for your training immediately. The district grant forms are on the District 7150 web site under the following path...Resources...Foundation...District and Global Grants. Please remember that a grant must involve doing a project which provides a tangible service or item and cannot just be a donation of money. All clubs are eligible to submit two grant proposals—one for a community project and one for scholarships. PLEASE NOTE—WHILE WE USUALLY REQUIRE A CLUB TO AVERAGE A \$50 PER CLUB MEMBER DONATION TO ROTARY FOUNDATION TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A DISTRICT GRANT, THIS CRITERIA IS BEING WAIVED THIS YEAR DUE TO COVID-19. Further, please remember that no grant project can begin until after approval which will be sometime in July.

We look forward to seeing your grant proposals.

Bonnie Levy: [bonnierotary7150@gmail.com](mailto:bonnierotary7150@gmail.com) or 315-476-9900

Mark Matt: [mmatt7150@gmail.com](mailto:mmatt7150@gmail.com) or at 315-420-9209

## IS YOUR CLUB RESILIENT?

Being resilient means you can adapt. In times like this, that is going to be the key to having a strong Rotary Club. While things may seem challenging now, we truly have more opportunities to connect and grow through to service. [Click here](#) for a great article on the science of resiliency and how it can be applied to make your club even more amazing!

## OUR SKILLS IN FIGHTING POLIO HELP WITH THE PANDEMIC

As the US starts to reopen, we hear more about contact tracing in order to identify where an outbreak originated so all impacted can be notified and treated accordingly. This is an important part of fighting polio in endemic countries and our Rotary volunteers working to end polio have just the right skills to help out. Over 6,200 volunteers in Pakistan will now trace COVID-19 alongside their work on polio. Pakistan has also opened up a help line for people with concerns about the virus that our polio workers are able to assist on and the polio communications teams that typically combats misinformation about vaccines are helping combat misinformation about the pandemic too. Years of tracing and communication skills have also been helpful when a couple of cases of COVID-19 were found in Nigeria, and Afghanistan is truly collaborating between the government, health agencies and non-government agencies like Rotary to be proactive. [Click here](#) to learn more about what we are doing in polio endemic countries and beyond!

## THE VETERANS FOOD PANTRY NEEDS OUR HELP

District 7150 Veterans Service Chair Ziggy reports that some shelves are bare at the Veterans Outreach Center of CNY, which includes offices in Watertown, three in Utica and one in Stamford. Both food and hygiene items are in need. "We have over 140 (people) use our food pantry and we don't turn anyone away... I would appreciate anything that can be donated," says Ziggy. If you have donations (see list of needs to the right) or your club takes up a collection, contact Ziggy for a meet up and he'll get the items to the right places. You can email him at [ziggy7150@yahoo.com](mailto:ziggy7150@yahoo.com) or call (315) 723-0877.

### ITEMS NEEDED:

**Non-Perishable Food Items**  
that are easy to prepare

*such as Chef Boyardee, Tuna, Soups, Chilis, instant rice or potatoes, cereals, oatmeals, peanutbutter and jelly, etc.*

**Personal Hygiene Items**

*Soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, etc. for men and women*

# CHANGING OF THE GUARD IS GOING VIRTUAL

The district's annual Changing of the Guard event will now be a virtual gathering. Date, time and details are being determined so they do not interfere with the RI Virtual Convention. This should make attendance very accessible to clubs all around the district and will still make for a great way to honor our district and club leaders who are finishing their year of service, and welcome our new leadership. Watch your emails for details as soon as they are finalized!

## IMPROVE YOUR PUBLIC SPEAKING FROM HOME

Rotary's new partnership with Toastmasters only means good things for our members. The Learning Center now features two new modules focused on developing a speech and delivering a speech. Learn how to write a great speech that takes into account your topic, audience and goal, as well as deliver a compelling speech with great voice and body language. The courses were developed by Toastmasters International and include assignments to help you practice and be evaluated. These courses are a little longer than some of the other modules in the Learning Center, but they are worth it. Be sure to promote opportunities like this to your new members because these kinds of FREE professional development programs are really valuable! [Click here](#) to access the Learning Center and get started (you will need to log in with your My Rotary account).

## VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

### ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Pamela Gratton, [pbgratton@alz.org](mailto:pbgratton@alz.org)

Learn more about this organizations services for patients and their families, resources that are available and how Rotary can support their mission.

### ROTARY THINK TANK DISCUSSION

Sally Fedrizzi

[sally@vagabondtourandtravel.com](mailto:sally@vagabondtourandtravel.com)

Contact Sally to facilitate a "book club" style discussion on an article from The Rotarian Magazine. A great, interactive session for our new virtual meeting set-up.

### ROTARY INTERNATIONAL VIDEOS

[Click here](#) for Polio Videos

The 15 minute video about Rotary's work on eradicating polio would make a great substitution for a program.

### BE MENTALLY HEALTHY

[Rotarian Dr. Mary Berge on YouTube](#)

Use this 11 minute video as a program to share tips for taking care of our mental health while in isolation.

**Did you have a great program recently that would be willing to present to other clubs? Submit details to Lizzy!**

## THREE PROGRAM OPTIONS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

the District ESRAG Task Force now has three presentations available for club looking to learn more about how they can help our planet. The initial ESRAG Presentation is designed to inform District Rotarians about the ESRAG Task Force and is an opportunity for them to become part of the Task Force as an expression of Rotary Service.

The "Greening of Central New York, presentation is available as a PowerPoint meeting presentation. This full program also includes a six minute video that could be used by clubs without committing the full meeting program to the topic. Both of these options will outline our inaugural district tree planting project for the Rotary Year 2020/2021 open to clubs for participation.

The Drawdown Presentation is also a complete program for a club meeting. "Drawdown," which is the term used for when we balance our carbon emissions, provides the top 80 solutions for reaching point of Drawdown on the Planet. The presentation is intended as a guide for clubs do used in creating their own environmental action projects.

The ESRAG committe would love an opportunity to present any or all of these programs to your club so your members are aware of ways they can get involved with environmental sustainability. Please contact ESRAG chair Chuck Tomaselli at [chuck.tomaselli@gmail.com](mailto:chuck.tomaselli@gmail.com) to schedule a program today!



**ESRAG**

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY  
ROTARIAN ACTION GROUP**



**NOW MORE THAN EVER,  
ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD:**

# **THE 2020 ROTARY VIRTUAL CONVENTION**

**June 20-26, 2020**

## **FREE TO ATTEND**

General Sessions on Saturday 6/20 and Sunday 6/21

Breakout Sessions 6/22-6/26

Choose the topics that interest you!



**SIGN UP  
OPENING  
SOON!**

**GET MORE DETAILS AT [RICONVENTION.ORG](https://www.rotary.org/en/convention2020)**

## **RULES ABOUT ONLINE RAFFLES IN A VIRTUAL WORLD**

Thanks to PDG Marv Joslyn for checking the website for the New York State Gaming Commission; it states that online raffles are not legal in New York. We know that clubs are hard pressed to find ways to generate income which has been lost due to the cancellation of fundraising events. However, online raffles are not a solution here in New York State.

Here is a site to check out for possible virtual fundraising ideas:

<https://www.soapboxengage.com/blog/1863-virtual-fundraising-ideas>

Here is the New York State Gaming Commission site, to check on "charitable gaming" options: <https://www.gaming.ny.gov/>

*Please stay tuned for more helpful information as it becomes available! See page 6 for an upcoming webinar.*

## **ROTARY'S DISASTER RELIEF FUND HELPING AROUND THE GLOBE**

Not long ago, Rotary International created a Disaster Relief Fund that clubs and districts could tap into in the wake of a natural disaster. With the current pandemic, funds were moved into this relief fund and are making a difference all around the world in the form of \$25,000 grants. [Click here](#) for a list of work being done by Rotary Clubs and Districts in dozens of countries.

*If you want to support the relief fund with a personal donation, you can do so at [www.rotary.org/donate](https://www.rotary.org/donate)*

## **4 WAYS TO ENGAGE MEMBERS ONLINE**

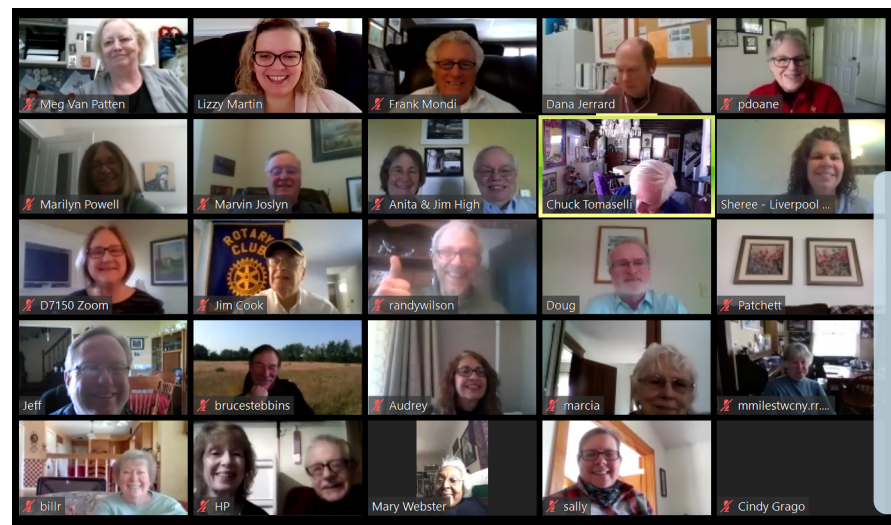
Are you looking for ideas to engage members while we're physically distancing ourselves from each other? Has your club started meeting online? Here are some of our favorite resources to help:

- Watch [membership webinars and speeches](#) from recent conventions on Vimeo.
- Share the updated [State of Membership presentation](#) at your next meeting.
- Discover the professional and personal development opportunities in the [Learning Center](#).
- Encourage your members to exchange ideas in the [Meeting Online](#) learning topic in the Learning Center.

Find more resources at [rotary.org/membership](https://www.rotary.org/membership).

# CLUBS CONTINUE CONNECTING ONLINE

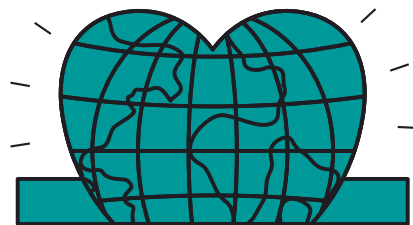
Many clubs are taking to Zoom (and other conferencing programs) to keep their members connected. Here are some snapshots of recent meetings, including, Chittenango Rotary's smiling Ron Dean, Camillus-Solvay-Geddes Rotary having a nice get-together, Waterville Rotary's first ever Zoom meeting and a joint Baldwinsville & New Hartford meeting that took up two screens and included members from SIX different clubs (sorry, the second screen shot got lost!).



IF YOU NEED HELP WITH GETTING YOUR CLUB'S MEETINGS ONLINE, CONTACT OUR DISTRICT ZOOM CZAR, DANA JERRARD AT [JERRARDDANA@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JERRARDDANA@GMAIL.COM).  
You can also connect with clubs you know are meeting online to get an invitation and experience one of their meetings for inspiration!

# CLUB FUNDRAISERS

With many of our traditional means of fundraising on hold, where we would normally feature pancake breakfasts and 5K's, we will instead feature your club's virtual efforts.



## SKANEATELES GOES BEYOND THE PANCAKES

After having to cancel the traditional Father's Day Pancake Breakfast, Skaneateles Rotarians took to the internet to raise the funds needed to continue their efforts to provide food to those in need. 100% of funds donated will go to local food pantries and school and community outreach meal programs. The community can make donations online [here](#). IMPORTANT: When asked to add a tip, please opt out – that would not go to the club! Thanks to donations from local businesses, the club will also surprise some donors with gift certificates, which will in turn help support the local business community. As we all know, even small donations add up to make a big difference. Please consider supporting this virtual effort!

## HELP WITH ONLINE FUNDRAISING

There are many rules about raffles and online fundraising that will be important for club leaders to know about. The district is hosting an informational webinar on Friday, June 5th at 4:30pm. Invitations have gone out to all club presidents and president-elects, along with a short survey to help the webinar leader understand our clubs needs. Please complete the survey and plan to have someone from your club attend and be in the know!

## ROTARY CLUB OF UTICA SELLING NY PRIDE ITEMS & ENTERTAINING FUN PHOTO CONTEST

In an effort to support the Mohawk Valley COVID-19 Fund, The Rotary Club of Utica is selling its "NEW YORK TOUGH" t-shirts, long sleeve shirts, hoodies, and coffee mugs. The fund is a joint venture between The Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc. and the United Way of the Valley and Greater Utica. The shirts are available on the [Rotary Club of Utica Online Store](#). The apparel and mug are emblazoned with an image designed by graphic artist and Rotarian, Devon Hoffman. In addition, the Rotary Club of Utica is sponsoring an online contest, *Quarantine Adventures*. Participation in the Quarantine Adventures Contest is open to anyone who has purchased a shirt/hoodie or mug and posts a photo of themselves with the item, posing either in front of a Utica area landmark, a recreational activity, doing a handstand/headstand challenge, or something equally attention-getting to the [Rotary Club of Utica Facebook page](#). Those without Facebook can email the photo to [Info@UticaRotaryClub.org](mailto:Info@UticaRotaryClub.org). A Rotary Club of Utica committee will review the submissions and post the finalists. The public can then "vote" on their favorites by "liking" them, and at the end of the contest, the top three photos will each receive a gift certificate to a Utica area business. The contest will run through June 30. Winners will be announced during July 4th weekend. The Rotary Club of Utica encourages creativity but advocates for the participants to proceed with safety in mind. For more information, contact the Rotary Club of Utica at [www.UticaRotaryClub.org](http://www.UticaRotaryClub.org) or visit their [Facebook page](#).



# SAUQUOIT ROTARY DONATES MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

The Rotary Club of Sauquoit donated an automate external defibrillator, AED, to Orchard Hall Restaurant. Orchard Hall hosts all the service club meetings for the Sauquoit Valley as well as many community events. When groups are again allowed to gather, the staff, Rotarians, and other community members will be trained by staff from Edwards Ambulance Company in CPR and the proper use of the AED.



## FULTON SUNRISE AWARDS FOUR SCHOLARSHIPS



Tanner Vant, a senior at G. Ray Bodley High School, has been awarded a Rosa Pappalardo Kemmis Memorial Scholarship by the Fulton Sunrise Rotary Club. He is the son of Jennifer Vant. Tanner will be attending Onondaga Community College in the fall. When he completes his two year program in Engineering Science and Mechanical Engineering Technology, Tanner plans to attend Indiana University where he will pursue a B.S. in Biotechnological Engineering.



Macy Middleton, a senior at G. Ray Bodley High School, has been awarded a Rosa Pappalardo Kemmis Memorial Scholarship by the Fulton Sunrise Rotary Club. She is the daughter of John Middleton and Linda Lane. Macy will be attending Cayuga Community College in the fall. When she completes her two year Environmental Science program, Macy plans to attend SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry where she will pursue her dream education of earning a B.S. in Environmental Health.

Cameron Warren, a senior at G. Ray Bodley High School, has been awarded a Rosa Pappalardo Kemmis Memorial Scholarship by the Fulton Sunrise Rotary Club. He is the son of Russell and Julie Warren. Cameron will be attending Hudson Valley Community College in the fall. When he completes his two year program in Cyber Security and Criminal Justice, Cameron will be enlisting in the United States Army.



Anthony Carter, a senior at G. Ray Bodley High School, has been awarded a Rosa Pappalardo Kemmis Memorial Scholarship by the Fulton Sunrise Rotary Club. He is the son of Kyle and Krista Wardhaugh. Anthony will be attending Finger Lakes Community College in the fall. He will be taking the exercise science/sports management program



## CHITTENANGO DELIVERS SMILES TO SENIORS

Last month they delivered “thinking of you, be well” cards to all the residents at the Grand Nursing Home in Chittenango today. They waved and paraded outside residents windows. It was a joy to see them smile and wave back to the weirdly strange and funny bunch of Rotarians. They also bought and delivered lunch for all three shifts of staff working there.

*Photo: Chittenango Rotarian Ron Dean in a costume to cheer up local seniors!*



## GUS ROTARY FEEDS FIRST RESPONDERS

The Greater Utica Sunrise Rotary Club has been busy delivering meals to first responders in their area. They also got some great press for their efforts with a video done by WKTV. [Click here](#) to see them in the news!



## NEW HARTFORD IN THE NEWS FOR SERVING MEALS

The New Hartford Rotary Club has helped 100 families with meals from local restaurants, simultaneously supporting local businesses also suffering due to the pandemic. Some of the participating restaurants were: Swifty's, Props Inn, Aqua Vino, The Savoy, Symeons, Killabrew Saloon, Tom Cavallo's, Casa Too Mucha, Piggy Pats and The Chowder House, just to name a few. The club was featured on WKTV for their community service. Click below for the full video.



## AUBURN ROTARY GIVING AWAY MILK

Out in Auburn, support for families during the COVID-19 crisis comes in the form of delicious, nutritious and mustache-inducing milk. The club is hosting multiples give-aways, with one remaining on June 4th. Total distribution will be close to 2,000 cases of milk! Cars can pull up for safe, socially-distant pick up (shown below, photo courtesy of Fingerlakes Daily News). Walk ups are welcome if people wear masks and maintain a distance. [Click here](#) for a great article that featured the club in the local news.



## FULTON SUNRISE & DISTRICT HONOR MEMBERSHIP COACH

At a recent Fulton Sunrise Rotary meeting, Rotary District 7150 Membership Chair, Janet Joslyn presented Donna Kestner, pictured, with a Certificate for service and dedication to strengthening and growing membership in Rotary District 7150 as the Area 5 Membership Coach.



## SAUQUOIT HAS VIRTUAL YOUTH EXCHANGE REUNION

Sauquoit Rotary members and friends enjoyed an hour long Youth Exchange Reunion Zoom meeting on Saturday, May 16, with 6 former Inbound Exchange Students connecting from around the world! Anant Agrawal (India, 1988–1989), Diego Solano (Ecuador, 2007–2008), Francesca Benassi (Italy, 2009–2010), Cee Jitkongsong (Thailand, 2012–2013), Vincent Silvestri (Belgium, 2016–2017) and Aarohi Agrawal (India, 2018–2019) visited and renewed our Rotary Family connection.

Alessandro Puerari, our current Inbound, and host parents David and Connie Stayton and returned 2019–20 Outbound Luke Stayton also attended. Great conversation and stories from each of our "past YE Students", now young adults pursuing new careers, etc. The club will do this again in a month or so, hoping to connect with even more Rotary alumni! Rotary Youth Exchange has Connected the World for more than 50 years.

