

7150NEWS

ROTARY DISTRICT 7150
OCTOBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 7150 | DISTRICT GOVERNOR JERRY SEGUIN




**IMAGINE
ROTARY**

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District Governor


 2022-2023 Governor
Jerry Seguin..... Fulton

District Executive Committee

 **DG Elect**
Elise Hereth V.V.S. Communit


 **DG Nominee**
Lizzy Martin Baldwinsville


 **Immediate Past DG**
Dana Jerrardt Utica

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


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


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Steve Mercurio Rome


 **Area 2**
Dorene Gortner New Hartford

 **Area 3**
Jim Cook New Hartford

 **Area 4**
Jim Eklund Chittenango

 **Area 5**
Steve Osborne Fulton


 **Area 6**
Linda Ervin DeWitt

 **Area 7**
Charlie Smith..... Marcellus

Assistant Governor Trainer

 Jenny Doane..... Baldwinsville

Newsletter Editor

 James Morrow Syracuse

A MESSAGE FROM DG JERRY
World Polio Day Monday October 24, 2022

Jerry Seguin | DG | Fulton

At a recent club meeting, a Rotarian stated that everyone knows at least one person that polio has affected. That has been the case for we mature Rotarians but, sadly now it could be a reality for the younger ones too.

Over the summer a case of polio in an unvaccinated adult man had been reported in Rockland County, New York. While this news is discouraging it does, however, provide us with an opportunity to shine a light on the continuing importance of the worldwide polio immunization program. It gives us opportunity to talk about the commitment that Rotary and our partners have made to vaccinating children.

Progress continues to be made

During the first eight months of this year, 14 cases of wild polio have been confirmed in Pakistan and one in Afghanistan.

In the last 5 years we have seen the development of a new oral vaccine (nOPV2) which could help end outbreaks of vaccine derived poliovirus.

Is Rotary International still committed polio eradication?

Recently, "Rotary International President Jennifer Jones appeared on the main stage at the star-studded Global Citizen Festival on 24 September to highlight Rotary's commitment to eradicating polio and announce an additional US\$150 million pledge toward that end." (Hyland, 2022, fall. Rotary.org)

What can we do?

We need to help finish the fight. The Rotarians of District 7150 continue to support the District PolioPlus Committee's activities. PDG Randy Wilson and PDG Jim High have encouraged our members to join Rotary's PolioPlus Society. Our clubs hold events, increase awareness, and raise money all in an effort to eradicate polio. This October, I ask that each Rotarian plan on attending at least one club polio event.

I am proud of what our clubs have accomplished and I am thankful for our Rotarians. Imagine a world without polio! ♦



CNY ROTARY UPDATE Fall Leads the Change

CNY Rotary Steering Committee

Dear Members,

Happy Fall! Summer road construction is wrapping up, but construction of CNY Rotary is underway. As we prepare this newsletter, many of the CNY Steering Committee members are participating in the Zone 28/32 Learning to Lead training in Toronto. We are enjoying the chance to listen to Rotary International leaders and network with others who have engaged in the work we are completing.



CNY Rotary leaders came together at the zone program, Learning to Lead in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. From left to right: Lizzy Martin, Melissa Ward-Rathbun, Evan Kurtz, Kimmy Talbot, Matt Adler, Denise DiNoto, Jerry Seguin, Rocky Martinez, Elise Hereth, Drew Kessler and in the foreground, Whitney Pangburn.

In our September newsletter, we described how we created transition teams to tackle various components of this process. The transition teams that will help build out the structure of CNY Rotary have begun their work. Last month, the groups started to meet in person to share ideas and develop a plan of action.

How does this work? There is a transition team for each of the key Rotary committees: Membership, Finance, Foundation, Public Image, Youth Exchange,

and Administration. The teams are led by a member of the CNY Steering Committee with volunteers from each district serving as experts in their respective areas. These teams will develop the structure for a committee that will best serve the needs of our region drawing from current practices, policies and traditions. They will also take this opportunity to incorporate new and innovative ideas to better serve you - our members and clubs.

This is only the first phase of our work, but a very important step forward. We will continually involve other members in the planning process. Even if you have never served at the district level, consider offering your skills in the process and be a part of this exciting transition. As a Rotarian, your insight is valued and respected, so please contact us if you would like to get involved.

Remember, you can always submit any questions about the transition on our website at www.CNYRotary.org. We want to hear what is on your mind and will respond to you directly. We know many are probably wondering the same things, so we will also anonymously share the questions and answers in future newsletters. Be sure to follow us on Facebook to stay connected!

~ DG Denise, DG Jerry and DG Rocky

District Officers

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


 **Co-Treasurer**
Tara Renner Onondaga North


 **Co-Treasurer**
LaVerne DeLand Fulton

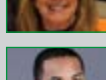
 **Finance**
PDG Randy Wilson..... Sauquoit

 **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

 **New Generations**
Tom Taylor Onondaga North

HOW DOES THE ROTARY FOUNDATION USE DONATIONS?

The Rotary Foundation transforms charitable contributions into programs that fight polio and build peace, into humanitarian projects that change lives, and into scholarships and vocational training. The funds are also used for local projects that Rotary members feel passionate about.

As a global organization that operates in nearly every country, Rotary takes stewardship of its funds seriously and we've received a four-star rating from Charity Navigator for 14 years in a row.

The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers helps ensure that grant funds are spent properly. In addition, trained members oversee the use of funds at the club and district level.

Find financial details and stories about how donations are used in the most recent Annual Report.



FOLLOW THE LINK ABOVE TO READ THE 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

SYRACUSE ROTARY’S JOHN LEWIEN PASSES AT 77

syracuse.com

John R. Lewien, 77, of Baldwinsville passed away September 3 after battling a lengthy illness. He was born in Ithaca, NY, the son of the late Rev. John W. and Thelma C. (Campbell) Lewien. John graduated from Horseheads High School, valedictorian, class of 1963. He continued his studies at Syracuse University receiving his Bachelor's degree. John then enlisted in the US Navy proudly serving as an officer on the CVA60 USS Saratoga during the Vietnam War.

After his service to his country, John returned to Syracuse University obtaining his MBA and MS in Accounting. He was semi-retired after working many years as Director of Fiscal Services at Access CNY Inc. in Syracuse. John's family and friends admired his intelligence, quick wit and great sense

of humor. He was an avid reader, golfer and gardener. John's memberships included; serving on the Board of Trustees for the Baldwinsville Public Library for 25 years, Rotary Club of Syracuse, earning the Paul Harris Fellow Award and the Marcellus United Methodist Church.

He is predeceased by his sister, Dawn Ellsworth. Surviving is his wife of 51 years, Karen W. Lewien, daughter, Kathryn Messenger, and his grandson, Carter John Messenger all of Baldwinsville.

Contributions in John's memory can be made to Marcellus United Methodist Church or the Rotary Club of Syracuse. ♦



TULLY ROTARY COLLECTING SHOES

Robert Burns | Tully

In a program designed to help people in less-developed countries, the Tully Rotary Club has embarked on an effort to collect gently worn, used or new shoes.

Anyone can drop off shoes at several locations including Kinney Drugs in Tully, the Tully Post Office, and the Tully Free Library. Additional drop off locations may be announced in the future.

Tully Rotary will receive a small donation from Funds2Orgs for every pair of shoes collected. Donated shoes will be shipped to any of twenty-six countries around the world where they will be made available to people in need.

It is estimated 300 million people around the world do not own their own shoes. The project provides better shoes for people and used shoes will be kept out of local landfills.

The Tully Rotary Club strives to be the premier service organization in the Tully, Lafayette, and Fabius area committing to improving the lives of those in need, both here and abroad, with a special emphasis on helping young people become outstanding citizens. ♦

ROTARY STATEMENT ON RECENT POLIO DETECTIONS IN U.S. AND EUROPE

Rotary International

The recent detection of the vaccine-derived poliovirus type 2 case in New York, USA, and isolates in several environmental samples collected in London are stark reminders that as long as polio exists anywhere, it is a threat everywhere. It also highlights the importance of vaccination as the only form of protection against polio and other vaccine-preventable diseases and the work that needs to be done in our communities to encourage the uptake of vaccines. Also, as the world gets closer to zero wild poliovirus cases, it is increasingly important to track all forms of the virus wherever they may appear, including in polio-free regions.

The U.S. is still considered low risk for paralytic outbreaks of polio due to the high level of vaccine coverage across the population. If a child has received the entire course of vaccines, the risk of becoming paralyzed by polio is negligible. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 92.6% of children aged 24 months are fully vaccinated against polio, slightly below the 95% World Health Organization target.

The best things countries can do to protect themselves from polio until the disease is eradicated from the world are to: maintain high vaccination coverage and robust disease surveillance and be ready to respond in the event of an outbreak to minimize the risk and consequences of polio re-introduction or re-emergence anywhere.

The world currently has a unique opportunity to stop virus transmission for good. Still, all parties, including donors and country governments, must re-commit to polio eradication by fully supporting the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) 2022-2026 strategy. This focuses on adopting an emergency posture while generating greater accountability and ownership from country governments to eradicate wild polio and end variant poliovirus (cVDPV) outbreaks.

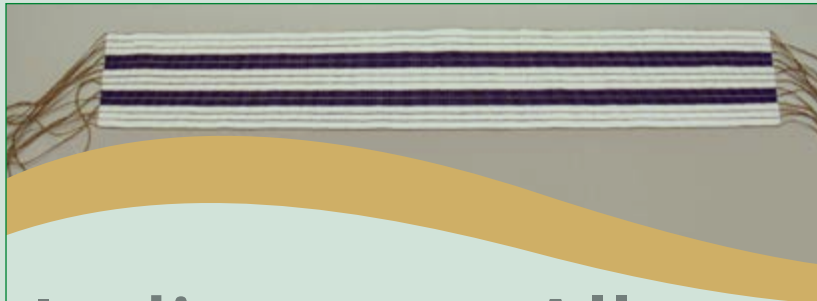
Rotary, a global service organization with over 1.4 million members, has been at the center of the worldwide effort to eradicate polio for over three decades. Every year, through our funding partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary commits \$150 million to the global effort to eradicate polio. We have contributed more than \$2.6 billion and countless volunteer hours to end polio forever. Together with our partners, we engage communities everywhere to encourage high vaccination rates, immunizing over 400 million children annually. More than 20 million people are walking today who otherwise would have been paralyzed because of our efforts and those of our partners in the GPEI.

The time for urgent action is now. A new vaccine has been deployed – novel oral polio vaccine 2 (nOPV2) – which is more genetically stable to stop outbreaks of circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus effectively. With sustained political and financial commitments, the GPEI is confident that we can achieve a world in which no child is paralyzed by polio again. ♦

20 IDEAS FOR WORLD POLIO DAY

PDG Randy Wilson

1. Pints for Polio - Partner with a couple of local restaurants and a tap house and they donate \$1 per pint sold. Also set up a table at the tap house to answer questions about Polio and your club.
2. Host a Polio Walk, Swim, or Ride (road bikes or stationery).
3. Host a screening of polio documentary "Dare to Dream"
4. Have a Purple Pinky event.
5. Have a fundraiser social evening at someone's home.
6. Get your city/town government to issue a proclamation.
7. Go on your local radio station to talk about World Polio Day and Rotary's efforts to end polio.
8. Have people donate their lunch money.
9. Partner with a local restaurant to have a percentage of receipts donated to Polio.
10. Host a benefit concert.
11. Have a wine tasting event.
12. Have a Trivia Contest
13. For kids (of all ages!)- have a Candyland for a Cure Contest
14. Do shredding for a few hours with proceeds going to Polio.
15. Raise funds and public awareness by auctioning several attractive donated items on the internet using an online bid site. Promote the event on social media and local radio & TV.
16. Sponsor a Corn hole Tournament
17. Sponsor a Karaoke Night
18. Have Speaker(s) at your meeting talk about Polio
19. Set up at a local farmer's market or other town event to raise funds and awareness
20. www.endpolio.org/world-polio-day Resources here include a World Polio Day Toolkit you can download as well as social media messages and graphics. Other event ideas are there and you can register your event too. Have fun! ♦





Indigenous Ally Day

Saturday, October 8
10:00 to 11:30 a.m. EDT

In recognition of Canada's National Day for Truth and Reconciliation September 30th which honours the lost children and survivors of residential schools, their families and communities; and US Indigenous Peoples Day October 10th which celebrates and honors Indigenous Americans and commemorates their histories and cultures.

On Zoom, Register for the Event:
rotaryindigenously.com

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



Replica of Two Row Wampum courtesy of Leddy Library, University of Windsor

INDIGENOUS ALLY DAY

Location: Zoom
Date: October 8, 2022
Time: 10:00am - 11:30am EDT


Welcome
Indigenous Land Acknowledgement
Rotary's Four-Way Test

Speaker: Iakonikonriiosta
The Dish With One Spoon and Two Row Wampum Belts serve as the bases of relations between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy, other Indigenous Nations, European Nations and settler governments. They represent the understanding that land is to be shared by all, and that each nation is to be mutually respected.

Speaker: National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition
In the US most of those who are not Indigenous Peoples have been unaware of the history of U.S. Indian boarding schools and their legacy that includes the loss of language, culture, religion, and the permanent separation of children from their families. Healing the intergenerational trauma from these schools by advocating on behalf of survivors and descendants is one of the reasons National Native American Boarding School Healing Coalition (NABS) was founded.

Breakout session
Join with fellow participants to explore how non-Indigenous people can establish and maintain respectful relationships with Indigenous Peoples as we open discussion about the difficult subjects surrounding the residential school experience, and how to be an ally.

SYR TRACK CLUB AND WEBSTER POND'S VALLEY NATURE RUN




Syracuse Track Club Facebook post

Thank you to the runners who participated in this year's **Valley Nature Run**, benefitting Webster Pond, where a substantial amount of money was raised for the Valley's "Best Kept Secret".

Chad Norton, president of Webster Pond, and his group took control of the *mile-two-water-stop*, collected food donations, and was responsible for the great raffle prizes. Additionally, thank you to the group from Onondaga Middle School! They ran packet pickup and handed out the finisher medallions.

The final thank you is to the race's sponsors. The Rotary Club of Syracuse was the main sponsor while support from Gannon's Ice Cream, Kinney Drugs, Tops Markets, Syracuse Banana, and other local businesses made the race successful. Thank you for your support! ♦

Baldwinsville
Rotary




HAVE A BEER FOR CHARITY AT p!nts for polio

TUESDAY, OCT 25

5-9PM AT WT BREWS
18 E Genesee Street, Baldwinsville | Behind Dollar Tree

A PORTION OF ALL SALES WILL SUPPORT ERADICATING POLIO

As long as it exists anywhere in the world, it can spread anywhere in the world





LIVE MUSIC FROM DEL SEXTON
Plus Games, Info & Door Prizes

JOIN & SHARE ON FACEBOOK

Brought to you by:

Baldwinsville
Rotary



Rotary  **Rotary Club of DeWitt**


Join DeWitt Rotary in hosting

Syracuse University Coach Jim Boeheim

Monday October 17th - Noon
Drumlins Ballroom - Syracuse


Luncheon Buffet - \$ 30

RSVP cherylmatt7150@gmail.com or 315-420-9210 by Oct. 12, 2022
Checks & reservations can also be mailed to "DeWitt Rotary" at PO Box 131 - DeWitt, NY 13214 (mail by Oct 5 to insure delivery in time)



Drumlins 800 Nottingham Rd, Syracuse, NY 13224
From front parking lot, enter building through right side entrance - follow signs

DON'T FORGET TO FILE

Rotary 

Your club's 990 tax document is due by IRS
November 15th

Need help? Contact Rotarian Sue Reisman at suereiscpa@gmail.com

THE BELL ATOP SYRACUSE'S CITY HALL IS MOSTLY FAKE, BUT ITS MEANING AND ITS MUSIC ARE THE REAL DEAL

Piper Starnes | Goldring Arts Journalism program

In John Prall's 25 years working for Syracuse's Department of Public Works, he's been one of few people with access to City Hall's top restricted floor. He uses a series of keys to get up the elevator. From the noisy entryway, Prall has to maneuver around shelves of confidential boxes, duck underneath support beams and climb three flights of rusty stairs to reach the roof hatch to the city's carillon – another name for a set of bells



The bell above Syracuse's City Hall

Thumping his fist on the side of the city's massive tower bell, he admits: "Yeah, it's not all metal."

In the center of the open-air space, four speakers, pointing in each direction, sit just above the part-plastic, part-bronze-plated aluminum bell.

Looking down at the streets and sidewalks, Prall said you can practically see every church, bank and apartment complex in the downtown area, from Equitable Tower to I-81. Though the pillars are wrapped in mesh, he said the rooftop is prone to winged visitors.

"We keep him in here to keep the birds out," Prall said, pointing to an owl decoy.

Real or not, both decoys—the bird and the bell—hold symbolic and sentimental value. The bell sounds as a reminder that City Hall is there.

"Carillons have been around for a long time—500 years. It's part of humanity's culture," said Frank DellaPenna, CEO and co-founder of the North American Carillon School. "If the bells aren't speaking to [people], it's just a tower without a voice."

As early as 1858, City Hall's original bell rang to celebrate happy occasions just as it did to mourn trage-

dies and losses in the community.

"It also functioned as a fire bell. In the days of volunteer firefighting, a dollar reward was paid to the first person to spot the fire and ring the bell—a custom that was sometimes abused," Evamaria Hardin, an Upstate New York architectural historian, wrote in her 1993 book "Syracuse Landmarks: An AIA Guide to Downtown and Historic Neighborhoods."

Until Armistice Day in 1939, the bell tower had been like a member of the Syracuse community. The bell was melted down and repurposed for materials needed in the World War II effort, leaving the tower empty and silent for half a century.

Many bell towers across the continent went quiet for similar reasons, DellaPenna said. Today, the North American Carillon School and the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America, an organization of professional musicians, are continuing decades-long efforts to share carillon art and culture.

As churches, government buildings and universities build and renovate their bell towers, DellaPenna said, one big question remains. "How are we really going to promote this instrument so that we don't remain the best-kept secret in the world?"

The answer lies within the community.

Through the generosity of the Syracuse Rotary Club, the City Hall bell was replaced in 1987. John Marsellus, a Rotarian for 56 years, said it was a community project that the Rotary found out needed help.

"It needed to be fixed, and we all just decided it would be a nice thing to do," he said.

Plus, the club was celebrating its 75th anniversary.

The Verdin Company - a producer of bells, clocks and towers since 1842 - installed an electronic carillon system and automated the bell to chime on the hour.

Marsellus reflected on the installation process fondly because the Rotary Club worked with Verdin to determine where the sound projected best before wiring everything up.

However, the sound wasn't produced by a clapper, the free-swinging hammer that strikes the inside of the bell. In fact, it wasn't even a "real" bell up there.

"We got the speakers to face the way we wanted it, and then we put a fake bell up there. So, when you look

up there, there's a plastic bell," Marsellus said.

Last December, the twinkling melody of Sesame Street's "Rubber Duckie" rang out into the air and up the streets of downtown Syracuse. As people passed by the bell tower or listened from nearby buildings, the carillon would entertain them with the cheerful and nostalgic jingle. Day after day, the tune played throughout the city. And finally, one person tweeted Mayor Ben Walsh about having to hear the same song every morning.

"I felt bad that the mayor got tagged when I was the one who chose, but I thought the song was fun," said Chief Operations Officer Corey Driscoll Dunham, who picked that song.

While overseeing the city's departments of public works, engineering, water, and parks, recreation and youth programs, Driscoll Dunham is also the semi-secret curator behind City Hall's carillon.

Every other month, she scrolls through a long, color-coded spreadsheet and cycles through a catalog of a few hundred songs to ring out between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. From The Beatles to Beethoven and Christmas carols to show tunes, the music has received both compliments and complaints. But in the greater scheme of things, the carillon signals much more than a daily earworm like "Rubber Duckie."

"Every time the bell rings, [it says] 'Yes, we're open for business, and we're trying to help the community,'" DellaPenna said. The only problem with electronic carillons, he said, is that a digital instrument will only last as long as the average refrigerator.

Corey Driscoll Dunham

Syracuse's Chief Operations Officer Corey Driscoll Dunham scrolls through songs to play on the city's carillon.

Over time, the Rotary Club found that the system's wiring had been damaged—presumed to be gnawed at by mice—and decided to step in once more. In Sep-

tember 2010, an anonymous donor pitched in \$11,990 towards an updated Verdin "Singing Tower Supreme" digital carillon, according to Syracuse Common Council meeting minutes. The Rotary Club dedicated the new music system around Thanksgiving that year. It featured a catalog of 300-400 prerecorded tracks, including folk songs, holiday tunes, classical pieces, patriotic anthems, melodies about the weather and seasons and more.

Using this now 12-year-old system, Driscoll Dunham said it's about time for another update. Even with many recordings to choose from, she said it's challenging to keep things interesting with an outdated catalog.

"Some of the songs are not ones that we really want playing from City Hall anymore," she said. Before Driscoll Dunham took over the carillon responsibilities, she said, "Oh, Susanna," a song with racist lyrics, was once played and met with complaints from the community.

"City Hall is in the middle of downtown," she said. "If we're going to have [the carillon], let's have it in some way that embraces more about Syracuse and makes it more inclusive than the limited song selection we have now."

In addition to holidays, Driscoll Dunham said the city has many flag raisings, cultural celebrations and heritage events that could benefit from more music.

With newer, more accessible technology, she said a state-of-the-art digital carillon could play thousands of songs via a smartphone app.

She also suggested City Hall could start inviting employee DJs of the week and possibly accept song requests from people in the community.

"I certainly do not want to be the only person choosing songs for this identifiable monument," Driscoll Dunham said. "It's something that everybody downtown hears, so I'd love to open it up to more folks." ♦

KEEP YOUR FELLOW ROTARIANS UP TO DATE WITH YOUR CLUB'S NEWS

Email your photos and well-written articles to rotary7150@gmail.com

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

KICK-START YOUR CLUB’S SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE

Hannah Shaw | Rotary social and digital media specialist

Social media makes expanding your club’s reach easier than ever, but how? There are tips, tricks, and tools for creating content for social platforms, and the goal is simple: connection. A well-built social media presence will help you create connections in your community and beyond, from showcasing your club’s success to building awareness of its presence. To boost your social media savvy, we’ve put together the following eight tips and tools:

- 1. **Pick your platform.** With so many social media platforms available, getting started can be intimidating. Choose one platform to focus on and grow from there. We recommend starting with Facebook, which has the largest user base.
- 2. **Assign roles.** The first step in creating content is capturing it. Assign a designated photographer to take pictures at club events and service projects. Additionally, pick a point person to manage your club’s social media posts.
- 3. **Be consistent.** Whether you post daily, weekly, or monthly, set a goal to share on social media regularly. Consistent posting helps cultivate followers.
- 4. **Take photos that tell a story.** Opt for images that show action rather than just offering group shots. Show people getting their hands dirty, giving out supplies, or sharing a moment of laughter.
- 5. **Lead with impact and encourage engagement.** When planning an event, project, or fundraiser, think about how you’ll use social media to showcase it. Tell a story by identifying the problem, your solution, and its impact. Consider what one thing you want someone to know after viewing your post.
- 6. **Celebrate partnership and participation.** Tag participants and community partners in your posts. Avoid Rotary jargon. Not everybody who reads your posts will be familiar with acronyms like PETS or RYLA. Remember that those engaging with your posts are prospective members!
- 7. **Find inspiration.** Examine the content you engage with on social media. What captures your attention and holds your interest? How can you apply that to content you create? Check out Rotary International’s profiles and posts for more inspiration (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter).
- 8. **Use the Brand Center.** The Brand Center is your one-stop shop for logos, creative assets, guidelines, and more. Be sure to visit often as new materials are added for your use. ♦

REGISTER NOW FOR WORLD POLIO DAY 2022

Rotary International

World Polio Day 2022 and Beyond: A healthier future for mothers and children, will be held virtually and in-person on 21-22 October in Geneva, Switzerland. The event will highlight the status of polio eradication and address the potential for community-based solutions that go beyond immunizations to enhance the health of mothers and their children.

Following the announcement of Rotary’s pledge of an additional US\$150 million toward future polio eradication efforts, Rotary International President Jennifer Jones will join Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, director-general of the World Health Organization (WHO) in discussing the state of polio eradication and its broader relevance to global health. [Register now to attend in-person.](#) (Registration not required to take part virtually)

The recent detections of the poliovirus in New York and UK have increased awareness of the disease’s continued threat. Earlier this year, an unvaccinated man in New York was paralyzed and poliovirus was detected in sewage in London. The moment presents an opportunity to highlight the importance of vaccinations as the only form of protection against polio and many other diseases.

At the Geneva event, experts in polio, vaccines and maternal and child health will also discuss the benefits of going “beyond” immunization efforts to invest in the children protected by these vaccines and their mothers. Building on the current investments will ensure that the mothers and children saved from vaccine-preventable diseases can benefit from other preventative and life-saving services, enabling mothers to have a positive experience with their pregnancy and empowering young children to achieve their full potential. ♦

HUMANITARIAN AID DONATION DAY WRAP UP

Rome Rotary Accepts Donations to Benefit Refugees

Steve Mercurio | Rome

In a collaborative effort, Volunteers from Rome Rotary Club, St. Paul’s Veterans Support Group, and Rome Refugee Services collected hundreds of items that will be needed by Afghans and Ukrainians expected to be resettled in the Mohawk Valley and Central NY.

Area residents, responding to a “call to action” published in the Daily Sentinel, were met by volunteers in the parking lot of St. Paul’s RC Parish on Friday, 09/30/2022. Respondents dropped off winter coats, hats, gloves, boots, kitchen appliances and household furnishings to help set up a distribution center of needed items to help “new Americans” establish themselves.



Veterans Support Group Founder Eugene Blackburn with Donor Steve Waters. (Not pictured: Mandy Rokiki, Monica Mercurio, and David Wheat)

Volunteers from the 3 organizations in this collaborative effort greeted donors and assisted them in unpacking their vehicles. St. Paul’s RC Parish Veterans Support Group hosted the event that was organized by the Rome Rotary Club. Club President Kyle Cairns was joined in the effort by fellow Rotarians David Burke, Tamalin Martin, Cameron Stewart, Joel Gray, Glen Bahr,

Rotary President Kyle Cairns noted that the group will be working with resettlement agencies in Utica and Syracuse to distribute the donated items. He also noted that as spokesman for the collaborate effort he would like to thank the more than 40 residents who donated to the cause for devoting part of their beautiful Autumn Day to help



Joan Mammoser, Executive Director, Rome Refugee Services (Rotarian Joel Gray in foreground)



Rotarians left to right: Dave Burke, Keith Butters, Kristine Dombeck, Kyle Cairns, and Joel Gray. (Not pictured are Tamalin Martin, Cameron Stewart, Glen Bahr, David Kobernuss and Steve Mercurio)

Kristine Dombeck, Keith Butters, David Kobernuss, and Steve Mercurio. Volunteers from the Veterans Support Group included Gene Blackburn, Mandy Rokiki, David Wheat, and Monica Mercurio. The Rome Refugee Services (a recently formed 501c3) was represented by Executive Director Joan Mammoser ♦

7150NEWS

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

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