



7150NEWS

ROTARY DISTRICT 7150
SEPTEMBER 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

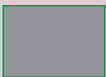


District Trainer 2021-22
PDG Deb Glisson..... Marcellus

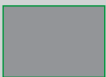


District Trainer 2022-24
PDG Dennis Schonewetter..... V.V.S. Comm.

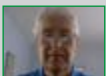
Assistant Governors



Area 1
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
2022-2023 Rotay Theme: Imagine Rotary

Jerry Seguin | DG | Fulton

Another summer is flying by! As much as I hate to say it, school is just around the corner.

What does that mean for our Rotary Clubs? It means opportunity for our clubs to participate in projects that support local students and schools.

Projects that help relieve food anxieties, such as Oswego's Blessing in a Backpack program that provides supplemental week-end food for students in need. The program is run by a local church in conjunction with the school district. Local Rotary club volunteers help pack the backpacks and provide financial assistance.

Projects like Stuff a Bus that collects and distributes much needed school supplies to local students. Local Rotarians help with collection and distribution to schools.

Projects like the Dictionary Project that many of our Rotary Clubs participate in by purchasing and distributing the dictionaries to local elementary students. To date 34,856,517 dictionaries have been given to students.

While the first two of the examples are not Rotary projects they are however, great examples of Rotary clubs working with other local organizations to help provide for a need and isn't this what we are about?

In the following months, I encourage you to share some your club's projects in the District Newsletter. Image what we can do when we learn from each other. ♦

For 75 years Cato Rotary has been serving
our community and the world!!

Come celebrate our semisesquicentennial with us!

WHEN? November 5th, 2022 from 6pm-?

WHERE? The Point at Sand Beach
2924 Sand Beach Road, Auburn, NY 13021

WHAT? Full buffet with dessert

COST? \$40/person – cash or check day of event

RSVP by October 24th to:
Christopher.d.krupa@gmail.com
or alcath111@gmail.com



CENTRAL NEW YORK ROTARY
BACK TO COOL – The ABCs of CNY Rotary

Lizzy Martin | Baldwinsville

It's September, and throughout our region students will be returning to school. We want to take this opportunity to help explain the framework of CNY Rotary.

One of the biggest (or smallest) changes in CNY Rotary is the structure of the leadership team. Since our area will be much larger, we thought of ways to make the job of the District Governor less daunting.

Here is what the transition team envisions:

CNY Rotary will be led by a board of directors. This board will be comprised of a President (District Governor), President Elect (DGE), President Nominee (DGN), President Designate (DGND, non-voting), Immediate Past President (IPDG), 2 Past Presidents at Large (2 PDGs), and Finance Chair.

This board will act in a collaborative manner to run the business of CNY Rotary.

We chose these titles to be more relatable to both Rotary members and non-Rotarians. Rotary International will know our President as our District Governor, just as they will recognize CNY Rotary as District 7180 (or whatever number we are assigned).

There will be additional opportunities for regional service in CNY Rotary. The new structure will have committees you will recognize, such as finance, public image, membership and the like. We will also include Area Representatives (Assistant Governors) to assist clubs in achieving their goals.

With our combined resources, we hope that clubs feel empowered and supported in the imperative work they are doing in their communities locally and abroad. ♦

You can connect with us at www.CNYRotary.org
and follow [CNY Rotary on Facebook](#).



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



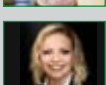
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Co-Chair, Cheryl Matt..... DeWitt



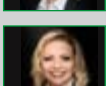
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Co-chair, Devin White..... Eastwood



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

ALL CALL - IT'S TIME TO PREPARE FOR THE 2023-2024 DISTRICT 7150 ROTARY YOUTH EXCHANGE!

PDG Phyllis Danks | Marcellus



Preparations are underway for the revitalization of our Youth Exchange International participation. If you have any interest in being or becoming involved with Youth Exchange, please contact me, Phyllis Danks at;

phyl7150@gmail.com. We are looking to expand our committee and club participation. One aspect of tis revitalization is the increase content and focus of our Youth Exchange Website, which will be open for public interaction quite soon.

At this time, we ask that clubs commit to hosting students and prepare to interview potential outgoing students within your communities. Our deadline for receiving student applications is December 31, 2022, interviews will be held in early January with placements and orientations to follow.

If you need assistance, please contact Mindy Taylor (mindytaylor.rye7150@gmail.com - Outbound Chair), Bill Rosentel (Bill.rosentel@gmail.com - Inbound Chair) or Phyllis Danks (phyl7150@gmail.com - YE Chair).

We are very excited about the opportunities we can offer our Youth once again!! ♦



WANTED: Rotary Youth Ambassadors!

Must have a desire to:

- FORM INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIPS
- LEARN NEW WAYS TO COMMUNICATE
- IMMERSE YOURSELF IN A DIFFERENT CULTURE
- HAVE THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME!

This year, more than 8,000 young people, from all over the world, will have the opportunity of a lifetime — a chance to live in another country and see the world from a new perspective through Rotary Youth Exchange. This could be your year!

As a Long-Term Rotary Youth Exchange Student, we are looking for students that will be 15 ½ to 18 ½ years of age, upon departure in August, 2023. You will spend 10 to 11 months living with host families and attending high school in a country other than your own. You will learn a new way of living, a new language, and a great deal about yourself. As you are learning, you will also

be teaching the people you meet about your country, your culture, and your ideas. You will be a Rotary Youth Ambassador, helping to bring the world closer together and developing great friendships in the process.

If you are ready for the challenge and the rewards of living in another land as an exchange student, then you are ready to discover new worlds through Rotary Youth Exchange.

If you are interested in being a Rotary Youth Exchange Student and want to learn more about our programs, please visit our website at www.7150youthexchange.org. Take the steps to starting a new adventure today!

If you have any questions about the Long-Term Exchange, please contact Mindy Taylor at out-bound@7150youthexchange.org. or co-chair Jenny Randall at Mexico@7150youthexchange.org ♦

ROME - UKRANIAN AID

Steve Mercurio | Rome

The Rome Rotary Club had recently made a \$1200 donation to The Center in Utica to support their efforts to assist Ukrainians who are resettling in this area to escape the violence in their homeland. In April 2022 the Club made a \$2000 donation to the Rotary International Disaster Fund which was focused on Ukrainian relief efforts that month. The Club held a subsequent fundraiser to raise funds that could be put to work locally.

The Center was started in 1979 as the Mohawk Valley Center for Refugees (MVR-CR) to assist in the resettlement of the flood of refugees from resulting from the fall of South Vietnam. Since its founding, The Center as it is now known has helped people from many countries and cultures (Bosnians, Southeast Asians, Burmese, Karens, and most recently Ukrainians and Afghans) resettle in the Mohawk Valley. The Center is recognized as an agency with expertise in helping people from a wide variety of cultures, speaking many languages, to become part of our community. ♦



Pictured from left to right are: Kathleen Delacy, Immigrant Community Navigator; Jennifer VanWagoner, Grants Manager; Shelly Callahan, Executive Director; Kyle Cairns, Rome NY Rotary Club President and Steve Mercurio, Past President; Eugene Blackburn, Veterans Support Group of St. Paul's RC Parish. Dzevad Racic, Director of Refugee Resettlement was also at the presentation and took the picture.

OSWEGO SERVICE PROJECT

Carrie Penoyer | Oswego

This right here, is what it means to be a member of a Rotary Club and service organization. When the Oswego City/County Youth Bureau announced it would be holding a Kids Community Yard Sale, the Rotary Club jumped on board to give away six brand new bicycles. The event was held on Saturday, August 27th at Breitbeck Park.

The Oswego City Police Department donated helmets for each of the bikes and brought along extras to give to anyone who needed one. Integrated Community Planning also donated a huge box of about thirty. At the drawing, dozens of kids, parents and grandparents anxiously waited, hoping their name would be the one announced. The smiles on their faces were priceless!



UTICA'S TEE'S FOR TREE'S

Jerry Kraus | Utica



1st Place: L-R: Bill Matteson, Stephen Turnbull, Dave Smith and Ryan Perry

It was a beautiful day on Sunday (August 14) at the Hidden Valley Golf Course in Whitesboro as The Rotary Club of Utica hosted a golf outing to help raise funds for the Urban Tree Project. The 2nd annual 'Tees for Trees' tournament featured lunch, a golf scramble, dinner and door prizes. Trophies were also awarded to our winners, Team Turnbull, (featuring Past President Stephen Turnbull), who shot a red-hot 61: which was 10-under par. 16 teams (also including Utica Rotary Club golfers Jerry Kraus, Darby O'Brien and Mary Lou Reape) helped our club raise over \$2,000 to help with the planting of 29 trees in the city of Utica this fall. Also helping at the golf outing were Rotary Club President Tina Pavlot and club members Michelle Brandstadt, Linda Iannone, Travis Rabbers and David Jones. ♦

RAYS KIDZ GOLF OUTING

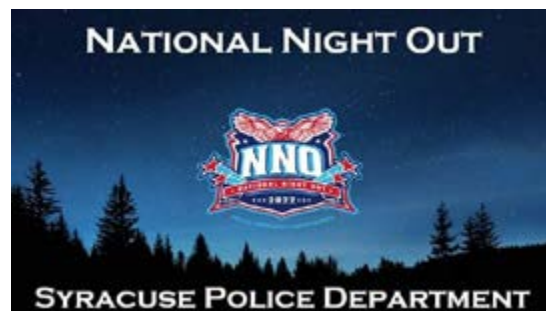
On August 4, Al Turner and Janelle Kraus, of the Syracuse Inner City Rotary Club, provided a donation to Ray Rinaldi to sponsor Amir "Cash" Anderson to golf at Rays Kidz Golf Outing.

The golfing event was held August 6. "Cash" is a member of Ray Rinaldi's boxing school and is set to be a team coach for the Junior Olympics. The golfing event was to raise money for participants at Ray Rinaldi's boxing school. ♦



SYRACUSE INNER CITY ROTARY & SYRACUSE POLICE: NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Syracuse Inner City Rotary Club participated in the City of Syracuse National Night Out held in Kirk Park. The club provided information on Rotary and hosted a math basketball game.



UNITED IN FRIENDSHIP AND SERVICE

Rotary International's recent member survey reveals where Rotary is today, while suggesting where it needs to go tomorrow

[Rotary International](#)

The motive power of Rotary is friendship," said Paul Harris in his address to the Rotary convention held in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1921. His remarks were greeted with a round of applause — and were endorsed 100 years later by current members of Rotary.

In the most recent annual survey of Rotary members, 45% of respondents cited friendship as the reason they remain in Rotary, and 84% said they were satisfied with their ability to connect with friends through Rotary. Meanwhile, 42% of respondents cited the opportunity to make an impact on their communities as the reason they remained in Rotary — another response that would have delighted Rotary's founder.



The Rotaract Club of Woolloongabba Pride celebrates diversity, equity, and inclusion. Photo courtesy of Rotary Down Under

Gathering this kind of information is one of the reasons we survey Rotary members every year. The 2021 all-member survey, which was conducted last fall by Rotary International and drew nearly 70,000 responses from Rotarians and Rotaractors, will contribute to the long-term success of Rotary's Action Plan and its strategic initiatives. It also ensures that Rotary leadership understands and responds to the expectations and experiences of new and longtime members. On a more local level, clubs and districts can use this information to attract and engage new and current members. ♦

NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Rotary Club of Utica – 2022 Pride of Workmanship Awards

Roxanne Mutchler | Utica

Nomination Deadline: September 16.

The Rotary Club of Utica is soliciting nominations from the community for this year's Pride of Workmanship Awards Program. The awards recognize outstanding contributions by employees below the management level in all businesses, industries and organizations.

Since 1990, the Utica Rotary has recognized outstanding individuals and will do so again at the Pride of Workmanship Awards Program on Thursday, October 20, 2022 at 12:00 PM.

Pride of Workmanship Recipients exemplify an outstanding commitment to their job—their performance makes a positive difference to their employer. Award recipients will demonstrate:

- Outstanding Competence and consistency of effort
- Commitment to employer
- Commitment to co-workers (team players)
- Professionalism and creativity
- Enthusiasm and initiative
- Willingness to go above and beyond the job description
- An understanding of the award's motto: "Do it once, do it well. Build a Better America"

For a nomination form visit the Rotary Club of Utica website at www.uticarotary.org and click on Pride/Workmanship; or for more information, email Roxanne Mutchler at rmutchler@live.com with Pride of Workmanship in the subject line. ♦

ROTARY CLUB OF SYRACUSE: WEB OF CONNECTIONS BY STRANGERS BRINGS UKRAINIAN CANCER PATIENT TO UPSTATE

Syracuse President, Dr. Dayaprasad Kulkarni: an example of Service Above Self

syracuse.com | Glenn Coin - gcoin@syracuse.com

Three days after surgery in Ukraine, Nataliia Bakal had to flee the country.

Three days after Nataliia Bakal had surgery near the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv, Russian troops invaded the country. Bombs rained down near the hospital.

"A doctor came into the room and said, 'If you can walk, then you should leave,'" recalled her son-in-law, Frank Gunsallus, who lives in Maryland.

Bakal, a family practice doctor who was in the midst of chemotherapy treatments for ovarian cancer, had to flee the hospital. Her husband, Igor

Varniaha, couldn't come because he didn't have enough gas and the lines were too long. Friends plucked her from the hospital and brought her closer to the couple's home, about 50 miles south of the capital, where her husband caught up to her.

That began Bakal's five-month exodus from the war destroying her country toward treatments that could attack her cancer. Along the way, she and her family spent a night in a bomb shelter as shells exploded nearby. She had to undergo a second, emergency surgery, in Poland. The family waited for months in a Warsaw apartment to resume her care.

And, finally, they flew to the U.S. and arrived in Syracuse, where Bakal is getting her delayed cancer treatments at Upstate Medical University.

The journey of Bakal and Varniaha — and their younger daughter and the family cat — from Ukraine to America was stitched together by a string of coincidences and connections, spearheaded by friends and family on two continents. The key moment came in a Warsaw sushi restaurant, when Bakal's son-in-law, who is a member of Rotary International, met Dr. Dayaprasad Kulkarni, who runs a global health nonprofit and is president of the Syracuse Rotary Club.

"Wherever I'm traveling, I'm always connecting with Rotarians," said Kulkarni, who was in Warsaw trying to help Ukrainian refugees.

This chance meeting in Eastern Europe led to Bakal's latest round of chemo, which began in Syracuse on Tuesday.



Nataliia Bakal, left, escaped from Ukraine with help from her daughter and son-in-law, Iryna and Frank Gunsallus. Bakal's chemotherapy treatments were interrupted by the war, and have resumed at Upstate Medical University.

Scott Schild, sschild@syracuse.com

Upstate did not provide information about the arrangement or whether the hospital has helped others who escaped Ukraine.

But Bakal, 61, who does not speak English, told her story to The Post-Standard via a Zoom call from Maryland, where she had been staying with her daughter, Iryna, and her husband, Frank. They translated her story.

Bakal has been a family doctor in Ukraine for 32 years. She was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in September 2021 and had several rounds of chemotherapy before the surgery in February. Then, she was supposed to get more chemotherapy to complete her treatment. Instead, she was forced to flee the hospital in the opening days of war.

After leaving the hospital and arriving home, Bakal's husband also picked up their younger daughter, Alla, and their cat, Kuzya. They escaped to the family's

country house in a small town about an hour from Kyiv.

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"Then, after a day or so, a nearby town was being bombed," Frank Gunsallus said. "They spent the night in their cellar."

That's when Frank and Iryna jumped into action. They persuaded the family in Ukraine to get across the border to Poland, where Frank and Iryna would meet them.

Frank and Iryna hastily made travel plans and caught a flight to Warsaw. In Ukraine, Bakal, her husband and younger daughter packed their bags and made their way to the train station in the city where they live, Bila Tserkva.

The train was scheduled to leave at 3 a.m., but they had to spend the night before in the train station because of a curfew.

"They were waiting outside at the station when they heard the bombs," Iryna said. The family rushed into the station's bomb shelter.

The three caught the train in the early morning and began a train-and-bus exodus to the Polish border. Before, the 300-mile trip would have taken about 12 hours. In war time it dragged on for 30 hours.

Bakal's daughter and son-in-law, who had traversed an ocean and half a continent, were already waiting in Poland.

The family was now safe and reunited, but they still needed to find treatment for Bakal and a place to stay.

The family drove 100 miles, to Warsaw, Poland's capital and largest city, looking for temporary lodging. Competition for apartments was steep as refugees streamed out of Ukraine, Gunsallus said, and every landlord wanted a one-year commitment. A Facebook contact of Gunsallus', who spoke Polish, called 50 apartment complexes and found nothing.

Then, another connection paid off: A college friend knew a family near Warsaw. "We were able to get an apartment through their cousin," Gunsallus said.

Settled temporarily in Warsaw, the family debated where and how to continue Bakal's cancer treatment. Stay in Poland? Try Germany or Sweden. Fly to the U.S.?

They found a hospital in Warsaw that would continue the chemotherapy, and Bakal had one treatment on March 21.

"A few days later, she said something just didn't feel

right," said her older daughter, Iryna. "We were going from hospital to hospital trying to figure out what's wrong, and then they finally figured out that her stitches had come loose from the first surgery."

Bakal underwent another operation, on March 26. "It was a pretty rough recovery," Iryna said.

Bakal couldn't travel, so they stayed put, hoping to resume her treatments. Frank, Iryna and Alla were able to continue working remotely from Warsaw while they waited. Two months later, the hospital wouldn't resume the treatment because she was still recovering from the second surgery, Iryna said.

That's when another connection paved the way. Gunsallus, a Rotary International member in Maryland, had started attending meetings at a Rotary club in Warsaw during the family's limbo. He volunteered for several Rotary projects, including one that provided mental health services to Ukrainian refugees fleeing the war.

One night in late April, the president of Warsaw's Fryderyk Chopin Rotary chapter — named for the Polish composer — invited Gunsallus to a meeting at a sushi restaurant. There, Gunsallus met Kulkarni, a public health doctor who runs a global nonprofit, the AarogyaSeva Global Health Volunteer Alliance, and happens to be president of the Syracuse Rotary Club. Kulkarni is also an honorary professor at Syracuse University.

Gunsallus and Kulkarni — who goes by "Dr. Daya" — hit it off and decided to work on projects together. They talked while driving around Warsaw, and Gunsallus mentioned his mother-in-law's predicament.

At a dinner in early May in their Warsaw apartment, the family and Kulkarni began talking about getting Bakal to the United States for treatment. Kulkarni said American hospitals would offer a higher level of care than she could get in Poland, where hospitals were running low on medications because of the war.

This time, it was one of Kulkarni's connections that opened the way. He said he knew the president of Upstate Medical University, Dr. Montash Dewan, through their work together in Syracuse's Indian Cultural Association. Upstate was the first choice because of its location, level of care and willingness to help, Kulkarni said.

"It has all the facilities and the team to give her the right treatment," said Kulkarni, 39, who earned his

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medical degree in southern India, in 2004. He does not treat patients here and is not affiliated with Upstate.

Kulkarni has lived in Syracuse since 2015, when his wife entered a master’s program in humanities at Syracuse University. His nonprofit works in several countries around the world, enlisting doctors to operate free health clinics and providing humanitarian aid for victims of natural disasters and war.

In Poland, he had been establishing telehealth mental health services for fleeing Ukrainians.

Bakal and her family took their new friend’s offer for help. They all headed — including the cat — to Frank and Iryna’s home, in Maryland.

Bakal came to Upstate last month, where she underwent diagnostic tests and met with doctors. Her chemotherapy treatment, which could last two months, began Tuesday, her son-in-law said.

Kulkarni said Upstate is discounting the cost of care, and AarogyaSeva, the nonprofit he runs, is paying the remaining bills and the family’s expenses. The nonprofit has launched a GoFundMe page (tinyurl.com/Ukraine-medical-care) to help defray the costs.

Iryna Gunsallus said she’s grateful for all the people who have helped bring her family to safety.

“This war has also affected my family of course, a lot, but mom’s health situation has just made it so much more difficult on top of everything,” she said. “Having that resolved gives us such a peace of mind that it’s just hard to explain.”

The family doesn’t know what will happen after the treatments. They plan to hire an immigration lawyer to see how long the family can stay – especially now that Iryna and Frank are having their first baby this winter.

Kulkarni said AarogyaSeva — “seva” is a Sanskrit word for “selfless service — has hundreds of stories like Bakal’s.

“That’s the beauty of the work that I do, and that’s why I’m inspired to do more and more all the time, because of stories like this, which are life-changing and satisfying,” Kulkarni said. “They will give so much happiness and joy to everyone involved.” ♦

DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION ON DISTRICT SITE

D7150 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee



As our district continues to embrace and encourage diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), it was clear we would need a place where we could provide information and resources for clubs on the district web site. A new page has been created and is available for you now, found under the Resources tab on rotary7150.org (see image). On this page, you will find:

- Rotary International’s statement on DEI
- Videos and educational resources
- The club DEI health checklist
- Opportunities to connect with the DEI committee

Remember, the DEI committee is looking to visit all of our clubs to give a presentation on the basics and show clubs how embracing diversity, equity and inclusion results in more members and a bigger impact with the work that we do.

Visit the new DEI page here and connect with the committee to schedule someone to speak at your club. Come back to the page regularly for new lessons and videos to further your DEI education! ♦

BALDWINSVILLE ROTARY & BAKER HIGH COLLABORATION RESTORES B’VILLE COMMUNITY SIGN

Lizzy Martin | Baldwinsville

Most communities have signs as you enter their town or village that showcase various community organizations. The VFW, American Legion, Kiwanis, Elks and Masons are some you might see. More often than not, you will see that iconic Rotary wheel as well. But did you know that the responsibility for maintaining that sign falls to whoever’s logo is in the upper left? Baldwinsville Rotary’s logo was in the upper left of the sign on Route 370, as you travel east into the village (aka Salina Street), and it was in disrepair. The club’s board had a decision to make. Are signs a thing of the past or worth investing in? Since there are still great organizations in our community to feature here, let’s honor those legacies and make it nice again.

Baldwinsville Rotary Club board member Katie Reap, a teacher in our school district, suggested we find a way to partner with local students to help on the project and she agreed to take the lead. With her network and great communication, she partnered up with the Baker High School Production Systems Technology class, led by Jamie Cuyler. The students came up with a strong design that the club loved, with the bridge element suggested by student Erin Gregoire

who wanted to include it because it is, “a historical landmark in the heart of Baldwinsville.” All said, over 30 students got to put their skills to action on this project that helped beautify our community. Student Nick Foster said that, “building, designing and seeking approval of all parties involved took a lot of time, but that is needed when you want to give back to a community and show visitors how nice your town is.” Another student, Derek Morich, has been inspired to explore a trade after graduation thanks to his experience on this project. Reap also worked with the other local organizations to refresh their logos so everything would look bright and new. The team was supported by local sign expert John McFall with Atlantic signs.

Now, when you see that sign, you will know it is the result of a purposeful collaboration that supported educational opportunities and community beautification, showcasing the volunteer organizations in Baldwinsville who are making a difference with their time and energy. Baldwinsville Rotary gives their heartfelt gratitude to all who helped out and hopes that this inspires more collaborative projects that will make Baldwinsville an even more beautiful place to live. ♦



(left) The old sign before repairs. (right) The new sign with some members of the team – from left to right: Jamie Cuyler, Baker High School Technology Instructor, student engineers Derek Morich, Erin Gregoire and Nicholas Foster representing their classmates, and Rotarian Katie Reap.



Saturday, Sept 24th
VVS High School, Verona

7:30AM - 3PM

Breakfast at 7:30am
 Program 8am-3pm
 Lunch also provided

Offering Levels I, II, III and Grad

\$75.00/person

(Rotaractors fee is \$50.00)

Attend this Rotary-partner program to learn more about how clubs are run, how projects can be more impactful and what resources are available to support clubs. Connect with fellow Rotarians as you share your challenges and successes. Complete all three levels and then take graduate courses on new topics each year.

Ask your club if they will cover your registration fee!

Additional nearby trainings:
 Rochester - October 1, 2022
 Melville - October 8, 2022

REGISTER NOW

www.rlinea.org



ROTARY'S BRAND CENTER REVAMPED & BETTER THAN EVER

Lizzy Martin | D7150 Public Image Chair

Rotary has launched a rebuilt Brand Center for everyone to use. The Brand Center is where we go for photos, videos, templates and other Rotary-branded elements to use in our graphics, signage, web sites, etc. This update has made it easier than ever to tell our Rotary story in a way that visually amplifies our brand, increasing recognition of who we are and what we do. Improvements include:

- A streamlined layout
- New and faster platform
- User friendly navigation
- Improved search

And, you no longer need to log in to My Rotary to access the Brand Center. Visit the new Brand Center and take a look around. Be sure your club's public image chair/team know about it and start utilizing it today. If you have any questions about branding or need assistance in navigating the Brand Center, contact D7150 Public Image Chair Lizzy Martin at emartin@advancemediany.com. ♦

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.

ROTARY PROJECTS AROUND THE GLOBE - SEPTEMBER 2022

Rotary International | Brad Webber

United States

While Silicon Valley is among the world's most affluent locales, hunger and income disparities strain food distribution programs in the area. For the past two years, the Rotary Club of Saratoga, California, has been a continuing presence at Martha's Kitchen, a soup kitchen in San Jose, where members prepare food once a month. The club coordinated the \$95,000 purchase of a refrigerated box truck so the facility could collect perishables and goods donated by organizations such as the Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, a food bank that covered half the truck's cost. "The soup kitchen itself does not have extensive storage facilities. The truck helps so food doesn't spoil," says Sangita Seshadri, immediate past president of the club. With \$3,000 contributed by the Rotary Club of Bangalore West, India, the project shows the power of international friendships. "Typically, people look at the developed countries giving to the developing countries," Seshadri says. "There is need all over, and when we talk about partnerships, it is both ways."

Brazil

A year after some of its members participated in their municipality's inaugural road rally, the Rotary Club of Campo Novo do Parecis ventured into a bigger role as a principal driver of the event. The Travessia do Parecis, held in April, followed a roughly 120-mile route in the west-central state of Mato Grosso, with 87 vehicles and 261 motorists participating. "The setting for the event is full of natural beauty — spectacular waterfalls, rivers with crystal clear waters — and indigenous culture," says Adriano Paz, a club member and organizer who, with his wife, Heloisa, finished second at the intermediate level. About 35 of the club's 44 members handled food and beverage chores to help the club raise more than \$4,200.

Sri Lanka

The Rotaract Club of Colombo celebrated its 52nd anniversary by completing 52 projects during the 2021-22 Rotary year. In March, to finish 10 of them, the Rotaractors boarded a bus for a 30-hour drive. The Charity Bus, as the decade-old project is known, delivered books to a school library, heaters to a wild-

life rehabilitation center, an electric oven to a skills development center, a rice cooker to a children's residence, and rations and other products to homes that serve children and older adults. The group installed plastic recycling bins along a beach and planted trees to help prevent erosion and nurture turtle hatchlings. The initiatives are funded by current and past club members, families, and businesses. "We have developed a culture of building a network of generous well-wishers as opposed to holding fundraisers," says Chedliya Ishak, immediate past president.

France

For nearly a decade, the Rotaract Club of Tours has raised money for a rotating slate of charities through regular sales of baskets containing a croissant, a pain au chocolat, a tea bag, honey, and a surprise treat. During the 2021-22 Rotary year, the club sold 852 baskets to generate about \$4,700 for the Sapeurs-Li-popette Association, a firefighters charity that provides stuffed animals and other gifts for pediatric patients. The club obtained the baskets' items for free from six donor businesses. Most of the Tours club members participate in the effort, and other area clubs, including the Rotary Club of Tours Plumereau, assist with the deliveries. Local Rotarians also take delight in purchasing the baskets. "It is a collective effort and a beautiful project that is truly making an impact in our city," says Léonore Afif, immediate past president of the club.

Italy

The Rotaract Club of Fiorenzuola d'Arda partnered with municipal officials and the Rotary clubs of Fiorenzuola d'Arda, Cortemaggiore Pallavicino, and Piacenza S. Antonino to challenge high school students to propose environmentally sustainable projects that city leaders could implement. Dozens of students of the Mattei Institute vied for cash prizes in the (Rotar)Act for Nature. Rotaractors served as tutors for the process, says Guido Bosi, the club's immediate past president. "First place, and €500 [about \$550 at the time], went to a project to rehabilitate Lucca Park," Bosi says, noting that jurors were impressed with the students' research incorporating existing park plans into their proposal. ♦

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