

District 7170 Newsletter



www.rotarydistrict7170.org | www.rotary.org

Wendy Deis – District Governor 2023-2024
Rotary Club of Owego, USA

Gordon R. McNally – Rotary International President 2023-2024
Rotary Club of South Queensferry, Lothian, Scotland

Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month

February 2024

Governor's Message



Dear Fellow Rotarians,

As February unfolds, so does the much-anticipated “education season” in the world of Rotary. Over the next 12 weeks, Rotarians in 7170 will have a multitude of opportunities to enhance their Rotary IQ, fostering personal growth and fellowship and connect with like-minded individuals.

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It's essential for you to know that no one is expected to attend every program. The beauty lies in the diversity of opportunities that can cater to different schedules and preferences. Whether it's through ClubRunner, Facebook, CNY website or specific event pages like the Empire Multi-District PET's, information about these programs are readily available.

A crucial message for me is not to let financial considerations be a barrier. Some programs are free, while others have associated costs. However, our district provides some avenues for reimbursement of registration fees, ensuring that our commitment to education and fellowship is not hindered by financial constraints.

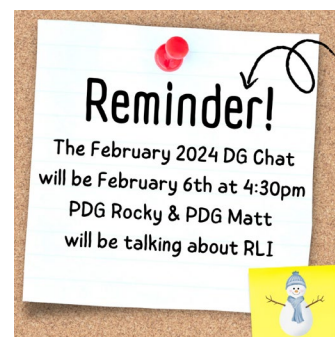
So, whether you're a seasoned Rotarian or a newcomer, take the leap into education season. Embrace the opportunities, attend the programs that resonate with you and let these sessions be filled with learning, camaraderie, sharing ideas and the joy of making a difference together!

Best regards,

Wendy

Your District Governor 2023-2024

Wendy Deis
Owego Rotary Club



Register Today
with this sweetheart deal!

Full Conference Weekend
just \$199/person

RATES AVAILABLE FOR SAT/SUN OR SUN ONLY TOO!

OFFER ENDS FEB 14TH

District Conference
April 26-28, 2024
DoubleTree, Binghamton NY

Rotary District 7150 Rotary District 7170 Rotary District 7190

Booking your hotel stay is a separate step
Rooms start at just \$129/night +taxes, fees
Get booking details at the website below

REGISTER NOW @ www.Rotary7150.org

<https://rotary7150.org/page/district-conference-2024>



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International News

Presidential themes and logos

Presidential themes and logos are going away?

Yes, this was a decision made by the Rotary Board of Directors. You can find decisions from the October 2023 Board meeting at <https://my.rotary.org/en/learning-reference/about-rotary/board-decisions>, including “agreed to eliminate the creation of an annual presidential theme and logo starting in Rotary Year 2025–26.”

The presidential themes were to be used only for internal communications to motivate Rotary members. However, too many clubs and districts used the theme as a logo to promote Rotary projects and events to the public. Additionally, the themes changed every year, and some clubs and districts preferred promoting a past theme over the current theme due to personal preference. This causes confusion when we want to present a unified message and look and feel across all of Rotary to increase awareness and understanding of what we do and what we stand for.

- Wendy Deis

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CNY Rotary News

CNY Rotary Grants

CNY Rotary Grants Management Training – Register for The Virtual Session Now

A group of committed volunteers from throughout the CNY Rotary region have been developing a District and Global grants program that will provide opportunities for every club in CNY to bring the Magic of Rotary to their communities, the region, and the world. This grants program will be a change from those that have existed in our legacy districts – 7150, 7170, and 7190.

It is essential that your club leaders receive training in the new programs and procedures so that all of our clubs can take full advantage of this opportunity. In order to qualify for a district grant, your club must have at least two (2) participants attend and complete the District Grants Management Seminar. For virtual sessions, cameras must remain on throughout the training for full participation.

The first of at least three seminars will be held virtually, via Zoom, at 7:00pm on Wednesday, February 7, 2024. **Registration in advance is required** – [click here](#) to go to the registration page. After completing the registration, you will receive an email with a Join Meeting button that will connect you to the meeting.

For additional information, please follow CNY Rotary on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#), or visit www.cnyrotary.org/foundation.

- CNY Rotary Foundation Committee

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CNY Rotary New Committees

CNY Rotary Leadership Team Expansion Continues – Get Involved Today!

As we continue to build out the CNY Rotary leadership teams, new committees are emerging, and all members are invited to join them.

CNY Rotary Events

This committee will help plan and oversee all events held in our region, from training assembly to conference, and everything in between. There are a variety of roles available on this committee which can appeal to any level of commitment and experience from a volunteer. The chairperson is a big role, as is the CNY Rotary Conference Chair, but we also have opportunities to help us execute one social event or work on one area visit for the CNY Rotary President. It is especially important to have a variety of members from across the region in order to bring local knowledge we'll need to identify events, venues and opportunities for fun. [Click here](#) to learn more about the scope of this committee's work and all the job openings we need to fill. While there, you can submit your name to get the invite to the first CNY Rotary Events Committee meeting in March!

CNY Rotary Service

The next new committee is one that will get to do a lot of work with our clubs. The new CNY Rotary Service Committee will serve us by pulling together resources that will make it easier for clubs to do service projects, evaluating the impact of our service-related activities, celebrating, and recognizing great service happening in CNY, and providing direct support and guidance to clubs seeking help with existing or new service projects. We are looking for people who are passionate about not only growing Rotary's service, but doing so in meaningful and purposeful ways to ensure we increase our positive impact on the world. We need people who can populate databases, provide logistical advice, help do community assessments, and be communicators about the work of CNY Rotary Service.

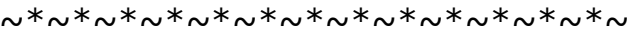
There are many out there who have service experience and know-how they could bring to this team. If that is you, we hope you will [click here](#) for more details, and use the form on that page to submit your name and get involved.

But wait, there's more!

In addition to filling up these new committees, we are still seeking support on Membership and Public Image in particular. We need some more team members to help us bring membership resources to our clubs, be there to answer questions, work with the training committee and more. We also need someone to help with social media, our future website, and provide support to our smaller clubs that have skill gaps when it comes to things like graphic design. [Click here](#) and then identify the committee you are interested in for more details on the roles they need to fill. There is a contact form you can use let us know you want to get involved!

When more people come forward to help, it makes everyone's work easier. In order to right the ship, we need everyone rowing in the same direction to grow membership, distribute grants, deliver vital communications, put on special events, grow our service impact and so much more. Now is the time to step up and lend your skills! Visit www.CNYRotary.org and be sure to follow @CNYRotary on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for the latest news and information.

- CNY Rotary Communications



District News

What's New at PETS?

What's New at President Elect Training This Year - Register Now! After a recent survey of incoming club presidents, we know that about half have been president before. So why come to training if you've already done it before? There are dozens of reasons, but here are our top three!

PETS is never the same twice. With new leaders planning the curriculum, new speakers, new topics and new attendees each year, no two Pre-PETS sessions nor PETS weekends are the same. Like snowflakes! This year, we'll even be at a new location. Please do not blow off this learning experience as one you've had before because no one has ever experienced *this* PETS before!

Everyone has something to offer. Whether you have been Club President five times or you have been in Rotary for five months, everyone has something to offer in a facilitated learning environment. Sure, our speakers will present new and inspirational information for you to learn from, but the majority of your learning will be facilitated. That means you will all be sharing your clubs successes and challenges, as well as your personal and professional experiences that lend to our many break out session topics. *Every individual who attends PETS contributes to the experience of every attendee.*

We have new and more advanced classes for experienced leaders. If you are an Encore President, serving another term to lead your club, we have a special track of breakout sessions just for you. Topics will include Conflict Management, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Adapting Existing Clubs in the Action Plan, and a direct Q&A with the head of all membership at Rotary International, Brian King. These will be led by district and Rotary International leaders that you likely have not met before.

It is our hope that every club will be represented at the Empire Multi-District President Elect Training Seminar, March 15-17 at the DoubleTree on Carrier Circle in Syracuse. If your club's incoming president is unable or

unwilling to attend, someone else can go in their place. Clubs have already paid for someone to go, so take advantage of this learning opportunity for a new member, a board member, a membership chair, a future leader or even your current president to get a refresher.

The hotel room block ends February 13th, so do not wait to make your reservation. Get the link to book your room and register to attend at www.RotaryEmpireMDPETS.org. There you will also find the full schedule, details like what to wear, speaker bios, FAQ's and more.

Be sure to follow [Empire Multi-District PETS on Facebook](#) for updates, tips and helpful reminders.

- Empire MD PETS Committee

Empire
Rotary | **Multi-District PETS** | **March 15-17, 2024**
DoubleTree Syracuse

Training for President Elects, Assistant Governors and members of Rotary Districts 7120, 7150, 7170 and 7190

NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER
Registration and hotel booking deadlines are coming up fast!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO REGISTER & GET:

Answers to FAQ's	Pre-PETS Zoom Link
A Detailed Schedule	Things to Know
The Dress Code	What to Bring
Speaker Bios	Who Will Be There

Pre-PETS sessions will be weekly throughout February. The zoom link is the same for all four sessions and can be found at

www.RotaryEmpireMDPETS.org

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Climate Action Notes

Reduce ... Reduce ... Reduce

There are many, many issues degrading our environment to varying degrees that desperately need Rotary's attention. Too many for any one person or group to address but we cannot despair or shy away. To help focus, environmentalists divide these numerous issues into 3 main areas of concern:

- **Climate change:** To many, this is the most urgent and overarching issue. Basically, it is everything and anything that contributes more greenhouse gases to our atmosphere. These contributions have caused the significant increases in the intensity of storms and unstable weather. We are now seeing larger and more persistent hurricanes, atmospheric rivers, rain bombs, droughts, floods, rising sea level, subarctic temperatures

in the south of the US, heatwaves, massive forest fires, etc. These endanger people and property the world over but impact poor countries and people, those who have contributed the least, the most.

- **Pollution:** This is an aspect of environmental damage that we have been aware of for decades. From early PSAs in the mid '50s, through Lady Bird Johnson's "Keep America Beautiful" campaign in the mid '60s, to the crying Indian of 1971. These pointed out the very real *and very visible* ways we were literally trashing our environment. Air, water, and soil, all vital for our very existence have been degraded not only with the trash we see but with invisible contaminants of many types. Heavy metals, excess fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, exhaust from fossil fuels, 'forever chemicals' that are harmful and will never break down, pharmaceuticals. Early on the release of some of these pollutants could be written off as ignorance but for decades we have known better.
- **Decreasing Biodiversity:** The complex structure of the only place we can live, and its massively interdependent components are resilient only to a point. There are many ecosystems, components of the larger biosphere that are near to, or have, reached the point of collapse. Alternate resilient crops and potential pharmaceuticals are being lost, genetic diversity is decreasing weakening ecosystems, and many fish species live near collapse in marginal habitats which we over fish. We have been, and continue to be, very poor stewards of the biosphere needed for our very survival.

This triad of climate change, pollution, and decreasing biodiversity is interconnected and synergistic. It includes scores of issues which threaten our lives and the lives of many generations to come. Most of us will be sheltered from the early damages of the coming climate catastrophe but 20, 40, 60 years from now things will likely be much worse. It will be a very different world for future Rotarians.

Read, listen, talk, learn...take time to reflect frankly on your own lifestyle. How you could have less of a negative impact on our world? Become engaged with a local, regional, or national group on an issue that feels close to you. Nearer to home, engage in your club's environmental group, or establish one, and join ESRAG. All is not gloom and doom, but we need comprehensive and urgent actions now and Rotary must engage.

- Evan Kurtz

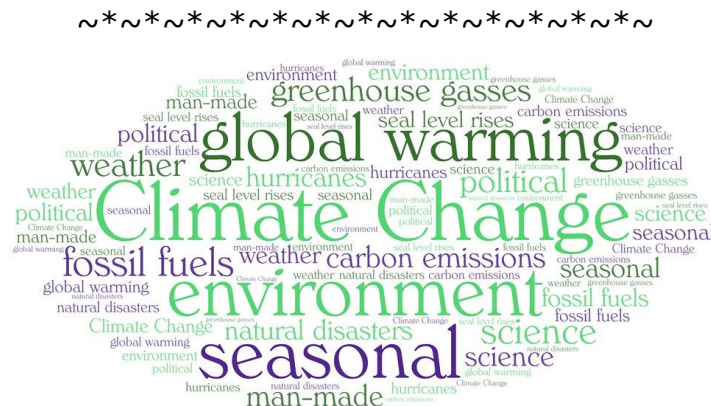
A few references:

www.nrdc.org/stories/greenhouse-effect-101#whatis

<https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators/weather-climate>

<https://www.vedantu.com/biology/types-of-pollution>

<https://www.e-biom.com/biodiversity-threats-and-challenges?lang=en>



Club News

Ithaca Rotary

For the past 26 years, the Ithaca Rotary Club and the City of Ithaca have presented a series of annual awards to property owners who have enhanced the physical appearance of city neighborhoods and commercial areas.

In December, one of the awards was given to two Rotarians — Gail and Nathan Lyman. The couple received a 2023 Susan Blumenthal Pride of Ownership Award for the renovation of their home at 1322 East State Street in Ithaca. The Lymans bought the house, at the southeast corner of Route 79, in 2007, and have steadily made improvements to the property, which is the first home travelers see when they enter Ithaca from the south. A beautiful ravine runs through the steep lot, but over the years periodic floods caused the banks to move and stone retaining walls to collapse, threatening the side yard and potentially the house.



The improvements to the property have included exterior restoration and painting, a Tudor-style garage, and numerous gardens, including one with a waterfall and fishpond. The most visible project came in 2022 with the removal of an existing concrete patio, reconstruction of the lower end of the ravine, reinforcement of the west side of the ravine with stone, management of the groundwater around the house, and expansion of the gardens. A year later, the Lyman's hillside garden was featured by the Garden Conservancy, including an education program discussing hillside drainage and wall construction by the contractor, Eirik McCheyne of GreenScene.

The annual Pride of Ownership Awards were founded in 1998 by former Common Council member Susan Blumenthal, who felt that developers and property owners should receive recognition for work that went above and beyond the requirements of the project. The 2023 Pride of Ownership Awards committee consisted of Margaret Hobbie, Realtor, local historian, and current chair; Brett Bossard of Ithaca College's office of Alumni Engagement; Frost Travis of Travis Hyde Properties; and architects John Barradas, Pauline Morin, Emily Petrina, and Scott Whitham.

The awards were presented during the December 6th meeting of the Ithaca Rotary Club at Coltivare, and again in front of Ithaca Common Council at their meeting inside City Hall that same evening. In addition to the Lymans, five other properties received awards: the Mural at Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services; The Ithacan, an apartment building downtown; the East State Street / MLK Jr. Street Sidewalk and Street Rebuild; 601 Hudson Street New Porch and Façade Improvements; and the Marketview Apartments.

- Sherrie Negrea

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Norwich Rotary

Two Norwich Rotarians achieved Paul Harris Fellow (PHF) +3 this month: Craig Lawson and Catrina Ruling.

Pin presentation by President Ann Smith.



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Oneonta Rotary

Congratulations to all the participants of the 34th Annual Oneonta Rotary Club Ross Cordell Wrestling Tournament and especially to the top three finishers, Carthage, Otego-Unadilla Valley, and Oneonta. The tournament, which was held on January 5th-6th at the Oneonta High School, raised over \$2,000 for the Oneonta High School athletic program.



Oneonta Rotary will hold the popular winetasting fundraiser, the Valentine's Day Soiree on Valentine's Day, February 14 from 6-8 pm at Social Eats Café-Project 607, 546 Main St. Oneonta, NY. Join us for a five-course wine or mocktail tasting menu with amuse bouche and dessert. Gluten free and vegetarian options are available! Proceeds support the work of the Oneonta Rotary Club. \$75/person. Register at <https://forms.gle/qakJ16upYhiTfdFi7> or call 607-431-8026.

Oneonta Rotary wishes everyone in District 7170 a happy heart day!

Photo: Jamie Reynolds and Chad Smith at the trophy table for the Oneonta Rotary Ross Cordell Wrestling Tournament.

- Lynne Sessions

(Please see flyer for the Valentine's Day Soirée at the end of this newsletter.)

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Sidney Rotary



The Rotary Club of Sidney inducted two new members on Friday, January 12 at a regular meeting held at St. Luke's Church in Sidney. New members inducted by Whit Whitaker, Co- Chair of membership, were Cher Brundage and Brenda Flowers. Both were sponsored by Dennis Porter.

A Paul Harris Fellow Award was presented to Dennis Porter. He was presented the highest form of recognition to a Rotary member. Dennis has served as club President and been involved with many committees of the club. His PHF Blue stone pin is the 2nd in series of PHF jeweled pins on the way to a 10-pin major donor to the Rotary Foundation.



Photo 1: Dennis Porter (left) sponsor of Cher Brundage and Brenda Flowers with Whit Whitaker, co-chairman of membership

Photo 2: Dave Reynolds Club President (left) presented PHF to Dennis Porter with his wife, Margaret Porter attending the ceremony

- Anna Ritchey

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At our January 4th Trumansburg Rotary meeting club secretary, Cindy Kain, treated members and our guest to a special dinner of fillet mignon and topped off the evening by “*leaning into*” the definitions of

Rotarian = The "True Rotarian" has a Rotary attitude. This is a person who conducts him/herself [by] following the 4-way Test at all times, who is humble, does not flatter wealth or boast of his/her own possessions or achievements. This Rotarian speaks with frankness yet always with sincerity and sympathy.

A photograph of two women standing indoors. The woman on the left is older, with short brown hair, wearing a maroon sweater and a grey scarf. The woman on the right is younger, with long blonde hair, wearing a dark blue long-sleeved shirt. They are both smiling and holding a large white certificate with a blue border. The certificate is from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, dated 11/15/2017, and is a certificate of appreciation for the '2017-2018 Academic Year' presented to the 'University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill'. The background shows a room with a bulletin board and a window with blinds.

- Frank Zgola



The Last Page . . . for reference

Chat with the DG Track



Chat with the DG Track on the **1st Tuesday of each month from 4:30-5:30pm—this month, February 6th.** This is an opportunity for any Rotarian in District 7170 to ask questions and talk with members of our District leadership.

Visit the D7170 Events Calendar for the Zoom link: [Events | Rotary District 7170](#)



Is your Club Growing?

Let us know! Send new member(s) name, club joined, and sponsor to 7170newsletter@gmail.com.

Getting club events on our District Calendar is easy!



If your club uses ClubRunner: While creating the event post for your club’s calendar, look toward the bottom of the page and you will see a radio button labeled ‘Show Event in District Calendar?’. Select ‘Yes’ to make your event visible on the District calendar! **If your club does not use ClubRunner:** Send an email with all the pertinent information to 7170Calendar@gmail.com. Include title, date, times, location, costs, event description, and a point of contact. If a point of contact is not provided, the default will be the club president. It may be several days before this gets seen and posted, so please allow time.

And remember Social Media!

Do you have a large collection of photos to share? Send an email to Wendy Deis at wendygirl201@gmail.com to get them posted to the [D7170 website](#) and the [D7170 Facebook page](#) along with your story!

MONTH	ROTARY MONTHLY THEMES
Feb 2024	Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention Month
Mar 2024	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Month
Apr 2024	Environmental Month

Source: <https://my.rotary.org/en/news-media/calendar>

Submission and publication schedule for this newsletter

Soft Deadline – Send content to 7170newsletter@gmail.com by the 15 th of the month if possible.	Hard deadline – <u>By noon</u> on the 3 rd to last day of the month to allow time for final editing.	Publication!
Thursday, February 15	Tuesday, February 27	Friday, March 1, 2024
Friday, March 15	Friday, March 29	Monday, April 1, 2024
Friday, April 15	Sunday, April 28	Wednesday, May 1, 2024



Published newsletters can be found on the D7170 website on this path after being posted online: <https://rotarydistrict7170.org/> → District 7170 ▼ → District Newsletters ▼

Are you a writer?

Do you like expressing yourself with the written word? *Did you attend or participate in a club or district event, face-to-face or virtually?* **TELL US ALL ABOUT IT!** Write up a report about it and send it to: 7170newsletter@gmail.com!

Here’s what to include for a good story: **Who** is involved/invited? **What** is the event/activity? **When** did/will it happen? **Where** did/will the event/activity take place? **Why** did/will it happen? **How** did it happen? Other details? Other people to contact?

Remember to include **your name** and **your club** in the subject line! And attach **photos** if you got ‘em! 😊

District Governor: Wendy Deis
Owego Rotary
Log into ClubRunner for more info.

BE THE CHANGE
YOU WANT TO SEE
IN THE WORLD.

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WHAT'S
NEW?

YOU ARE INVITED TO
THE ONEONTA ROTARY CLUB'S

VALENTINE'S DAY SOIRÉE

FEBRUARY 2024 | 14 | WEDNESDAY
6:00 - 8:00 PM

Social Eats Café - Project 607
546 Main Street, Oneonta

**Five course wine or mocktail tasting menu with
amuse bouche and dessert.**

Gluten free and vegetarian options available!

Course 1: Roasted Pear & Goat
Cheese Crostini with Walnuts &
Honey Drizzle

Course 2: Tomato Soup Shooter
with Grilled Cheese Truffle Butter &
Honey Mustard

Course 3: Endive & Frisée With Blood
Oranges and Chicken

Course 4: Grilled Filet Mignon Steak
Bordelaise

Course 5: Strawberry Mousse Crunch

Tickets \$75 Per Person

**Proceeds Support the Work of the
Oneonta Rotary Club**

Oneonta
Rotary
Club





**CLICK BELOW
FOR TICKETS
OR CALL
(607) 431-8025**