District 7170 Newsletter



www.rotarydistrict7170.org | www.rotary.org

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

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

Maternal and Child Health Month

July 2023



Governor's Message

Dear Fellow Rotarians,



It's July 1st, and that means it's time for a new District Governor and a new Rotary theme. Gordon McInally, our Rotary International President, announced his theme this past January: "Create hope into the World" with a focus on mental health. In a world that yearns for compassion, kindness, and positive change, his theme is a rallying call for all Rotarians. By improving education, fostering economic opportunities, caring for our environment, and promoting health and wellness we can continue to make a lasting impact.

When I first heard about the focus on mental health, I wondered where do we begin? Even though I'm a retired nurse, mental health is not my forte. Then it dawned on me.

Let's provide information regarding resources throughout our District so residents can find the help they need. Toward that objective, I've been working with members of the Franklin and Cooperstown clubs to create flyers and

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brochures that list resources individualized by counties in District 7170. During my visit to your club, I'll be providing materials that I'd like club members to help distribute throughout your communities.

Another topic on everyone's mind is the merger. I'd like to use a different "M" word. Let's think of it as the "marriage". During my club visits I'll be updating you on the current status and how the process is moving along. As you know a DG can't be everywhere at once, so I've met with, and asked the Assistant Governors to visit clubs to share the latest information. Since District 7180 is still being created, there may be questions that don't have definitive answers yet. However, we'll do our best to provide you with the information you are looking for.

Finally, the monthly DG Chat will continue for anyone who'd like to take advantage of it. You can use the time to ask questions or look for suggestions or assistance in a particular area. The Zoom call will be held on the **first Tuesday** of each month from 4:30 – 5:30pm beginning in August. I hope to see some of you there.

Your District Governor 2023-2024 Wendy Deis Owego Rotary Club

CNY Rotary News

We Have Big News

CNY Rotary is excited to announce that a candidate has been chosen and confirmed for the 2025-26 Rotary year: Bob Balk of Moravia Rotary. A few things about Bob: He is a consultant in the investing world and a career entrepreneur, a dad to triplet teenagers, and a six-time Paralympian and Paralympic medalist. Bob joined Moravia Rotary in 2012 and is a dedicated supporter of the Rotary International Foundation as a Benefactor and member of the Paul Harris Society; and his club is a 100% Paul Harris club! We'll give Bob some time to acclimate to his new role as our President Nominee and hope to have his full bio posted to www.cnyrotary.org very soon so you can learn more and connect with him.



A special thanks to the nominating committee, composed of leaders from all three districts, for their time and professionalism in the interview and selection process for this future leader. Key committee chairs are also being finalized as these newsletters are being published, so a complete list of future CNY Rotary chairs will be out in our next update. In the meantime, please connect with us on Facebook and Instagram @cnyrotary to follow along with more updates.

Visit www.cnyrotary.org for information or to contact us with your questions and feedback.

- Submitted by CNY Rotary Communications

District News

DEI Summer Survey

Take the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Summer Survey

All members of Districts 7150, 7170 and 7190 are asked to help provide feedback for the future Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) committee. Your honest responses to this survey will take less than five minutes and will help the committee better understand how to support our clubs and members. Survey responses can be done anonymously, although it is required that you provide your club name and district number. We ask that each member only complete the survey one time. Click here or scan QR Code at right to submit your response before August 31st.





Rotary International's DEI Taskforce recently updated their statement, strengthening our commitment to embracing and exemplifying diversity, equity, and inclusion in our organization. You can view Rotary's statement on DEI here or scan the OR Code at left.

If you would like to get involved in the work of this committee, please contact Cheryl Matt at cherylmatt7150@gmail.com.

- Submitted by the future CNY Rotary DEI Committee

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Climate Action Notes

Reduce ... Reduce ... Reduce

So, we start another Rotary year with a new theme, *Create Hope in the World*, and a focus on working for peace and mental wellbeing. This certainly doesn't mean we abandon prior Rotary themes and foci or lose sight of the biggest issue in Rotary's history, sustainability and protecting environment!

Last month I presented a short list of non-Rotarian groups working around our world to mitigate the negative effects of climate change and to reduce the rate of carbon emissions. This month we will focus on working within Rotary.

Many **clubs** in 7170 have committees who are leading local efforts. River and highway clean ups a visible and effective ways to show concern and generate interest. The number of things clubs can do is huge. Sponsor periodic collections of recyclables, educate yourselves and your communities on what they can do, be sure your events are as green as possible. All clubs should have a committee or at least a point of contact to help grow and coordinate efforts.

District 7170 has a Sustainability Committee co-chaired by PDGs Jeff Smith and Evan Kurtz. Go to *rotarydistrict7170.org* and click on the Environmental Sustainability link for details. Here are some of the things that are being worked on:

International Beach Cleanup Day Susquehanna River Cleanup Great Lakes Watershed Cleanup Trex Film Plastic Recycling Challenge Li+ ion Battery Recycling Project

CNY-Rotary is starting to pull together its committee. Chuck Tomaselli of 7150, Deb Eves of 1790, PDGs Jeff and Evan are involved in this effort. A couple of projects are being promoted in all 3 district and will continue as we become CNY-Rotary.

Rotary Climate Restoration Resolution.

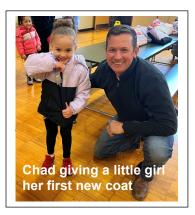
NYS Climate Smart Communities Program

Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group (ESRAG) Is Rotary International's worldwide group. ANY-ONE can join. There are 12 Regional Chapters around our world, and we are in the Eastern North America Region which includes the Caribbean Islands, 230 members from 62. There are experts and support for Global Projects. There are frequent Zoom calls where you learn about projects all around our world. We hear from experts on many topics to broaden our awareness of what the problems are and what we can do to help! There is a small but growing amount of funding available from ESRAG to help little projects get started and connections to be made so please consider joining!

- Evan Kurtz



My Rotary Story: Chad Smith, Oneonta Rotary



I hope this message finds you in great spirits. I wanted to reach out to you to share my deep appreciation for the Oneonta Rotary Club, a remarkable organization to which I proudly belong. As a part of District 7170, Rotary has been an integral part of my life since childhood, instilled in me by my beloved grandfather Ian Smith, who was a dedicated Oneonta Rotarian and former President. Although he passed away in 1979, his commitment to Rotary continues to inspire me.

Following in my family's footsteps, my father Geoff Smith, a lifelong Rotarian and past President, carried the torch of service and dedication. Sadly, he passed away last April in 2022, but his legacy lives on through the profound impact he made as an active member of our club for almost 50 years. Returning to Oneonta in 2000, I joined Rotary in 2001, and in 2009, I had the honor of becoming a Third Generation Presi-

dent. This will be my 22nd year in the club.

Over the years, I have initiated and nurtured a program known as Operation Warm, which has blossomed into a lasting success story. Since its inception in 2009, we have tirelessly raised funds to provide new coats for children across our local school district, making a difference in the lives of over 2000 young ones. Moreover, I take great pride in organizing the Oneonta Rotary Wrestling Tournament, an event that not only supports our Club but also contributes to the OHS Booster Club. Additionally, I actively participate in the Axol Axojh Christmas program, where I accompany families for a heartwarming shopping experience during the holiday season. Each year, I eagerly interview high school students for the RYLA leadership conference, recognizing and nurturing the potential of our future leaders. Furthermore, I have been involved in various Rotary activities, including the celebrated Rotary Pancake Day, and have served on the esteemed Board of Directors. As a Fine Master, I have had the privilege of assisting in fostering a warm and inclusive atmosphere within our Club.

The reason I hold Rotary so dear is because it allows me to give back to my community in a meaningful way. The camaraderie and fellowship we share during our meetings make me feel like I am surrounded by family. The diverse range of programs we offer keeps me engaged and constantly learning about the fascinating initiatives taking place in our local community and beyond. Our invaluable exchange program has further strengthened my appreciation for the global reach of Rotary, enabling me to forge meaningful connections during my travels.

Regrettably, due to a demanding work schedule and family commitments, I haven't been able to attend as many meetings recently. However, I remain dedicated to Rotary's cause and make every effort to participate in all the programs I mentioned above without fail. Even amidst life's busyness, Rotary remains a priority for me.

Thank you for taking the time to read my message. I wanted to share my deep passion and commitment to Rotary, an organization that has touched my life in countless ways. I look forward to reconnecting with the vibrant spirit of Rotary and continuing my journey of service and fellowship.

-Chad Smith



Club News

Bainbridge Rotary

The Bainbridge Rotary Club will be holding its annual Golf Tournament on Thursday, August 17th at the Afton Golf Club (Afton, NY). The Tournament will be a Captain and Crew Format with a shotgun start at 9:00 am. So

please assemble your club's team and join us for a great day of golf. Proceeds will be used to benefit our Student Exchange Program.

- John Gilha

(See flyer and application at the end of this newsletter for more important information about the golf tourney.)

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Binghamton Rotary

The Rotary Club of Binghamton held its Annual Student of the Year 2023 event at its weekly meeting on June 6. Initiated several years ago the program honors seven 5th grade students each from one the seven elementary schools in Binghamton. Parents and a teacher representing their school were invited.

The youngsters were selected by their teachers and administrators for their outstanding cooperation, collaboration, respect, and engagement in their classrooms. Many of them exemplified a positive attitude that set the tone for their classes and in some cases have improved dramatically in academics or behavior and have achieved in spite of obstacles and challenges.

At the meeting each student was recognized by their teacher and given a 2023 Certificate of Excellence as well as a large bag filled with small items including gift certificates, T-shirts, a towel, popcorn, tickets to a Rumble Pony Game and a variety of trinkets. These gifts as well as the cost of the meals were generously underwritten by the members of Binghamton Rotary.

This event is not only special for these young people and their families, but is an opportunity for our members to meet these exceptional youngsters and to showcase and honor them in a special way.

- Lana Rouff

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Cortland Breakfast Rotary

Under the leadership of President-Elect Fon Richards and Karen Dewitt, the Cortland Breakfast Rotary held the 32nd annual McGruff Golf Tournament. Twenty-three teams played, and proceeds went to the Cortland City Police Dept. and the Cortland County Sheriff Dept.



- Conrad Jenke

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Hobart Rotary

Members of the Hobart Rotary are committed to reducing plastics in everyday life.

Rotarian Mary van Valkenburg said Rotary International asked all clubs to help protect the environment. The local club watched the documentary "Story of Plastic" and learned more about the plastic problem, she said. "Rotary is a pretty conservative, but once we started learning about the plastic problem we wanted to help," she said.

One thing they learned is that only 8% of plastics are recycled, however, Delaware County recycles more plastic than that average, she said. Other things they learned were plastics can take more than 500 years to break down, and by 2050 it's expected the ocean will have more plastic than fish.

The Rotary reached out to Julie Rockefeller, proprietor of the Hobart Exchange Country Store at 645 Main Street in Hobart, to see if she would work with the club to help reduce plastics in the community. Rockefeller, who leases the building with Susana Caban, said yes and quickly purchased several items that do not use plastic packaging or plastic.

Visit https://www.thedailystar.com/news/hobart-rotary-aims-to-reduce-plastic-use/article_b5311068-0a29-11ee-8f42-e7588b2ee0b6.html (or scan QR Code at right) for more on this story.



- Jeff Smith

Fifth Annual Hobart Rotary Sausage and Brew Festival

The 2023 Hobart Sausage & Brew Festival sponsored by the Rotary Club of Hobart is back again this year on Saturday, August 26. Nestled between the 26-mile Catskill Scenic Trail in the northwestern Catskills and the lordly Delaware River, the annual event visitors have called an "awesome blast" and a "gift" takes place under the big tent at the Town Park, 101 Maple Ave in Hobart, RAIN OR SHINE.



- Mary van Valkenburg

(Please see the flyer about the festival at the end of this newsletter.)



Oneonta Rotary

Oneonta Rotary was busy during May closing out the month by taking part in the Oneonta Memorial Day Parade (pictured at right: Scott Davis and Sam Koury ride in style) and completing a "Pop-Up Project" by donating 300 personal care items to Laurens Central School and Oneonta Middle School. The club began Pop-Up Projects during the COVID pandemic. Loosely modeled after the idea of the pop-up shop, a temporary store that can be set up quickly and easily and lasts for a limited time, the pop-up projects address needs that aren't part of the annual budget but require an immediate solution. Pop-Up Projects have included back-to-school supply packs and socks for Family Services, Valentine card outreach to seniors, and hats and mittens for



school children. In several cases, Pop-Up Projects have become annual projects. Cindy Struckle and Carlton Cleveland led the personal care Pop-Up Project.

During June, Sarah Patterson called for volunteers for Saturday's Bread, a hot meal program housed at First United Methodist Church in Oneonta. The club responded by sending a robust contingent of enthusiastic Rotarians and family members.



Finally, Oneonta Rotary celebrated Pass the Gavel with a picnic dinner at the Wilber Park Pavilion in Oneonta. The club presented a Rotary vest to outgoing president Carlton Cleveland and thanked him for his outstanding leadership during 2022-2023. In keeping with a tradition started by co-presidents Dan Buttermann and Rosalie Higgins in 2021-2022, incoming co-presidents Sarah and Paul Patterson not only received the gavel but also received their 2023 Halloween Parade costumes as Thing 1 and Thing 2--as they are now known (pictured at left).

Best wishes to all clubs in District 7170 for a fantastic 2023-2024 year!

- Lynne Sessions

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Owego Rotary

Save the date:

Sunday, August 13, 2023, second annual great Owego Rotary Croquet & Bocce Ball Challenge, 12 Noon - 3:30 PM at Canawanna Nature Preserve, Owego, NY. Open to all Rotary Clubs in District 7170. \$25 per person to play. Benefit Owego Rotary Projects, Inc. [a 501(c)(3)]

- Carolyn Wright

(See flyer about Croquet and Bocce Ball at the end of this newsletter.)



Trumansburg Rotary

Trumansburg Students Tap into Town Water

The Tburg Water Trail is a student-based initiative, with the intention to create a more sustainable community. This would be accomplished by working closely with local businesses to host free water access points for the public to use at their leisure and fill sustainable and reusable water containers.

The goal is to reduce plastic consumption by encouraging the use of Trumansburg Village Water with reusable water bottles. This will result in many benefits for our community, including:



TCSD's Global Humanism Club: standing far left is teacher Jane George & standing far right is Rotarian coordinator Pat Jung.

- saving energy by cutting the waste of plastic bottle production and transportation
- eliminating BPA intake from plastic bottles that can be harmful
- reduce household expenditure by removing the cost of purchasing bottled water

This project is carried out through the Trumansburg Global Humanism Club at Charles O. Dickerson High School with the support of our local Rotary organization, The Trumansburg Rotary Club. They came to us in the fall with the challenge to help our environment and our community. The idea for this project was developed by our students, with the support of the rotary club.

Look for our TBurg Water Trail signs around town! We will also have merchandise for sale soon.

The results of Tburg Rotary Duck Race

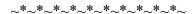
The 3rd annual Trumansburg Rotary rubber duck race on May 20th was a lot of fun and made a lot of people happy to participate—some more than others—shown below:

- ♥ The first duck to cross the finish line was #841, making Jenna Armstrong \$250 richer.
- ♥ Duck #1457 delivered \$150 to Rosalie Meixell.
- ▶ Not pictured is the 3rd place winner, Cal Organ, whose duck #1126 made him \$50 richer.
- ◆ Carol Grove, Director of the Tburg Food Pantry, received a check for \$3,379.00 from Rotary club president, Tom Overbaugh.

Trumansburg Rotary members would like to thank the community for their support and spirit which made the duck race a success. A special thanks to the ShurSave for allowing a couple months of ticket sales in their entry way, Kathy Koken of Creekside Cafe for donating duck shaped cookies and Bo Lipari for playing his ukelele and leading the crowd in a sing-along.



- Frank Zgola





The Last Page . . . for reference

Chat with the DG Track



Chat with the DG Track on the <u>1st Tuesday of each month from 4:30-5:30pm beginning in August</u>. 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



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 <u>not</u> use ClubRunner: Send an email with all the pertinent information to <u>7170Calendar@gmail.com</u>. 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 [**TBA**] to get them posted to the <u>D7170 website</u> and [TBA] for the <u>D7170 Facebook page</u> along with your story!

MONTH	ROTARY MONTHLY THEMES		
July 2023	Maternal and Child Health Month		
August 2023	Membership and Extension Month		
Sept 2023	Basic Education and Literacy 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 – By noon on the 3 rd to last day of the month to allow time for final editing.	Publication!
Saturday, July 15	Saturday, July 29	Tuesday, August 1, 2023
Tuesday, August 15	Tuesday, August 29	Friday, September 1, 2023
Friday, September 15	Thursday, September 28	Sunday, October 1, 2023



Published newsletters can be found on the D7170 website on this path <u>after</u> 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!

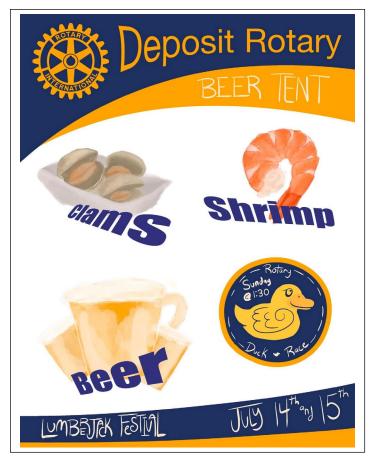
District Governor: Wendy Deis Owego Rotary Log into ClubRunner for more info.



Editor: Christine (Chris) Haase Ithaca Sunrise Rotary P.O. Box 6565 Ithaca NY 14851 | USA 7170newsletter@gmail.com



Supplement: Flyers, Forms, Reports, etc.





SIGN UP NOW ~ <u>Registration</u> is OPEN!

Get Your Motor Running @ Ithaca's 10th annual Rotary Road Rally!



Sunday, August 6, 2023

Check in anytime between 1:00 - 2:00pm; all cars must be on course by 2:00

Starting location: FoodNet / Bailey Insurance, 2428 N. Triphammer Rd, Ithaca, NY \$25 per adult \$10 children 12 - 18 free 11 & younger

Proceeds benefit the Club's James L. Gibbs Ithaca High School scholarship fund

REGISTER ONLINE: https://ithacarotary.com/Stories/rotary-road-rally-2023

Join us for the **10th annual ROTARY ROAD RALLY**! The FUNdraising activity is open to everyone and is a real blast! Never done a road rally before? Now's a great time to grab your friends and family and take a drive – all are invited to join in this fun activity, rain or shine!

Follow clues in your car along 30 +/- miles of country roads around the area, answering questions, taking pictures, and picking up scavenger hunt items along the way. Finish by 4:30 at a mystery location to be eligible for prizes. Hang out at the finish line for a bit if you like – turn in your clue sheet, visit for a while, maybe enjoy the band, a tasting and/or an early dinner (on your own). Winners will be announced at the August 9 Rotary Club meeting and then contacted.

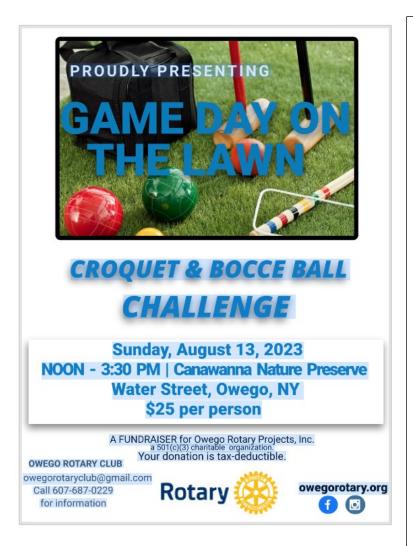
Prizes: All participants who finish the course by 4:30 have an opportunity to win a grant for their favorite local non-profit, made possible by the Ithaca Rotary Club's donor-advised fund at the Tompkins County Community Foundation. Winners may select which Tompkins County not-for-profit they wish to receive their winning prize.

Prizes include:

First Place: \$500 grant to the not-for-profit (NFP) of the winner's choice Second Place: \$250 grant to the NFP of the winner's choice Random Drawing from all finishing cars: \$250 grant to NFP of the winner's choice ...plus many other donated prizes!

Questions? Contact Kelly Buck at 315-406-0791 or kdbskier@gmail.com

ADVANCE REGISTER NOW ONLINE: https://ithacarotary.com/Stories/rotary-road-rally-2023





Leatherstocking Fisher Alana
Jazz Ensemble Cats Wyld

DJ KDC in between sets

Live music, dancing, vendors, assorted activities until 9pm

Aug 26 is Family Farm Day!

Proceeds benefit community service programs.



* Cornell Cooperative Extension *
more information at www.hobartrotary.com/festival



Rotary Golf Tournament Thursday, August 17, 2023

Afton Golf Club, Afton, NY
8:00 am Registration & Continental Breakfast
9:00 am Shotgun Start
\$65/Members
\$75/Non-Members
Captain and Crew Format
Prizes: 1st \$200 2nd \$100 3rd \$60
Closest to Pin, Longest Drive & Skins

Proceeds to Benefit our Student Exchange Program

18 Holes of Golf All-You-Can-Eat-Buffet More information call: (607) 967-8657

Sign up your team below and send check and application to:

Bainbridge Rotary Club PO Box 262 Bainbridge, NY 13733.

Members \$65/Non-members \$75

Team Name or Captain		Phone:		
Team Members:	Email:		Member?	YES
2			Member?	YES
3			Member?	YES
4			Member?	YES