

# District 7170 Newsletter



[www.rotarydistrict7170.org](http://www.rotarydistrict7170.org) | [www.rotary.org](http://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

**Basic Education and Literacy Month**

**September 2023**

## Governor's Message

Dear Fellow Rotarians,



This month's theme in our Rotary world is, Basic Education and Literacy. I found it particularly fitting that I received an email this morning about The Literacy Project from Andrew Shoup of Rotary Ideals Literacy Project Team. This program uses two children's stories to give your club the opportunity to share **The Four-Way Test** and **Service Above Self** with the children in your community. It has been developed in part by the Rotary Club Fairborn, Ohio. To learn more, you can go to the website <https://www.rotaryidealsliteracy.com>

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This past weekend I was at Binghamton University for the UFEST with Matt Adler and Steve Mandeville (Owego club). UFEST celebrates the beginning of the academic year with a large outdoor gathering of student organizations, recreational sports and athletics clubs that students can get involved in.

We had a LOT of interest in starting a Rotaract Club on campus and 70 students signed up to learn more. I was pleasantly surprised at how many stopped by and told us they had been involved in either Interact, RYLA or YE. In fact, one young man had just returned home from his exchange year to Sweden (D7120). We also had several students from India stop by who told us of getting their Polio vaccines through Rotary's efforts. It speaks to the lasting impact Rotary has on young people's lives and it's a nice reminder that we are so much bigger than our individual clubs.

On a more somber note, over the past weeks we've seen and heard heart wrenching stories of the wildfires in Maui and Canada. According to the EPA, multiply studies have found that climate change has already led to an increase in wildfire length, wildfire frequency, and burned areas.

I've had a few inquiries from Rotarians and clubs who are interested in making donations to survivors of these tragedies. PDG Evan forwarded this one on to me. The nine Rotary clubs in Maui and District 5000, which encompasses all of Hawaii, have created a fund to help the island recover and rebuild.

If you or your club are interested in donating to the relief efforts, please use the following link: <https://www.paypal.com/donate/...>



With prior approval by the Rotary Club of Ithaca, Ithaca based not-for-profit *Words Into Deeds, Inc.* applied for and was awarded a \$4,750 grant, by the 7170 District International grant selection committee, whose vote of support was unanimous. They then recommended this project for funding in their request to The Rotary Foundation, which subsequently approved the project. On behalf of Rotary Club of Ithaca and the Rotary Foundation, Gertrude will act as project manager. And the Rotary Club of Munuki is a supporting partner of the school.

Opened in 2013, the Abukloi Secondary school serves the needs of students in and around the small city of Rumbek, located in the central region of South Sudan. It enrolls over 660 students, of whom 175 are young women. Their curriculum emphasizes lessons in peaceful solutions to conflicts, both traditional and vocational skills, and community service.



Youth produced reusable feminine hygiene kits and liquid soap distributed to vulnerable girls at Crested Crane School.

Due to the high levels of poverty in South Sudan, most of the students' families struggle to maintain the basic necessities of food and housing, which leaves many of the girls unable to afford hygienic supplies needed during their menstrual periods. As a result, on average the female population in the Abukloi School collectively *misses over 1000 school days each month*. This compromises their access to education and, in the minds of many, perpetuates the stigma of women being the "weaker" sex. Traditionally, topics of women's reproductive physiology are never discussed in schools.

A successful approach to address the problem of lack of basic hygiene supplies and reproductive health education has been to provide reusable Feminine Hygiene

Kits. Using the model of Days for Girls International for example, community organizations are making the kits in several East Africa countries. These countries and districts have many different cultural and societal traditions, and addressing this gender-affecting situation requires local awareness. Successful programs must include an educational component as well as have plans for kit production and distribution.

The grant will support intense training in reusable feminine hygiene kit-making production. Instruction is open to both girls and boys, and their training as tailors is augmented by lessons in gender equity, reproductive health, and business planning.

The initial goal is to provide 600 kits by June 2024, which translates into thousands of days the Abukloi and surrounding village schoolgirls will be able to attend classes. Experience has shown that these cost saving, (unit price of one kit is \$4.00) and environmentally friendly kits will last for the length of a school year. Kits will be distributed to the most vulnerable girls first. Thereafter, continued production with support from the Ministry of Education in Rumbek, the project will become viable economic enterprise.

*Words Into Deeds* welcomes the opportunity to present this project to Rotary clubs and youth programs.

[www.wordsintodeeds.org](http://www.wordsintodeeds.org)

- Gertrude Noden

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## Global Grant Winners

### Nimmonsburg Hillcrest and Nairobi Thika Road Rotary Clubs Win Global Grant Award from the Rotary Foundation!

"Congratulations! Your Global Grant Application for funding to provide a solar-powered pumping and piping system for borehole water supply, irrigation equipment, and training to A.I.C. Child Care Centre for disabled children and the surrounding community in Kajiado County, Kenya, submitted by the Rotary Club of Nairobi Thika Road Rotary Club and the Rotary Club of Nimmonsburg Hillcrest has been **approved** by the Rotary Foundation. The award is in the amount of US\$ 51,462.00."

The Main Project Objectives are:

- Provision of a permanent source of water that will ensure access to clean and quality water which is safe for human consumption.
- Prevent diseases within the Centre, nearby Schools, the hospital and within the community by the provision of a permanent source of clean and quality water.
- To improve sanitation and hygiene practices.

The Nimmonsburg Hillcrest Rotary Club thanks District 7170 and its personnel for their support and leadership, and to the districts, clubs, individuals and others from all over the world for their financial support.

- Russ Sanaeko

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## The Rotary Foundation

Of nearly 9.6 million people living in Honduras, 1.5 million lack access to clean, accessible water resources – 1.2 million are from rural areas. Rural families lacking access to safe water consume water from streams or open wells – the same places where people bathe and wash clothes, and animals defecate – leading to diseases. Drought has lowered crop production and subsistence farmers have struggled to feed their families.

In the spirit of improving the lives of the most vulnerable in the world our district has joined 57 Rotary clubs in providing clean water to over 16,600 people in the western region of Honduras. In addition, this project will give the residents access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene.

New and rehabilitated systems will include protection of the water source, pipelines to the community water tank, and distribution networks with household connections. This will include a pilot project to supply micro water meters in a subset of communities as funding permits, to promote the rationed use of water and fair fees for water services. Additionally, new water storage tanks will be installed in schools where existing infrastructure is not functionally properly. The new water delivery systems will do a great deal of protect woman and girls from their daily and often dangerous treks to acquire water. When the children are free from the work of fetching water, they benefit from increased time spent in their classrooms.

Your contribution to The Rotary Foundation enables this to happen. Thank you.

- Lana Rouff

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## Free Binders!

PDG Lana Rouff has over two dozen binders in all sizes. If anyone or any organization needs them, please contact Lana at [Rouff@gmail.com](mailto:Rouff@gmail.com) for specifics. Free of charge.

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## Empire Multi-District PETS

[Lizzy Martin is] going to be handling a lot of the communications for our Empire Multi-District President-Elect Training Seminar (MD PETS) that's happening next March [15-17, 2024. Please see the half-page ad at the end of this newsletter or visit <https://www.rotaryempiremdpets.org/> for more information.]

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## Climate Action Notes

### Reduce ... Reduce ... Reduce

Every month, for those who notice, the subtitle of this column is the same. **“Reduce...Reduce...Reduce”**. This is not a misstating of the traditional **“Reduce, Recycle, Reuse”** and is not meant to replace it BUT to emphasize that **reducing our consumerism** has the most impact. By **Reducing** there is less to be **Recycled**, less to be **Reused**, though those are both still important.

**Reducing** results in less resources being used, less energy consumed, less packaging to dispose of, AND *less money spent!* In our western society, we are conditioned from birth to ‘want more’ while also being convinced that all the stuff we buy is ‘needed.’ Seasonal clothes, huge vehicles, multiple vehicles, electronics up the ying-yang, cheap plastic toys that our kids or grandkids play with for a week and then abandon, disposable items (multi blade razors, paper & plastic plates, plastic ware, plastic cups). It is insane!

Here are three TED Talk titles, each with a quote that caught my ear and the link. Hopefully these will inspire you to look at your own buying habits and change your life a bit to help save our world!

**“A Year Without Buying”** by Lucia Gonzalez Schuett (TEDxHECParis 2019)

“...getting over the want and becoming honest about the need...”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRp23admuVE>



**“My No Spend Year”** by Michelle McGagh (TEDxManchester 2015)

“...do I need this or do I just want it?”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vRudjy0cub0>

**“Stop Buying Stuff”** by Niko Stoifberg (TEDxBibliothekZug 2021)

“...They are trying to sell me something I don't really need...”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QesWRLsWJA4>



Briefly back to last month's clothing discussion... While this documentary might be from 2015 it is still absolutely worth watching. **“The True Cost”** by Andrew Morgan is a film about the clothes we wear, the people who make them, and the impact the industry has on our world, the environment, the society, and the workers. It is available on several streaming channels free or for a couple of dollars. It is devastating in showing the huge negative social and environmental impacts the ‘fast fashion’ industry is having on our society **BUT the upside is any and all of us can help by just NOT BUYING things we don't need.**

- Evan Kurtz

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**My Rotary Story: Christine Haase, Ithaca Sunrise Rotary**



Around the mid-1990s, my husband Mark came home from work and said that he’d been invited to join a local Rotary Club and asked me if I would be okay with that. I generally knew about Rotary, that it was some kind of club, and a town or city was busy when a Rotary conference was in town. He worked long hours, and this was his opportunity to meet other people in the community and make friends outside of work. I did not have any objections, so Mark joined the Rotary Club of Ithaca Sunrise.

I would occasionally attend a meeting as his guest and participate in club activities and events. I got to know half the club members this way. Then came the D7170 conference in Niagara Falls, NY. We attended all the plenary sessions. I met folks across the district and learned a lot about Rotary. I had no idea that it was such a large humanitarian service club—domestic and international! That is when the seeds of my joining were planted.

I remember thinking that I wanted to be part of that. Our kids were still in elementary school at the time with an approximate 8:10am bus. I was the one who got them ready for school and made sure they got on the bus before I went to work. The 7:30-8:30 club meeting time just wouldn’t work. Fast forward to when the kids started middle school with a bus that arrived about an hour earlier. Now I could attend meetings after I saw them get on the bus!

It didn’t take long to get to know the rest of the membership since it was a relatively small club. I remember thinking after my official induction that I was in a safe place, with family. I was part of a group whose membership extended beyond the perimeter of our club and that I would be welcomed anywhere. That’s a great feeling.

Through the past 18 years, I’ve been club treasurer, secretary, and president, and participated in district events. I have picked up some skills that served me well at work, and I’ve used some of my professional skills in my various roles as a Rotarian. What I love most about Rotary is the networking and the person connections I have made with other people, most of whom I consider friends. When you have Rotary in common with someone else, differences become inconsequential. The family of Rotary—it all starts with your local club.

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**Club News**

**Edmeston Rotary**

The Edmeston Rotary Club inducted two new members on July 19, 2023. They are Jon LeChevet and his wife Dawn Le Chevet, both of whom were sponsored by club president Martin Winsor. Madeleine Beirne, also sponsored by Marty, was inducted on August 16<sup>th</sup>. We hope to induct two more by the end of the month.

- Martin Winsor

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**Ithaca Rotary**

**Ithaca Rotary Club Launches 2023 Rotary Harvest**

Ithaca Rotary Club members gathered at the Ithaca Farmers Market on three Saturdays, beginning Aug. 19, to collect produce donated by market vendors, purchase staples at a nearby grocery store and then deliver the food to ten local families. This year marks the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Rotary Harvest, which has served 123 families and 353 children

since it began in 2007. Crews of Rotary members gathered donations at the market at 8:30 a.m. on Aug. 19, Aug. 26, and Sept. 2.

The Rotary Harvest provides food to families who participate in the Ithaca City School District's Pre-K meal program, which is not available at the end of the summer. The project was founded by Heidi Goldstein, past president of the Ithaca Rotary Club who, along with her husband Jack, was an organic vegetable farmer and sold their produce at the Ithaca Farmers Market. "I wanted to do a project that was ongoing and that would benefit children," she said. "It's a joy just being able to help people who want to do well, but don't have access to everything we have."

The program this year is funded by a \$1,200 grant from the Ithaca Rotary Club, which pays for the grocery staples, including rice, pasta, chicken and more. In addition to the donations of food, the club also supplies the families with books from the Family Reading Partnership, coloring books, crayons, and unique pillowcases made by Rotarian Sherry Haelele.

- Sherrie Negrea

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## Milford Rotary

Milford Rotary would like to welcome Line, from Denmark, as our exchange student for this coming year.

Our biggest project is under way this month and we are in our 47<sup>th</sup> year doing so. We sell a Community Calendar to our residents that include birthdays, anniversaries and In Memorandum of individuals. Businesses support his project and all of them have a business card listing on the calendar.



- Vera Sosnowski

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## Norwich Rotary

The Norwich Rotary Club has been busy so far this year.

- In July, it welcomed the transfer of Rotarian Catrina Ruling to their club.
- New officers were elected for the 2023-2024 year: President Ann Smith, President Elect Catrina Ruling, Secretary JoAnn Smith, and Treasurer Ray Gregory.
- Eva B., our exchange student from Norwich, left for Germany.
- August 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> were their first fundraiser of the year.
- Selling breakfast at the Chenango Blues Fest held at the Chenango County Fair in Norwich.
- August 20<sup>th</sup>: we welcomed a new exchange student from Japan to Norwich; her name is Sumire S.
- They are also working on their Monday night football books. If you would like a book, see a Norwich Rotarian or email Chris Smith at [chris.smith49equal@gmail.com](mailto:chris.smith49equal@gmail.com) or call him at 607-316-0352.

~Catrina Ruling

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## Oneonta Rotary

### Oneonta Rotary's Operation Warm Fundraiser Underway

With September on our doorstep, colder temperatures won't be far behind. Oneonta Rotary is gearing up for the Operation Warm Fundraiser Raffle. Operation Warm provides new winter coats (and hats and mittens) for children in need at a variety of area schools. This year, Oneonta Rotary is raffling off \$300 worth of prizes--\$200 of restaurant gift certificates and \$100 of scratch-off tickets. Raffle tickets are \$5/1 and \$10/3. Tickets can be purchased at the Grand and Glorious Fall Fair on Sunday, Sept. 10th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Oneonta's Neahwa Park. (If you like "thrifting", please know that this event is also a huge garage sale.) Tickets are also available by contacting Dave Rowley at [drowley61@gmail.com](mailto:drowley61@gmail.com). Reinhardt Home Heating will match each dollar raised up to \$3,500.

In other fundraising news, Oneonta Rotary's Wine Tasting Fundraiser, hosted by Social Eats Café - Project 60 on August 18th, was a wonderful success! The club raised \$1,400. The event featured five courses of wine paired with amuse bouche. Rotarian and sommelier for the night, Al Rubin, introduced each course and Michelle Iannelli-Rubin and staff produced delicious one (or two) bite dishes. (They were so good, we all wished for three or four!) We were also pleased to share the company of District Governor Wendy Deis and husband, Tim. Thank you so much for supporting our event. Thanks also go out to Fundraising Chair Meghan Sheehy and the planning committee. Look for the event to return right before Valentine's Day 2024.



**SAVE THE DATE: October 15, Oneonta Rotary's Road Rally Scavenger Hunt, Neahwa Park, Oneonta.**

- Lynne Sessions

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The Last Page . . . for reference

Chat with the DG Track



Chat with the DG Track on the **1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month from 4:30-5:30pm beginning in August—this month, September 5<sup>th</sup>**. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:wendygirl201@gmail.com) to get them posted to the [D7170 website](#) and the [D7170 Facebook page](#) along with your story!

MONTH	ROTARY MONTHLY THEMES
Sept 2023	Basic Education and Literacy Month
Oct 2023	Community Economic and Development Month
Nov 2023	Rotary Foundation Month

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

Submission and publication schedule for this newsletter

Soft Deadline – Send content to <a href="mailto:7170newsletter@gmail.com">7170newsletter@gmail.com</a> by the 15 <sup>th</sup> of the month if possible.	Hard deadline – <b>By noon</b> on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> to last day of the month to allow time for final editing.	Publication!
Friday, September 15	Thursday, September 28	Sunday, October 1, 2023
Sunday, October 15	Sunday, October 29	Wednesday, November 1, 2023
Wednesday, November 15	Tuesday, November 28	Friday, December 1, 2023



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](mailto: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! 😊

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Owego Rotary  
Log into ClubRunner for more info.

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Supplement: Flyers, Forms, Reports, etc.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH

HARDWOOD HILLS GOLF COURSE, ROUTE 8 MASONVILLE, NY

19th ANNUAL PDG

WR #1 Sm my #1 Tucker

IRONMAN

GOLF TOURNAMENT

\$260.00 PER TEAM OR \$65.00 EACH

INCLUDES GOLF, CART, AND CHICKEN BBQ

PRIZES

1ST \$200.00

2ND \$100.00

3RD \$80.00

CONTESTS

Closest to the Pin  
(Mens and Ladies)

Longest Drive  
(Mens and Ladies)

RAFFLES

\$200 CASH

+ more prizes!

Get your tickets  
from Deposit Rotarians  
Today!

Mail registration  
without payment to:

Mark Tucker

P.O. Box 80

Deposit, NY 13754

If you have questions:

(607) 222-9373

marktucker@ezred.com

TEAM FORM

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_

Captain Name \_\_\_\_\_

Crew member 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Crew Member 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Crew Member 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Day of Tournament: Check in 8:00 am until Shotgun Start 9:00 am

Sponsored by Deposit Rotary Club

All proceeds to benefit Rotary Charities



# **Brooks BBQ**

**(DRIVE-THRU)**

Date: Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Time: 10:30 AM Until 2 PM (Or Sold Out)

Location: 1326 Upper Front Street Binghamton, NY 13901  
(by Lowe's)

Chicken Dinner:

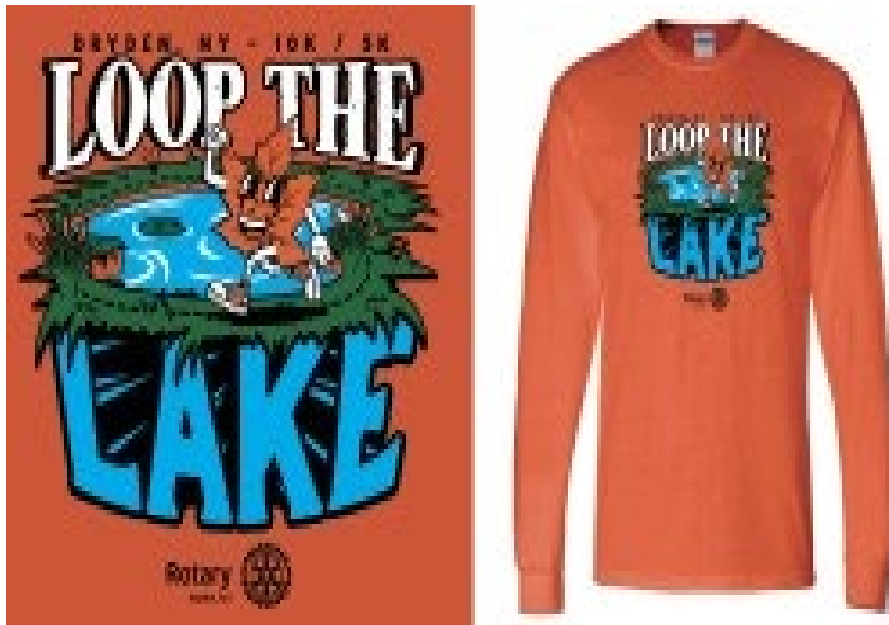
\$15.00 includes a half chicken, baked potato, macaroni salad,  
dinner roll & butter, hinged container and plasticware kit



Sponsored by the Binghamton Breakfast Rotary Club

Proceeds are used to fund our local charitable donations and  
our Rotary Youth Exchange program

Dryden Rotary Run/Walk  
Saturday September 30, 2023  
Dryden New York



Please join us and sign up at the [www.willowrunning.com](http://www.willowrunning.com)

Race benefits our Youth Exchange Program

All race participants will receive a custom fall long sleeve shirt, finisher medal and an invite to the post race party at Dryden Hotel that will include free food for our runners, beer specials and music.



# SAVE THE DATES: March 15-17, 2024

NEW LOCATION: DOUBLETREE CARRIER CIRCLE, SYRACUSE



Multi-District PETS

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

Find us on 

[www.rotaryempiremdpets.org](http://www.rotaryempiremdpets.org)

