

District 7170 Newsletter



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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

Rotary Foundation Month

November 2023

Governor's Message

Dear Fellow Rotarians,



Today I was reminded of TRF's mission statement: "The Rotary Foundation helps Rotary members to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace by improving health, providing quality education, improving the environment, and alleviating poverty." When I stopped to think about it, we have our work cut out for us.

I hope we never forget the importance of generosity, whether it's in the form of our time, talent, or treasure. And that acts of kindness, no matter how small, can create a ripple effect of positive change. It's a wonderful reminder that every contribution counts and collectively, they can have significant impact to "Create Hope in the World".

On behalf of the district leadership team, I want to thank you. Whether you are a long-time Rotarian or have gotten involved recently and regardless of how many hours you are able to give, it's important to remind you that you do make a difference!

As Thanksgiving approaches, I'd like to share this quote by Annette Bridges; "Gratitude helps us to see what is there, instead of what isn't".

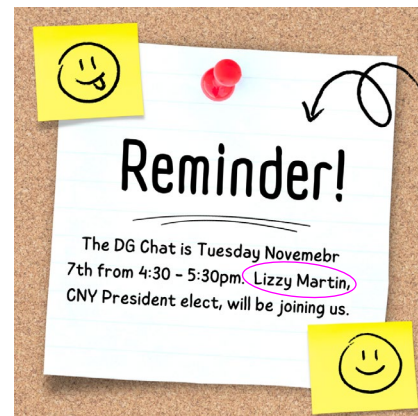
Gratefully yours,

Wendy

Your District Governor 2023-2024
Wendy Deis
Owego Rotary Club

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CNY Rotary News

Rotary has been instrumental in my life - the scholarship allowed me to pursue my studies in economics and public policy at the London School of Economics. Since then I've contributed to policy research on anti-corruption at the OECD, applied my social sciences background in the technology sphere by helping to design approaches to detect misinformation online, and led research and design of collective intelligence solutions for crisis situations.

Today I work at the intersection of art and technology by crafting how we tell stories, while pursuing projects on the side - from creating short films to designing board games in order to explore different mediums for storytelling.

To Rotary, I express my deepest gratitude for being an inspiration when it comes to a life of service and also for the community of some of the kindest people and mentors in my life...and the many people I've met in New York and in the various Rotary Clubs in the UK.

It would be great to have her present again at a District event!

And in another message, she gave her assessment of Rotary: What I love about Rotary is the values, and being part of the scholarship programme and visiting the various clubs [where] you get to see how each club instills those values, and then you think about how you can do that too as you interact with the world.

~*~

Climate Action Notes

Reduce ... Reduce ... Reduce

Believe it or not I had hoped my monthly 'Climate Action Notes' would generate some response from the Rotarians in 7170. Positive or negative would be better than silence...

I wouldn't say I am hurt or disappointed, just curious... Is no one reading them? Is everyone who does read them nodding in silent agreement? Has anyone followed a link?

This is the 10th (I missed the May) in a series I plan to continue thru June 2024 so let me know what you think. Maybe suggest a topic or request more information on an earlier topic. In trying to keep them brief I do leave out much detail.

Topics to date:

- An introduction and the top 4 significant actions you can take to reduce your carbon foot print
- Water – it's value, costs, and how to reduce use.
- Environmental, Social, & Governance (ESG) – putting your money where it helps
- Beef & Dairy – improve your health, spend less, and help reduce your carbon footprint
- Public groups to engage with
- Rotary groups to engage with
- Clothing – how simple changes in our day to day clothing habits can help
- Reducing your buying – one of the most overlooked and impactful things you can do...
- March to End Fossil Fuels – walking the walk, literally.

Maybe this is a bit of a cop-out, not writing in about a particular topic this month but I really could use some help here. Drop me a line.

PDG Evan Kurtzcopout

~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*~*

Club News

Bainbridge Rotary

The Bainbridge Rotary Club, through a District Community Grant, partnered with the Jericho Garden Club of Bainbridge, B-G Central School, Chenango County Cooperative Extension, and the Bainbridge Lions Club to build a beautiful garden shed at the Community Gardens. In a second Community Grant the Bainbridge Rotary Club partnered with the same organizations to build additional raised beds on the property, as well as on the elementary school grounds.



This was an intergenerational project, which included children, parents and grandparents who helped with building the sheds, planting the beds, and harvesting the produce for use in their own homes. Children were taught how to preserve their harvest with classes in canning and freezing and each went home with their finished products. The projects have been sustained as old beds have been rebuilt, new beds have been built, students have planted their beds each year and harvested their produce for use in the school cafeteria.

This grant has been a lifelong learning experience for our B-G students and their families.

- June White

~*~

Cortland Rotary Clubs

Cortland Breakfast Rotary and Cortland Noon Rotary join forces.

On September 30 both Cortland Rotary Clubs, plus the Interact Club, hauled two loads of debris from the Tioughnioga River as part of the River Clean Up.



On the afternoon of September 30 both Rotary Clubs held a Chicken Barbecue at Bobs Barbecue in Homer. The Clubs sold 135 chicken halves and 118 chicken dinners.

On October 7 both Rotary Clubs in Cortland sponsored the Children's Tent at the Cortland Pumpkinfest, and the Interact Club worked inside the tent. *(See sign at left.)*

- Conrad Janke

~*~

Delhi Rotary

The Delhi Rotary Club is continuing our mission to promote literacy in our rural community. For the fourth year in a row, we ran our Summer Reading Challenge, delivering free books to more than 100 young readers all over the county.

Our program continues to expand as we work with libraries to reach kids outside of Delhi. The Franklin Rotary Club partnered with us again this year, offering ice cream rewards to youth from Franklin who participated in the reading challenge.

This Halloween, we continued our new tradition of setting up in front of a member's house in Delhi village. Besides shooting candy into down our now-famous Slimer Slide, we offer a table of free spooky books for kids to take home. Most kids get more excited about the books than the candy!

Between these activities, we also participated in our annual fall highway cleanup. We'll be back out with our bags and grabbers in the spring.

- Tracey Hancock

~*~

Ithaca Rotary

Please see a press release at the end of this newsletter about an Ithaca nonprofit receiving a Rotary Foundation Grant for a gender equity project in South Sudan.

~*~

Ithaca/Ithaca Sunrise Rotary

On Saturday, October 28, braving overcast skies and a rainy weather forecast, 20 Rotarians from the Ithaca noon and Sunrise clubs along a community volunteer from Zero Waste Ithaca set out to clean the two-mile stretch of Rt.13 from the Stewart Park to the Tripphammer Road interchanges. This Rotary Adopt a Highway program was started by Rotarian Noel Desch in 2005 and has been conducted twice annually since that time. On Noel's passing a few years ago, the NYS Department of Transportation dedicated this section of highway in his honor.

Noel's community involvement and dedication to this project continues to be an inspiration for those who volunteer for this activity. Even though rain cut short the project this Fall, 20 bags of trash and debris were collected from the highway. This is a very satisfying project because it keeps the highway, that is a gateway through the Ithaca area, looking great and provides an uplifting and engaging experience for Rotarians. As Mary-Lynn Cummings, project Co-Chair mentioned, "it's a very satisfying way to spend a couple of hours. You feel like you accomplished something. You only have to look behind you and see the number of bags that we pick up."

- Bob Gravani

~*~



New Berlin Rotary

In partnership with the Village of New Berlin and Preferred Mutual Insurance, the New Berlin Rotary stained the Rotary Park Pavilion on September 13, 2023, from 1-4 p.m. The building was in desperate need of attention, and it was a beautiful day to freshen up the location that is enjoyed by many community members.



The UVCS Rotary Interact Club members are the caretakers for the St. Paulies Clothing Shed. On a weekly basis, Interact members organize, clean, and bag items donated to the shed. UVCS Rotary Interact members are proud to be a part of this vital collaboration.

- Stephanie Cooper (via Wendy Deis)

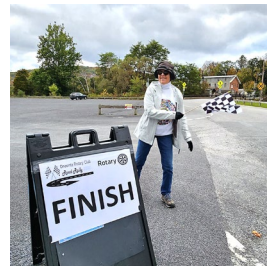
(Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for more information)

~*~

Oneonta Rotary

It's All About the Road

October found Oneonta Rotarians hitting the highways and the byways with both a fundraiser and a service project. On October 15, the checkered flag flew as twenty-three teams completed the Oneonta Rotary Road Rally Scavenger Hunt. Winners were determined based on number of clues answered correctly, time and miles driven. First place winners, "Margerine and the Fellas," won a \$500 mini grant to be donated in their honor to Friends of Recovery. In total, \$1,350 in mini grants will be donated in honor of the seven winning teams. In addition, due to the generosity of local businesses, each of the winning teams received prize bundles that included automotive related products and services, tickets to area attractions and/or gift cards to area businesses. The fundraiser netted over \$1,400 to support the work of the Oneonta Rotary Club. The next Road Rally is tentatively scheduled for October 20, 2024.



Sarah Patterson readies the checkered flag for the finishers of the Oneonta Road Rally fundraiser.

The following Saturday, October 21st, club members led by Coordinator Scott Davis, gathered for the twice yearly Adopt-A-Highway roadside clean up on County Hwy 48. After clearing the highway of everything from cigarette butts to cans to household goods, the team's efforts were rewarded with coffee, hot cocoa, cookies and cider donuts, courtesy of Kathy Davis. Finally, this month we were pleased to welcome to our weekly meetings both DG Wendy Deis and the incoming president for our new CNY district, Lizzie Martin. And yes, the road was involved as both Wendy and Lizzie drove quite far to get to Oneonta!



Trash was no match for this determined group of Oneonta Rotarians!

~*~

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 beginning in August—this month, November 7th.** 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
Nov 2023	Rotary Foundation Month
Dec 2023	Disease Prevention and Treatment Month
Jan 2024	Vocational Service 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!
Wednesday, November 15	Tuesday, November 28	Friday, December 1, 2023
Friday, December 15	Friday, December 29	Monday, January 1, 2024
Monday, January 15	Monday, January 29	Thursday, February 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.

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

Supplement: Flyers, Forms, Reports, etc.

Drop-Off Shed

Location:

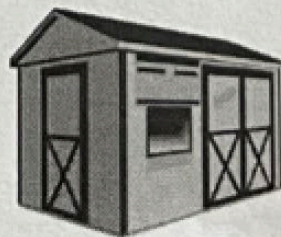
**Unadilla Velley Central School
4238 NY-8
New Berlin, NY 13411**

Why Donate?

**Reduce waste in landfills
Clothing used worldwide
Tax deductible**

Only Items Accepted:

**All clothing, shoes, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, towels,
sheets, pillowcases, curtains and stuffed toys.
(Your donations will be redistributed as whole garments)**





October 12, 2023

NEWS CONTACT: Sherrie Negrea sherrie@versatilewriting.com

Ithaca Nonprofit Receives Rotary Grant for Gender Equity Project in South Sudan

At the Abukloi High School, located in the city of Rumbek, South Sudan, 175 girls collectively miss over 1,000 days of school each month because their families cannot afford to buy them menstrual hygiene supplies.

Thanks to a \$4,750 grant from The Rotary Foundation, this is about to change.

Through the efforts of Gertrude Noden, a member of the Rotary Club of Ithaca and founder of a not-for-profit called [Words Into Deeds](#), the Abukloi students have received sewing machines, materials, and training with the goal of producing 600 reusable feminine hygiene kits a year. The grant also supports lessons in gender equity, reproductive health and business planning.

"To level the playing field at this school, we need to provide feminine reusable kits that are environmentally friendly and to teach the girls how to use them so they can attend classes every day of the month," Noden said.

Each kit costs \$4 to produce and will last for the length of the school year. Once the needs of Abukloi students are met, kits will be made available to schools in surrounding villages and sold at the local market.

Funding for this grant comes from The Rotary Foundation, Rotary's charitable arm, which approved the project based on the recommendation of Rotary District 7170, which includes Tompkins and six other counties in Central New York.

The grant builds upon the success of a previous Ithaca Rotary award that Noden used to establish a sewing salon in Gulu, Northern Uganda. Launched in 2022, this facility provides young mothers with 6-months of training in all aspects of textile design and production accompanied with psychosocial counselling and lessons in business management.

To date, 30 young women have been trained, and have formed a licensed company in Gulu that is producing clothing, backpacks, dolls and sandals in addition to feminine hygiene kits.

The 2022 award of \$12,000 from the International Service Committee of the Rotary Club of Ithaca was not only instrumental in launching the program but also in obtaining additional funds from private donors to Words Into Deeds that have supported its expansion.

"Gertrude has been innovative in leveraging support to build entrepreneurial and educational initiatives that benefit women, girls, their families and communities," said Nancy Potter, cochair of the Ithaca Rotary's International Service Committee.

Rotary's motto is "Service Above Self" and membership in the Ithaca Rotary Club is open to all community members who share in this belief. Ithaca Rotary gathers every Wednesday at 12 p.m. for luncheon meetings at Coltivare, 235 South Cayuga St. in Ithaca. The public is invited to attend the weekly meetings and can learn more about Ithaca Rotary at <https://ithacarotary.com/>.

###

Photo at left: Gertrude Noden stands with a group of child orphans in Gulu City, Uganda, where her nonprofit works on projects that promote gender equity through training and the production of feminine hygiene kits for girls.

For more information, please contact Sherrie Negrea, communications chair of the Rotary Club of Ithaca, at sherrie@versatilewriting.com or at 607-257-9116.



SAVE THE DATES



Pre-PETS Virtual Sessions will be held on
zoom at 7pm on these four dates:

Monday, Feb 5

Tues, Feb 13

Wed, Feb 21

Thurs, Feb 29

IN PERSON TRAINING WEEKEND

March 15-17, 2024

NEW LOCATION:
DOUBLETREE CARRIER CIRCLE, SYRACUSE

Find us on
Empire Multi-District PETS



www.rotaryempiremdpets.org

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100080243694482>

