



# The See-Way



Journal of the Rotary Club of Erie, Pennsylvania

Club 5136, Organized in 1913

District 7280

August 11, 2021

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## Rotary at the SeaWolves Joined by DG Rick Tote

We have combined two great Rotary annual traditions for double the fun this summer! Our District Governor, Rick Tote, will join us at the UPMC SeaWolves ballpark for an evening picnic and baseball game night!



Erie Rotary members' attendance fee is covered and tickets for guests are \$30 each and include a 90 minute buffet (from 6:30 to 8pm). The picnic includes Smith's hot dogs, hamburgers, BBQ pulled pork, potato salad, mac & cheese, garden salad, Lay's potato chips, cookies, and Pepsi fountain drinks. Gates open at 6pm and the picnic begins at 6:30pm. **To register, email Program Chair Allison Keenan [afk@erieaudiology.com](mailto:afk@erieaudiology.com)**

As our District Governor, Rick Tote, is using this opportunity as his annual visit, he will give us a few remarks about the upcoming year. Although the picnic food will be available until 8pm, the game starts at 7, so it would be nice if as many of us as possible could be there closer to 6:30 to welcome and hear the District Governor.

### About 2021-2022 #7280 District Governor Rick Tote



Rick was born and raised in Punxsutawney, PA surrounded by a large extended family and graduated from high school there in 1974. He attended Penn State University and graduated with a degree in Engineering Technology with a Major in Land Surveying.

After college, Rick began working at General Engineering Associates in Clarion, PA, which was acquired by The EADS Group (a multi-disciplined engineering firm) in 1980. With EADS he became a Registered Professional Land Surveyor in Pennsylvania and in Ohio, as well as a major shareholder and an Associate of the Company. The CEO of EADS first introduced Rick to Rotary, and he joined the Clarion Rotary Club in 2001.

Rick has served the Clarion Rotary Club as President, RI Foundation Chair, Auction Fund Raiser Chair, and continues to serve on various committees and the Board of Directors. Rick has also represented our District in the

### Club Leaders

**Diane E. Chido**  
President

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**Maureen Rizzo**  
President-Elect

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**Allison Faye Keenan**  
Vice President  
Club Programs Chair

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**Blane K. Dessy**  
Secretary

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**David Mahoney**  
Treasurer

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**Tom Pysz**  
Past President

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**Lisa M. Graff**  
Assistant Governor

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Jackson Christie Golf Exchange both in Scotland, and as a host here in District 7280.

Rick has been active in other organizations over the years including Little League baseball, Knights of Columbus, Clarion Limestone Booster Club, and Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors. He is immediate past president of the Pinecrest Country Club, a Big Brother in the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program, Serves on the WRC Board. He was also recognized as the "Citizen of the Year" by the Clarion County Chamber of Commerce in 2010 for his volunteer work including the construction coordination of a Multi Sports Complex at Clarion Limestone High School.



## August 4th Recap



In May 2019, two long-standing organizations, Toastmasters International and Rotary International, formed a unique strategic alliance, drawing from the strength of their many similarities and complementary differences.

The opportunity for Toastmasters members is primarily to establish fellowship and make new connections, contribute more to communities, and potentially elevate clubs. Rotary members have the opportunity to develop new skills and may ask to visit Toastmasters clubs or receive evaluations.

Toastmasters also developed eight educational courses for Rotarians and Rotaractors, available on Rotary International's Learning Center, which can be accessed by their members in nine languages.

Michael  Mike  Bloeser (pronounced BLAZER), is a member of the Bayview Toastmasters Club and earned the designation of Distinguished Toastmaster in 2006. He helped form the Bayview Toastmasters Club over 30 years ago. Mike served as an Area Governor, Division Governor, Lt. Governor of Marketing, Lt. Governor of Education and Training and District Governor in Toastmasters. He has also served in all Club Officer roles, including Club President this past year.

Mike was the perfect ambassador to explain to Rotarians the new Rotary-Toastmaster Alliance. For more information on the Alliance, see [here](#).

## Member Spotlight

Zac Wild has been a member of our club since 2017 and has quickly become a valued young leader. He served as Sergeant-At-Arms under President Lisa

### Years of Service

Melanie R. Titzel  
08-23-2000  
21 Years

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Thomas A. Tupitza  
08-27-2003  
18 Years

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Robert V. Smith  
08-18-2004  
17 Years

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Linda Breakiron  
08-25-2010  
11 Years

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Janel M. Bonsell  
08-15-2012  
9 Years

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Michael J Malthaner  
08-19-2015  
6 Years

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Robin Schepner  
08-10-2016  
5 Years

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David Bertges  
08-10-2016  
5 Years

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Graff in 2018-19 and is a member of our Board of Directors, our Club Fundraising Chair, and now coordinates our semi-weekly Member Spotlight meeting segment.

In the past, Rotary encouraged Classification Talks, but since we have moved away from that system, we have afforded little opportunity to get to know more about our members. *Member Spotlights* allow every club member the chance to share a little about themselves, their business, and their Rotary experience to the club.

Zac moved to Erie to play football for Mercyhurst University and he and his wife, Jessica, decided to call Erie home. Zac is a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones and he and Jessica have three children. Thanks for all you do for Rotary, Zac! Let Zac know that you are willing to do a *Spotlight*. [zac.wild@edwardjones.com](mailto:zac.wild@edwardjones.com)



## Support the Rotary Club of Erie on Erie Gives Day



**There's Still Time!!!! Support the Rotary Club of Erie Scholarship Foundation on Erie Gives Day**

As a 501(c)3 separate from the Club itself, the Erie Rotary Scholarship Foundation is eligible to receive matching funds on [Erie Gives Day](#).

The Erie Community Foundation provides a prorated match to each gift. **Checks will be accepted on Monday, August 9 and online donations can be made on Tuesday, August 10.**



## People of Action August Volunteer Opportunity

**People of Action August Volunteer Opportunity: McKinley Elementary Red Carpet Welcome**

McKinley Elementary School is known for kicking off the new school year with their Red Carpet Event. That morning students are met with a red carpet, and cheered on by their families, teachers and staff, and other partners and friends (EUP, Rotary Club and

## Birthdays

Thomas J. Freeman  
August 18th

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**McKinley**



**Elementary**

*"A Community School"*  
Erie, Pennsylvania

others). The Red Carpet welcomes students back for the new year and shows community support for the school.

The event takes place on **August 30, at McKinley Elementary School-933 East 22nd Street, Erie, PA from 730-830 am**. Watch this space for more information or check [McKinley's Facebook page](#). Contact Past President Dr. Stephanie Williams with questions: [swilliams@edinboro.edu](mailto:swilliams@edinboro.edu)



## Expressions of Care and Concern for Rotarians



In early June, longtime Rotarian and Past President **Bill Bloomstine** suffered a stroke that has left him with paralysis on his left side. He is currently recuperating at St. Mary's Asbury. St. Mary's is no longer permitting visitors, but Bill appreciates phone calls. His email address is [william.bloomstine@imcerie.com](mailto:william.bloomstine@imcerie.com) and he can be reached through St. Mary's switchboard at 814-836-5300.



Please also hold Rotarian **Dr. Roy Strausbaugh** in your care as his wife of 60 years, **Rosanna**, is very ill. He too asks for your support. Roy can be reached via Facebook and email: [mstrausbaugh1@neo.rr.com](mailto:mstrausbaugh1@neo.rr.com)