



# The See-Way



Journal of the Rotary Club of Erie, Pennsylvania

Club 5136, Organized in 1913

District 7280

September 8, 2021

Vol 2021

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## Happy Labor Day!

### No Meeting on Wednesday September 8



## 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



## People of Action - Call to Action!

### Erie Rotary Challenge to Support Shelter Box's Emergency Efforts in Haiti

Every year, our club gives \$500 to support Shelter Box. This organization is heavily involved in providing emergency aid to people affected by the recent earthquake in Haiti. As a result, Area Governor Lisa Graff urged the Club's Board of Directors to consider a challenge to the club to donate \$1,000, over and above the \$500 currently designated in our annual budget.



# 7.2 MAGNITUDE EARTHQUAKE STRIKES HAITI

ShelterBox has worked in Haiti five times before and is sending an assessment team to the Dominican Republic to learn how our aid could assist those affected.

[DONATE NOW](#)

To raise the \$1000, Lisa proposed that the Board challenge the membership is challenged to donate \$500 collectively that would be matched with an additional \$500 from the club. The Board enthusiastically agreed to the proposal and showed its heartfelt concern for the people of Haiti. Lisa herself has pledged the first \$100 to this fund.

If our club and members commit to a collective \$1,000, our club can be recognized as a Rotary Shelter Box HERO (and be a hero to the families you help as well)!

Please make your checks out to Rotary Club of Erie and indicate **Shelter Box-Haiti** on the memo line. Checks can be given to **Treasurer David Mahoney** at our meetings on September 1 or 15 or mail them to Rotary Club of Erie PO Box 1424 Erie, PA 16512-1424 by September 15.

Thank you in advance for your generous support, Rotarians!



## New Member Mentors Needed



Rotarian Tatiana Bogatova is our Red Ribbon Chair. Tania asks members to volunteer to become a mentor. Each new member is matched with a mentor. A mentor makes a new member feel welcome by checking in from time to time, by helping with getting involved with different committees, by inviting a new member to a coffee, and by supporting the red ribbon on-boarding process.

New mentors are provided with a checklist of items new members must learn and do to have their ribbons removed. This is a great way to get new members involved, which is the key to retention and a positive Rotary Club experience. Those interested in getting involved, **please text/call Tatiana Bogatova at 814-835-8054.**

## Years of Service

James P. McBrier  
09-01-1992  
29 Years

David M. Lastowski  
09-01-1995  
26 Years

Brenda Warner  
09-23-1998  
23 Years

Joseph P. Herbert  
09-27-2006  
15 Years

Joseph T. Kuvshnikov  
09-12-2012  
9 Years

Derek Sieber  
09-19-2012  
9 Years

Linda J Moore  
09-18-2013  
8 Years

Edward J. Curtin  
09-23-2015  
6 Years

Julie Cella  
09-30-2015  
6 Years

Michael Garrett Roth  
09-30-2015  
6 Years

Korin Giles  
09-18-2016  
5 Years

Nicholas Cianci  
09-11-2017  
4 Years

Allison Faye Keenan  
09-15-2017



# Meeting Recap: September 1st

## Dr. Christopher Gray, President EC3PA



Dr. Chris Gray, Founding President of Erie County Community College of Pennsylvania is the product of community college. He has a student-centered vision for our new Community College and expressed it with passion at our meeting on September 1.

Dr. Gray explained how the community college model is intended to meet students where they are with several in-person locations around Erie County, all accessible by EMTA. He said there is no need to spend resources on new brick-and-mortar locations when there are so many excellent facilities already available. Many courses will also be available virtually to help fit with students' work, family, and other responsibilities.

The current associate degrees programs include Liberal Arts, IT Network Systems, and Management and Entrepreneurial Thinking. These will be augmented as needed with new programs as determined through the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership's annual Employers' Survey, as well as other data sources, to ensure EC3PA is preparing students for the employment opportunities in the region and to support the growth of our local businesses with highly skilled local staff.

In order to remove some barriers unique to community college student success, Dr. Gray is establishing a Rainy Day fund to help students with unexpected expenses that can derail their attempts to improve their education. He explained that a flat tire for which a student may not have \$40 to get repaired can ruin an entire semester and cause a student to give up on their education. The community will be invited to contribute to this fund.

The Rotary Club of Erie is looking into ways we can support this mission and

4 Years

Charlotte Kerko  
09-21-2017  
4 Years

## Birthdays

J. Clarke Kuebler  
September 4th

Linda Breakiron  
September 8th

Karen K. Tyler  
September 12th

Chris N. Scott  
September 16th

Gary Flick  
September 16th

Michael J Malthaner  
September 17th

Jacob Rouch  
September 18th

Penny Mechley-Porter  
September 18th

Carl Bruce Kern II  
September 20th

Korin Giles  
September 24th



begin offering scholarships to EC3PA students as we already do for those attending 4-year colleges through our Scholarship Foundation. We will be discussing Rotary support for the college with Dr. Gray in the next few weeks and the Board will inform the membership as things develop.

To learn more about how a community college differs from the traditional model, see [here](#).



## Rotary Youth Exchange Program

### Rotary Youth Exchange Program will be back in 2022 but ONLY with YOUR Help!

Rotary Youth Exchange builds peace one young person at a time. Students learn a new language, discover another culture, and truly become global citizens. Exchanges for students ages 15-19 are sponsored by Rotary clubs in more than 100 countries. See the attachments with the email sending this newsletter for additional information and see the RI Youth Exchange website: <https://www.rotary.org/en/our-programs/youth-exchanges>.

**Tatiana Bogatova** is the Rotary Youth Exchange Coordinator for our club. She needs your help to make the 2022 exchange year a good one. How you can help:

1. **Inform young people** you know about the exchange opportunity to help recruit outbound students to study abroad.
2. **Become a host family.** We need host families to be recruited for inbound students, who have several families during their exchange year, so it would generally be for 3-4 months. We ask not only Rotarians to consider becoming host families, ask your own families and friends to participate in this rewarding opportunity for cultural exchange.
3. **Become a mentor.** In addition to the host family, each student has two Rotary club mentors who help them through any challenges with school or the host family and takes them on occasional outings to help immerse them in our community. Mentors can also bring youth exchange participants to Rotary Club meetings.

Those interested in getting involved, **please text/call Tatiana at 814-835-8054.**



## Rotary Supports McKinley Elementary Library

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Diane E. Chido  
September 25th  
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Dr. Chris Gray signed and left a note of affirmation in the front of each book to be donated to the McKinley Elementary library. The school gave us a list of requested books and we try to match one up to the topic of each program as much as possible.

This week's books were *How to Do Homework without Throwing Up* by Trevor Romain and *Ms. Bixby's Last Day* by John David Anderson.



Rotary Foundation  
50/50 Drawing Winner



September 1 Rotary Foundation 50-50 Drawing Winner: Ed Smith

Half of proceeds go to the lucky winner and the other half to support the Rotary Foundation. See **Bob Cronmiller, 50-50 Coordinator** for your lucky number at every in-person Rotary meeting.

***You've got to play to win!!!!***

