

# The See-Way



Journal of the Rotary Club of Erie, Pennsylvania

Club 5136, Organized in 1913

District 7280

September 22, 2021

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**Our weekly in-person meetings require masking when not eating lunch and are also streamed live via Zoom. Join our meeting online with this [link](#). Meeting ID: 865 2253 0793 Passcode: 1424**



## Guest Speaker

### **Dr. Christopher Clark, DO, MHA President of AHN St. Vincent**



Christopher C. Clark, DO, MHA has been President of AHN Saint Vincent Hospital since June of 2017. Born at Saint Vincent and a lifelong resident of the Erie community, Dr. Clark is a practicing family physician who has served in a number of leadership roles at the hospital over the past decade, including Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs, Chief Quality Officer, and Director of Medical Education.

Dr. Clark has also worked as a medical director for Highmark Inc., responsible for promoting value based strategies and population health interventions to employers.

Active in many community and professional organizations, Dr. Clark serves on the Board of Directors for the United Way, VNA of Erie County, Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership, and the Erie Downtown Development Corporation. He has been active in fundraising for the Children's Miracle Network, the Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network, the March of Dimes and the American Heart Association. Dr. Clark is a past President and board member for the Erie County Medical Society, and is a member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, American College of Healthcare Executives and Pennsylvania Medical Society.

He earned his undergraduate degree from Boston College, a medical degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed his residency at Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pa. Dr. Clark also received a master of health administration degree from the Pennsylvania State University and a graduate certificate in gerontology from Gannon University.

## Club Leaders

**Diane E. Chido**  
President

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**Maureen Rizzo**  
President-Elect

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**Allison 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**  
Area Governor

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**Penny Mechley-Porter**  
September 22 - Invocation

Dr. Clark will be introduced by Club **President, Diane Chido.**



## Welcome to New Member Tammy Roche

Tammy Roche is the Vice President of Financial Development and Marketing for the YMCA of Greater Erie. She will be mentored by **Past District Governor, Past President, and current Director, Norm Stark.** Tammy will join the Membership Development Committee.



Prior positions include those held at the Erie Art Museum, City of Erie's Mayor's Office, Erie Insurance and UPMC Hamot. Tammy is most known for her work on large-scale community events such as the Pennsylvania Governor's Awards for the Arts and her work in public art including the current Big Picture Mural project.

She resides in the City of Erie with her husband and two daughters.

Tammy will join the Membership Development Committee.



## People of Action Thank You Erie Rotary



After the recent devastating earthquake in Haiti, ShelterBox sprang into action. To support their lifesaving efforts, the Rotary Club of Erie issued a membership challenge. The Club will donate \$500 in matching funds if members would come up with the matching \$500.

Generous Rotarians **David Bertges, Diane Chido, Gary Flick, Lisa Graff, Jim Hynes, Allison Keenan, Penny Mechley-Porter, Ron Norman, Ed Smith, Norm Stark, and Tom Tupitza** collectively added \$645 for a total Club contribution of \$1145.

Since our Club and members committed to a collective minimum of \$1,000, our Club will be recognized as a Bronze Level Rotary Shelter Box HERO!

Thank you, Rotarians, for exhibiting *Service Above Self!*

## UPCOMING GUEST SPEAKERS

September 29th

**Dale Elizabeth Pehrsson, Ed.D**  
Edinboro University

October 6th

**Dr. Tyler Titus**  
Candidate for Erie County  
Executive

October 13th

**Brenton Davis**  
Candidate for Erie County  
Executive

October 27th

**Mayor Joe Schember**  
Mayor of Erie

## 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



## Rotary Partners with the Erie Chamber and Growth Partnership

Past President Jake Rouch, current Vice President of the Erie Chamber of Commerce, announced on September 15 that the Chamber will offer a discounted registration rate for Rotarians to the [2021 Erie Homecoming: Back to the Future](#). The regular rate for Chamber members is \$195, but **the Chamber has offered Rotary Club of Erie members a special rate of \$150.**



This two-day event held **October 4-5** will be full of opportunities to hear about the incredible work so many passionate Erieites engage in to make your hometown a vibrant community. It's also a chance to experience the change for yourself --- whether you're visiting for the first time in over a decade or want to play tourist in your own backyard for a few days. Attendees will experience the energy of the community through unique and engaging presentations, tours, and networking opportunities.

To register for our special price, e-mail Colleen Gross: [cgross@eriepa.com](mailto:cgross@eriepa.com) and indicate that you are a member of our club.



## Meeting Recap: September 15th

### Sean Fedorko, Co-Founder, Radius CoWork



As some of us have experienced in the last year and a half, there have been many changes in the traditional workplace. As unsettling as that can be, it was inspiring to learn from the speaker for our last meeting that new ways of getting work done are constantly evolving.

Introduced by **Rotarian Penny Mechley-Porter**, Sean Fedorko, Co-Founder of Radius Co-Work, shared with us the history and philosophy and unexpected benefits (such as possibly the best coffee to be found anywhere!) of developing a community of enthusiastic, talented, and entrepreneurial professionals, freelancers, and small businesses.

Sean has been working in the local economic and community development ecosystem since 2014 and has contributed to national conversations about

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Joseph P. Herbert  
09-27-2006  
15 Years

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Joseph T. Kuvshnikov  
09-12-2012  
9 Years

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Derek Sieber  
09-19-2012  
9 Years

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Linda J Moore  
09-18-2013  
8 Years

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Michael Garrett Roth  
09-30-2015  
6 Years

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Julie Cella  
09-30-2015  
6 Years

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Korin Giles  
09-18-2016  
5 Years

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Nicholas Cianci  
09-11-2017  
4 Years

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Allison Keenan  
09-15-2017  
4 Years

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Charlotte Rerko  
09-21-2017  
4 Years

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Tammy L. Roche  
09-15-2021  
0 Years



fostering entrepreneurship and stronger social connections. Seven years in the growing, Radius CoWork has become well known for connecting people with opportunity locally, nationally, and even internationally! Facilitating diversity, collaboration and community, the members of Radius all share a collective desire to see Erie grow into its best self, and invest themselves wholeheartedly and creatively to this end.

Radius CoWork offers 24/7/365 space, facility and connectivity to its now over 30 members, providing infrastructure to support civically minded professionals in our city, gives a home to lonely workers and attracts and retains talented people in our city by providing them with a greater role in it. To learn more about this unique and inspired work-space-place-community, visit <https://www.radiusco.work/>.

Sean kindly signed and provided an affirmation in a book for McKinley Elementary called The Girl Who Drank the Moon by Kelly Barnhill.

## New Member Mentors Needed



Our Red Ribbon program began in 2009 under **Past President Lisa Watkins**. It is not enough to encourage people to become Rotary members, we need to provide early support to make sure they remain Rotarians with a desire to actively participate in club work and activities. Each new member is matched with a mentor who helps to make a new member feel welcome by checking in from time to time, getting them involved with different committees and club activities, and by supporting the red ribbon on-boarding process.

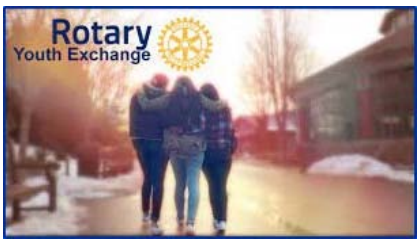
New mentors are provided with a checklist of items new members must learn and do to have their ribbons removed. This is a great way to get new members involved, which is the key to retention and a positive Rotary Club experience. Those interested in becoming mentors, **please text/call Tatiana Bogatova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

## Rotary Youth Exchange Program

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

[Rotary Youth Exchange](#) will resume in 2022 but only with your help:

**Inform young people** about the exchange opportunity to help recruit outbound students to study abroad.



## Birthdays

J. Clarke Kuebler  
September 4th

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Linda Breakiron  
September 8th

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Karen K. Tyler  
September 12th

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Chris N. Scott  
September 16th

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Gary Flick  
September 16th

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Michael J Malthaner  
September 17th

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Jacob Rouch  
September 18th

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Penny Mechley-Porter  
September 18th

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Carl Bruce Kern II  
September 20th

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Korin Giles  
September 24th

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Diane E. Chido  
September 25th

**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.

**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 Bogatova at 814-835-8054.**



## Celebrate Banned Books Week

*This event was rescheduled for October 2.* Sign up [here](#) and receive your very own *Banned Book Tote* when you make a \$50 donation. Each tote comes with a banned book and local goodies, including flavored popcorn from **PopLuck**, a cake pop from **Icing on the Lake**, coffee coupons from **Pressed**, chocolate from **Romolo's**, coupons for **Art's Bakery**, and more!



Your Banned Book Tote will be ready for pickup at the Foundation's *Banned Book Jeopardy!* event **on Saturday, October 2 at 1 pm at the Hirt Auditorium** (connected to Blasco Memorial Library). Your \$50 donation saves you a slot to test your banned book knowledge and win awesome prizes! Attendees are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite literary characters. This event is family-friendly, and children in attendance are invited to compete in free rounds of bingo!

Interested in just coming to play *Jeopardy!* without the \$50 donation? Donations of \$10 will be accepted at the door. Donors who do not attend the event will be contacted by the Library to make arrangements for the pick-up of their tote.

Want to enjoy the fun at home? With a \$5 donation, donors will receive a take-home *Murder Mystery Kit*, which can also be reserved on our [sign up page](#). All proceeds from the Banned Book Ball will benefit the [Erie Regional Library Foundation](#).