



# The MarRotagram

## Club Leaders



Jesse C. Roush  
President



Tasha Werry  
President-Elect



Aleece Dye  
President-Nominee



Laura J. Miller  
Club Executive  
Secretary  
Secretary



Terry Edward  
Rataiczak  
Treasurer



Elizabeth Godfrey  
Club Membership  
Chair



McKenzie Allen  
iPast President



Anthony Mark  
Huffman  
Club Grant  
Coordinator



Lori Hart  
Club Public Image  
Chair



Kathy Schalitz  
Club TRF Chair



Patricia L. Peoples  
Club Peace  
Committee Chair



Suzy Zumwalde  
Club Young Leaders  
Contact  
Youth Services Chair

*Have you ever tried blindfolded archery? You don't know what you're missing...*

It is the season of joy, and nothing fills my heart with holiday cheer quite like a truly funny or even terrible dad joke. The fact that these jokes are now spreading through the club tells me two things. First, you are my people. Second, some of you are now accessories to the crime, and I appreciate your support. And speaking of support, shout-out to Tasha for stepping in for me this week during my absence. Duty calls in Columbus, so I will be in the capital city representing Washington County the best I can!

**PLEASE NOTE:** This week, we will hold an election for three open seats on our board and for President-Nominee for the 2028–2029 Rotary year. Paper ballots will be distributed at the start of the meeting, collected and tallied during the program, and the results announced at the close of the meeting. We will continue accepting nominations until 12P tomorrow, so if you have a recommendation or are interested in serving in either role, please let me know. You can expect several candidates for the board and two candidates for President-Nominee.

### **THIS WEEK - December 11, 2025**

**Program:** This week, we will be participating in a service project led by our own Heather Allender. We will be putting together Christmas Care Packages for local nursing homes and home-bound seniors. A simple note of kindness can brighten a season, so each package will include a message to help spread Christmas joy throughout our community.

**Attendance:** Larry Hiser

**Ticket Sales:** Lisa Blavos

## Speakers

December 11, 2025

Christmas Program Service  
Project

Heather Allender

December 18, 2025

Annual Christmas Luncheon  
Fun & Fellowship w. Our Club

**Greeter:** Gretchen Flinner

**Invoker:** Duane Huck

**Can Collector:** Hayden Flinner

### SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

- ***Details coming soon for Secret Santa Shopping and the Salvation Army Bell Ringing.*** The bell ringing will occur on Saturday, December 20th, but I'm still confirming the other relevant details.
- ***The Christmas Day Feast sign-up sheet will be at the next two meetings.*** They need help peeling potatoes on Christmas Eve starting at 1P. The biggest need is Food Prep and Warm Food Delivery starting at 6A on Christmas Day. They also need delivery drivers at 9A Christmas Day, and Clean-up at 2P. ***See Lori Hart for more details.***

### LAST MEETING - December 4, 2025

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Thanks to Danielle Bruni's daughter's fourth-grade class for donating socks to our Socktober drive and helping put us in the number one spot in the district for total items collected and items collected per capita.** Each win earned a \$250 district award. The board voted to donate \$250 to the elementary school leadership program and \$250 to the Athens Sunrise Club winter project, which finished a close second.
- **Board Member and President-Nominee Election** - We have three open board seats and the need to fill our President-Nominee slot for the 2028-2029 Rotary year. President Jesse is asking members to submit recommendations to him by Wednesday, December 10. The vote will take place on Thursday, December 11.
- **Don't know what to get that hard-to-buy-for person for Christmas? Buy them an engraved brick!** Time is running out!!! [Click here to order yours now!](#)
- **The Christmas Feast is approaching, and volunteers are needed to help serve on December 24 and 25.** On the 24th, potato peeling will take place at the Knights of Columbus with the time to be determined. On Christmas Day, warming meals begins at 6:00 a.m. with delivery to follow. There are many opportunities to serve. Sign up at the meeting or contact Lori Hart for more information at loridean1966@att.net.

**PRESENTATION:** Last Thursday our club had the pleasure of hearing from Jessica Huffman, DNP, RN, CENP, FACHE, assistant vice president of nursing services for the WVU Health System, and wife of Rotarian Tony Huffman. Jessica shared her journey with breast cancer following her 2023 diagnosis. With no risk factors or family history, she was shocked to learn that the lump she found during a self

examination was cancerous. She described her path through testing, radiation, and surgery, and how she discovered that many supportive care procedures are not covered by insurance, leaving many women without access. Inspired to help, she created the Jessica Huffman Women's Cancer Fund through the Marietta Community Foundation. Jessica also shared stories of women helped by the Fund and how donations continue to arrive when most needed. Our club was moved by her courage and resilience and by how she turned a difficult diagnosis into meaningful support for others.

**Split the Pot:** Daily: \$42

**Jackpot:** \$482

**Winner:** *Laney Hitchens. Daily only.*

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## Marietta Rotary Sweeps Socktober+ Challenge

By Wolfgang A. Lant

Socks, hats, gloves and underwear came pouring in last month to ensure the Marietta Club's victory in the district Socktober+ Challenge. The club took first place in collecting a record-breaking 4,250 items to win both the prize for most items collected as well as most items per capita collected of 43.21 and winning \$500 for their club's service projects.

Club president Jesse Roush said the secret to their strategy was the club maximizing the dollars collected through bulk ordering. In addition, a club Rotarian's daughter was inspired and asked her middle school friends to get involved. The students donated about 400 pairs of socks. Sherry Wagner served as coordinator of the collection and distribution.

Several local organizations received the donations including EVE Domestic Violence Shelter, Gospel Mission Food Pantry, Salvation Army, and the Community Resource Center, and Go Packs.

Receiving honorable mention in overall items collected was the Circleville Club with 2,859 pairs. The Athens Sunrise Club came in a close second in per capita collections with 42.5 items per member.

A special thanks goes out to all Rotarians for participating in the clothing drive and setting another record.

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## Birthdays



[Suzy Zumwalde](#)  
December 26th



[William C. Peoples](#)  
December 26th



[Marty Lawhon](#)  
December 27th

[Larry T. Schwendeman](#)  
December 29th



[Colleen E. Cook](#)  
January 1st



[Duane Huck](#)  
January 4th



[Shawn Taylor](#)  
January 8th

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### Years of Service



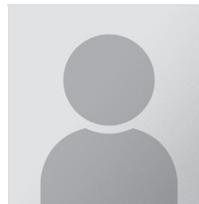
[Daneka Hedges](#)  
11 Years



[Adam Schwendeman](#)  
5 Years



[Randall Jedlink](#)  
3 Years



[Ashleigh Pennock](#)  
0 Years

**UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD**



# SORTING OUT WHERE CONTRIBUTIONS GO

Where do your contributions go? There are three main organizations where we as Marietta Rotarians direct our Rotary Giving. Sometimes it can be confusing, so here is something to hopefully help keep things straight.

ORGANIZATION	DONATION DESIGNATIONS	ADDRESS	MEMBER CONTACT	EMAIL
Rotary Club of Marietta	Club Dues	PO Box 1138 Marietta, OH 45750	Terry Rataiczak	treasurer@mariettanoonrotary.org
Marietta Rotary Foundation	Unrestricted Fund, Safetytown, Scholarships	424 2nd Street Marietta, OH 45750	Colleen Cook Bob Kirkbride	cook@theisenbrock.com rekirkbride@yahoo.com
Rotary International Foundation	\$125 Club, Paul Harris, Annual Fund, PolioPlus	PO Box 1138 Marietta, OH 45750	Terry Rataiczak	treasurer@mariettanoonrotary.org



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