

# Rotary Diversity View

- A top priority for Rotary is growing and diversifying our membership to make sure we reflect the communities we serve. We know that our capacity to increase our impact and expand our reach is larger when more people unite with us, which is why we value **diversity, equity and inclusion**.
- Rotary celebrates and welcomes the contributions of people of all backgrounds, regardless of their age, ethnicity, race, color, abilities, religion, socioeconomic status, culture, sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

International Women's Day is a global holiday celebrated annually on March 8 as a focal point in the women's rights movement, bringing attention to issues such as gender equality, reproductive rights, and violence and abuse against women.



# History of Women in Rotary

- Women are today active participants in Rotary, serving their communities in increasing numbers and serving in leadership positions in Rotary.
- The 1989 Council on Legislation vote to admit women into Rotary clubs worldwide remains a watershed moment in the history of Rotary.
- The vote followed the decades-long efforts of men and women from all over the Rotary world to allow the admission of women into Rotary clubs, and several close votes at previous Council meetings. In fact, it took a ruling by the US Supreme Court to overturn the policy prohibiting women from membership in Rotary in the US in May 1987.
- The transition was overwhelming: By June 1990, the number of female Rotarians had skyrocketed to over 20,000. The number of women members worldwide reached 195,000 in July 2010 (about 16% of Rotarians) and surpassed 277,000 in July 2020 (about 23% ).

# ERC's transition

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Carol Simonetti (Community Foundation) and Maureen Cromling (Ross Companies) were the first women inducted into Elyria Rotary Club on November 10, 1987.

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Carol Simonetti later became the first female President of the Elyria Rotary Club in year 1992-1993, the year the club celebrated our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Carol resigned in 1996 to take a new position in New York. She returned to Elyria to celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018.

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The third woman inducted into our club was Fran Bostwick (Charitable Fund Raising). She was inducted on November 24, 1987, and became club president in 2000-2001.

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The fourth woman inducted into our club was Jeanine Donaldson who joined in early 1988. She also served as club president in 2015-2016.

# Our Current Female Members

(25.5% of total)

<b>Member</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Status</b>
Bellmore-Pierse, Nicolle	Active	<i>Long, Janet A.</i>	Active (PP)
Bertrand, Tammy	Active	Nielsen, Melinda	Active
Billings, Melinda A.	Active	Repko, Andrea E. L.	Active
Boehnlein, Jacqueline T.	Active	Reuter, Louise A.	Active
Brehm, Dianne C.	Active	Runser, Kathleen E.	Active (PE)
Conley, LaTaunya V.	Active	Schloss, Ann	Active
De La Porte, Maud W.	Honorary	Sherman, Laura A	Active
<i>Deery, Amanda R.</i>	Active (PP)	<i>Siwierka, Mary F.</i>	Active (PP)
<i>Donaldson, Jeanine P</i>	Active (PP)	Smith, Kristian J	Active
<i>Fisher, Amber L.</i>	Active (PP)	Van Wormer, Joan	Honorary
Forthofer, Stephanie K.	Active	Warden, Debra L.	Active
Gallant, Jennifer J.	Active	Welsandt, Kaitlyn N	Active
Jones, Kristen A.	Active (PD)	Wilhelm, Kimberly	Active
Kaufman, Robin A	Active		

# Our Start to the Second Century of ERC



- ♦ Counting our President Elect (Kathy Runser) and President Elect Designate (Kristen Jones) we are on track to have female leadership in 4 of the first 7 years of our second century.
- ♦ The women of ERC are and important part of our diversity and play an integral part of our leadership.

# Rotary District 6600 Leadership

- ◆ Diana Savage is the District Governor for the 62 clubs in District 6600.
- ◆ Diana began serving in District 6600 as Assistant District Governor for Area 1 in 2018.



# Rotary International Leadership

- Jennifer E. Jones, a member of the Rotary Club of Windsor-Roseland, Ontario, Canada, was nominated to become Rotary International's president for 2022-23, a groundbreaking selection that made her the first woman to hold that office in the organization's 115-year history.
- It took 33 years from the allowance for female members until the top role was filled by a woman.

