



# The See-Way

Journal of the Rotary Club of Erie, Pennsylvania



Club 91, Organized in 1913

District 7280

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## Patti Larson

*StringsforaCURE® Foundation*



StringsforaCURE® is an Erie, PA based 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization dedicated to providing education, comfort, support and financial assistance directly to cancer patients, primarily those with breast cancer. We provide Gift Cards and Grants as well as Comfort Baskets and Purse String™ care packages to help ease patients' financial burdens and to provide comfort and support from diagnosis to survivorship. We offer educational materials that educate patients on cancer prevention and raise awareness of the importance of nutrition and wellness to recovery.

After retiring from the health care and commercial software development industries, Patti knew that she wanted to do something meaningful to help those in the community who were in need of help. A friend suggested that she meet with \*Elisa Guida to discuss possible ways to help out. Patti's past computer, project management and writing skills and her passion for photography have all come together in a unique way to help out at StringsforaCURE as the Development Director – on a volunteer basis – and the Treasurer of the board. "Cancer patients are so grateful and appreciative to receive comfort baskets and books, and gas, grocery and pharmacy gift cards, as well as financial assistance through medical grants. I am also humbled by the outpouring of support that we receive from people in the local area and around the world. I am very proud to be a part of a local charity that helps so many cancer patients!"

*\*Elisa Guida, Founder and Executive Director - Elisa was originally diagnosed with breast cancer in 1995 at the young age of 40. Her breast cancer would return in 2005. A professional jeweler by trade, Elisa came up with the idea of having famous musicians donate their used guitar strings, while attending a Bon Jovi concert in the winter of 2008 and thus StringsforaCURE was born. Elisa saw the need to educate, comfort, support and provide financial assistance directly to breast cancer patients during their cancer journey. StringsforaCURE became a nonprofit corporation in August 2010, achieving 501(c)(3) status in 2012. "My personal goal has become our motto: Helping cancer patients one STRING at a time."*

## Supporting Cast:

President: Laurie Root

Greeter: Bob Cronmiller

Invocation: Linda Wilkinson

Pianist: Bruce Gingrich

Song Leader: Michael Malthaner

Sgt at Arms: Brenda Bennett

Speaker Intro: Jim Hynes

## Program Schedule

**8:00 am Breakfast Meeting**

**Buffet opens at 7:30 am**

at the Conference Center  
at the Manufacturer & Business Association

**FEBRUARY 15:**

**Paul Pilatowski,**  
**Director of Corp. Sales**  
Erie Offers

**FEBRUARY 22:**

**Bill Hagerty, CEO**  
EmergyCare

**MARCH 01:**

**Rebecca Brumagin, ED**  
Achievement Center



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LOCAL WEBSITE: [ERIEROTARY.ORG](http://ERIEROTARY.ORG)

DISTRICT SITE: [ROTARYDISTRICT7280.ORG](http://ROTARYDISTRICT7280.ORG)



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# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Jaimee graduated summa cum laude from Edinboro University in 2004 with a degree in marketing. She was a member of the Delta Mu Delta Business Honor Society and a recipient of the Wall Street Journal Business Award.

Jaimee has been with the Hamot Health Foundation since 2006. Her various roles at the foundation have included: *Donor Relations Coordinator, Manager of Development Operations and currently she serves as Chief Operating Officer.* Her role at the foundation is instrumental in developing short and long-term strategies for development priorities and ongoing fundraising initiatives, managing daily operations of the foundation and annual and major gift solicitation and stewardship.

Jaimee is also a new member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) board.

Prior to this she worked in real estate sales for Crandall & Associates and Howard Hanna and sales and customer service for National City Bank.

Jaimee and her husband Travis have 3 children.. 9 year old son, Brady, a 6 year old daughter, Tanner and a 3 year old daughter, Harper. Please give a warm Rotary welcome to Jaimee!

While Brian Sivillo may be new to the Erie Rotary Club, he is not new to Rotary.

In fact Brian has been a Rotarian since 2014 when he joined the Upper St. Clair/Bethel Park Rotary Club. He assisted that club's treasurer and was recently elected to serve as the next Treasurer. Brian is a Paul Harris Fellow.

Brian works as a Commercial Lines Sales Executive at USI Insurance Services, a national firm based in Valhalla, NY, offering property and casualty and employee benefit solutions utilizing a unique approach to risk management that delivers customized, actionable solutions with bottom-line impact. He spent 14 years in risk management with Liberty Mutual working in New York, Florida and Pittsburgh, from where he and his family are currently relocating.

An Erie native and Cathedral Prep Alum, Brian obtained a BS from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY. He is currently pursuing an MBA at Robert Morris University in Moon Township.

Brian, his wife Lauren, their 6 year old son, John Rocco, and their 3 year old daughter, Mary Anna, are very excited to move to Erie. The family will join St. George Church and their children will attend St. George School, also Brian's alma mater! Brian is a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus and a Past Grand Knight. He is in the process of becoming a member of the Erie Maennerchor Club and will start the Erie Ambassador program next week. Brian is feeling at home in our Club, already volunteering to assist at our Ethics Symposium.



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR A NEW MEMBER,  
get the application from Mary Ellen Dahlkemper,  
Membership Chair at: [maryellen.dahlkemper@gmail.com](mailto:maryellen.dahlkemper@gmail.com)**



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**2017**  
**ETHICS SYMPOSIUM #7**  
**MARCH 7 • MERCYHURST UNIVERSITY**

The Ethics Symposium #7 will be held on March 7th at Mercyhurst University. Volunteers are needed for registration, guides, and for facilitator – Rotarian small group discussions.

If interested in volunteering please see Stephanie Williams (wlfive74@gmail.com ) or Heather Yahn (heather@HAYprojectmanager.com ).

This year volunteers who will have direct contact with the students need to secure only the Child Abuse Volunteer Form. The on-line form can be secured at <https://epatch.state.pa.us/> ...CHECK THE VOLUNTEER ONLY LINK AND FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS. If you have had clearances within the last 60 months, you do not need to secure a new one. The clearance should be completed by February 10th (this will enable you to be approved to volunteer for the next several years). Just print and provide the document to Stephanie or Heather.

**FROM THE**  
**MARKETING + COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE:**

**Have you thought of one or two big name speakers for 2017?**

The Marketing/Communications Committee remembers when the club had 2 or 3 really big name speakers a year. We would then have record attendance at those meetings and many nonmembers would attend to hear the speaker. The Committee would like to offer that again.

Everyone is being asked to think about big name speakers, try to secure them to speak and co-ordinate a date with Lisa Graff. (Maybe someone who will be in town for a Jefferson presentation, maybe someone who will be in Pittsburgh for an evening presentation and come to Erie for an afternoon presentation.)

Dates are open starting in April 2017.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY to you!**

We want to send January birthday wishes to  
**Brian Gorman (Feb.6), David Grab and**  
**Marco Monsalve (Feb.7) -and-**  
**Norbert Rydzewski (Feb.9).**

**ENJOY YOUR DAY!**







## 2017 ANNUAL BASEBALL OUTING -OUR SEAWOLVES- VICE CHAIR POSITION OPENING



A position has just opened up for you to serve as Vice Chair for our annual Baseball Outing at our UPMC Park, Downtown Erie. You will assist our Chair Bob Saunders, who has held this position for years. This year's game night is August 16. If you are interested in a starting position in the line-up as Vice Chair contact Bob Saunders ([bobsaun4u@aol.com](mailto:bobsaun4u@aol.com)). He is ready and willing to show you the ropes (or the fence in this case) – and you don't need to bring your glove!

### - SUPERBOWL POOL WINNERS -

1st Quarter, BRIAN GORMAN: \$100 Box 0,0

2nd Quarter, MEL WITHERSPOON: \$100 Box 1,3

3rd Quarter, KORINE GILES: \$100 Box 8,9

Final Score, GARY FLICK: \$200 Box 8,4



### Congratulations!

## Guess Who?!

Can you guess who is  
pictured and what year?

