

Damon Finazzo

President of the Erie Catholic School System



Damon Finazzo is the President of Erie Catholic School System, which includes six schools: Blessed Sacrament, Our Lady of Peace, St. George, St. James, St. Jude and St. Luke; the proud husband of Meagan, and devoted father of Maria, Leo and Raina. Damon is an Erie native and attended McDowell High School, where he was a four-sport athlete, and in particular was part of a winning soccer team and a winning basketball team that advanced to the state

western finals. He continued his education at Grove City College, receiving a Bachelor of Science in elementary education. After college, he and Meagan moved to Richmond, Virginia where Damon began his teaching career, spending six years as a teacher at Glen Lea Elementary School in Henrico, VA, an inner-city public school. With the energy that only young dads can manage, he juggled teaching, coaching and family and still found time to earn a master's degree in educational leadership from Virginia Commonwealth University. Later, he served as an administrator at Cashell Donahoe Elementary School in Sandston, VA, also in the Richmond area.

In 2009, he and Meagan moved their family back to Erie and Damon accepted the challenge of leading Villa Maria Elementary School as its first male, lay principal. Under his leadership, the school's enrollment increased 30% making it one of the larger Catholic schools in Erie. In 2015, he was recognized as one of Erie's 40 under 40.

When the Diocese of Erie needed a strong leader to implement its vision for the future of Catholic education in Erie and transform its six elementary schools into a single, cohesive System, they entrusted the task to Damon. Since taking over just one and a half years ago, Damon has been at the helm through school construction at all 6 schools, the build-out of an entire corporate structure overseeing personnel, enrollment, educational quality, budgeting and fundraising, and driving curriculum improvements.

His passion for education continues unabated, and he continues to inspire confidence as he builds up Erie Catholic into a vibrant educational system forming students with a strong moral character, skills for academic success, and a zeal for service to others.

Supporting Cast:

President: *Lisa Graff*

Greeter: *Rick Lamb*

Invocation: *Betsy Bort*

Pianist: *Bruce Gingrich*

Song Leader: *Allison Keenan*

Sgt at Arms: *Zac Wild*

Speaker Intro: *John Blakeslee*

PROGRAM SCHEDULE:

**Lunch Meeting at the
SHERATON BAYFRONT**
11:30 am - Buffet Opens
Noon - Meeting

OCT 17:

Debra Thompson
Strategy Solutions, Inc.
Lunch Meeting @ Sheraton

OCT 24:

Chris Groner
City of Erie
Lunch Meeting @ Sheraton

OCT 31:

Gary Sullivan
Mercyhurst University
Lunch Meeting @ Sheraton





**END
POLIO
NOW**

WORLD POLIO DAY

- *Happy Hour* -



Wednesday • October 24

CALAMARI'S

1317 State Street

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

*We are "this close" to eradicating polio from the face of the Earth.
Watch for details on how to earn your Stop Polio Now sticker!*



INTERACT CLUB PROJECT:

Operation Christmas Child Postage Donation

The 110 members of the Interact Club at Villa Maria Academy have worked throughout the year to fill 50 boxes for this Samaritan's Purse Project. Boxes contain all new items such as toys, clothing, hygiene items and school supplies for children in need internationally.

We are looking for Rotarians to sponsor the shipping for the 50 boxes, \$10 per box. Cash and checks can be given to Treasurer Gary Flick or Lisa Graff by October 31. Checks should be written to the Rotary Club of Erie.

*Please support our Interact Club by sponsoring a box or two.
Your \$10 contribution for postage helps a child in need.*



Thanks to all the ZONE Institute Volunteers:

Bernie Hattjar, Beth Zimmer, Bob Cronmiller, Brady Louis, Carolyn Staab, Claudine Thiem, Derek Sieber, Ed Smith, Garrett Roth, Gary Flick, Geri Cichetti, Jim McEldowny, Joe Kuvshnikov, John Blakeslee, Joyce Miller, Julie Cella, Karen Burton, Korin Giles, Laurie Root, Linda Wilkinson, Lisa Graff, Lisa Watkins, Marc Turner, Marci Honard, Mark Louis, Michael Malthaner, Nick Cianci, Penny Metchley-Porter, Rick Lamb, Rick Liebel, Tammy Philabaum, Tom Giblyn, Tom Pysz, Zac Wild

a BIG thank you from Lisa Graff and Mike Hornby to all of our Sergeant at Arms volunteers!



Brady Louis, left and Mark Louis, right



Gary Flick left and Rick Leibel right



Joe Kuvshnikov working the door on dress as your favorite super hero night



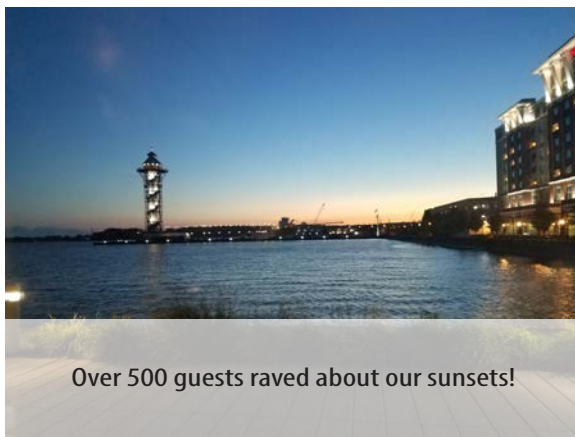
Mark Maloney, Rotary International President-Elect, 2019-2020, addressing the Future Leaders class.



Selfie with Bob Cronmiller , Lisa Graff and Gary Flick



Stephanie Williams, Lisa Graff and Mark Louis



Over 500 guests raved about our sunsets!



Zac Wild, middle with other Sergeant at Arms volunteers

- Create a "My Rotary" Account -

How to Create a "My Rotary" account on the Rotary International website

- Go to the RI website, www.rotary.org
- Click My Rotary at the top, just right of the middle of the home page.
- Click the box that says REGISTER FOR AN ACCOUNT and follow the prompts.
- You will need your ID# which is printed above your name on your Rotarian magazine mailing label. Also, Gary Flick can provide the number.
- Please set up the account to assist RI and to learn more about People of Action.



We want to send lots of birthday wishes to

Mark Louis - Oct. 11
Brenda Bennett - Oct. 13
Melanie Titzel - Oct. 14
Michael Roth - Oct. 15
Nathan Koble - Oct. 17
Linda Stevenson - Oct. 17
Enjoy your day!



Location: 4528 Zuck Road, Erie PA.
 From When: 10:00am-2:00pm



photo credit: Ron Norman

- Rotary in Review -

October 3, 2018 Meeting

Linda Stevenson - Athena Erie



ATHENAPowerLink®



Lisa Graff and Heather Yahn, Song Leader



Speaker - Linda Stevenson



Emily Francis, Mary Beth Gamble, Linda Stevenson, Allison Keenan, Joyce Miller, Heather Yahn and Laurie Root



Alphabet Soup of Rotary – Rotary Acronyms

September 2, 2014 Chris Offer



Like many organizations Rotary uses acronyms. Rotary is not unique in using acronyms. It is common in all organizations, big and small. A sports report on the news would take twice as long without the use of acronyms.

There is a time and place for everything and using acronyms is no exception. The whole point of using these abbreviation in your Rotary presentations and writing is to clearly communicate. However, if you misuse or abuse acronyms, you'll accomplish just the opposite, turning your communications into a baffling

cocktail of gobbledygook.

Can you understand these two sentences?

- The RRFRC suggested the DG ask the DRFC to promote PHFS and EREY to increase DDF to fund a VTT.
- The RPIC and RC talked to PEs at PETS about benefits of RLI to understand TRF.

Here is an updated list of Rotary acronyms. GSE and DSG have been retired and we introduced VTT, RPIC and EMGA.



Alphabet Soup of Rotary – Rotary Acronyms

AG	Assistant Governor
COL	Council on Legislation - <i>held every 3 years, Rotary's Parliament</i>
DDF	District Designated Funds – <i>Rotary Foundation funds managed by district</i>
DG	District Governor
DGE	District Governor Elect
DGN	District Governor Nominee
DRFC	District Rotary Foundation Committee
EMGA	Endowment Major Gift Advisor – <i>Foundation appointment works in zone</i>
EREY	Every Rotarian Every Year - <i>annual gift to The Rotary Foundation</i>
GETS	Governor Elect Training Seminar – <i>yes Governors are trained</i>
MOP	Manual of Procedure - <i>Rotary policy, constitution and bylaws</i>
NID	National Immunization Day - <i>mass polio vaccination days</i>
PDG	Past District Governor
PE	President Elect
PETS	President Elect Training Seminar
PHF	Paul Harris Fellow
PHS	Paul Harris Society – <i>members pledge US\$1000 a year to Rotary Foundation</i>
PP	Past President
RAG	Rotarian Action Group - <i>experts in an area, such as AIDS, water, malaria, etc.</i>
RC	Rotary Club
RC	Rotary Coordinator – <i>works in a zone on membership & Rotary programs</i>
RDU	Rotary Down Under – <i>Australia, New Zealand & Pacific Islands</i>
RI	Rotary International
RIBI	Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland
RID	Rotary International Director – <i>member of RI board</i>
RINO	Rotary in name only – <i>a disparaging term for a not very active Rotarian</i>
RIP	Rotary International President
RIPE	Rotary International President Elect
RITS	Rotary International Travel Service
RLI	Rotary Leadership Institute
ROTEX	Returned Youth Exchange Students or <i>rebound YE students who support outgoing students</i>
RPC	Rotary Peace Center
RPIC	Rotary Public Image Coordinator – <i>zone position focused on PR & Public Image</i>
RRFC	Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator – <i>zone position to promote Foundation</i>
RYE	Rotary Youth Exchange
RYLA	Rotary Youth Leadership Award
STEP	Short-Term Exchange Program – <i>youth program</i>
TRF	The Rotary Foundation
TRFC	The Rotary Foundation Canada
VTT	Vocational Training Team
YEP	Youth Exchange Program

- OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES -

Member Birthdays

Name	Date
Loop, Greg	Oct 03
Giblin, Tom	Oct 04
Scheppner, Robin	Oct 04
Louis, Mark B.	Oct 11
Bennett, Brenda	Oct 13
Titzel, Melanie	Oct 14
Roth, Michael	Oct 15
Koble, Nathan	Oct 17
Stevenson, Linda	Oct 17



Date Joined Rotary

Name	Years	Date
Turner, Marc	1 year 0 months	Oct 01 2017
Witherspoon, Melvin	38 years 0 months	Oct 01 1980
Zurn, Roger W	23 years 0 months	Oct 04 1995
Thiem, Claudine	3 years 0 months	Oct 07 2015
Black, III, Samuel	22 years 0 months	Oct 09 1996
Graff, Lisa	6 years 0 months	Oct 10 2012
Barber-Carey, Maureen	8 years 0 months	Oct 13 2010
Daneri, Jack	8 years 0 months	Oct 13 2010
Hynes, Jim	4 years 0 months	Oct 15 2014
Rouch, Jake	24 years 0 months	Oct 15 1994
Watkins, Lisa	16 years 0 months	Oct 16 2002
Gorman, Brian	8 years 0 months	Oct 20 2010
Louis, Mark B.	19 years 0 months	Oct 20 1999
Stark, Norman H.	29 years 0 months	Oct 25 1989
Reitzell, Nicole	3 years 0 months	Oct 28 2015
Tyler, Karen	3 years 0 months	Oct 28 2015

