

Rotary

Club of Buffalo



Club Meeting

The Saturn Club
977 Delaware Ave
Buffalo, NY 14209
Time: 12:15 - 1:30PM

Club Leaders

Nicholas J.

Alberalla
Foundation
President

Brian T. Casey

President

Bernard E.

O'Donnell
Secretary

Richard J.

Ridenour
Vice President

Michael John

Grimaldi
Treasurer

John Ehrbar

Club Director

William P.

Keefer

Club Director

Matthew J.

Plizga

Club Director

Onkham

Rattanaphasouk

Club Director

Thomas H. Van

Nortwick

Club Director

Bridget Ann

Willadsen

Club Director

Michael Woods

Club Director

Joyce S DeLong

Service Projects
Chair

Keith

Schottman

iPast President
Membership Chair

This Weeks Speaker - Thursday, Sept. 14, 2023



Patrick Kaler - CEO for Visit Buffalo Niagara

Patrick Kaler has more than 30 years' experience in the travel and tourism industry, and currently serves as President and CEO of Visit Buffalo Niagara, the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center and the Buffalo Niagara Sports Commission. A native of Rantoul, Illinois, Kaler holds a Bachelor's Degree in Recreation, Parks and Tourism Administration from Western Illinois University, and a Master's of Science in Tourism from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign.

He began his tourism career with Hilton Hotels before returning to Central Illinois as Director of Sales and Marketing at the Champaign-Urbana Convention & Visitors Bureau. Kaler also served as Executive Director of the Galena-Jo Daviess County Convention and Visitors Bureau, General Manager of Keeshin Destination Chicago and Executive Director of the Great Lakes of North America. Kaler has also held President and CEO and senior executive leadership positions with Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority, Los Angeles Tourism and Convention

Board and Visit Loudoun.

In 2014, Kaler was elected to the U. S. Travel Association Board of Directors, and serves on the board of directors of the Buffalo Niagara Partnership, Western New York Youth Sports Advisory Council, Explore Buffalo, Buffalo Civic Auto Ramps, Buffalo State Hospitality and Tourism Advisory Board, and serves on the board and executive committee of the Frank Lloyd Wright Martin House, and New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association.

Upcoming Meetings/Events

Sept 21, 2023 - Bring a Friend or Co-Worker to Rotary

Sept 28, 2023 - Social - Resurgence from 5:30-8:00pm

Oct 5, 2023 - Lisa Smith - President for The Buffalo Zoo

Oct 12, 2023 - Chrissy Casilo - Republican Candidate for County Executive

Oct 19, 2023 - Scott Marcin - Rotary's District Governor

Oct 26, 2023 - Mark Poloncarz - Democratic Candidate for County Executive

Nov 2, 2023 - Charlie Specht - Political Reporter for Buffalo News

Nov 9, 2023 - Service Above Self Community Service Day

Nov 16, 2023 - Business Ethics Awards Luncheon @Salvatores

WHAT YOU MISSED LAST WEEK.....

Speaker - Anne McCaffrey

Last week the Rotary Club of Buffalo featured Anne McCaffrey, CEO of People, Inc. Anne shared the wide scope of the organization, including the many housing projects and assistance programs that People Inc. offers. We learned that People Inc. is often able to help smaller non-profits meet their goals and continue operations.



Event Happening's within Your Community

If you have an event that you are hosting or you are a volunteer, please send me the information and we will post it on our Community Event page.

Buffalo Rotary Club Community Outreach

Rotary Greenway Activity - October 7, 2023

Come help out Rotarian Jerry Kelly clean up the Rotary Row trailways on Saturday, October 7th from 9:00 - 11:00am. Everyone will meet at the corner of Erie Street and Lakefront Blvd. If you join Jerry, please RSVP to Gerald@geraldkelly.com

Committee Information

JOIN ONE OF OUR COMMITTEES

Community Grants - responsible for vetting every request that comes to the club for a grant (large or small dollar amounts, local or international organizations). Committee members are given a grant proposal and then meet with the grant contact person at their location to validate the legitimacy of the grant request. There is a very well developed guideline for making grant decisions. Chairs: Bridget Willadsen and Bill Witzleben



Membership - responsible for creating a Rotary "member profile" that assists our members in recommending new members; mentors new members and assists them in becoming accustomed and involved in the club. The committee also works on member retention and reaches out to those members who seem to be missing lunch meetings. Chair: Keith Schottman

Programs - responsible for reaching out to the community to book the weekly speaker. Chairs: Joe Alber and Mike Ryan

Public Relations/Social Media - responsible for press releases, inviting the media to attend specific events. Updates social media: posts to the club's Facebook page and Twitter account. Creates club marketing materials. Chair: Nancy Sanders

Service Fund Drive - sets up a fund drive asking our members to support the club by monetarily contributing to the Buffalo Rotary Foundation. This money helps fund the club's grants as well as other worthy community causes. Chair: Tom VanNortwick

Vocational Services - responsible for member-to-member interaction, such as "Service Above Self" Day (hands-on community service project), round table lunch meeting (where members get to know each other), social networking events and offsite meetings (visiting local companies and learning more about them). Chairs: Nick Alberalla and Mike Grimaldi

Youth Services - responsible for Youth Exchange (includes WNY high school students who attend school in a foreign country and students from abroad who attend high school locally for one year). Handles the Lorraine mentoring program (Buffalo elementary students who are mentored by Rotary members who act as a big sister or brother). Other programs include working with Interact (high school students who do community projects), Slapshot and RYLA (two different annual events where high school and college-age students learn about leadership skills in a retreat setting). Chair: John Bradley for Youth Exchange, Chair: Deann Sheppard for Lorraine Mentoring, Chair Paul Marzello for Slapshot & RYLA

If you are interested in joining any of these committees, please email Laurie Albertsson at admin@buffalorotary.org, and she will connect you with the committee chairperson(s) for that committee.

Join leaders. Exchange ideas. Take action.

Birthdays



[Jeffrey C. Higgins](#)
September 12th



[George W. Adema](#)
September 13th



[Lucy C. Ederer](#)
September 15th

Years of Service



[Bridget Ann Willadsen](#)
6 Years