

# Rotary

## Club of Buffalo



### Club Meeting

The Saturn Club  
977 Delaware Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14209-1805  
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

**Thursday, October 5, 2023**

**Lisa Smith, President for the Buffalo Zoo**



Lisa will be talking about her new role at the Zoo, the State of the Zoo, and her vision for the future of the Zoo.

I'm a motivated, conservation-minded leader with success in developing and implementing strategies to promote zoological industry standards, conservation initiatives, and business goals.

I've been in the zoological industry for close to 28 years, worked in Zoos across the country (Crescent City CA, Santa Barbara CA, Cleveland OH, Atlanta Georgia, Sioux Falls SD, and now Buffalo) and worked my way up from being a seasonal zoo keeper to Curator to being an Executive. While I'm an expert on mammals, particularly rhinos, I also excel at building teams and working with people at all levels. I'm also currently a participant in the 2023 class of the prestigious AZA Ted A. Beattie Executive Leadership Development Program.

## Service Above Self Day

**BE THE  
CHANGE**  
VOLUNTEER &  
MAKE THE DIFFERENCE



*SERVICE ABOVE SELF DAY NOVEMBER 9, 2023*

Time is fast approaching for us to roll up our sleeves and volunteer at one of the three locations listed below to support our Service Above Self day and OUR Community!!

**Location #1 - Teachers Desk** located at 22 Northampton St from 9:30am - 12:00pm - Sorting inventory, packaging products and warehouse assistance

**Location #2 - Goodwill** located at 1119 William St from 10:00am - 1:00pm - doing store projects and processing area organization

**Location #3 - Ronald McDonald House** located at 780 W Ferry from (Times TBD) - inside cleaning and outside yard work (weather permitting).

Email Laurie [admin@buffalorotary.org](mailto:admin@buffalorotary.org) about which location you will be volunteering at and your timeframe.

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## Upcoming Meetings/Events

**Oct 12, 2023 - Chrissy Casilio - 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**

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## 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](mailto:admin@buffalorotary.org), and she will connect you with the committee chairperson(s) for that committee.

**Join leaders. Exchange ideas. Take action.**

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## Birthdays



[Joseph S. DePaolo](#)  
October 2nd