



# The See-Way

## 2023-2024



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

Club 5136, Organized in 1913

District 7280

March 18, 2024

Vol 2024 No. 04

## March 20 - Corey Cook, Erie

## Downtown Development Corporation



Please join us on Wednesday, March 20th at the Bayfront Sheraton for our meeting and speaker presentation with Corey Cook, Director Operations and Logistics. Lunch is at 11:30 am with the meeting beginning promptly at 12 noon. Please be sure to RSVP.

Mr. Cook will provide background and an update on the work of the Erie Downtown Development Corporation.



Meet in person at 11:30 for lunch with meeting at 12 pm  
Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel - 2nd Floor Meeting Rooms

RSVP: <https://www.IsMyRotaryClub.org/RSVP/Index.cfm?EventID=77717864>

## March 5th - Annual Ethics Symposium

A message from Club President, Geri Cicchetti.

KUDOS to Karen Staab and the Ethics Symposium Committee. They did a fabulous job!! Our 13th annual Ethics Symposium was held Tuesday, March 5th at Mercyhurst University. A record number of students (169) enjoyed the day and began thinking about ethical behavior. Students came from 14 Erie County schools, including Cathedral Prep, Collegiate, Corry, Erie County Technical School, Fairview, Ft. LeBoeuf, Girard, General McLane, Harbor Creek, Iroquois, McDowell, North East, Northwestern, and Seneca. This project was a lot of work over MANY months and Karen was a great leader. I cannot thank Karen and the committee enough. Please enjoy photos throughout this newsletter and on our website.

*Geri Cicchetti*

Geri Cicchetti, President



### Rotary International: Our Mission

We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

### Vision Statement

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change — across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.



### It's Rotary budget time!

The board will meet on **March 25, 2024** at 9AM at the conference room at 8th and French (Gus' place).



## Welcome New Members!

### **Matt Glass, Director of Sales, Lilly Broadcasting**

I was born and raised in Erie and live in Lawrence Park. A 2000 graduate of Iroquois high school and was hired upon graduation at JET 24 and Fox 66. I worked at Jet & Fox for 23 years in multiple rolls with the company. In June of 2022 I started a new roll with Lilly Broadcasting as the Sales Manager in Marquette, Michigan for one year and after a year I was promoted to Sales Manager in Erie, PA. I am also heavily involved in coaching the youth in our community. I started my football coaching career at my Alma Mater, Iroquois High School, under my father, long-time coach Phil Glass. In 2011, I joined the Seneca High school coaching staff as the defensive coordinator. In 2017, I joined the Harbor Creek coaching staff as the Huskies defensive coordinator. In 2020, I joined the McDowell coaching staff as the Trojans Safeties coach. I have a 18 year old daughter who is currently a senior at Iroquois High school and will be attending Slippery Rock University in the fall



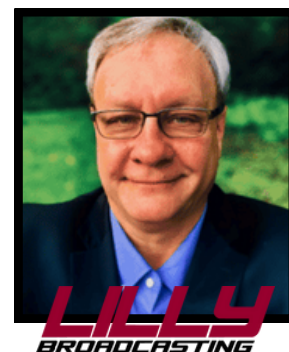
### **Ric Giles**

Ric joined The Erie Community Foundation in 2023 as Director of Philanthropic Services. In this role he is responsible for developing and stewarding donors in all aspects of their philanthropy, and integrating best practices into the work of the Philanthropic Services team. Prior to joining the Foundation, Mr. Giles worked as Director of Development & Corporate Relations at Mercyhurst University. Preceding Mercyhurst University, he had diverse career endeavors including Pharmaceutical Sales Representative for two different companies; Admissions Representative and College Recruiter for Penn State-Erie, and Drug and Alcohol Case Manager for GECAC.



### **Scott MacDowell, Lilly Broadcasting**

I was born and raised in Erie and live in Lawrence Park. A 2000 graduate of Iroquois high school and was hired upon graduation at JET 24 and Fox 66. I worked at Jet & Fox for 23 years in multiple rolls with the company. In June of 2022 I started a new roll with Lilly Broadcasting as the Sales Manager in Marquette, Michigan for one year and after a year I was promoted to Sales Manager in Erie, PA. I am also heavily involved in coaching the



### **Michael Ramsey-Harrell**

Michael was married in 2000 and moved to Erie in 2001. He and his wife chose to stay in Erie to raise their 2 children because of all Erie has to offer families. He has been in the Auto industry since 1996. He left his career at a new car dealership to repair vehicles in a manner that he approved. He has revised that vision over 15 years. Today It is his goal to provide a great environment, not just for our customers but to our entire staff as well. Truly being the change our town and industry greatly needs.



### **Terry Olsen, Erie News Now**

Terry is a senior business and marketing consultant at Erie News Now. Prior to this position, he was the business owner of the Cookie Boutique and a funding partner of Calamari's. He has an extensive marketing background and is a cameraman and cast member of Erie Extreme.





## Erie Rotary Club – Committees & Chairs



**Are you looking for way to become involved with the Club? Look no further!!**

These committees have been a part of the club for quite some time however are always inviting participation from someone like yourself. We all have different gifts and talents to share.



**Do you have an idea you'd like to share?**

We love to hear from you. Please tell us your ideas & suggestions. Please contact Karen Tyler via email: [ktyler@eriedayschool.com](mailto:ktyler@eriedayschool.com)

### Programming Committee:

**Gus Pine**

This committee provides engaging and innovative programming, offers field trips, involves Rotaract and Interact, explores partnerships with other service organizations, and initiates extra meetings and events such as breakfasts and happy hours.

### Club Committee Structure:

**Penny Mechley-Porter and Diane Chido**

This committee ensures active committees and trains members to advance to board positions.

### Membership Development & Care Committee: Penny Mechley-Porter

This committee recruits new members, develops levels of membership, develops materials for new members, and ensures benefits for existing members including leadership opportunities, mentorship programs, recognition, and committee engagement.

### Finance & Treasurer: Amy Swartzfager

This committee ensures a balanced budget is prepared annually, evaluates membership structure, and ensures transparency and accountability. Needs a chair to assist treasurer.

### International/Student Exchange: Tatiana Bogatova

This committee encourages student exchanges and assists with interviews, paperwork, and placement.

### RI Foundation Committee:

**Jim Hynes & Diane Chido**

This committee leads the effort to raise funds for Rotary International as each club is asked to do.

### Fundraising: Mike Zavasky and Geri Cicchetti

This committee develops a fundraising plan for our Rotary Scholarship Foundation (to fund the Ethics Symposium and scholarships to high school seniors) and a separate fundraising plan for local and international service projects.

### Public Relations Committee: Geri Cicchetti & Maureen Rizzo

This committee sends out press releases for all meetings, develops the monthly newsletters, communicates to the membership via email, updates the website, and adds information to Linked-in and Facebook.

### Ethics Symposium: Karen Staab

This committee leads the effort to plan and execute our annual Ethics Symposium for high school juniors.

### Peacebuilder Club/People of Action Update/Service projects: Diane Chido

This committee seeks to involve Rotarians in service projects in the Erie area.





## Our Club & Local Events

- **Rotary Club Bingo Fundraiser Event Sunday April 21, 2024**, JPTF W. 38th St.
- **District 7280 Training Assembly** - April 20th, Wanango Country Club  
<https://www.dacdb.com/Register4/Index.cfm?EventID=77734963&UserID=800847443>
- **Sisters of St. Joseph GALA May 11th** - See attached page. [dchido@gmail.com](mailto:dchido@gmail.com)



### Rotary International:

Travel With Rotary! Here are opportunities for international travel with RCF friendship teams of Rotarians. <https://rotaryglobaltravelers.com>

Please, extend invitation to Erie Rotarians to travel overseas as RCF Friendship Exchange.

- **May 15-25, 2024 MALAYSIA-INDONESIA-SINGAPORE (2024 Rotary Convention)**
- Egypt: April 16 - 30, 2024
- Cuba -- 5 more trips throughout 2024
- Danube River Cruise November 3 - 10, 2024 -- Open to non-members
- Ethiopia: January 17 - February 1, 2025
- Mexico Butterfly Migration -- February 2025 (tentative)
- Brazil & the Amazon -- Fall 2025 (tentative)
- Hawaii Service & Fun -- December 3 - 16, 2025



Note: if you are a member of our Global Travelers E-Club, you can find more detailed information about future trips [here](#). You will need to log in to access this information.

# Rotary

Most Financially Sound  
Largest  
Most Powerful  
Networking Service  
Organization

Whose flag is recognized in more  
Countries than any other flag in the world

**Every minute of every day Rotary:**

- \* Feeds someone
- \* Houses someone
- \* Vaccinates someone
- \* Performs surgery on someone
- \* Comforts someone
- \* Provides clean water to someone

**THIS IS ROTARY!**



# The See-Way



## HAPPY Birthday

Member Birthdays	Birthday
Bonsell, Janel M. (JANEL)	14 March
Cicchetti, Geri (GERI)	28 March
Gaines, Michael T. (MICHAEL)	30 March
Hirz, Elizabeth (ELIZABETH)	10 March
Root, Laurie B. (LAURIE)	31 March
Staab, Karen A. (DR. KAREN STAAB)	28 March
Turner, Marc (MARC)	30 March



## HAPPY Anniversary

Member Anniversaries	Start Date	Years
Bloomstine, William C. (BILL)	03/01/74	50
Kuebler, J. Clarke (J. CLARKE)	03/09/06	18
Pine, Augustus T. (GUS PINE)	03/01/22	2
Root, Laurie B. (LAURIE)	03/24/11	13
Scully, Thomas A. (THOMAS)	03/01/80	44
Snow, M.D., R. Anthony (TONY)	03/01/94	30
Wild, Zac (ZAC)	03/01/17	7
Williams, Stephanie (STEPHANIE)	03/18/15	9

Thank you for your membership, service  
and commitment to the Rotary Club!

## Rotary Club of Erie – Board of Directors

Geri Cicchetti, President	Karen A. Staab President Elect	Amy Swartzfager Treasurer	Dr. Karen Tyler Secretary
Tatiana Bogatova Club Director	Norman H. Stark Club Director	Penny Mechley-Porter Club Director	Erinn Lake Club Director
Mike Zavasky Club Director	Gus Pine Program Chair	Maureen Rizzo Club Director	Nathan Koble Club Director

### Remember, Rotary requires FIVE avenues of service. They include:

- **Vocational** - Serve your vocation because all work is honorable and benefits the community. This supports Rotary's traditional classification system in which the club seeks diversity in occupations (one funeral director, one banker, one architect, etc.).
- **Club** - Every member is expected to contribute to the improvement of the club by serving on a committee or as an officer.
- **Community** - Rotarians believe in "Service Above Self" which translates into service in the community of which we are a part-Make it better by volunteering.
- **International** - World Peace is Rotary's aim. It is achieved through knowing a person in another land and culture, which leads to friendship which matures into love of one another. Consider participating in a Group Study Exchange, housing a foreign exchange student, or attending an international convention.
- **Next Generation** - Pass on the Rotary torch by supporting a Rotaract Club, an Interact Club, or a Community School.



**The Rotary Club of Erie proudly partners with United Way Community School, McKinley Elementary. We provide financial resources, book donations, and volunteer services as requested. "Today a reader, tomorrow a leader!"**





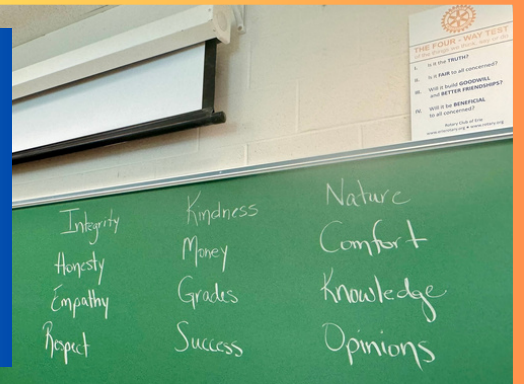
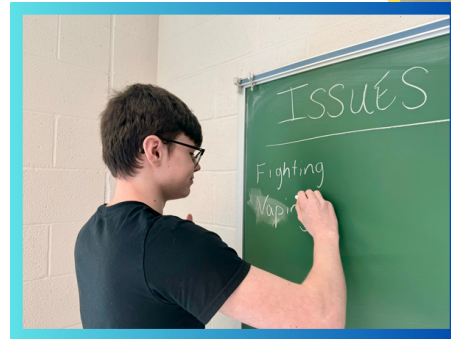


*The See-Way*



# ETHICS SYMPOSIUM 2024

*Thank You  
So Much*



## Rotary

### THE FOUR WAY TEST OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY, DO

- 1 Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2 Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build **GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIP**?
- 4 Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?







## Rotary Member Mentor Opportunity

We are looking for experienced Rotary members to confidently mentor our new members. A mentor plays a crucial role in guiding and supporting newer members of the organization. The Rotary mentorship program aims to help new members integrate into the Rotary community, understand its values and goals, and navigate the various aspects of Rotary service.

### Typical responsibilities of a Rotary mentor:

**Orientation:** Mentors often provide new members with an orientation to Rotary, helping them understand the organization's history, structure, and functions.

**Personal Guidance:** Mentors offer personal guidance to new members, answering questions, addressing concerns, and sharing their own experiences within Rotary.

**Introducing to Rotary Activities:** Mentors help new members get involved in Rotary activities, projects, and events. This involvement helps newcomers feel a sense of belonging and purpose.

**Networking:** Mentors assist in connecting new members with other Rotary club members, fostering a sense of community and facilitating professional and personal networking.

**Sharing Experience:** Mentors share their own Rotary experiences, including challenges they've overcome, successes they've achieved, and lessons they've learned.

**Encouragement:** Mentors provide encouragement and motivation to new members, helping them stay engaged and committed to Rotary's mission of service.

**Assisting with Goal Setting:** Mentors may assist new members in setting personal and professional goals within the Rotary framework, encouraging growth and development.

**Support During Transitions:** If new members take on leadership roles or responsibilities within the club, mentors can offer support during these transitions.

## CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS

Corporate memberships would be for two persons from one business or organization to be involved in Rotary. Both persons would be members, however, only one could attend a Rotary meeting at a time on the corporate membership. If both persons wanted to attend the same meeting, one would pay the \$22 fee for lunch. The corporate membership fee would be \$1000 for two persons to rotate attending the meetings. Because each person involved with a Rotary Club must be a member of Rotary International, the Erie Club will need to pay dues to national for both members. With this plan, if one person cannot make it to a Wednesday meeting, the other person from the organization may attend. Corporate memberships were offered by the Erie Club in the past and the board voted at their February meeting to re-instate them.

**Any questions, contact**  
**Penny Mechley-Porter**  
[Penny@thrivetherapyspace.com](mailto:Penny@thrivetherapyspace.com)

**GREAT LEADERS DON'T  
 SET OUT TO BE A  
 LEADER...THEY SET OUT  
 TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.  
 ITS NEVER ABOUT THE  
 ROLE-ALWAYS ABOUT  
 THE GOAL.**

# ROTARY CLUB OF ERIE

## *BINGO Fundraiser*



# SUNDAY

# APRIL 21st

**Doors Open at Noon | Bingo Begins at 1 pm**

**\$30 per ticket | JPTF 3819 West 38th Street, Erie, PA**

**[HTTPS://WWW.ERIEROTARY.CLUB/](https://www.erie Rotary .club/)**

Join us for an afternoon of fun and games at our Bingo Event!  
Proceeds will benefit Rotary Club of Erie Projects.

**Date:** Sunday, April 21st

**Time:** Doors Open at Noon , Bingo @ 1 pm

**Location:** JPTF -2319 West 38th Street Erie, PA



**Erie Club #5136**  
**District #7280**

Scan Below To  
Purchase Tickets:



- **BINGO**
- **AUCTIONS**
- **RAFFLES**
- **PRIZES**

**You're welcome to bring food and drink.**  
**Invite friends and family for a fun afternoon!**





March 2024

Dear Rotary Members,

As you know, the motto of Rotarians is that we are people of action who work to make positive changes in the world. To do that, we work to raise funds and financially donate to local and international nonprofits to help them in their missions.

As a reminder, our previous donations have included:

- donating coats, toiletries, and books to the impoverished students at McKinley School in Erie
- supporting Character Be About It, a local prevention-based program taught by trained law enforcement officers to instill important character traits in students grades K-8
- supporting Shelter Box which delivers a tote with heavy tents, blankets, and supplies to devastated areas to provide temporary housing for displaced families after an earthquake or other disaster

**This year, our club will host a BINGO fundraiser on Sunday, April 21, 2024, at 1pm at the JPT Events Center, 2319 West 38th Street (former Hills Store). Doors open at noon.**

The reason we chose this location is that they host several bingos each week. This has become very popular. They are the experts, and they will run the game for us. We will provide marketing efforts, workers for the event, items for an auction table, and items to be raffled during the event.

This is our first year undertaking this initiative and we will need everyone's help. **I ask that you consider one or more of the following ways to become involved.**

- Become a sponsor by making a cash donation. There is a charge to use the facility and your support would be appreciated. Sponsorships are available in any amount.
- Make a donation of an item for the auction. We would like to have 30 items, each valued at \$100 and up. If you would like to donate a gift card or an item of lesser value, we will match your donation with another. You can also make a cash donation for an item, and we will purchase one.
- Donate a prize to be raffled during the event. Prizes for the raffles during the event can include bottles of liquor, cases of beer, designer purses, cash, or gift cards.
- Attend and invite friends and family to attend. A flyer will be sent to you via email. You can send out that flyer to friends or family via email or print it. The event will be more successful with a larger attendance, and more fun!

Tickets will be \$30 for admission and will entitle attendees to play 10 games of bingo. Each game has 9 cards on paper sheets. New players are welcome, and the venue staff will talk guests through the process. Please consider selling at least two admission tickets. You can also purchase tickets online. See the flyer for the QR code.

Your donation will help us make positive changes right here in Erie, and around the world through the support of very worthwhile causes.

We have been told some organizations can make between \$2,000- \$10,000 profit from their bingo. It all depends on the attendance. Good marketing will ensure good attendance and you can help by sharing the flyer and inviting guests to attend for a fun afternoon.

Checks can be made out to the Rotary Club of Erie and mailed to our club at PO BOX 1424, Erie PA 16512. Mark BINGO in the notes section of your check. If you want us to use your donation for a specific purpose, list that. (like BINGO AUCTION) If you just list BINGO, we will use your donation for whatever is needed most.

If you wish to pay by credit card or wish to bill your account, contact our treasurer Amy Swartzfager at [aswartzfager@cookwealth.com](mailto:aswartzfager@cookwealth.com)

Auction items can be brought to a meeting or contact me for pick up. We'd like to have all items received by April 12.

I am happy to answer any questions. I can be reached at 814-454-1813 x 34 or at [gcicchetti@eriehistory.org](mailto:gcicchetti@eriehistory.org) **Thank you for your consideration and all you do for our Rotary club.**

Sincerely,

*Geri Cicchetti*

Geri Cicchetti  
President





**SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2024**

# **RUN & WALK**

**5K RUN/WALK**

**\$25**

**FRONTIER PARK, ERIE PA 9AM START**

5K Run or Walk at Frontier Park. Proceeds will benefit Feed My Starving Children and SSJ Neighborhood Network. Sponsored by Cathedral Prep's Outreach Club.



FOR MORE INFORMATION/TO REGISTER

— <https://runsignup.com/cathedralprepmilesformissions>