

Rotary

Club of Oyster Point of Newport News



Rotary Month: August means Action - Expand, Empower, Engage

Rotary isn't just about meetings, it's about people. It's about the energy in the room when passionate volunteers gather. It's the conversations over coffee, the friendships built through service, and the shared sense that we're here for something bigger than ourselves. Every new member brings fresh ideas, new skills, and another set of hands and heart to help build a better world.

This month, we're invited to think boldly:

Who in your circle would make a great Rotarian? Who's ready to turn caring into action? A personal invitation can change someone's life as well as grow the future of our Club.

Let's also remember: growth doesn't stop at numbers. Developing strong committees, empowering new leaders, and even dreaming of future companion clubs are all part of building a Rotary that lasts.

Together, let's keep the Rotary wheel turning stronger, bigger, and more vibrant than ever.

What is a RAG?

Rotary Action Groups (RAGs) are independent entities affiliated with Rotary that each have a specific humanitarian focus, such as economic development, peacebuilding, addiction prevention, ending modern slavery, or environmental sustainability.

Organized by Rotary members and nonmembers, the groups include people around the world who have knowledge, experience, or an interest in the topic. Action group members participate in meaningful service activities and use their expertise and global networks to facilitate sustainable change.

By offering Rotary clubs and districts professional knowledge, advice about partners and funding, and guidance on the best practices and project management strategies, action groups help Rotary members plan and implement large-scale projects that make an even greater impact on critical issues in communities near and far.

Anyone who's interested in the topic of a Rotary Action group can join one to make a difference with people who are passionate about the same cause. In a Rotary Action Group, you can:

- Be part of a global group focused on a humanitarian issue you care about
- Participate in meaningful service activities to create positive change in the world
- Develop your own capabilities or knowledge related to a particular humanitarian focus
- Make personal and professional connections with people of action around the globe
- Share your experience and skills to help others build their expertise

To get involved, [review the directory](#) or the list below and then contact the group you're interested in. You'll need to create a My Rotary account to access the directory.

Peacebuilding and conflict prevention

[Peace](#)
[Refugees, forced displacement, and migration](#)
[Slavery prevention](#)

Disease prevention and treatment

[Addiction prevention](#)
[Alzheimer's and dementia](#)
[Blindness prevention](#)
[Blood and organ donation](#)
[Diabetes awareness](#)
[Family health and AIDS prevention](#)
[Health, education, and wellness](#)
[Hearing](#)
[Hepatitis eradication](#)
[Malaria elimination](#)
[Mental health initiatives](#)
[Multiple sclerosis awareness](#)

Water, sanitation, and hygiene

[Water, sanitation, and hygiene](#)

Maternal and child health

[Clubfoot treatment](#)
[Reproductive, maternal, and child health](#)

Basic education and literacy

[Basic education and literacy](#)

Community economic development

[Community economic development](#)
[Disaster assistance](#)
[Menstrual health and hygiene](#)

Environment

[Endangered species protection](#)
[Environmental sustainability](#)

Action groups that work in more than one area of focus

[Food plant solutions](#)

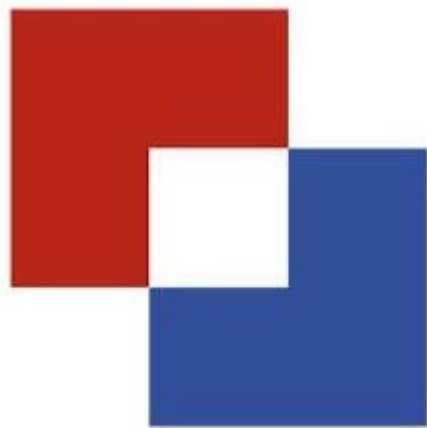
More at <https://www.rotary.org/en/rotary-action-groups>

Companion Club Meeting 8/7/25: Sarah Saville on Rotary Resources

Sarah Saville will be the speaker for the Thursday, August 7th companion club meeting at 5:30 at the

Coastal Fermentory Uptown, presenting on Rotary Resources: Dacdb (including conference and event registration), MyRotary, club locator app, and more. Any Rotarian who wants to attend is welcome, especially newer members and board members who may not know these resources for their role.

Speaker 8/8/25: Jodi Fisler, Co-Chair of Central/Eastern Virginia Alliance of Braver Angels



Braver Angels

Jodi Fisler is co-chair of the Central/Eastern Virginia Alliance of Braver Angels, a national nonprofit organization committed to strengthening the country by bringing people together across the partisan divide. Her day job entails working for the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV), where she oversees policies and initiatives related to student learning and civic engagement among Virginia's public college students. She is a former Rotarian and past president of the James City County Rotary Club.

Bootsie-inspired raffle tickets for anyone participating...

After our weekly meeting on Friday, August 1st, Bootsie announced in the parking lot that he would join President Lindsey in wearing heels to the next breakfast meeting.

To anyone in heels or Rotary gear at our breakfast meeting on Friday, August 8th, President Lindsey will gift a raffle ticket.

Break out those Rotary pins, socks, shirts, or normal heels, etc, and showcase our Rotary Club pride!

In Person Breakfast Meeting + Zoom

The Rotary Club of Oyster Point is meets at the James River Country Club at 7:30 am for breakfast as well as in a [Zoom Meeting](#).

The Zoom meeting will start at 7:45 a.m. You can log in as early as 7:00 am to enjoy coffee and social time before the meeting starts. There is plenty of capacity to host visiting Rotarians, potential members, and guests. Bring a guest and introduce them to the Rotary Club of Oyster Point!

[Read More](#)

New member Bill Sortino inducted in August

Bill Sortino, sponsored by **John Whitley**, has shown a strong interest in

joining our Rotary Club over the past several months. Bill is a member of **JRCC** and frequently plays golf with John, who has spoken highly of his character and community spirit.

Professionally, Bill brings over **40 years of experience** in building large-scale databases for both the **healthcare and banking industries**. He is currently a **Partner and Data Analyst at Strategic Software**. His expertise and leadership background would be a valuable addition to our club.

Bill is married to **Mary**, and they both share a commitment to service and connection within the community.

Bill was inducted on August 1, 2025. Welcome, Bill!



Registration is open for the Citizen Water Academy this fall!



Ever wonder what it takes to deliver clean, reliable drinking water to your tap —day in and day out?

This fall, Newport News Waterworks is pulling back the curtain with our first-ever Citizen Water Academy! This free, 6-week program offers a behind-the-scenes look at the people, places, and processes that keep water flowing to over 410,000 customers across the Peninsula. From forested watersheds to high-tech

treatment plants, and from underground infrastructure to customer service, you'll experience it all. Classes are on Thursday evenings, 6–8 p.m., starting September 11 and wrapping up with a graduation on October 16, 2025. Expect facility tours, hands-on activities, and face time with the experts who keep the system running. Topics include water sourcing, treatment, distribution, infrastructure, customer support, and where we are heading.

Space is limited to 20 participants, so don't wait! Registration opens August 1. Reserve your seat and learn more at <https://www.nnva.gov/cwa>, or email cmasterstaff@nnva.gov with any questions.

Events

August 7th, 5:30-6:30 PM
[Rotary Club of Oyster Point - Companion](#)

August 8th, 7:00-8:30 AM
[Oyster Point of Newport News Weekly Club](#)

Meeting

Speaker: Sarah Saville

Subject: Rotary Resources

August 14th, 6:00-8:00 PM

Rotary Club of Oyster Point Board Meeting

August 22nd, 7:00-8:30 AM

Oyster Point of Newport News Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: Michael H. Schwarz, Ph.D

Subject: Blue Catfish – Balancing Threat and Opportunity in the Chesapeake Bay Dr Michael Schwarz is Director of the Virginia Tech: Virginia Seafood Agricultural Research and Extension Center

Meeting

Speaker: Jodi Fisler

Subject: Braver Angels <https://braverangels.org/>

August 15th, 7:00-8:30 AM

Oyster Point of Newport News Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: William Kelly President CNU (tentative date)

Subject: President's Leadership Program at CNU

August 29th, 7:00-8:30 AM

Oyster Point of Newport News Weekly Club Meeting

Speaker: Julie O'Neil United Way of VA Peninsula

Subject: <https://www.uwvp.org/>

Birthdays



Delp C. Givens
August 3rd

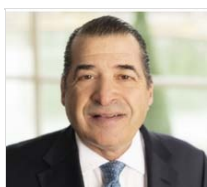


Ed Maroney
August 21st



Charles B Oldfield IV
August 29th

Years of Service



Raymond H. Suttle Jr.
17 Years



Eric R. Wildemann
10 Years

Club Leaders



Lindsey Watson
President
Bulletin Editor
Club Director



Leslie A. Bryant
Satellite Club
Chair



Delp C. Givens
President-Elect
Club Director
Membership
Chair



Jeffery Andrew Trimbur
Club Director
iPast President



Trevor James Vonu
Club Director
Secretary



Ed Maroney
Club Director
Treasurer
Webmaster



Robert A. Manzie
Sergeant-at-Arms



Richard Brandt
Club Director
Rotary
Foundation
Chair



Michael Daniels
Club Director
Club Service
Chair



Betsy Fink
Club Director
Community
Service Chair



Philip L. Hatchett
Club Director



Thomas P. Herbert
Club Director



Kristen Montanaro
Club Director
Hospitality



Eric R. Wildemann
Club Director
Future Visions



Dale Goodman
Interact Club
Sponsor



Nelson E. Kelley
Club Programs
Chair

Chair



[Sarah M. Saville](#)
International
Service Chair

Club Meeting

Oyster Point of Newport News

Meets at We are meeting in person at the James River Country Club and via Zoom. Please email the President for the link to join us.

1500 Country Club Road

Newport News, VA

Time: Friday at 07:30 AM