The Sulphur Smell

The newsletter of the Rotary Club of Clifton Springs–Phelps, NY

The Rotary Club of Clifton Springs-Phelps is a dynamic service organization reflecting the growing diversity of our community while engaging in local and international initiatives for the betterment of people's lives.

CREATE LASTING IMPACT

Issue of **8 September 2026** Chartered **June 29, 1933** **District 7120**

OFFICERS 2026–27

Don Shaw
President

Stefanie Smaldone
President-Elect

Melony Katz
Vice President

Theresa Dorgan
Secretary

Hugh Kane
Treasurer

Mary dePorter
Past President

DIRECTORS

2025–2027
Kris Blair
Scott MacDonell

2026–2028
Doris Hunter
Nick Ganster

ROTARY INTL. 2026–27

Pres. Olayinka "Yinka" Babalola
Rotary Club of Trans Amadi, Nigeria

DISTRICT 7120

Gov. Lisa Norwood
Gov.-Elect Pete Vogt
Area 4 AG Patti Holdraker
Fdn. Dir. Patrick Stack

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH IN THE ROTARY WORLD

1. Last Thursday at the **Midlakes School open house** we distributed backpacks, socks, and underwear to benfit the **747 students** (incoming elementary and pre-K).
2. The **One Rotary Summit** will take place on **Saturday September 12th** from 8:30am-12:30pm at Harris Beach Murtha in Pittsford. It's a good chance to discuss ideas with other clubs around **membership and engagement, service projects, and public image**. Registration is free at https://rotary7120.org/event/one-rotary-summit-2/.
3. The district **Literacy Seminar** will take place in our Rotary Room on **Sat. Sept. 26**, from 9:00 am to noon. The theme is "Financial Literacy" with a panel discussion (including our own **Vivian Ryan!**) on Budget & Saving, Credit & Debt Management, Housing, Taxes, and Insurance, to help us better understand how to help our communities. We will **need volunteers** to help set up the room that morning.
4. Registration for the **2027 Rotary Convention** in Barcelona, Spain will open on **17 Sept.**, with significant early bird discounts. See the poster on the next page.

THE PHELPS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We were joined last week by **Lynn White and Janet Walpole** from the **Phelps Community Historical Society (PCHS)** with a mission to collect and tell the history of Phelps, while maintaining their beautiful 1869 mansion and carriage house. They shared their organization's history, current operations, and programs at the Howe House. https://www.phelpsnyhistory.com.

PCHS partners with many local organizations, including the BDTC, PCC, Office of the Aging, and the local schools. Lynn described various programs offered this year including historical presentations, sourdough classes, chair yoga, and upcoming events like a fall acrylic art class, fire history presentation, and a wooden fall flower class.

Lynn also showed us a whimsical hoodie from their gift shop depicting their one-of-a-kind two-story privy and showed us that the PCHS privy and Clifton Springs Foster Cottage are both featured in the book **111 Places in the Fingerlakes That You Must Not Miss**.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS — PLEASE JOIN US

Date & Place	Activity / Presenter	Topic
Sept. 15 Rotary Room, CS Hospital · Noon	Greg Francois, Rochester Rotary Club	Greg will talk about a literacy program for underprivileged children in Haiti, www.odedhaiti.org.
Oct. 6 Rotary Room, CS Hospital · Noon	Club Assembly	President Don will lead the meeting devoted to club business.
Oct. 20 Rotary Room, CS Hospital · Noon	Kristine Beniamino-Scherer	TBD

Birthdays

- **9-17** Jean Day
- **9-23** Danielle Tilden
- **9-24** Nick Ganster

Rotary Anniversary

- **9-10** Jean Day (1989)
- **9-21** Nub Allen (2010)
- **9-26** John Galati (1995)

Sept. Anniversary

- **9-3** Jeff Criblear
- **9-21** Tracie Baxter

MEETING CALENDAR & RESPONSIBILITIES — ROTARY 2026–27

Subject to change

Date	Program Chair	Greeter	Pan Handler	Reflection
Sep 15	Don Shaw	Melony Katz	Jeff Criblear	Stefanie Smaldone
Oct 6	Club Assembly	Mary dePorter	Melony Katz	Theresa Dorgan
Oct 20	Kristine Beniamino-Scherer	Brandy Stephens	Ron Nieskes	Lori Reals
Nov 3	Janie Burgess	Stefanie Smaldone	Kris Blair	Three Bollinger
Nov 17	Ron Nieskes	Tracy Crosby	John McCarthy	Nick Ganster
Dec 1	Hugh Kane	Scott MacDonell	Jeff Criblear	Brandy Stephens
Dec 15	★ **Holiday Celebration**			

ACTION ITEMS

- ☐ **Sep 1** · **Kris Blair** — Send the football concession stand schedule and the days/evenings that need help to Don
- ☐ **Sep 1** · **Kris Blair** — Put together pricing information for swag with the new logos and get it out to everybody for a possible bulk order
- ☐ **Sep 1** · **Don Shaw** — Send information about the Rotary One Summit to interested members
- ☐ **Sep 1** · **Don Shaw** — Send the file of Youth Exchange information to Dan to put out in front of his students and counselors next week

OTHER NEWS

We welcomed former Rotarian **Tracie Baxter**, as a member of the the Clifton Springs–Phelps Rotary Club, as the main representative for **The House of John.** Tracie has experience with the Rotary Youth Exchange.

Mary (and her crew), Theresa, Vivian, and Melony at the Midlakes Open House with school supply donations

Register for the international conference in Barcelona, Spain, taking place in June 2027. Early bird registration is between 17–21 September.