



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 15 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

ONLINE

cs-rotary.org
rotary.org
Rotary7120.org
onseyawa.org

Find us on Facebook &
LinkedIn

NEWSLETTER

Scott MacDonell
Scottgd1415@gmail.com

Melony Katz
melonykatz@verizon.net

Clifton Springs Rotary Club
PO Box 103
Clifton Springs, NY 14432

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SEPTEMBER IS BASIC EDUCATION AND LITERACY MONTH IN THE ROTARY WORLD

- 1 The September, Literacy Month, issue of **The Grapevine** is here! Look for the link on the District 7120 web page, <https://rotary7120.org>, and check out the **photo from our club** on p.34!
- 2 At our club board meeting last week, it was decided that **Scott** will become our new club **Foundation Committee chair**, and **Melony and Mary** will co-chair our **Membership committee**. Info and invites soon.
- 3 The board also voted to **give the Midlakes school district approximately \$4,600** left over from the school supply fundraiser. We will present them a check at an upcoming meeting.
- 4 Kris Blair is asking for any **volunteers to man the Midlakes football game concession stand**. Please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054BA8A82DA2FACE9-65125206-2026>.
- 5 Registration for **Rotary Leadership Institute** on 10/17 from 8-3:30 at Victor junior high - <https://rlinea.org>.

ONE ROTARY SUMMIT

Last Saturday, **Don and Melony** attended the One Rotary Summit, organized to **help Rotary clubs in our district become more attractive, vibrant, impactful, and fun**.

80+ Rotarians in groups of ~8 people from clubs across the district shared ideas around increasing member engagement, attracting new members, enhancing public image and visibility, and improving service and fundraising.

In addition to being photo bombed by DG Lisa Norwood, we heard actionable ideas, like distributing Rotary bookmarks at the library, inviting the community to hear some of our key speakers, and connecting with our members to learn about their Rotary Reason.

We were also introduced to all the Assistant Governors and how they can help us, and we heard from the District committee chairs (including **our own Don Shaw, from the Environmental Action Committee**) about what they're working to achieve.



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

Don Shaw
President

Stefanie Smaldone
President-elect

Melony Katz
Vice President

Theresa Dorgan
Secretary

Hugh Kane
Treasurer

Mary dePorter
Past President

cs-rotary.org · District 7120
Scott MacDonell | Melony Katz, editors



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 8 · Melony Katz** — Get a new website domain name and post the new website
- ☐ **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

OTHER NEWS

MORE FROM ONE ROTARY SUMMIT



District Learning Committee chair,
Norma Madayag-Reilly



Discussion groups hard at work

DON'T FORGET:

- ☐ **Financial Literacy Seminar**
9/26, 9am–12pm, hospital Rotary room
RSVP joannterry7@gmail.com



**The Rotarian
Minute History**

No. 47 – September 6, 2026

1 minute to discover an aspect of Rotary's history

The pride of being a Rotarian

Being a Rotarian is not simply about belonging to an organization. It is about choosing to be useful.

It means looking at the world as it is, with its injustices, its fragilities, and its challenges, and deciding not to remain a spectator.

I am proud to be a Rotarian because, wherever we are, we can turn an idea into action, an encounter into friendship, and a difficulty into hope.

I am proud to be a Rotarian because we don't ask, "What can Rotary do for me?" but rather, "What can I do for others?"

I feel this pride every time a donation saves a life, a young person finds their path, someone regains hope, or an action brings women and men together around a common cause.

Being a Rotarian means having the opportunity to give meaning to your commitment.

And above all, it means belonging to a community that doesn't just dream of a better world.

We roll up our sleeves... and we take action.



The Rotary Minute is a creation of District 1700.
Please send any comments or suggestions to laminute1700@gmail.com

Check out The Rotarian Minute at <https://therotarianminute.org>