



The See-Way

2024-2025



Erie Club 5136, Organized in 1913

District 7280

October 8, 2024

Vol 2024 No. 04

Join Us This Week: Wed. October 9th



Mary Bula - Erie Together

Lunch begins at 11:30, with meeting & speaker promptly at 12 pm noon.
Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel | 55 West Bay Dr. Erie, PA 16507

Mary Bula has led Erie Together, a countywide collective impact movement to make the Erie region a community of opportunity where everyone can learn, work and thrive, since April 2012.



Mary is an accomplished meeting facilitator, and also serves on a number of nonprofit, education and youth-related boards and committees. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Allegheny College and a Master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. She was recognized as one of 12 "Women Making History" in 2022 by the Mercy Center for Women and one of five "Inspiring People" in 2016 by the Erie Times-News, was named 2014 Citizen of the Year by the northwest PA Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers, and received a "Generation eLeadership Award" from the Young Erie Professionals (yep!) in 2007. Mary is also a graduate of the Leadership Erie Class of 1999.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86522530793?pwd=Q0NLNVkvcEIBY1hnVnZDQWtHemFTZz09>

Meeting ID: 865 2253 0793 Passcode: 1424

Upcoming:

October 17th from 6 - 8 pm

District Governor, Zach Covington

Please join us for an evening social meeting at Calamari's. This will be a combined evening with the Presque Isle, Corry and Wesleyville Rotary Clubs.



Support the fight for a Polio-free world. With a \$20 donation to PolioPlus (in advance or at the door), enjoy complimentary beer, snacks, and fun! Bring \$\$\$ for raffle items and the 50/50.

For more than 35 years, Rotary and our partners have driven the effort to eradicate polio. Rotary's PolioPlus program was the first initiative to tackle global polio eradication by vaccinating children on a massive scale.

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.

Coming Soon ...

We will be introducing our young professional and corporate membership option soon. Be on the look out for ideal candidates to become a part of our Club!



Save the Date
Ethics Symposium 2025
Tues. Mar. 4th



Upcoming Events

Wednesday October 23, 2024

Bill Miller - Pennsylvania Chamber of Business & Industry



Bill Miller is the Vice President of Membership, his responsibilities include developing relationships with current and prospective Investor members, including membership sales and retention, member relations and serving as a liaison for the business community throughout the western counties. Miller's twenty-year career includes public affairs and strategic communications for a diverse set of clients and employers within the health care, energy, financial services, housing, non-profit, and manufacturing sectors. Miller's community leadership includes serving on the board of the Network of Hope and volunteering with the Boy Scouts of America. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Communication from Ohio University and is a graduate of the Public Affairs Council's Public Affairs Institute.

Wednesday November 6, 2024

Julie Slomski - Executive Director of the Western PA Port Authority

Prior to taking on the Executive Director role in May of 2024, Slomski has spent the past nine months serving as the Port Authority's Deputy Executive Director. Before coming to the Port Authority, Slomski served as the Chief Clerk for Erie County, acting as Chief of Staff to seven County Council members. She has also held roles locally with Logistics Plus, Inc. as Human Resources Manager and later as Special Project Manager/COVID-19 Response Leader and CMI Energy as a Logistics Specialist.



The Four-Way Test Award - Diane Chido

Diane Chido was presented with the Four-Way Test Award at the Annual Sail Boat Watch Social on August 14th. Diane is recognized for her steadfast commitment to the Rotary Club of Erie. Over the years she has spearheaded many projects and activities related to the Rotary Club. Her most notable being her time as Club President and also, the History of The Rotary Club book she created. Diane shares her genuine passion for the Rotary Club and is a vessel of Erie Rotary Club knowledge as her Father & Grandfather served within the club years ago. Diane is recognized with this award on behalf of the Club. We are truly lucky to have her! Thank you Diane and Congratulations! The Four-Way Test Award is an award given by Rotary clubs to recognize people who exemplify the Rotary 4-Way Test and demonstrate outstanding community and volunteer service.

Interact Club: Plans for a Peace Pole In Erie

Students and staff from Erie County Technical School are gearing up for an action packed year of activities, including the creation and installation of our Rotary Club Peace Pole. This has been something our Club has wanted to do for years and is finally becoming closer to a reality. **The Rotary Peace Pole is internationally recognized symbol of the hopes and dreams of the entire human family, bearing the message May Peace Prevail on Earth in eight different languages on each of its four sides.** We are excited for this new partnership and will maintain previous relationships with representation from Prep Villa students, as well support their activities. Information will be forthcoming as details become available.





Recent Activities & Events



On September 25th, Honey Stempka, Co-Manager for the designation process for the proposed Lake Erie National Marine Sanctuary presented. She shared with the group the incredible history of Lake Erie, specifically related to our region and how designating this a National Sanctuary will impact the community. The completion of the actual designation is approximately three years out. There is ongoing efforts to create a council that will include representatives from various user groups, such as fishing, diving, economic development, education, maritime heritage and the general public.

"National marine sanctuaries are underwater parks, according to NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. There are 15 so far and another five have been proposed. Adding a sanctuary in the Pennsylvania portion of Lake Erie would enable NOAA to protect the region's maritime heritage resources, including a nationally significant collection of shipwrecks, according to the agency." Erie-Times News July 15th 2024.

Interact Club - Erie County Technical School

Erie County Technical School staff and students were present at the September 25th meeting. This was a great chance for everyone to meet the newly installed Interact Club through ECTS. This group was formed due to student interest that developed after the 2024 Ethics Symposium. This is a unique opportunity because students who attend ECTS are county-wide. We look forward to work with our new group and will continue to update the club with updates.

Photo: Matt LaVerde -School Director, Darlene Newell - Cosmetology Director, Students Melanie & Ryleigh, Alaina Litz - Sports Medicine, and Rotary Club President Karen Staab.



Welcome to the Rotary Club of Erie!

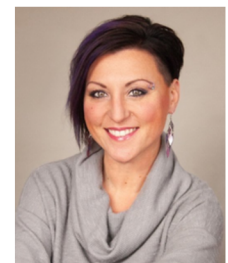
Be sure to share a friendly Rotarian Welcome our newest members to the Rotary of Erie Club. It is important that we all share in taking part with ongoing club activities. A club that works together - Thrives Together!



Christopher Cherry
Supervisor ECCM
July 2024



Wayne Patterson
SLS, Director of HR
July 2024



Gisele Littrell
Tipsy Bean, Owner
August 2024

Exchange Student Update

Rotary Club of Erie welcomed a Rotary Exchange Student, Ane Andueza Blanco, on August 27, 2024. UPDATE: Thanks to all who have contributed funds for our foreign exchange student, Ane. To date, we have received \$1,800 and have \$3,000 pledged. Just \$1,200 more to go. If you wish to contribute, please send a check made out to the Rotary Club of Erie Scholarship Foundation and mail to: PO Box 1424, Erie PA 16512 or you may contact Geri Cicchetti. Thank You to everyone who as assisted in this process.



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

Programming Committee:

Brevin Flowers

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.

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: Geri Cicchetti

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:


David Rinderle

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: Erinn

Lake

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



The Four-Way Test
of what we think, say or do

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build good will and better friendships?
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

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.



HAPPY Birthday

Member Birthdays	Birthday
Maureen Rizzo	02 October
Greg Loop	03 October
Robin Scheppner	04 October
Melanie R. Titzel	14 October
Nathan Koble	17 October

HAPPY Anniversary

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

Member Anniversaries	Start Date	Years
Marc Turner	10/01/17	7
Samuel P. Black, III	10/09/96	28
Jack Daneri	10/13/10	14
Jim Hynes	10/15/14	10
Elizabeth Hirz	10/19/23	1
Brian Gorman	10/20/10	14
Karen Tyler	10/28/15	9



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!"

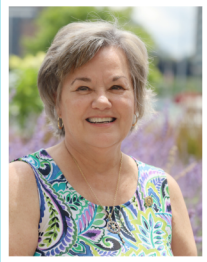




Meet the 2024-2025 Board

Listed below are the prospective candidates for the 2024-2025 Rotary Year. We are excited to have this group of individuals oblige at their opportunity to serve as a person of action within our Club. We appreciate the work contributed by each of these members and look forward to the new ideas coming forth. *As People of Action, we all have the ability to make a positive difference within our own Club and Community.*

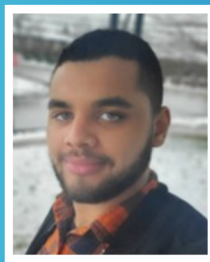
Dr. Karen Staab



Karen has been a member of the Rotary Club of Erie since February of 2020. She is a PA licensed psychologist and a PA certified school psychologist with over 25 years of experience working in public and private school settings, as well as providing behavioral health assessment and support through Behavioral Health Rehabilitative Services. Karen is an advocate for promoting membership, club grants, has successfully coordinated the Ethics Symposium and Club Picnic, and has played an essential role in other Rotary events. We are lucky to have Karen serve in this leadership role and excited to see what she has in store for our club.



Gus Pine
President Elect



Brevin Flowers
Program Chair



Geri Cichetti
Treasurer/Past President



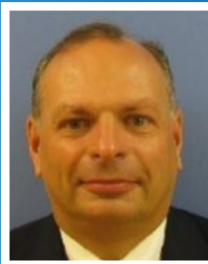
Karen Tyler
Secretary



Nathan Kobel
Board Member



Clark Kuebler
Board Member



Joseph Kuvshnikov
Board Member



Erinn Lake
Board Member



Penny Mechley-Porter
Board Member



David Rinderle
Board Member



Richard Seymour
Board Member



Mike Zavasky
Board Member



The See-Way



August 14th - Four-Way Test & Sail Boat Races

Photographs below are proof that we are following the 5th question - "And Is It Fun?" Most definitely our club knows how to have a good time. We embrace each season and balance our meetings of business with a social meeting by watching the glorious Lake Erie Sunsets. The evening was extra special by recognizing Diane Chido as our 2024 Four-Way Test recipient.

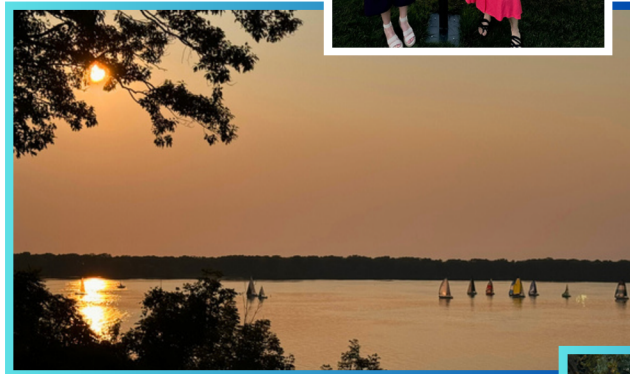
THE FOUR WAY TEST
OF THE THINGS WE THINK, SAY OR DO

FIRST IS IT THE TRUTH?

SECOND IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?

THIRD WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

FOURTH WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?



October 7, 2024

Greetings Rotary Club of Erie Members!

The year has moved so quickly already and I had hoped to get a letter out to you monthly, but it looks like it might be quarterly...

I first want to thank all the Rotary members who have stepped up to help with tasks and assume responsibilities for promoting and maintaining our Club functions. Please let me or any member of the Board know if you would like to get involved in a project.

One important event to note! We have our Pints for Polio night on Thursday, October 17, 2024. **This will also be a visit from our District Governor, Zach Covington** and is a combined meeting with the other clubs of our Region—Presque Isle, Wesleyville, and Corry. There is a \$20 contribution at the door for pizza, snacks, and beer. I am hoping you will join me to make this night a success; it is important that we have strong representation at this event. This event is open to non-members also, so please feel free to bring a friend or potential Rotary member. We will be running a 50-50 that night AND a basket raffle. If you would like to contribute to the basket raffle, please let me know. ALL of the proceeds from the 50-50 and the basket raffle will come to our Club to support our Pints for Polio fundraising! Event flyer is attached.

Our Board of Directors continues to serve the Club in various leadership roles. Our board includes Gus Pine, President Elect, Dr. Karen Tyler, Board Secretary, Geri Cicchetti, Treasurer, Brevin Flowers, Program Chair, Penny Mechley-Porter, Nathan Koble, Mike Zavasky, Dr. Erinn Lake, Dr. Joseph Kuvshnikov, and Clarke Kuebler. We have filled the two remaining seats since the last letter; Richard Seymour and David Rinderle have assumed leadership roles through their Board participation. If you have ideas for improving our Club or volunteer opportunities in the community, please reach out to a Board member.

As many of you know, our traditional Interact Club at Villa Maria was transitioned to being part of a Mission Club at Cathedral Prep. While this is not a defined Interact Club, we will continue to work with the youth at Cathedral Prep in the activities of their Interact Club. Nick Porciello has agreed to serve as the liaison with the Club. Members of the Club, along with their faculty advisors, will be guests at our October 9, 2024 meeting.

One unexpected, but welcome, happening is the sponsorship of a Rotary Exchange student. Ane Andueza Bianco from Spain had been scheduled to come to New Hampshire, but her potential host family there had to cancel their commitment to hosting her. So, with the enormous effort of members, Tatiana Bogatova, Dr. Joe Kuvshnikov, and Geri Cicchetti, Ane arrived on August 27, 2024. Several Rotary members, including MaryEllen Dahlkemper, David Lastowski, Robin Scheppner and myself, have contributed to cover her tuition at Cathedral Prep. Geri was also able to obtain a commitment from a non-Rotary member to contribute to this cause. Thank you to Michael Gaines and the trustees of the Scholarship Foundation for their work in facilitating her ability to attend Cathedral Prep. We are still in need of approximately \$1200.00 to cover the costs of her semester; donations can be made to the Rotary Club of Erie Scholarship Foundation, directed to Geri Cicchetti. Ane and her host family will be with us at our meeting on October 9, 2024; be sure to welcome her and thank her host family for their commitment.

We have launched the new Interact Club at the Erie County Technical School. The students and staff have eagerly engaged with our Club members and are actively planning for the Peace Pole project. The



construction of the pole will be completed by the students and they will work with the City of Erie Public Works Department to address all construction and placement details. This is a great opportunity for the students and a productive way to get them involved in the work of Rotary. A big thank you to LeeAnn Parmenter, Assistant Director of Public Works, committing and working with the students on this project.

We continue to make progress on our projects for the coming year. We will have some signature events that include the following:

- Ethics Symposium—Dr. Erinn Lake is chairing this event (and doing a thorough job!), scheduled for March 4, 2025, and has been working on curriculum updates with Dr. Verna Ehret and informing schools of the date of the event.
- Peace Pole—the site of the Peace Pole will be in Griswold Plaza. The ECTS students are working on the project designs already and will begin construction soon. We plan on having a dedication ceremony in the Spring!
- Bingo Fundraiser—Brevin Flowers and Derrick Gernatt have volunteered to co-chair this event. The event will be on February 2, 2024 at the Polish Falcons Club. We have some individuals who have volunteered for the committee to make this fundraiser a success.

In addition to these above projects, we will be participating the following:

- Festival of the Trees—Caroline Staab (and I) will be working on decorating a Rotary-themed tree—Please join us to assist!
- Ringing of the Bell for Salvation Army—waiting for information from Salvation Army!

These opportunities will only happen through your involvement—please volunteer to organize and/or participate in some of these service opportunities!

We are continuing our membership campaign. Members are always welcome to join, but through November 1 our campaign will be in place. The membership drive so far has included billboards on Peach Street and West 12th Street, as well as beginning to air our meetings through Penn State Behrend on their WPSE radio channel. Norm Stark and I also appeared on The Insider with Lisa Adams at WSEE TV (<https://www.erienewsnow.com/clip/15488987/rotary-club-of-erie-the-insider>) to promote the Club. In addition, we are the incentive that we previously ran in the winter/spring:

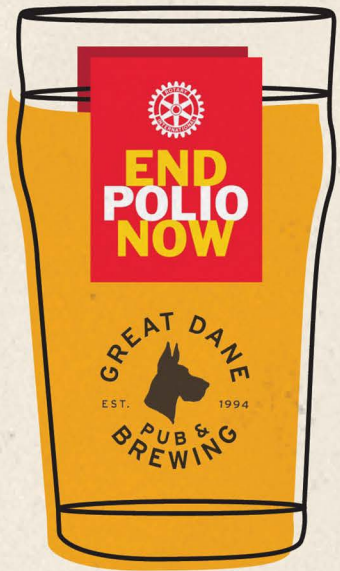
- Members are encouraged to invite guests to meetings, which will be charged to the Club and encourage them to join.
- For every guest that then joins, the member who invited them will be awarded either a \$20.00 gift card to a local business or a \$20.00 credit to their account.
- The member with the most invited guests joining the Club will receive a free membership quarter (valuing \$175.00), payable on January 1, 2025.
- We currently have four new members, Sue Hauber (Geri Cicchetti recruiter), Christopher Cherry (Karen Staab recruiter), Wayne Patterson (Dr. Erinn Lake recruiter) and Giselle Littrell. Giselle found us independently, after researching Rotary and looking for a local Club.

Remember, this is your Club! In the spirit of Rotary (Service Above Self), get involved in some activity, committee, or aspect of the Club and experience the accomplishments and fellowship that come with membership.

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Staab".

The Rotary Club of Erie Invites you to join us



pints for POLIO

Support the fight for a Polio-free world.

With a \$20 donation to PolioPlus (in advance or at the door), enjoy complimentary beer, snacks, and fun. Bring \$\$\$ for raffle items and the 50/50

EVERY DOLLAR DONATED WILL BE MATCHED 2-1 BY THE BILL AND MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION.

Join us at Calamari's Squid Row

1317 State Street in
Downtown Erie on
Thursday October 17
6-8 pm

ERADICATING POLIO ONE PINT AT A TIME

For more than 35 years, Rotary and our partners have driven the effort to eradicate polio. Rotary's PolioPlus program was the first initiative to tackle global polio eradication by vaccinating children on a massive scale.

Special thanks to Rotarian Marci Honard of Calamari's Squid Row for donating the space and appetizers and Rotarian Mike McCormick of Erie Beer for well, the beer!



Learn more at endpolio.org



Shine for ShelterBox

Thursday, November 14, 2024, 6:30 – 9:30 pm
Stables at Connoquenessing, Renfrew, Pa.

An Evening of Gourmet Food, Entertainment, and Fun

Program Description:

- Social hour with drinks and hors d’oeuvres by Marshall Catering
- Welcome by local personalities
- Tours of ShelterBox tent and equipment
- Live presentation by nationally known ShelterBox Response Team member (SRT)
- Virtual connection to national Evening to Experience ShelterBox
- Prizes throughout the night
- Cupcake auction with sumptuous pastries by Mainstreet Bake Shop

Yes, I want to support ShelterBox in keeping families safe and by attending this event.

Tickets:

___ (#) Patron Admission: \$50 Includes admission to social hour with drinks and hors d’oeuvres, prizes, and seating at all presentations.

___ (#) VIP Supporter: \$100 Includes everything in Patron Admission plus VIP seating, VIP drink access, a VIP special gift, a special VIP prize drawing, and the knowledge that you are doing even more to help ShelterBox.

Total: _____

Contact Name: _____

Organization or Rotary Club (optional) _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Make check payable to "ShelterBox USA" and mail to:
David Sturrock, 7954 Franklin Rd, Evans City, PA 16033

We look forward to an evening of fabulous food, fellowship and fun while we work to raise \$30,000 for ShelterBox. Please join us!

MCKINLEY ELEMENTARY

a United Way community school

SILENT DISCO

fundraiser

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

5:00-9:00 P.M.

KINGS ROOK CLUB

1921 PEACH STREET ERIE, PA 16502

3 DJS 3 STYLES

[80'S] | [90'S] | [2000'S]

21+ EVENT | FOOD | RAFFLE BASKETS

\$25 PER PERSON | \$30 AT THE DOOR

APPETIZERS INCLUDED, DRNKS MUST BE PURCHASED

Purchase tickets:

<https://bit.ly/McKSilentDisco>

