

# CORTLAND BREAKFAST ROTARY NEWS

*We Have Fun, And We Get Things Done!*

✳️ CORTLANDBREAKFASTROTARY.ORG

✳️ EDITED BY SOPHIE WELBURN



**President Mark Roberts**

**Front Desk:**

Pat Clune  
Jessie Farrell

**Thought for the Day:**

Laurie Comfort

**Raffle Winner:** Kim Cameron

**Attendance:** 21  
**Zoom:** 3  
**Guests:**  
Frank Kelly

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Area 17 Social Gathering**

✳️ April 2, 2026 @ 5:30pm

Join us at Vespar Hills Golf Club in Tully for an evening of fun and fellowship!

**Ride for Rotary**

✳️ May 31, 2026

**McGruff Tournament**

✳️ June 18, 2026



## Meeting Our Members

Laurie Comfort,  
Kim Cameron  
& Pat Clune

Cortland Breakfast Rotary Club members Kim Cameron and Laurie Comfort filled in as guest speakers this week, plus a bonus update from Mayor Pat Clune!

**Kim Cameron**

Kim Cameron originates from New Orleans, and despite having lived in New York longer, she still considers it her hometown. She was a Tully resident for many years, now living in Preble since around 2007.

After earning an undergraduate degree in biology and a PhD in plant physiology, Kim worked as a research scientist at SUNY-ESF and Cornell, and as an adjunct professor at SUNY Cortland, and she carries a few patents on varieties of willows that she developed.

Kim started up a tutoring business, focusing on helping high school and college students prepare for degrees in math and science.

She was drawn to Rotary for the international aspect, having lived in Edinburgh for three years, and initially joined a club in Tully.

As she found herself moving into retirement, Kim is increasingly doing the things she wants to do, which includes focusing on being actively engaged in her community; she was introduced to the League of Women Voters by a friend, and after Kim's suggestion to the local League to educate and encourage rural voters was acted on, she thought "If they're going to listen to me, I think I've got to join!" Kim currently serves as the president of the LWV of Cortland County.

## Meeting Our Members continued...

### Laurie Comfort

Laurie was born in Cortland and is a graduate of McGraw High School. She moved back to Cortland right into the house she was born in. With her son and daughter all living on the same street, Laurie loves being surrounded by family.

Laurie has liked volunteering in her community since high school, when she was a candy striper at the hospital. She's been involved in various other commitments including serving on the Cortland County Planning Board, volunteering at the CNY Living History Center, and as a Parent-Teacher Organization mom.

Having worked in the banking world for thirty-nine years, Laurie started at the Cortland Savings Bank and currently works at the First National Bank of Dryden. The job has changed a lot over time, with ever more increases to security measures.

Rotary attracted Laurie for the opportunity to continue to help her community, for she's always enjoyed being an active community member.

### Mayor Pat Clune

Pat Clune provided some updates to the latest happenings in the village of Homer. An informational meeting was just held concerning the availability of \$450,000 to go to local small businesses. They've already received seven applications, and plan to announce awards within the next thirty days.

There is to be a Comprehensive Plan meeting this week; Homer is one of a few communities around that not only has a comprehensive plan, but is reviewing it for updates within the appropriate timeline.

There are several projects expected to break ground this summer, including the building of a boutique hotel, as well as the development of the Arbor Brook Flats townhome development.

### Anniversaries

Laurie Comfort (3/5/2025)  
Doug Withey (3/5/2025)

## NEEDED!

**Host family in Cortland school district for Oswin, exchange student from Paraguay.**

Reach out Frank Kelly or Ralph Dudgeon of the Noon Club.

**CONFERENCE 2026**  
*Strength in Every Ability*

- Service Without Limits
- Fellowship Without Barriers
- A Public Image That Reflects All of Us

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 11**  
SYRACUSE MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN

CNY **Rotary**

More info at [CNYRotary.org](http://CNYRotary.org)

## Happy Dollars

**Kim Cameron:** For Women's History Month, resolution just passed by the Cortland County Legislature.

**Glenn Reisweber:** Younger son teaches science in Dryden, and gets to incorporate maple sugaring into his lesson, the maple flowing is the best part of the lousy March "mudness."

**Jeremy Boylan:** Buckets are up and sap is flowing; warning- daughter has her driver's permit! Had a great time snowmobiling with Steve Cinquanti, can finally move again.

**Laurie Comfort:** For Doug's and her one-year Rotary anniversary!

**Doug Withey:** For his and Laurie's anniversary.

**Bob Martin:** Lime Hollow Maple Sugarin' Day on March 28<sup>th</sup>; board approved moving ahead with Meals of Hope this year.

**Dianne Higgins:** Woke up to bird song this morning!

**Terry Cahill:** For the anniversaries; survived a trip to Florida where he got to see the African Queen, got great photos but lost his phone!

**Sophie Welburn:** Hosted SUNY Cortland classes at the Cortland County Historical Society, it took them time to warm up but they started to get into history by the end of it!

**Frank Kelly:** Emphasis on prior announcement regarding need for a host family for Oswin; grand-daughter is heading to the German part of Switzerland for her exchange.

**Conrad Janke:** February 28<sup>th</sup> edition of the Cortland Standard had mentions of Sophie and Kim Cameron, nice to see Rotary members in the news.

**Mark Roberts:** Happy to see the dust cloud come out of Doug's wallet.

**Mike Shafer:** Grackle roosts outside his kitchen window, squawking early in the morning.

**Steve Cinquanti:** Happy to be back at camp, had a great time with Jeremy.

**Nothing About Us,  
Without Us: Women  
Who Led the Disability  
Rights Movement**

A virtual discussion,  
March 15<sup>th</sup>, 4 p.m.

*Celebrate*  
**WOMEN'S  
HISTORY  
MONTH**  
MARCH 2026

hosted by Emily  
Krichbaum, Ph.D.,  
National Women's  
History Museum



Please RSVP by  
March 13th





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## JUST A FEW MORE SPOTS OPEN!

### District 7180, Area 17 Social Gathering



The Loft at Vesper Hills



4589 Octagon Rd. Tully,

THE ROTARY CLUBS OF:  
TULLY, THE ROTARY CLUB OF CORTLAND, CORTLAND BREAKFAST,  
WHITNEY POINT

**April 2, 2026; 530pm—730pm**  
**Cost. \$15 per person, includes our d'oeuvres. (Let us know if you prefer gluten free)**

**The first 55 people to reply to Conrad Janke are in!**

**Text: 315-460-0258**

**Email: [conradjanke@mac.com](mailto:conradjanke@mac.com)**

**Venmo: @Conrad-Janke, or pay your Club Treasurer**

A chance to meet and socialize with Rotarians from our area, guests are welcome;

Featuring each Club explaining their Service Projects;  
A District Outline from District 7180 President **Bob Balk**.

