

The Updowntowner

January 2018

www.updowntowners.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018

**UPDOWNTOWNERS OF
SYRACUSE, Inc.**

advances and promotes
activities, events, and programs
to involve its members and
the general public in enriching
the social, cultural, educational,
commercial and residential life
of the Syracuse Community.

BOARD:

OFFICERS:

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Programs

Membership

Public Relations

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*Do your little bit of good
where you are;
it's those little bits of
good put together that
overwhelm the world.*

~ Desmond Tutu

**General Membership Meeting
January 2, 2018**

A. Call to Order & Welcome

B. Reports

1. President
2. Secretary – minutes of December meeting
3. Treasurer
4. Introduce new members and/or guests
5. Vice President
6. Public Relations
7. Membership
 - a. Holiday Cookie Exchange review
 - b. Sunshine
 - c. Outings
8. Special Events
 - a. Upcoming Events
 - b. Toys for Tots
9. Programs

C. Unfinished Business

D. New Business

E. Membership Announcements

F. 50/50 drawings

G. Adjournment

Volunteer Opportunities

Gingerbread Gallery

Erie Canal Museum

Continues through January 5th

Call 315-471-0593 to volunteer

Irish Road Bowling

Onondaga Lake Park

Sunday, March 18th



**Ralph Rotella, of Discount
Shoe Repair, Collects &
Repairs 16,000+ Shoes to
Give to Those in Need**

Congratulations to Ralph Rotella, owner of Discount Shoe Repair, who donated a whopping **16,127 pairs of shoes** to the Rescue Mission this year! He collects shoes throughout the year, repairing them as needed, so that as many people in need can have good shoes. The drive started seven years ago with 65 pairs of shoes donated, and it's grown exponentially since. Ralph

has already started collecting for next year. Anyone is encouraged to drop off their gently-used shoes to his store, located at 116 Washington Street. The goal next year is to get to 20,000 pairs of shoes!

Minutes: General Membership Meeting of December 5, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:08pm by President Bill Cooper.

No corrections were noted to the November meeting minutes; a motion was made by Tim Wright, seconded by Yvonne Russell, and the minutes were approved by the membership. Treasurer Ann Goehner reported balances as of October 31st as Checking: \$ and Investment: \$ There were no new members or guests in attendance tonight.

The General Operating Budget was reviewed, and explanation was made regarding moving out the line items that related to promotions against the \$ additional funding for that purpose that was approved in May 2017. Motion to approve was made by Don Goulet, seconded by Tim Wright and approved unanimously by the membership. Discussion followed on the budget for the 2018 Chili & Chowder Cook-offs. Proposal was made at the Board meeting to double the prize money in hopes of attracting more entries, but no decision was made. This was thought to be a good idea even if the budget would show a negative balance. Motion to approve with the same budget figures as in 2017 but with double the prize line was made by Len Kolakowski, seconded by Tim Wright, and approved by the membership.

Vice President Don Goulet had nothing new to report.

Under Public Relations: The program for Lights on the Lake with our 1/2 page ad is now being distributed to each car that attends the event.

In Membership, in Sunshine a card was sent to Sue Hennessey for condolences on the passing of her husband, Tom Hennessey (both were former members). The Meet Out/Eat Out location for December is Vito's Ristorante on Tuesday, the 14th. Other activities are Board Games & Cards at the West Genesee St. Wegman's on Thursday the 28th and gathering for the Skaneateles Dicken's Christmas on Saturday the 16th. Our annual Holiday Cookie Exchange is on this Sunday, the 10th, at Bill Cooper's house from 2pm – 6pm.

Special Events Director Diane Knowlton reported the following volunteer opportunities: Festival of Trees continues at Everson Museum of Art through Dec. 10; Gingerbread Gallery at Erie Canal Museum runs through Jan. 5; and Salvation Army Christmas Bureau distribution is at Shoppingtown on Wednesday, December 20th. Our toy donation to Toys for Tots will be part of the SA Bureau giveaway.

Programs Director Josie Losurdo was absent. Bill Cooper reported there are 7 or 8 Wing Walk locations who have verbally committed so far. Syracuse Winterfest update: theme will be "it's so nICE in our city", creating a "Passport" to offer ticket package sales discounts with additional coupons, hope to bring back the Human Dog Sled Race.

Break (6:28 – 6:50)

In Unfinished Business, the 2017 Volunteer Recognition Dinner is now scheduled for Thursday, January 4th at Vito's; everyone will get an email showing events worked & meetings attended, and if they'd need to pay in. There was no New Business. Under Membership Announcements, Barb McNiff is holding a cookie exchange on Sunday the 17th, beginning at 3pm.

In the 50/50 drawing, Ann Goehner and Bill Cooper had numbers drawn resulting in each receiving \$6.50. Motion to adjourn was made at 6:55pm by Tim Wright and seconded by Don Goulet.



Welcome to Downtown Syracuse! Three new businesses made their Downtown Syracuse debut in December.

Orbis Lounge

134 E. Genesee Street OrbisLounge.com or 315-885-3456

Orbis Lounge is Hanover Square's newest bar with a wide variety of culturally select food options, more than 20 draught beers on tap, and a wide variety of craft cocktails. Whether you're looking for a night on the dance floor, an opportunity to taste the most popular cocktails from around the world, or just a night out in a friendly atmosphere, Orbis Lounge offers something for everyone.



D TRAIN



ARMORY SQUARE
SYRACUSE, NY

D-Train Doggie Daycare

530 S. Clinton Street

DTrainArmorySquare.com or 315-440-1277

D-Train Doggie Daycare is downtown's only doggie daycare facility, conveniently located in Armory Square. Bring your dog(s) to a welcoming, safe and well-managed facility where they can play and exercise with other dogs. D-Train is open Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Sahm Brewing Company

203 S. Salina Street [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/sahmbrewing) or 315-877-7246

Sahm Brewing Company is downtown's newest brewery, located in the former Clark's Ale House space. The brewery focuses on small batches, and explores all styles of beer. Sahm also serves beer from other local breweries, as well as New York wines. The owner hopes to add a limited pub menu in the future. The brewery is open from 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm Wednesday through Friday, 1:00 pm to 10:00 pm on Saturday, and 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Sunday.



New Security Cameras Throughout Downtown

New cameras in downtown's southern neighborhood join existing fleet, wired into SPD's existing network

Just before Christmas, thanks to a grant from the Syracuse Industrial Development Agency, new cameras were installed at seven locations in Downtown Syracuse's southern neighborhood. These cameras join the existing fleet of ten cameras that were installed in July 2015 and are wired into the Syracuse Police Department's existing camera network. The new camera locations were selected in partnership between the Downtown Committee and the Syracuse Police Department, prioritizing areas that experience high visitor traffic. The cameras are intended to serve as an additional tool to enhance the sense of safety and preserve the quality of life downtown, while protecting significant investments being made in this burgeoning neighborhood and throughout Downtown Syracuse.

\$500,000 New York Main Street Grant to Spur Redevelopment Throughout Downtown Syracuse



The Downtown Committee of Syracuse, Inc. received a \$500,000 grant through the New York Main Street program to continue Downtown's upward trajectory. The funds will support the redevelopment of properties located within the Heart of Downtown Syracuse, to create connections between existing destinations in the Convention District and Armory and Hanover Squares. This round of New York Main Street funds will target the Salina and Warren Street corridors, prioritizing commercial and residential improvements to convert remaining vacancies into shopping and dining destinations and new residential addresses and offices. The ultimate goal is to increase density and street-level activity. The Downtown Committee is the most-awarded organization in Central New York for this grant program and has administered five previous New York Main Street grants.

DOWNTOWN SYRACUSE DATA





24 NEW RETAIL BUSINESSES 2017 saw the debut of 24 new businesses including nine restaurants, two Grab-and-Go style grocery and convenience stores, three salons and two new tattoo parlors. *With 24 new business openings, that means on average, two new businesses opened each month for you to try!*

DEVELOPMENT DOLLARS: \$285 MILLION Since 2010, more than \$650 million has been invested in redevelopment projects throughout Downtown Syracuse. In 2017, we saw nearly \$115 million in redevelopment activity completed in Downtown Syracuse. Another \$170 million is already underway for projects in 2018! *To put this into perspective, \$285 million in development dollars is the equivalent of every Downtown employee (28,000 people!) investing just a little more than \$10,000 of their own funds into Downtown Syracuse annually. Or, if we're talking residents, that's almost \$80,000 annually for each person (3,600 people!) who lives Downtown!*

DOWNTOWN'S POPULATION: 3,600 & CLIMBING Collectively, Downtown residents have extended the life of Downtown Syracuse beyond the traditional workday; the evidence is all around us! Businesses have extended their hours into the evenings, while some restaurants have expanded to also include weekend hours. In some cases, water bowls have been placed outside to help Downtown's ever-increasing dog population quench their thirst! *With new apartments now at the State Tower Building, as well as the Tallman Block in Armory Square and the Empire Building at the southern gateway to Downtown Syracuse, Downtown's population has grown 8% since this time last year.*

DCS EVENT ATTENDANCE: 150,000 PEOPLE February's Downtown Dining Weeks drew an estimated 45,000 hungry Central New Yorkers to partake in once-a-year deals from a record 32 participating restaurants! 2,387 people explored some of the newest examples of apartment and condo style living in May during the Downtown Living Tour. The Downtown Farmers Market brought 3,000 people to Clinton Square each Tuesday during the summer months. The Syracuse Arts & Crafts Festival, a colorful showcase of some of the most talented artists in the world, attracted 50,000 visitors to Columbus Circle during the last weekend in July, and in October, 500 Downtown employees took a "Coffee Break" with Cafe Kubal in Hanover Square. *Wait until you see what's planned in 2018!*

1,104 VOLUNTEER HOURS And not only are people coming to events, they're giving back as well! On Earth Day, 402 of you rolled up your sleeves, met at one of the four gateway entrances into Downtown Syracuse, and helped give that and the surrounding area a spring cleaning. With each volunteer dedicating two hours to the cause, that day alone garnered 804 hours of volunteer service! *Save the date for the next Downtown Earth Day Clean-Up, scheduled for April 21, 2018.* In May, 96 volunteers spent 2.5 hours apiece helping to shepherd tour-goers through eight of the most-talked about apartments and condos in Downtown Syracuse. And in June, 30 volunteers from Young Leaders United and The Bonadio Group spent a total of 60 hours turning soil and sowing seeds of vibrancy in the form of purple petunias to make sure Downtown was attractive and welcoming to visitors during festival season.

	HAPPY NEW YEAR 1	General Membership Meeting 6pm San Miguel's 2	3	Volunteer Recognition Dinner 4	Happy Hour- ? 5	6	
7		8	9	Meet Out/ Eat Out 10	Meet Out/ Eat Out 11	Happy Hour- ? 12	13
14	Board Games & Cards 6pm, Wegman's in Dewitt 15	Board Meeting 6pm, Outback 16	17	18	Happy Hour- ? 19		20
21	22	Meet Out/ Eat Out 23		24	25	Happy Hour- ? 26	27
28	29	30	31	January 2018			

Meet Out / Eat Out

Wednesday, Jan. 10th at 6pm
Pavone's Pizza
Chimney Plaza, Bridge St.

Thursday, Jan. 11th at 5:30pm
Attilio's Restaurant
Regency Tower

Tuesday, May 23rd at 6pm
Santangelo's
Old Liverpool Road

Call Diane at 426-2880 for reservations



The Updowntowners' generous donation for the 2017 toy drive yielded a total of **70 gifts**, large & small, for needy children. Your gift is more than just a toy it is a gift of hope, love, and joy.

Save the Date:
Iron Chef Cooking Competition
Saturday, March 3rd



Russ Seager
January 1st

Tom Bock
January 12th

Yvonne Russell
January 13th