



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

May 10, 2016: Volume XXIII, Issue 45



## PROBING THE PRIVY



Rock Island Rotarian, Kevin Koski introduced his younger sister as “The second smartest member of the family”. Ann Koski showed she also inherited a bit of the “Finnish” wit, retorting that yes indeed, “Mom was the smartest”. Ann, an anthropology graduate of the University of Michigan with master’s degrees from both Northwestern and Eastern Illinois Universities, presented a moving program entitled “Privies to Plumbing, a History of the Toilet”.



Now retired, Ann served as Director of various Museums, ending her career at the Historical Museum of Madison, Wisconsin. She now is an active consultant and has appeared as an expert on numerous television programs, including the popular, *Antique Roadshow*. Through photos and humorous narration Ann took Rotarians on a stimulating journey from the earliest Greek and Roman marble (and very public) latrines, to medieval castles with offset public “seating”, dropping waste into the moat, to urban areas where waste was thrown into the street and allowed to wash through channels to nearby streams and rivers, to colonial America where the traditional “outhouse” gained popularity and wide use. Ann showed photos of outhouses built at the end of piers, allowing raw sewage to drop into rivers, privies built overhanging the edge of cliffs allowing

waste to drop over the cliff, and outhouse attached to barns. There were even two story outhouses (watch out below)! Her talk then flowed into the development of the modern bathroom, beginning with the “Thunder Mug” found under the bed, whose use was reserved primarily for the ill and elderly, to the early toilets that “flushed” with finely ground soil as opposed to water. Ann informed the club that the push for a modern toilet system came about after Louis Pasteur discovered germs and people began to understand sanitation and risks caused by raw waste in water and privies saturating soil near wells that provided water for cooking and drinking. She pointed out that the modern bathroom brought three functions together that had typically been separate. Toilet facilities, which were previously outdoors, washing facilities which previously were bowl and basins in bedrooms, and bathing which had primarily been a weekly function performed in portable tubs brought into the kitchen on Saturday night. That weekly fun event lost much of its glamour when Ann pointed out that one tub full of water first served the oldest male in the home, often grandpa, followed in age order down to the youngest boy. Then the oldest female got her turn followed in age order by all other females. The last to bathe was the baby, hence the phrase “Don’t through the baby out with the bath water”, because by the time baby got the tub, the water was typically a bit murky to say the least! Ann’s comments conclude with a review of the evolution of toilet paper. In early Roman times it was a sponge attached to a stick and a scraper, then came corn cobs, followed by newspaper, catalogs, and finally perforated paper. Overall Ann taught us everything one might want to know about a modern convenience we take for granted! Thanks Ann for a fun and informative program, although I must admit that all this talk about toilets has me a bit flushed!

### March – May Calendar

- May 17 - Rotary Foundation – Rotarian, Bud Phillis
- May 24 - Financial Scams – Rotarian, Andrew Guzzo
- May 31 - Kiwanis Joint Meeting
- June 7 - Shelly Wells Cain – Girls Scouts
- June 14 - TBA
- June 21 - Gail Brooks – RI Housing Auth.
- June 28 - President, John Phillips
- July 5 - New President, Steve Morenz



Club of Rock Island

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### Officers

John Phillips, President  
Steve Morenz, 1st VP  
Bruce Peterson, 2nd VP  
Anne McGlynn, Secretary  
Carrie Crossen, Treasurer  
Mike Locander, Past President

### Board Members

Angela Campbell  
Sue Cassatt  
John Daly  
Lawrence Davis  
Jeff Eder  
Mark Mayeski  
Carrie O'Neill  
Billy Puckett

Co-Sergeant At Arms  
Vic Boblett & Bob Swanson

### Program Chairs 2015-16

Dec.- Jan: John Wetzel  
Feb – March: Bob Swanson  
April – May: Kevin Koski  
June – July: Diane Koster



## Club Notes & Announcements!

☐ **Welcome Guests!** Rock Island Rotary was pleased to welcome Diane Phillis, wife of past president Bud Phillis and Jane Koski, wife of past president Kevin Koski to today's meeting. Also we welcomed visiting Rotarians, Duncan Cameron, from the Naples, Florida Club; and, Mark Zimmerman, from the Davenport Club. Two Alleman High School Jr. Rotarians, Meaghan Verstraete and Brad Johnson were greeted. We also welcomed Rocky Entrepreneur Class students Stephanie Marceleno and Lauren Forslund. Prospective member Cecilia Nache was a guest of Steve Morenz. Special guests of the club were Jordan EarlyAct President Ellen De, EarlyAct Treasurer Isaiah Diehl, EarlyAct Secretary Lauren Reger, and EarlyAct, Teacher/Advisor Jennifer Heckenkamp. Welcome to All!!

☐ **Volunteers Needed for JDC!** The Moline Rotary Club has the 18<sup>th</sup> hole during the John Deere Classic. It takes about 10 to 12 persons at all times to make this happen and the Moline Rotary is extending an invitation to Rock Island Rotary to help cover the slots. The classic is the weekend of August 11, but will run from Wednesday thru Sunday. Your entrance fee is free, but you will have to buy a Tee Shirt that costs about \$25. You get free snacks while on duty and a free lunch at noon time. If you are interested, please contact Sam Wray at 799-5160 or Kent Crippen at 787-3514.

☐ **Earl Hanson Collection!** For the month of May, Rotarians are asked to donate glue sticks for Earl Hanson Elementary School. If you don't care to shop you can donate cash and Club members will shop for you.

☐ **Have Items for our Newsletter?** For May publication send to Bob Swanson at [bobdebswanson@att.net](mailto:bobdebswanson@att.net). For June publication send items to Holly Sparkman at [hksparkman@gmail.com](mailto:hksparkman@gmail.com).



### PHOTOS FOR DIRECTORY

Need a photo for the 2016-2017 Club Directory? We'll be taking photos prior to our next 3 meetings. If you need one or just want a new one, don't be shy! Just step up and say "cheese"!



### The F U N Committee!

Save the Date!! Sunday, June 12, Noon - 5p.m is the next Rock Island Rotary FUN Committee event. Mary Fislar (and her Kiwanian husband, Dick) have graciously volunteered to host a Rotary yard party alongside (and in if you like!) their lovely backyard pool. Bring a dish to share, meat will be provided! Some of our Caribbean Cruise Rotarians have agreed to show off their bartending skills in recreating some of the delicious beverages of St. Thomas, Jamaica, Aruba, and other exotic tropical destinations. Swimming and checking out the adult beverages is optional. Your presence, fellowship, and fun is mandatory! This is a Rotary family event! Bring spouse/sig. other!

## IT'S BIRDIES TIME!



Official "Birdman", Kevin Koski, reports that we're off to a good start on this year's Birdies For Charity Campaign. All funds raised will go to our Rock Island Rotary Club Foundation. This insures that the funds will be used solely for projects benefiting our local community. This is a great way to help our Club build our Foundation resources. You simply pledge to pay either a set amount (\$25, \$50, etc.) or pledge 1¢ or 2¢ or more for each birdie scored by the PGA pros during the John Deere Classic Tournament. (1¢ usually equals about \$20).

The John Deere Classic doesn't get any of your donation. Your entire donation comes to Rock Island Rotary, plus the John Deere Classic Foundation matches your donation in part. So your donation to our club through Birdies for Charity actually multiplies into more than your original donation. You also are invited to guess how many birdies the pros will score during the tournament. The prize, if you win is a new car! (One of our Rotary Club Members has won the car in the past!) and if you're the closest of any of our Club members, you win \$50 cash! Donate today!

## RAFFLE SUPPORTS FOUNDATION

The foundation raffle featured wine from Lo Milani's cellar and cash. The cash was won by Tom Showalter who donated his winnings to the Rotary Foundation. Guest, Jane Koski took home the wine. We are assuming hubby Kevin may get to share!

**THANKS TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED!!**

## DISTRICT RECOGNIZES OUR CLUB!

Last week we reported that Rock Island Rotary dominated the annual Rotary District Awards presented at the District Conference. This week, District 6420 published a press release touting our accomplishments. In part the District release reported,

*"Rock Island Rotary received a number of awards and recognitions at the Rotary District Conference in Rockford on April 29 – May 1 in Rockford. The local service organization was recognized for the best "Project of the Year" for the Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Class at Rock Island High School. Rock Island Rotary provided financial support and volunteers to get this innovative class started in cooperation with the Rock Island-Milan Education Foundation.*

*Steve Morenz, First Vice-President of Rock Island Rotary won the award for Officer of the Year for his work to expand membership and for his leadership in fund raising.*

*Three literacy awards were received in recognition of the partnership with Earl Hanson School and other efforts to improve literacy in the Rock Island community. Rock Island Rotary regularly donates books and school supplies to Earl Hanson School. In 2015 the club donated over 200 books to children enrolled in the Summer Youth Enrichment Program.*

*Finally, the "Governor's Citation Award" was given by District Governor Jim Nelson in recognition of Rock Island Rotary's growth in membership and support for the Rotary Foundation. Only four of the 48 clubs in Rotary District 6420 received this special award.*



Literacy Awards won by Rock Island Rotary on display at last week's Club meeting.



Steve Morenz gets "Officer of the Year" Award

District 6420 Governor Jim Nelson presents Diamond Awards to Rock Island Rotary Club President John Phillips and to Club President-Elect, Steve Morenz at the recent 2016 District Conference.



John Phillips accepts "Project of the Year" Award

## Jordan EarlyAct Club Visits!



Teacher/Advisor Jennifer Heckenkamp with EarlyAct Treasurer Isaiah Diehl, EarlyAct Secretary Lauren Reger, and EarlyAct President Ellen De.

Rock Island Rotary was honored to welcome officers and faculty sponsor of our Jordan EarlyAct Club. The Club was founded through the hard work of Rotarians Andrew Guzzo and Bud Phillis and has thrived under the capable leadership of Ms. Heckenkamp. This year the EarlyAct Club raised over \$2,200 through their "Coin Drive" and purchased 7 water purification units currently being shipped to villages in Kenya. It was fantastic to honor these youngsters at today's Rotary luncheon. Congratulations EarlyAct – Great Job!!

## WHO ARE WE?

Rock Island Rotary is a service club devoted to improving the lives of people in Rock Island and around the world. It was established in 1905 and currently has 97 members. We are part of Rotary International, a global network of 33,000 clubs in 170 countries devoted to meaningful community and international service projects worldwide.

## 2016-2017 Rotary Theme



President Elect, Steve Morenz and spouse Dawn will be departing soon for the 2016 Rotary International Convention in Seoul, Korea. Officially beginning May 28 and running through June 1<sup>st</sup>, the Convention will be filled with informative and motivating speakers, reports on Rotary projects worldwide, discussion groups, information exchanges, fantastic headline entertainment, and a wealth of resources available for the taking. If you've never attended an International Rotary Convention, or if it's been a long time since your last, why not plan your next vacation around an upcoming Convention? Rotary Conventions for the future are 2017 Atlanta, Georgia, 10-14 June; 2018 Toronto, Ontario, Canada 24-27 June; 2019 Hamburg, Germany 1-5 June; 2020 Honolulu, Hawaii, 7-10 June.

Thousands of Rotary members, motivated by a special invitation from Pope Francis, gathered at the Vatican in Rome last Saturday to celebrate a message of compassion, inclusiveness, and service to humanity. At midmorning, the group -- numbering some 9,000 members from 80 countries -- made its way through the congested streets of Rome, past the tight security surrounding St. Peter's Square, and settled into the area reserved for Rotary in front of St. Peter's Basilica for the Jubilee audience. Francis, a 79-year-old Argentine, urged the crowd of more than 100,000, which included members of the police and armed forces from around the world, "to build a culture of peace, security, and solidarity around the world." In attendance was Gary Francque, a Moline Rotarian and father of our EarlyAct teacher/sponsor, Jennifer Heckenkamp.

# ROTARY NIGHT AT THE BALL PARK!!



KANE COUNTY COUGARS vs QUAD CITY RIVER BANDITS

**ROCK ISLAND ROTARY  
HAS 100 BOX SEATS!  
FRIDAY, AUGUST 19TH  
PRE-GAME SOCIAL HOUR  
POST-GAME FIREWORKS!!**

**\$11 TICKETS FOR \$10!**

**SEE OUR PRESIDENT THROW OUT THE FIRST BALL**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW AT THE SERGEANT AT ARMS TABLE**