



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

July 21, 2015 : Volume XXIII, Issue 3



## Welcome Home, Colin!

Rock Island Rotarians were treated to an entertaining and informative program this week with the return of our outbound exchange son, Colin Dismer. Just back from his year in the Netherlands, Colin provided a well-orchestrated month by month recount of his experiences. Proud father Jeff Dismer handled the introduction, Colin being his third son to experience the excitement of a year abroad as part of Rotary International's Youth Exchange program. As a general observation Colin told Club members that the Netherlands is a very small country in comparison to the United States. There are many

fewer cars and many more bike riders. Another difference was that Colin had three host clubs rather than the customary one. Each of the three shared time as Colin's host. As is typical of Rotary, his host families were extremely welcoming and supportive. Also as is typical of Rotary Exchanges, Colin was able to enjoy a great deal of travel, not only in the Netherlands but also in England, France, Denmark, Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, and Czechoslovakia. Colin also was able to experience a number of new activities; learning to ski, receiving a sky diving adventure as a birthday present from his host Rotary Club, visiting the world's first spa, seeing where V2 rockets were launched at England, and touring several famous World War I battle sites. Throw in sailing, bike tours, camping trips, and attendance at many festivals and parades and you get an idea of how busy and exciting an Exchange year can be. Even school was fun, with Colin finding he was the only male in his class! Classes were schedule more like American colleges with subjects being taught two or three days a week rather than on a daily schedule. It was obvious Colin had a wonderful year, and just as obvious that his mom, dad, and brothers were thrilled to have him home. He leaves for college in Missouri next month.

### July-September Calendar

**07/28** – Club Meeting  
w/presentation by  
member Rick Seidler,  
Unity Point Trinity CEO.  
**08/4** – Club Assembly  
**08/11** – Ellis Kell  
**08/18** – Joe Moreno – QC  
Marathon  
**08/25** – Brian  
Hollenback  
**09/01** – Dan McNeil,  
Exec. Director Spring  
Forward Learning Center  
**09/08** – Mike Oberhaus,  
State of the Schools - joint  
meeting with Kiwanis  
**09/15** - Pamela Crouch  
Zayner, Living Proof  
Exhibit  
**09/22** – To be announced  
**09/29** – Mike Miller,  
Exec. Dir. Riverbend Food  
Bank



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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

Aug – Sept: Monta Ponsetto  
Oct – Nov: Chris Lemon  
Dec – Jan: John Wetzel  
Feb – March: Bob Swanson  
April – May: Kevin Koski  
June – July: Diane Koster

This week's Foundation 50 / 50 Raffle was won by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Steve Morenz who donated his winnings to the Rotary Foundation. A fine bottle of wine was won by Past District Governor, Fred Luckenbill. He nixed the suggestion he donate his winnings! Thanks to all who participated!!

## Club Notes and Announcements

- **Welcome Guests!** Melissa Hagerty our 2015-16 outbound student along with her mom and dad, Karen and Paul Hagerty. Jennifer Heckenkamp, sponsor of our Jordan School Early Act Club. John Oliger a prospective member and guest of President John Phillips. Sanne, a lovely guest of Colin Dismer visiting us from the Netherlands. Marshall Dismer, Colin's brother along with proud mom, Martha Dismer. Visiting Rotarians were Mark Zimmerman from the Davenport Club and Duncan Cameron from the Naples, Florida Club.
- **Rotary District 6420 Family Fun Day at the Ballgame!** Attention All Rotary Clubs in District 6450, 6440 and 6420! The Chicago White Sox have dedicated **Tuesday, August 4<sup>th</sup>**, as Family Fun Day! Over 10,000 Rotary Family Members, Friends and Supporters have attended in past years, so order your tickets early to ensure you receive the best seats available. The price of each ticket includes a contribution to our "END POLIO NOW" project. Order on line visit [www.Rotary6450.org](http://www.Rotary6450.org) select "Calendar." Register by July 24<sup>th</sup>.
- **Rock Island Rotary Trivia Night!** The annual Rock Island Rotary Trivia Night has been scheduled for Friday, **November 20** at Camden Center in Milan. Doors open at 5:45 p.m. and trivia begins at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Trivia will be hosting and the evening will be "Player Friendly!" Any questions – contact Kathy Trone.



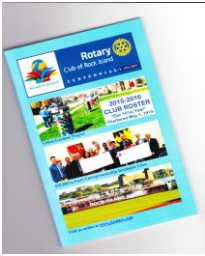
Ribbon cutting for the new Rock Island High School INCubatoredu Entrepreneur and Enterprise Program is Thursday, **August 6<sup>th</sup>** at 2:30pm at Rocky. Our Club donated **\$10,000** to get this program off the ground so all Rotarians are welcome

and encouraged to attend the ribbon cutting. The program is a hands-on course designed to get students excited about becoming true entrepreneurs. Join the fun on August 6<sup>th</sup>!

## Did You Know – Club History

Frequently our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President levies fines on members based on the “**Austin Rule**”. Although all club members cheerfully pay, many members probably have no idea what the “Austin Rule” is. Well, here’s the scoop. One of our long time and most dedicated Rotary Club members was Charlie Austin. He served as Rock Island High School Principal for 14 years and later as Superintendent of Rock Island Schools for 7 years. Two days prior to his death in October of 1999, Charlie wanted to know how he could make up for missing a Tuesday Rotary meeting and keep his 50-year perfect-attendance history alive. He served our Club as President in 1961-62 and served Rotary as District Governor in 1978-1979. For many years he acted as our club’s Rotary International Foundation Committee Chairman. It was in that capacity that the “Austin Rule” came into being. Charlie was dedicated to the Foundation and all that Rotary stands for. As is still our custom, at each week’s meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President would levy fines on members who were mentioned in the news. In 1977 a teenage Phenom broke onto the world tennis scene. Her name was Tracey Austin and for 12 years she dominated the tennis sports headlines. Charlie used every chance to give to the Rotary Foundation (Mr. Austin earned 15 Paul Harris Fellow awards from the Rotary Foundation, given to people for contributing \$1,000 to the foundation for use by Rotary groups around the world.) He would bring clippings about Tracey’s tennis matches and always say “Cousin Tracey” won this or that, and he’d pay a fine for her. Before long Charlie started bring clippings that mentioned any “Austin”. Even if spelling was different, if it looked like it could be pronounced “AUSTIN”, Charlie would claim it as a relative and pay a fine. Before long others began doing the same and the Austin Rule was born. 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Presidents caught on and have kept it going. If the name looks like, sounds like, or can be construed to be the same as yours, you may be fined! Thanks Charlie for your unwavering dedication to Rotary and the Rotary Foundation and for giving the Rock Island Rotary Club our “Austin Rule”!

## 2015 – 2016 CLUB DIRECTORIES



Over the past three weeks new Rock Island Rotary Membership Directories were distributed to all members who were present. Members that did not get a directory may pick one up a copy from the Sergeant At Arms at any future meeting. Directories are for Club use only and contain important contact information for members.

## Our Newest Paul Harris Fellow

Congratulations to Colin Dismer who upon his return from the Netherlands was made a Paul Harris Fellow by his mother and father, former Club Pres., Jeff Dismer. Colin joins his parents and two older brothers as the fifth Dismer to achieve Paul Harris Fellow distinction. A contribution of \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation helps Rotary International continue the battle against polio, illiteracy, and helps provide health, sanitation, and clean water resources throughout the world. In return for the contribution Rotary bestows the title “Paul Harris Fellow” on the contributor or a designee of the contributor. Here Bud Phillis, Club Foundation Chairman presents Colin his Paul Harris Certificate and Pin while Colin’s parents and brother, Marshall, look on. You can become a Paul Harris “Sustaining Member” by contributing \$100 annually which will build up to your achieving the Paul Harris Fellow honor.



## WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET TO ROTARY! ! !

Past President, Frank Lambert took advantage of the beautiful summer weather and arrived at Rotary on his trusty two-wheeler this week! It’s Summer, we don’t care how you get here, how you’re dressed, or what you’ve been doing--- we just want **you** at Rotary! See You Next Week!



## YOUTH TO BE PROUD OF



Soon to be Outbound Youth Exchange Student Melissa Hagerty shows the personality that will make her a fantastic representative of our Club and community and America as she “mugs” with Colin Dismer to show off the many pins, patches, and momentos collected during his year in the Netherlands. Melissa’s coat will undoubtedly be just as fully decorated when she returns from Spain next summer. By the way, the front side of the coat is just as packed! Melissa has a good start and she hasn’t even left home yet!



Melissa and her mom. Colin with friend, Sanne, mom, brother Marshall, and dad.

## BOARD REPORT

The Club Board of Directors met at 11:45 on Monday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at the Gere Dismer Architech’s office. Club Treasurer Carrie Crossen reported a current balance of \$33,210.64. The Club also has a \$10,222.88 Certificate of Deposit. Bud Phillis reported a Foundation Account balance of \$2,146.69. The Board approved the budget for 2015-2016 with anticipated receipts of \$83,414.58 and anticipated expenses of \$82,000.00. Anne McGlynn reported the summer literacy book distribution project was successfully completed with 535 books distributed to students in the reading program. Jeff Dismer reported that last year’s outbound Youth Exchange student, Colin Dismer, had safely arrived home. 2015-16 outbound student, Melissa Hagerty, will be leaving for Spain next month. Our new inbound Youth Exchange daughter, Camila VeLasco Medina will arrive soon from Peru to begin her year attending Alleman High School. President Phillips reminded all that the ribbon cutting for the Entrepreneurship/Enterprise Classroom at Rock Island High School will be at 2:30 on August 6<sup>th</sup>. All Rotarians are invited to attend. The Board also agreed to again participate in the Rock Island Labor Day Parade and also authorized the Sergeant At Arms to order two 2’x4’ vinyl Rotary banners for use whenever Rotary participates in various community events. The Board is still looking for an idea for a spring fundraiser. Meeting adjourned at 1pm. Directors meetings are open to all club members and may be use as a make up for missed regular meetings.

***BE A GIFT TO THE WORLD***