



Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

September 8, 2015 : Volume XXIII, Issue 10



ROCK ISLAND SCHOOLS EXCITED, DEDICATED, INNOVATIVE!



Rock Island Rotarians were joined by members of the Rock Island Noon Kiwanis Club and media from all local television outlets and newspapers to hear Rock Island School District Superintendent, Dr. Mike Oberhaus presented the 2015 *State of the Schools Address*. Mike, a Rotarian was greeted by an enthusiastic, standing

ovation as he began telling the story of our local Rock Island public schools. Reviewing the 2014-15 school year Dr. Oberhaus reviewed many positive achievements. The Class of 2015 graduated 388 students; Rock Island High School celebrated 32 juniors who were named as Charles O. Austin Scholars, and we look forward to who will come to the top as the National Merit Scholar Commended or Semi-Finalist. Oberhaus also lauded numerous awards won by District athletic teams, band and chorus, and science, robotics, and engineering competitors.

Looking forward to the 2015-16 school year, the district has seen a slight decrease in enrollment this fall, however Superintendent Oberhaus expects to see it even out after the Labor Day weekend. Overall, enrollment has grown by 405 students over the last six years. Rock Island High School has added more Advance Placement and Dual Credit courses to the catalog. The Entrepreneur and Enterprise program was also launched with a renovated classroom and curriculum that relies heavily on community business and organization leaders to be involved as mentors. The mentors will teach part of the curriculum and help guide students through building their own product and business model. Next spring, the program will host a "Shark Tank Week" and have student pitch their business models to potential investors. Oberhaus thanked Rotary for contributing \$10,000 to help get this program started. See OBERHAUS page 2

September - November Calendar

- 09/15 – Pamela Crouch Zayner, Living Proof Exhibit
- 09/17 – Blue Cat Brew Pub, 5:30 p.m. social
- 09/22 – Ellis Kell of RME!
- 09/29 – Mike Miller, Exec. Dir. Riverbend Food Bank
- 10/06 – Steve Pressly, Ultimate Plan
- 10/13 – Korah Wynn, Visiting China
- 10/20 – Doug Rick, Iowa IDOT
- 10/27 – Norm Moline, Urban China
- 11/03 – Bud Phillis, Rotary Foundation
- 11/10 – TBA
- 11/17 – Dr. Bette Truitt, Pres., Black Hawk College / Cuba
- 11/24 – Ted Pappas, Friendship Manor



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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

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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

OBERHAUS - Other programs in the district such as Project Lead the Way have taken root and are growing this year. There has also been an expansion of STEM (science technology engineering mathematics) programs at the elementary and junior high level. A new program at Eugene Field Elementary, Learn Enrich And Discover (LEAD), is based on the Leader in Me program from the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People by Steven Covey. Every two weeks, all of the students at Eugene Field have the opportunity to explore 1 of 24 activities for an entire Friday afternoon. In addition, students in 5 and 6 grades go on campus visits to our local colleges and universities. Many community partners are helping the school with this endeavor.

Financially, the district is looking at another deficit this year of \$1.9 million due to a shortfall in revenue sources. Assessed values of property finally increased last year, after two years of decline. The good news is that the State of Illinois passed a budget for education and increased the state aid funding level to 92%, which is an increase over last year's funding level of 89%.

Dr. Oberhaus thanked the Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs for their support over the last year. Both organizations have made a tremendous difference to students - the Kiwanis Club provided school supplies (valued at \$95,000) for the First Day Project to more than 4,500 of our RIMSD students, and the Rock Island Rotary Club generously donated \$10,000 to help fund the start-up of the Entrepreneurship and Enterprise Class. "Together, as a community, we will all be successful."

ROTARY DOMINATES KIWANIS RAFFLE!

This week's joint meeting with Kiwanis featured a raffle conducted by the Kiwanis Club. Prizes included cash, and two bottles of wine. Showing our prowess as the *Number 1 Club*, Rotarians won all three prizes with Frank Lambert hauling in the cash and Kevin Nolan and Bud Phillis each taking home bottles of wine. Thanks Kiwanis - Any time you want to do a raffle, give us a call!



Once again it's time to help Rotary with one of our most enjoyable fundraisers. Fred Luckenbill has a new supply of 2015-2016 Quad City Dining Tour Books! Books sell for \$35 of which Rotary retains \$10. Inside each book you'll find over 300 coupons good at more than 135 Quad City area restaurants. From casual fast food to the finest banquet dining, you'll find your favorite places and be introduced to exciting new venues! Best of all, you buy the book for \$35 and save more than \$35 with just the Circa 21 coupon which you can use for our Rotary Holiday Party! See Fred and get your book now! Coupons good until October 31, 2016.



CONNECT WITH KOREA – TOUCH THE WORLD

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION SEOUL, KOREA, 28 MAY-1 JUNE 2016

BE A GIFT TO THE WORLD

Club Notes and Announcements

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Welcome Guests!

Rock Island Student Guests: Mya Bragg and Jakob Beierlein; Kyle Vietti (prospective); Joe Schaechter, guest of Mike Locander; Thomas Mason IV, guest of Sue Cassatt; and, Mike Breidenstein, Egan Colbrese, Carmine Draude, and Dr. Kathy Ruggerberg from the District 41 administrative staff. Visiting Rotarians: Duncan Cameron (Naples, FL Club)

Save the Date!

The Illinois QC Rotary Clubs will be gathering at the Blue Cat Brew Pub on Sept. 17 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss utilizing future district grants and generate ideas for other interesting projects to plan for next year. Stop in join the discussion and fun!

Pumpkin Patch Committee to Meet

The Rock Island Rotary “Pumpkin Patch Committee” will meet immediately after next Tuesday’s club meeting. Chairman Tricia Barron reminds members April Price, Angela Campbell, Kathi Allison, Al Metz, and Mike Locander to plan to attend.

Golfers Needed!

The Rotary District Gold outing is Monday, September 14th at Timber Creek Golf Course in Dixon, 12:30pm tee off. Fun Format!! Teams of 4, one ball, one club per golfer. New Zealand Format Tournament. We have three signed up, Bud Phillis, Sue Cassatt, and Bruce Peterson (canoe Bruce) need a fourth! Call Bud Phillis 309-787-0955 if you can play. More teams welcome too!



ROCK ISLAND ROTARY HOLIDAY PARTY

Circa 21 Wednesday, December 9th

Salon Party	5:00pm – 6:00
Buffet Banquet	5:45 – 7:00
Bootlegger Performance	7:15
ONE ADMISSION	\$46.25
TWO ADMISSIONS	\$92.50
TWO WITH DINING BOOK COUPON	\$57.36
Circa Subscriber? Pay Just	\$ 2.75 per person