



# Rock Island Rotary Weekly Review

December 15, 2015 : Volume XXIII, Issue 24



Read about the 2016 Rotary International Convention in Seoul on page 3

## RI Rotary Top Club in District!

Rotary 6420 District Governor Nelson visited the Rock Island Rotary Club on Dec. 15 and presented the club with an award for being the top club in the district for its financial support of Polio Plus in the last year. The club donated over \$7,000! President John recognized Bud Phillis for leading the way in the Foundation's effort to wipe out polio.

DG Nelson also presented Paul Harris Plus Six recognition to Tricia Barron; and Paul Harris Plus One to Father Miribelli and THEN officiated the induction of two new Rock Island Rotary members: Retired teacher and City of Rock Island Alderman Chuck Austin and Rock Island City Manager Thomas Thomas. DG Nelson also mentioned that our club was in the lead for gaining new members this Rotary year!



## Club Calendar

### December

**12/01** – Rock Island High School Chamber Singers

**12/08** – Committee Meetings: Nominating (11:09 a.m.) and Awards Luncheon (11:30 a.m.)  
Dr. Scott Cooper, Illinois Medical Society

**12/09** – **Holiday Party/Circa 21**

**12/15** – Tom Hammar “Tax Season is Coming: Be Prepared!”

**12/22** – Julie Gelaude Black Hawk College Construction Program

**12/29** - TBA

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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

**NOTE ON NEW MEMBER DUES OPTION:** The Rock Island Rotary Club does allow for reduced dues for new members, and this dues reduction is awarded by the Board on a case-by-case basis. Dues may be reduced from the current \$150/qtr down to \$95/qtr and will continue at this reduced rate for no more than two (2) quarters or six (6) months from the date of induction. The proposer of a prospective new member should tell the prospective member of the availability of this option. It is then the responsibility of the proposer to make this request to the Board.

## Club Notes & Announcements!

- **Welcome Guests!** Rotary District 6420 DG Jim Nelson; Former RI Rotarian Rebecca Arnold (Rotary eClub); Thomas Thomas (Prospective); Duncan Cameron (Naples, FL Rotary); Chuck Austin (Prospective); Alleman High School Jr. Rotarians Haley Decreve and Emily Kirik; Youth Exchange Daughter Camila Velasco Medina!
- **The Raffle!** Jim Moran won the cash and donated it to the foundation; Ruth Lee won the wine and Tricia Barron won the Rotary Cufflinks!

## Welcome New Members!

The Rock Island Rotary Club welcomed two new members this week!

Chuck Austin (top right) is a retired educator and taught in the in the Rock Island-Milan School District from 1971-2004. Currently he serves as Alderman of Ward 7 for the City of Rock Island. You may see him and his wife Ann walking around Rock Island a lot. Austin was a member of the Illinois Quad Cities Rotary Club for a period of time.

Thomas Thomas (bottom right) is the City Manager for Rock Island. He and his wife Leslie have three children – two attend schools in Rock Island and their eldest daughter lives in the Chicago area.



## Remember Rotary in End of Year Giving Plans

This is the time to consider a year-end donation to Rotary as part of your tax planning strategy. The International Foundation and our local Rock Island Rotary Foundation are both recognized as 501C3 deductible charities. Your choice -- pay it to the IRS or donate it to one of the worlds' most efficient and effective charitable service foundations. See Bud Phillis for details regarding the Rotary International Foundation and Frank Lambert for information about our local Rock Island Rotary Foundation.





## Tom's Tax Talk

Tax season will be here before you know it. Rock Island Rotary member and CPA Tom Hammar talked to the club about how important taxes are to the government and what you can do benefit your bottom line when it comes time to get your tax return completed.

In 1913, the 16th Amendment to the Constitution made the income tax a permanent fixture in the U.S. tax system. The amendment gave Congress legal authority to tax income and resulted in a revenue law that taxed incomes of both individuals and corporations. Currently, personal taxes bring in 42% of the Federal revenues.

As everyone loves to hear “tax tips” from a CPA, Hammar believes in tried and true strategies of giving charitably with your IRA required minimum distribution and through appreciated stocks are worthy considerations for a sound tax strategy.



## Connect with Korea – Touch the World

You're invited to **Connect with Korea — Touch the World** at the 2016 Rotary International Convention in Seoul, 28 May -1 June. I encourage you to visit the convention website at [www.riconvention.org](http://www.riconvention.org) and learn more about this amazing experience. The Rotary Convention offers something for all Rotarians, whether you're new to our club or a longtime member. It will inspire and connect you to a dynamic, unforgettable experience.